

Unit 2: Pronouns

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Unit 2 Vocabulary

General Vocabulary

Coptic	English	Gender	Irregular Plural
ⲛⲁⲩⲓ	thing	M	ⲛⲁⲩⲓⲛⲁⲩⲓ
ⲛⲁⲩⲓⲛⲁⲩⲓ	every	M/F	

Adjectives

Coptic	English	Gender	Irregular Plural
ⲛⲁⲩⲓ	new		
ⲛⲁⲩⲓ	old		
ⲛⲁ ⲙⲁⲩⲓ	great		
ⲛⲁⲩ ⲙⲁⲩⲓ	small		
ⲛⲁⲩⲓ	wise		ⲛⲁⲩⲓⲛⲁⲩⲓ
ⲛⲁⲩⲓ	wise		ⲛⲁⲩⲓⲛⲁⲩⲓ
ⲛⲁ ⲙⲁ	fool (adj. foolish)		
ⲛⲁⲩⲓ	gold		
ⲛⲁⲩⲓ	silver		

Body Parts

Coptic	English	Gender	Irregular Plural
ⲛⲁⲩⲓ	head	F	ⲛⲁⲩⲓ ⲛⲁⲩⲓ
ⲛⲁⲩ ⲙⲁ	hand	F	
ⲛⲁⲩ	eye	M	
ⲛⲁ	mouth	M	ⲛⲁⲩⲓ
ⲛⲁ ⲙⲁⲩⲓ	ear	M	
ⲙⲁⲩⲓ	nose	M	
ⲛⲁⲩ	tongue	M	
ⲛⲁ ⲙⲁⲩⲓ	tooth	F	
ⲛⲁ ⲛⲁⲩⲓ	neck	F	
ⲛⲁⲩⲓ	arm	M	

ⲛⲓⲛⲓ	soul	F (Greek)	
ⲛⲓⲛⲓⲛⲓ	spirit	M (Greek)	

Inflected Adjectives

Coptic	English
ⲛⲓⲛⲓⲛⲓ =	only
ⲛⲓⲛⲓ =	all
ⲛⲓⲛⲓ =	also
ⲛⲓⲛⲓ ⲛⲓⲛⲓ =	own

Lesson 1: Near Demonstrative Pronouns

Near Demonstrative Pronoun

Masculine (this)	Feminine (this)	Plural (these)
□□□	□□□	□□□

A pronoun is a word that takes the place of a noun. For example, instead of saying "the man" we may say "him." Or instead of saying "the big brown chair," we may say "it." Demonstrative Pronouns work in the same way. When using the near demonstrative as a pronoun, it takes the place of a noun. For example instead of saying "this man" (and having the demonstrative "this" describe the subject "man"), you may want to say "this is the man" where the demonstrative "this" acts as a pronoun and the subject of the sentence, and "man" acts as the object.

Examples

<Definite Subject>	□□ /□□ /□□	<Definite Object>	Translation
□□	□□	□□□□□	This is the man
□□	□□	□□ 2□□□□	These are the women
□□	□□	`□ ω□□□ `□□□□ ↑	This is the Son of God
□□	□□	□□ `□□□□	These are my brothers

Emphatic Construction

There is a special set construction in Coptic that uses both the Near Demonstrative Article and the Near Demonstrative Pronoun as a way of emphasis.

□□□□□ □□ : Translating this literally would render "this chalice this" which is nonsense. A better way to translate the emphasis on the demonstrative is: "this very chalice."

We will see this construction in Application 1 below.

Application

Application 1:

This is an excerpt from the Thanksgiving Prayer as prayed by the priest during the Divine Liturgy, the Crowning Ceremony and the Consecration of the Waters of Baptism.

Biblical Examples

ⲉⲩⲱⲛ ⲛⲓ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲛⲓ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲛⲓ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲛⲓ	"this is the king of the Jews" (Matthew 27:37)
ⲉⲩⲱⲛ ⲛⲓ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲛⲓ	"this is My Body" (Luke 22:19)
ⲉⲩⲱⲛ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲛⲓ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲛⲓ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲛⲓ	"in the Judgment with this generation" (Matthew 12:41)

Exercises

Exercise 1: Translate to Coptic

Translate the following phrases into Coptic:

Exercise 2: Translate to English

Translate the following phrases into English:

Resources

- Page 46 of Sameh Younan PDF
- Page 143 of Nabil Mattar
- Lesson 3 of Moawad Daoud
- ACTS 2990 Introduction to the Coptic Language (Bohairic) with Hany Takla Lesson 2b

Lesson 2: Personal Pronouns

Personal Pronouns

Pronouns take the place of a noun. We briefly introduced pronouns with the Demonstrative Pronouns in a previous lesson. In this lesson, we will examine the Personal Pronouns (i.e. pronouns that describe or take the place of a person).

Coptic	English	Person	Number
ⲁⲓⲛⲓ	I	1st	Singular
ⲁⲓⲛⲓⲥ	We/Us	1st	Plural
ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲓ	You (m.)	2nd	Singular
ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲓⲥ	You (f.)	2nd	Singular
ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲓⲥⲁⲓ	You (pl.) or Y'all	2nd	Plural
ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲓ ⲓⲥⲁⲓ	He	3rd	Singular
ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲓⲥ	She	3rd	Singular
ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲓⲥⲁⲓ	Them	3rd	Plural

Examples

<Definite Subject>	ⲁⲓ /ⲉⲃⲓ /ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲓ	<Definite Object>	Translation
ⲁⲓⲛⲓ	ⲁⲓ	ⲁⲓⲛⲓⲥⲁⲓ	I am the man
ⲁⲓⲛⲓⲥ	ⲁⲓ	ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲓⲥⲁⲓ	I am the woman
ⲁⲓⲛⲓ	ⲁⲓ	ⲁⲓⲛⲓⲥⲁⲓ	We are the men
ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲓ	ⲁⲓ	ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲓⲥⲁⲓ	You are the censer
ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲓⲥ	ⲁⲓ	ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲓⲥⲁⲓ	She is the woman
ⲁⲓⲛⲓ	ⲁⲓ	ⲁⲓⲛⲓⲥⲁⲓ ⲓⲥⲁⲓ	I am the "small person" or "young person"
ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲓ	ⲁⲓ	ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲓⲥⲁⲓ	She is the queen
ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲓⲥ	ⲁⲓ	ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲓⲥⲁⲓ ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲓ	You are God
ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲓⲥⲁⲓ	ⲁⲓ	ⲁⲓⲛⲓⲥⲁⲓ ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲓ	You are my God

Application

Application 1:

This is an excerpt from .

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1.

Application 2:

This is an excerpt from

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Biblical Examples

Exercises

Exercise 1: Translate to Coptic

Translate the following into Coptic:

1.

Exercise 2: Translate to English

Translate the following phrases into English:

Resources

- "A Study in Bohairic Coptic" by Nabil Matar; p162
- See Moawad Daoud Lesson 2
- See Sameh Younan page 59 in the PDF
- ACTS 2990 Introduction to the Coptic Language (Bohairic) with Hany Takla Lesson 3A

Lesson 4: Indefinite Pronoun ?????

Indefinite Pronoun ?????

Exercises

Exercise 1: Translate to Coptic

Translate the following into Coptic:

1.

Exercise 2: Translate to English

Translate the following phrases into English:

1.

Resources

"A Study in Bohairic Coptic" by Nabil Matar; p337, 341, 342

See Moawad Daoud Lesson

See Sameh Younan page in the PDF

ACTS 2990 Introduction to the Coptic Language (Bohairic) with Hany Takla Lesson

Lesson 5: Genitive

Genitive

The Genitive is a preposition that is used to denote possession (i.e. when some noun or pronoun belongs to some other noun or pronoun). In Coptic, the Genitive can be denoted by one of the articles ⲁ or ⲓ, or the preposition ⲛⲓ.

Articles ⲁ and ⲓ

<possessed noun> ⲁ<possessor> when the possessor noun starts with ⲁ ⲓ ⲛ ⲛ ⲛ.

<possessed noun> ⲓ<possessor> in all other cases.

Examples:

ⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁⲓⲁ	the house of the man
ⲁⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ	the king of the city
ⲁⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ	the fruit of the tree
ⲁⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁⲓⲁⲓⲁ	the door of the Paradise
ⲁⲓ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁⲓⲁⲓⲁ	the coming of Christ
ⲁⲓ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ	the depth of the riches
ⲁⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁⲓⲁⲓⲁ	the womb of the Virgin
ⲁⲓ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁⲓⲁⲓⲁⲓⲁ	the pride of the virgins
ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁⲓⲁⲓⲁ	the Theotokia of Thursday

Preposition ⲛⲓ

<possessed noun> ⲛⲓ <possessor>

The use of ⲛⲓ for the possessive can be used in any situation, but is especially used in the following situations:

1. After an indefinite noun (e.g. ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ)
2. Nouns with demonstrative prefixes (ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ)
3. Nouns with a following modifier (ⲛⲓ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ)

Examples:

ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ ⲛⲓⲁⲓⲁ	a servant (f.) of God
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ספר זה של אחי	this book of my brother
הבן הלאה של האיש	the lame son of the man
אני אלוהי אבותיכם	I am the God of your fathers
הלוגוס של האב	the Logos of the Father
הגאווה של עםנו	the pride of our race

Pronominal Possessor

<possessed noun> של=

The pronominal form of the prepositionשל isשׁ =

1st Person S	My	שׁ
2nd Person M	Your (m.)	שׁ
2nd Person F	Your (f.)	שלך
3rd Person M	His	שׁו
3rd Person F	Her	של
1st Person P	Our	שלנו
2nd Person P	Your (p.)	שלכם
3rd Person P	Their	שלם

Examples:

אשר	שלכם	a servant of yours
ספר זה של אחי	ו	this book of his
שלושה בנים	של אמה	three sons of hers

Possessive Pronouns

These pronouns are used in place of a possessive noun ("My <noun>")

	English	m. Object	f. Object	p. Object
1st Person S	Mine	שׁ	של	שלנו
2nd Person M	Yours (m.)	שׁ	של	שלכם
2nd Person F	Yours (f.)	שלך	שלך	שלכם
3rd Person M	His	שׁו	שׁו	שלם
3rd Person F	Hers	של	של	שלם
1st Person P	Ours	שלנו	שלנו	שלנו

2nd Person P	Yours (p.)	ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ	ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ	ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ
3rd Person P	Theirs	ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ	ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ	ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ

Examples:

ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ ⲙⲓ ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ	Yours is the power
ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ ⲙⲓ ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ	Yours is all the earth
ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ ⲙⲓ ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ	Yours is the glory forever
ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ ⲙⲓⲣⲏⲥ	this ship is his

Exercises

Exercise 1: Translate to Coptic

Translate the following into Coptic:

1.

Exercise 2: Translate to English

Translate the following phrases into English:

- 1.
- 2.

Resources

"A Study in Bohairic Coptic" by Nabil Matar; p424

See Moawad Daoud Lesson

See Sameh Younan page in the PDF

ACTS 2990 Introduction to the Coptic Language (Bohairic) with Hany Takla Lesson