Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed. smattering smat-ter-ing [smattering smatterings] BrE ['smætərɪŋ] NAmE ['smætərɪŋ] ** noun singular ~ (of sth) a small amount of sth, especially knowledge of a language · He only has a smattering of French. Word Origin: mid 16th cent.: from smatter 'talk ignorantly, prate' (survivingin Scots), of unknown origin. Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En) smattering smat[ter[ing] /'smætərɪŋ/ BrE ** AmE * noun [singular] [Date: 1500-1600, Origin: smatter 'to splash, talk with little knowledge' (15-19 centuries)] 1. a small number or amount of something smattering of a smattering of applause 2. have a smattering of something to have a small amount of knowledge about a subject, especially a foreign language Freakuency Pack smattering ₁₂₅₀₀12216MCW 15000 11104 COCA RANGE: 14k SMATTERING 515 smattering 506 smatterings 9 COCA 500k Unlemmatized

to acquire a smattering of Greek - получить кое-какое представление о греческом языке

Apresyan (En-Ru)

smattering

['smæt(ə)rıŋ] n

1. поверхностное знание

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2. небольшая группка, кучка

a smattering of spectators - кучка зрителей