

Examples of μή

φοβούμενος δὲ μή οἱ πεμπόμενοι ἢ κατὰ τὴν τοῦ λέγειν ἀδυνασίαν ἢ καὶ μνήμης ἔλλιπεῖς γινόμενοι ἢ τῷ ὄχλῳ πρὸς χάριν τι λέγοντες οὐ τὰ ὄντα ἀπαγγέλλωσιν, ἔγραψεν ἐπιστολήν, νομίζων οὕτως ἂν μάλιστα τὴν αὐτοῦ γνώμην μηδὲν ἐν τῷ ἀγγέλῳ ἀφανισθεῖσαν μαθόντας τοὺς Ἀθηναίους βουλευσασθαι περὶ τῆς ἀληθείας.

He feared that the messengers would not report the truth, either because of an inability to speak, or a failure of memory or from a desire to please the crowd. So he wrote a letter to make sure that the Athenians could find out his opinion without it being lost in transmission, and then be able to come to a decision about the facts of the matter.

Thucydides 7 8.2

πρὸς τοῖσδε δ' εἰς ἀδελφὸν οἷ' ἐφύβρισας,
σφάξαι κελεύσας θυγατέρ' εὐηθέστατα

And furthermore, what terrible wrong you did to your brother, in telling him to kill his sweet daughter.

Euripides Andromache 624-5

οὕτως ἔδεισας μή οὐ κακὴν δάμαρτ' ἔχης.

You were so afraid that you would lose your terrible wife.

Euripides Andromache 626

μήτέ τις οὖν θήλεια θεὸς τό γε μήτέ τις ἄρσην
πειράτω διακέρσαι ἐμὸν ἔπος, ἀλλ' ἅμα πάντες
αἰνεῖτ', ὄφρα τάχιστα τελευτήσω τάδε ἔργα.

Let no goddess, no god, go against my word, but everyone praise it so that I can bring to pass my work as quickly as possible.

Homer Iliad 8.7-9

τί ἂν οὖν βουλόμενος ἐγὼ τοιοῦτον κίνδυνον ἐκινδύνεον, εἰ μὴ τὸ μέγιστον τῶν ἀδικημάτων ἢ ὑπ' αὐτοῦ ἡδίκημένος;

For what object, then, should I run so grave a risk, unless I had received from him the greatest of injuries?

Lysias Speeches 1.45

τὸν μὲν ἄλλον χρόνον οὕτω διεκείμην ὥστε μήτε λυπεῖν μήτε λίαν ἐπ' ἐκείνη εἶναι ὅτι ἂν ἐθέλη ποιεῖν,

For some time I was disposed neither to vex her nor to leave her too free to do just as she pleased

Lysias Speeches 1.6

ἀπιόντες ἐνθένδε ἡμεῖς μὴ πείσαντες τὴν πόλιν πότερον κακῶς τινὰς ποιοῦμεν, καὶ ταῦτα οὐς ἥκιστα δεῖ, ἢ οὐ;

If we go away from here without the consent of the state, are we doing harm to the very ones to whom we least ought to do harm, or not?

Plato Crito 49e

ὅς δ' ἂν ὑμῶν παραμείνη, ὁρῶν ὃν τρόπον ἡμεῖς τάς τε δίκας δικάζομεν καὶ τᾶλλα τὴν πόλιν διοικοῦμεν, ἤδη φαμὲν τοῦτον ὠμολογηκέναι ἔργῳ ἡμῖν ἃ ἂν ἡμεῖς κελεύωμεν ποιήσῃν ταῦτα, καὶ τὸν μὴ πειθόμενον τριχῆ φαμεν ἀδικεῖν

But we say that whoever of you stays here, seeing how we administer justice and how we govern the state in other respects, has thereby entered into an agreement with us to do what we command; and we say that he who does not obey does threefold wrong.

Plato Crito 51e

Μήδεια: Κορίνθιαι γυναῖκες, ἐξῆλθον δόμων / μή μοί τι μέμψησθ'.

Medea: Women of Corinth, I have come out of the house lest you find some fault with me.

Euripides Medea 214

φράζεο μή τις ἔπειτα θεῶν ἐθέλησι καὶ ἄλλος
πέμπειν ὄν φίλον υἷὸν ἀπὸ κρατερῆς ὑσμίνης

Take care that no other god wants to take his dear son away from mortal combat.

Homer Iliad 16.446-7

μή μοι οἶνον ἄειρε μελίφρονα πότνια μήτηρ,
μή μ' ἀπογυιώσης μένεος, ἀλκῆς τε λάθωμαι.

*'My honoured mother, do not raise the kindly sweet wine to me,
Lest you hobble my strength and make me forget my courage;*

Homer Iliad 6.264-5

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