



Lesson Three – Pronouns

3.1 Personal Pronouns

Ἄνοκ	I
ἄνοκ	You (masculine)
ἄθο	You (feminine)
ἄνοϋ	He
ἄθοϋ	She
Ἄνοη	We
ἄνωτην	You (plural)
ἄνωϋ	They

Examples and Exercises:

Ἄνοκ οὔρηι πε	I am a son
Ἄνοκ πε ἄρηι	I am the Son
ἄνοκ οὔσον πε	You are a brother
	You are the brother
	You are a sister
ἄθο τε ἄρηι	You are the sister
	He is a father
ἄνοϋ πε ἄρωτ	He is the father
ἄθοϋ οὔμαϋ τε	She is a mother
	She is the mother
Ἄνοη ἄρῆνοϋ νε	We are brothers
Ἄνοη νε ἄρῆνοϋ	We are the brothers
	You are fathers
ἄνωτην νε ἄρηι]	You are the fathers
ἄνωϋ ἄρῆρηι νε	They are men
	They are the men

3.2 Attached Possessive Pronouns

Masculine Singular	Feminine Singular	Plural (Masculine and Feminine)
Ⲡⲁⲥⲟⲛ My brother	ⲧⲁⲥⲱⲛⲓ My sister	ⲛⲁⲥⲱⲛⲓ my sisters ⲛⲁⲥⲛⲏⲛⲏ my brothers
Ⲡⲉⲕ	ⲧⲉⲕ	ⲛⲉⲕ
Ⲡⲉ	ⲧⲉ	ⲛⲉ
Ⲡⲉϥ	ⲧⲉϥ	ⲛⲉϥ
Ⲡⲉⲥ	ⲧⲉⲥ	ⲛⲉⲥ
Ⲡⲉⲛ	ⲧⲉⲛ	ⲛⲉⲛ
Ⲡⲉⲧⲉⲛ	ⲧⲉⲧⲉⲛ	ⲛⲉⲧⲉⲛ
Ⲡⲟϥ	ⲧⲟϥ	ⲛⲟϥ
Ⲡⲉⲥⲟⲛ Her brother	ⲧⲉϥⲱⲛⲓ his sister	Ⲡⲟϥⲥⲛⲏⲛⲟϥ Their brother

Exercise: translate into coptic

Our fathers and mothers	
My book, my pen and my watch	
Your son (to a woman) and his daughter	
Your sons and their daughters	
Her sons and your daughters	
Our fathers and mothers	

3.3. Unattached Possessive Pronouns

Masculine Singular	Feminine Singular	Plural
Belong to a guy Φα	Belong to a girl θα	Belong to us Πα
νοῦι	θωι	φωι
νοῦκ	θωκ	φωκ
νοῦ	θω	φω
νοῦϑ	θωϑ	φωϑ
νοῦς	θως	φως
νοῦν	θων	φων
νοῦτεν	θωτεν	φωτεν
νοῦοῦ	θωοῦ	φωοῦ

Examples

1	
Παιχωμ πε παχωμ	That book is my book
Παιχωμ φωι πε	That book is mine
Φωκ πε πῶοῦ	Yours is the glory
Πῶοῦ Φα πεννοῦτ πε	The glory belongs to our God
2	
Ἰαiaxπ τε τααxπ	That watch is my watch
Ἰαiaxπ θωι τε	That watch is mine
ῶκ τε τχομ	Yours is the power
Ἰμετνωτ θα Φτ τε	The greatness belongs to God
3	
Παιχωμ νε παχωμ	These books are my books
Παιχωμ νοῦι νε	These books are mine
Νοῦκ νε νιφνοῦι	Yours are the skies
Νιπεθνανεῦ Πα Φτ νε	The good-things belong to God

3.4 Genitive pronouns

Articles	ἄντε	ἄ	ἄν
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Examples

ἄπογρο ἄντε †εἰρημη	The king of the peace
ἄπογρο ἄντε ἄωογ	The king of the glory
ἄφνογ† ἄντε ἄτφε	God of heavens
ἄπ̄ο̄ ἄντε νιχομ	The lord of hosts
ἄπῆι ἄντε νιασσελοσ	The house of angels

Remarks:

1. ἄ is used with the “labial” letters; which sound like m/b/p/f and they are (μ - φ - β - π - ψ)
2. ἄν is used with the rest of the letters

ἄπογρο ἄ†εἰρημη	The king of the peace
ἄπογρο ἄἄωογ	The king of the glory
ἄφνογ† ἄἄτφε	God of heavens
ἄπ̄ο̄ ἄννιχομ	The lord of hosts
ἄπῆι ἄννιασσελοσ	The house of angels

General remark:

ἄ / ἄν are used in many cases, like:

Genitive	noun	ἄ / ἄν	noun
Adjective	noun	ἄ / ἄν	adj
Object	verb	ἄ / ἄν	noun

3.5 Adjectives

Articles	ⲁ	ⲛ
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Examples

1. The noun then the adjective

Ⲑⲣⲕⲟⲙ ⲱⲃⲉⲣⲓ	A new book
ⲡⲓⲕⲟⲙ ⲱⲃⲉⲣⲓ	The new book
Ⲑⲣⲕⲟⲙ ⲛ̀ⲁⲡⲁⲥ	An old book
ⲡⲓⲕⲟⲙ ⲛ̀ⲁⲡⲁⲥ	The old book

2. The adjective then the noun

Ⲑⲣⲛⲓⲱⲥⲓ ⲱⲃⲁⲕⲓ	A great city
Ⲫⲛⲓⲱⲥⲓ ⲱⲃⲁⲕⲓ	The great city
Ⲑⲣⲕⲟⲣⲕⲓ ⲛ̀ⲁⲗⲟⲣ	A little boy
ⲡⲓⲕⲟⲣⲕⲓ ⲛ̀ⲁⲗⲟⲣ	The little boy

Examples

- Adjectives and the nouns they describe are interchangeable, i.e.: the noun can come before or after the adjective. In both cases, the letters ⲁ... and ⲛ... separate between the noun and the adjective .
- The definite or the indefinite article is attached to whichever comes first, be it the noun or the adjective.
- Some adjectives (as well its negative) come first because of its importance, like:

ⲡⲓⲗⲟⲣⲓⲧ ⲛ̀ⲣⲱⲱⲓ	The first man
ⲡⲓⲗⲁⲓ ⲛ̀ⲉⲗⲟⲟⲣ	The last day

- Just like in English, the Coptic adjectives do NOT change according to the gender or number of their nouns.