Unit 2: Pronouns

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Unit 2 Vocabulary

General Vocabulary

Coptic	English	Gender	Irregular Plural
ϩ□□	thing	M	ϩ□□□□
□□□□	every	M/F	

Adjectives

Coptic	English	Gender	Irregular Plural
□□□	new		
□□□	old		
□□ ⲱϯ	great		
□□□ ⲭ□	small		
□□□	wise		□□□□
□□□	wise		□□□□
□□ ⲭ	fool (adj. foolish)		
□□□	gold		
ϩ□□	silver		

Body Parts

Coptic	English	Gender	Irregular Plural
ⲁ□□	head	F	□□□ ⲁ□□
ⲭ□ ⲭ	hand	F	
□□□	eye	M	
□□	mouth	M	□□□□
□□ ⲱⲭ	ear	M	

ϣ□□	nose	M	
□□□	tongue	M	
□□ ϫ2□	tooth	F	
□□ 2□□	neck	F	
□□□□	arm	M	
□□□□	soul	F (Greek)	
□□□□□□	spirit	M (Greek)	

Inflected Adjectives

Coptic	**English**
`□□□□□□ =	only
□□□ =	all
2□ =	also
`□□□□ `□□□ =	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
□□□	□□	□□ ⲥ□□□	These are the women
□□□	□□	`□ ⲱ□□ `□□□□ †	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.

ⲙ̀ⲡⲉⲛⲧⲁⲩ ⲙ̀ⲙⲟⲛ ⲉ2ⲟⲩⲛ ⲛⲓⲙ ⲛ̀ⲧ̀ⲡⲗⲏ ⲉ2ⲟ ⲛⲓⲣⲱⲙⲉ ⲧⲏⲣⲟⲩ ⲛⲁⲛ ⲙ̀ⲙⲟⲛ ⲉ2ⲟ ⲛⲓⲙ ⲙ̀ ⲡⲓⲧⲁⲅⲙⲁ ⲛⲁⲛ ⲛⲓⲙ ⲙ̀ⲙⲟⲛ ⲉ2ⲟ ⲛⲓⲙ ⲙ̀ⲡⲓⲙⲁ ⲙ̀ⲙⲟⲛ ⲙ̀ⲡⲓⲁⲅⲓⲟⲛ ⲛⲁⲛ.	...take them away from us and from all Your people, and from this table, and from this Your holy place.
ⲛⲓⲙ ⲙ̀ⲙⲟⲛ ⲉ2ⲟ ⲛⲓⲙ ⲛⲓⲙⲁⲣⲓⲁⲙⲟⲥ ⲛⲓⲙ	and from this bridegroom and bride
ⲛⲓⲙ ⲙ̀ⲙⲟⲛ ⲉ2ⲟ ⲛⲓⲙ ⲛⲓⲙ ⲛⲓⲙ	and from this basin

1. ⲛⲓⲣⲱⲙⲉ ⲧⲏⲣⲟⲩ ⲛⲁⲛ ⲛ̀ⲧⲉ ⲡⲗⲏ - "All Your people"
   - The use of ⲛⲓⲙ ⲛ̀ⲧⲉ (and ⲛⲓⲙ ⲙ̀ⲡⲉ, ⲛⲓⲙ ⲙ̀ⲡⲉⲕ, etc.) will be covered in a future lesson, but it is commonplace and you should have a rough understanding of it by now

2. ⲡⲁⲓ ⲙ̀ⲙⲁⲛⲧⲁⲩ ⲙ̀ⲙⲟⲛ ⲛⲁⲛ - "this very table"

3. ⲡⲁⲓⲁⲅⲓⲟⲛ ⲉⲧⲟⲩⲁⲁⲃ ⲙ̀ⲡⲉⲕⲣⲁⲛ ⲙ̀ⲙⲟⲛ ⲛⲁⲛ - "this very place that is holy that is Yours"

4. ⲡⲁⲓⲁⲙⲁⲣⲓⲁⲙⲟⲥ ⲛⲓⲙ ⲙ̀ⲙⲟⲛ ⲛⲁⲛ - "this very bridegroom and bride"
   - The noun here ⲛⲓⲙⲁⲣⲓⲁⲙⲟⲥ can mean bride or groom and in the plural typically means both.
   - In Arabic this is translated as العروسين, but there is no single word to represent that in English ("newlywed" might be the closest) so we translate it as "the bridegroom and bride."
   - Although it is plural, you see that in both Arabic and English we translated it as dual (Arabic through conjugation, English through listing two subjects). This is due to the context (i.e. a Crowning Ceremony with one bridegroom and one bride).

5. ⲡⲁⲓⲁⲅⲓⲟⲛ ⲙ̀ⲡⲓⲙⲁ ⲙ̀ⲙⲟⲛ ⲛⲁⲛ - "this very basin"

Application 2:

These are responses from the Institution Narrative in the Divine Liturgy.

ⲛⲓⲙ ⲙ̀ⲙⲁⲩ ⲛ̀ⲧⲉⲣⲉⲧⲛ̀ⲧⲁⲩⲁⲙⲟ ⲙ̀ⲙⲁⲓ ⲙ̀ⲡⲓⲙⲁ ⲙ̀ⲡⲓ.	This do in remembrance of Me
ⲛⲓⲙ ⲛⲉ ⲙⲛ̀ⲧⲣⲙⲛ̀ⲧⲉ ⲛⲓⲙⲏⲧⲉ. ⲁⲙⲏⲛ	This is in truth. Amen.
ⲛⲓⲙ ⲛⲉ ⲛⲉ ⲙⲛ̀ⲧⲣⲙⲛ̀ⲧⲉ ⲛⲓⲙⲏⲧⲉ. ⲁⲙⲏⲛ	This also is in truth. Amen.

Application 3:

These are excerpts from the Confession Prayer at the end of the Liturgy (the priest's confession as well as the deacon's confession).

ⲭⲁ ⲫⲁⲓ ⲙⲁ ⲧⲫⲟⲩⲟ ⲉⲃⲟⲗ ϥⲛⲁⲩ ⲛⲁⲛ ...	This is the life-giving flesh
ⲧⲫⲓ ϩⲓⲧ ⲧⲫⲓ ϩⲓⲧ ⲧⲫⲓ ϩⲓⲧ ⲭⲁ ⲫⲁⲓ ⲙⲁ ϥⲛⲁⲩ ⲛⲁⲛ ⲛⲓⲙⲁⲓⲱⲥ ⲁⲙⲏⲛ	I believe, I believe, I believe, that this is in truth. Amen.

Biblical Examples

ⲫⲁⲓ ⲙⲁ ⲉⲡⲓⲣⲁⲥⲓⲗⲉⲩⲥ ⲛ̀ⲓⲟⲩⲇⲁⲓⲟⲥ	"this is the king of the Jews" (Matthew 27:37)
ⲫⲁⲓ ⲙⲁ ⲡⲓⲥⲱⲙⲁ	"this is My Body" (Luke 22:19)
ϥⲛⲁⲩ ⲧⲫⲟⲩⲟ ⲛⲓⲙ ⲛⲓⲙ ⲉⲧⲟⲩ	"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
□□□□	I	1st	Singular
□□□□	We/Us	1st	Plural
`□□□□	You (m.)	2nd	Singular
`□□□	You (f.)	2nd	Singular
`□□□□□	You (pl.) or Y'all	2nd	Plural
`□□□ ϥ	He	3rd	Singular
`□□□□	She	3rd	Singular
`□□□□	Them	3rd	Plural

Examples

<Definite Subject>	□□ /□□ /□□	<Definite Object>	Translation
□□□□	□□	□□□□□	I am the man
□□□□	□□	ϯ□ ϩ□□□	I am the woman
□□□□	□□	□□□□□	We are the men
`□□□	□□	ϯⲱ□□□	You are the censer
`□□□□	□□	ϯ□ ϩ□□□	She is the woman
□□□□	□□	□□□□ ⲭ□	I am the "small person" or "young person"
`□□□□	□□	ϯ□□□□	She is the queen
`□□□□	□□	`□□□□ ϯ	You are God
`□□□□	□□	□□□□ ϯ	You are my God

Application

Application 1:

This is an excerpt from .

1.

Application 2:

This is an excerpt from

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`□ or`□ , or the preposition`□□□ .

Articles ?? and ??

`<possessed noun> `□<possessor>` when the possessor noun starts with □ □ □ □ □ .

`<possessed noun> `□<possessor>` in all other cases.

Examples:

`□□□ `□□□□□□□	the house of the man
`□□□□□ `□ †□□□□	the king of the city
`□□□□□ ϩ`□□□ `ωω□□	the fruit of the tree
`□`□□□ `□□□□□□□□□□□□	the door of the Paradise
`□ ⲭ□□ `□ `□□□□□□□□□□	the coming of Christ
`□ ω□□ `□ †□□□□□□□ `□	the depth of the riches
`□□□ ⲭ□ `□ †□□□□□□□□	the womb of the Virgin
`□ ω□□ ω□□ `□□□□□□□□□□□	the pride of the virgins
†□□□□□□□□ `□`□`□ ϩ□□□ `□`□`□□□□□	the Theotokia of Thursday

Preposition ????

`<possessed noun> `□□□ <possessor>`

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

1. After an indefinite noun (e.g. □□□□□□ `□□□ □□□□ †)
2. Nouns with demonstrative prefixes (□□□ ⲭ□□ `□□□ □□□□□)
3. Nouns with a following modifier (□ ω□□□ `□ ϭ□□□ `□□□ `□□□□□)

Examples:

□□□□□□ `□□□ □□□□ †	a servant (f.) of God
□□□ x□□ `□□□ □□□□□	this book of my brother
`□ ⱳ□□□ `□ ⲃ□□□ `□□□ `□□□□□	the lame son of the man
□□□□ □□ □□□□ †`□□□ □□□□□ †	I am the God of your fathers
□□□□□□□ `□□□ □□□□	the Logos of the Father
`□ ⱳ□□ ⱳ□□ `□□□ □□□□□□□□	the pride of our race

Pronominal Possessor

`<possessed noun> `□□=`

The pronominal form of the preposition`□□□ is`□□ =

1st Person S	My	`□□□□
2nd Person M	Your (m.)	`□□□□
2nd Person F	Your (f.)	`□□□
3rd Person M	His	`□□□ ⲩ
3rd Person F	Her	`□□□□
1st Person P	Our	`□□□□
2nd Person P	Your (p.)	`□□□□□□
3rd Person P	Their	`□□□□□

Examples:

□□□□□ `□□□□	a servant of yours
□□□ x□□ `□□□ ⲩ	this book of his
ⱳ□□□ `□ ⱳ□□□ `□□□□	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*	□□□	□□□	□□□□

2nd Person M	*Yours (m.)*	□□□	□□□	□□□□
2nd Person F	*Yours (f.)*	□□	□□	□□□
3rd Person M	*His*	□□ ϥ	□□ ϥ	□□□ ϥ
3rd Person F	*Hers*	□□□	□□□	□□□□
1st Person P	*Ours*	□□□	□□□	□□□□
2nd Person P	*Yours (p.)*	□□□□□	□□□□□	□□□□□□
3rd Person P	*Theirs*	□□□□	□□□□	□□□□□

Examples:

□□□ □□ †ϫ□□	Yours is the power
□□□ □□ □□□□ ϩ□ □□□ ϥ	Yours is all the earth
□□□ □□ □□□□□ ϣ□ □□□□□ ϩ	Yours is the glory forever
□□□ ϫ□□ □□ ϥ □□	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