



Lesson One - Letters

Vowels		Tricky letters like English but different pronunciation	
Ἀ	French “A” like (car)	Ϡ	Kh-k-sh
Ε	English “A” like (mail)	Ρ	r
Ι	I (in)	Ϣ	f
Η	long I (feet)	Η	Long I
Ο	short o (on)	others	
Ω	W - long o (home)	Ἄ	l
Οϣ	strong o (moon)	Ἄ	D -Z
`	(in) (genkim)	Ϡ	G - J
Letters like English in shape and pronunciation		Φ	f
Β	B or V	Θ	th
ϸ	s	Π	p
Κ	K	ϣ	
Μ	M	οϣ	Strong o
Ν	N	ἄϣ - εϣ	av- ev
Τ	T	ϣ pronounced(I) elsewhere	
Ζ	z	Letters pronounced as 2 letters	
Semitic-like letters		†	Ti
Ϛ	g-gh	ϸ	ch
ϛ	h	ψ	ps
Ϝ	kh	ζ	ks
ϝ	sh	̅	Swou (number 6)

ἸΕΝΑΠΙ ἸΡΕΜΙΧΗΜΙ

Remark on letters

- **Ω** is the long form of **ο** and **Η** is the long form of **ι**
- **Ϻ** and **ϻ** are pronounced f, while **κ** and **ϣ** are pronounced k
- Vowels form syllables, like **ΝΕΜΑΝ** is pronounced as 2 syllables **ΝΕΜ** and **ΑΝ**.
- Genkim make the letter pronounced as if it was succeeded by i (like `n = in)
- Joint with **Ι** produces the sound Y

Δι	ΙΑ	Ει	Ιε
Οι	ΙΟ	Ωι	ΙΩ

But if one of the two vowels is succeeded by genkim, the genkim and the following letter form separate section.

- Only in Greek words:
οι = **ι** (μετὰνοῖα = repentance - ἡοικουμένη = world)
ει = **ι** and **αι** = **ε**
- **Β** is pronounced B only if it came at the end of the word as **εθοραβ** = holy (C), or just before the last letter and the last letter is consonant like **τωβζ** = ask, else it pronounced as v like **αββα**.
- **Θ** is pronounced t only after **ϸ** (**cθ** → **ct**) (**ᾠθουνοϺι** = incense)
- **Χ** is similar to “G”, it is pronounced J if it is followed by **ε** or **ι** (i.e. **χι**, **χε**) else pronounced G
- **Χ** is pronounced k in Coptic words
pronounced SH in Greek words when it is followed by **ε - ι - η - Ϻ** (like **χερε** = hail). And pronounced kh in Greek words when it is followed by any other letter (like **χριστος** = Christ - **χορος** = choir)
- **Ϻ** appears in Greek words only and pronounced as g if it is followed by **ε - ι - η - Ϻ** like **αγιος** = holy (G) or saint
if it was followed by other letters, it is pronounced as GH like **αγαθος** = righteous - **ᾠραφη** = writing
- If the letter **Ϻ** is repeated, it is pronounced NG or NGH like **αγγελος** = angel or **εἰςωμιον** = praise
- **Δ** is pronounced D only in names else it is pronounced Z
- **ζ - Ϻ - Δ - Ϻ** appears only in Greek words
- In Greek words **ου** = zm, like **κοσμος** = universe

Abbreviations

The word	Abbreviation	meaning
ἰβοις	Π̄σ̄	The lord
Πιχριστος	Π̄ χ̄ς	Christ
Ἰησοῦς	Ῑ Η̄ς	Jesus
Ἐφοῦτ	Φ̄τ	God
Πιπνευμα	Πῑ π̄νᾱ	Spirit
Ἐθοταβ	ε̄θ̄ν̄	Holy
Ἀλληλοῦα	ᾱλ̄	Alleluia
Πισραηλ	Πῑς̄ λ̄	Israel
Μαρτυρος	μ̄τ̄	Martyr
σωτηρ	σ̄ω̄ρ̄	Savior
σταυρος	σ̄τ̄ε̄	The Cross
Ἰωαννης	Ῑω̄ᾱ	John
Ἱεροσαλημι	Ἰ̄λη̄μῑ	Jerusalem

Ⲑⲉⲛⲁⲥⲧⲓ ⲛⲣⲉⲙⲓⲛⲁ

Coptic Alphabet

1	Ⲁ	ⲁ	A (French)	ALPHA
2	Ⲃ	ⲃ	V - B	VITA
3	Ⲅ	ⲅ	G - GH	GAMMA
4	Ⲇ	ⲇ	D - Z	DELTA
5	Ⲉ	ⲉ	A (English)	EI
6	Ⲋ	ⲋ	Swou (number 6)	SOO
7	Ⲍ	ⲍ	Z	ZITA
8	Ⲏ	ⲏ	long I	ITA
9	Ⲑ	ⲑ	TH	THETA
10	Ⲓ	ⲓ	I	IOTA
11	ⲕ	Ⲍ	K	KAPPA
12	Ⲏ	ⲏ	L	LAVLA
13	Ⲑ	ⲑ	M	MI
14	Ⲓ	ⲓ	N	NI
15	ⲕ	Ⲍ	KS	KSI
16	Ⲏ	ⲏ	O	O
17	Ⲑ	ⲑ	P	PI
18	Ⲓ	ⲓ	R	RO
19	ⲕ	Ⲍ	S	SIMA
20	Ⲏ	ⲏ	T	TAV
21	Ⲑ	ⲑ	I - V - OU	EPSLON
22	Ⲓ	ⲓ	F	PHI
23	ⲕ	Ⲍ	KH - K - SH	KEI
24	Ⲏ	ⲏ	PS	PSI
25	Ⲑ	ⲑ	W	OA
26	Ⲓ	ⲓ	SH	SHAI
27	ⲕ	Ⲍ	F	FAI
28	Ⲏ	ⲏ	KH	KHAI
29	Ⲑ	ⲑ	H	HORI
30	Ⲓ	ⲓ	G - GH	GANGA
31	ⲕ	Ⲍ	CH	CHIMA
32	Ⲏ	ⲏ	TI	TI