

Lesson Three
Πρω ἄμαρ ρουτ

Coptic letters similar to English in shape only

Coptic	English	Pronunciation
Ϣ* e.g. Ϣⲟ Ϣⲉ Ϣⲓ Ϣⲁ	C	S as in see
*Ⲡ e.g. Ⲡⲟ Ⲡⲉ Ⲡⲓ Ⲡⲁ	P	R as in road
*Ⲭ e.g. ϢⲬ ⲠⲬ	H	ee as in feet
*Ϥ e.g. ϢϤ ⲠϤ	W	O as in hope
*Ⲕ	B	B or V (will be explained in lesson 5)
*Ϩ	X	K or Sh or Kh (will be explained in Lesson 7)

N.B. The sign (*) indicates the starting point of writing the letter.

Read the following :

ϢⲬ ⲠⲬ ϢϤ ⲠϤ
ⲬϢ ⲬⲠ ϤϢ ϤⲠ

Notice the difference in pronunciation between the letters

(Ϣ , Ⲭ), Letter (Ⲭ) takes double the time of letter (Ϣ)

Also, notice the difference in pronunciation between the letters

(Ϣ , Ϥ), Letter (Ϥ) takes double the time of letter (Ϣ)

Then, we mention (ⲟⲩ) pronounced (ou) as in tool.

Now we know 13 letters which can be divided into two groups :

• Consonants : Ⲭ, Ⲕ, ⲩ, Ⲓ, ⲓ, Ϣ, Ⲡ

• Vowels : ⲟ, ⲉ, ⲓ, ⲁ, Ⲭ, Ϥ

Read the following :

1. **Ⲡⲁ Ⲕⲁ Ⲓⲁ Ⲓⲁ ⲙⲁ Ⲓⲁ Ⲡⲁ**
2. **Ⲡⲉ Ⲕⲉ Ⲓⲉ Ⲓⲉ ⲙⲉ Ⲓⲉ Ⲡⲉ**
3. **Ⲡⲓ Ⲕⲓ Ⲓⲓ Ⲓⲓ ⲙⲓ Ⲓⲓ Ⲡⲓ**
4. **ⲠⲎ ⲔⲎ ⲒⲎ ⲒⲎ ⲙⲎ ⲒⲎ ⲠⲎ**
5. **Ⲡⲟ Ⲕⲟ Ⲓⲟ Ⲓⲟ ⲙⲟ Ⲓⲟ Ⲡⲟ**
6. **Ⲡⲱ Ⲕⲱ Ⲓⲱ Ⲓⲱ ⲙⲱ Ⲓⲱ Ⲡⲱ**
7. **Ⲡⲟⲩ Ⲕⲟⲩ Ⲓⲟⲩ Ⲓⲟⲩ ⲙⲟⲩ Ⲓⲟⲩ Ⲡⲟⲩ**

Reversing the order of the letters, we read :

1. **ⲠⲎ ⲠⲔ Ⲡⲕ Ⲡⲓ Ⲡⲓ Ⲡⲙ ⲠⲔ Ⲡⲡ**
2. **ⲒⲎ ⲒⲔ Ⲓⲕ Ⲓⲓ Ⲓⲓ Ⲓⲙ ⲒⲔ Ⲓⲡ**
3. **ⲒⲎ ⲒⲔ Ⲓⲕ Ⲓⲓ Ⲓⲓ Ⲓⲙ ⲒⲔ Ⲓⲡ**
4. **ⲒⲎ ⲒⲔ Ⲓⲕ Ⲓⲓ Ⲓⲓ Ⲓⲙ ⲒⲔ Ⲓⲡ**
5. **ⲒⲎ ⲒⲔ Ⲓⲕ Ⲓⲓ Ⲓⲓ Ⲓⲙ ⲒⲔ Ⲓⲡ**
6. **ⲒⲎ ⲒⲔ Ⲓⲕ Ⲓⲓ Ⲓⲓ Ⲓⲙ ⲒⲔ Ⲓⲡ**
7. **ⲒⲟⲩⲎ ⲒⲟⲩⲔ Ⲓⲟⲩⲕ Ⲓⲟⲩⲓ Ⲓⲟⲩⲓ Ⲓⲟⲩⲙ ⲒⲟⲩⲔ Ⲓⲟⲩⲡ**

Exercise :

1) Write the following names in Coptic :

Mina Amir Anthony Irene

2) Read, write and memorize the following words :

Ⲡⲟ	:	door
Ⲡⲱ	:	mouth
Ⲡⲓ	:	room
ⲠⲎ	:	sun
Ⲓⲟⲩ	:	What?
ⲙⲟⲩ	:	death
Ⲓⲁ	:	side
Ⲓⲉ	:	sixty
ⲙⲎⲧ	:	ten

3) Read, write and memorize the following words :

ⲙⲓϢⲓ	:	give birth
ⲣⲁⲛ	:	name
Ϣⲙⲟⲩ	:	bless
Ϣⲱⲙⲁ	:	body
ⲟⲩⲣⲟ	:	king
ⲣⲱⲙⲓ	:	man, human being