

Learn the following letters

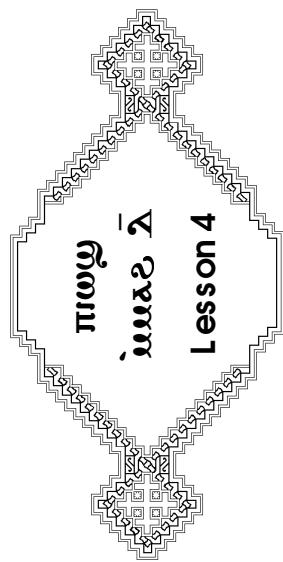
Letter	Name	Pronunciation	How to write it
B	Veeta	V (as in vase) when followed by a vowel B (as in <u>baby</u>)	
		when it is the last letter of the word	

Note:

If followed by a consonant, it is pronounced **B** in most cases. The following are examples of words where **B** is followed by a consonant but pronounced **V**

- ΧΡΡΑ** (ava) Bishop's title
- ΤΓΒΗ** (tovh) ask, pray
- ΕΡCI** (evshi) slumber
- ΤΕΒΤ** (tevt) fish

Letter	Name	Pronunciation	How to write it
Γ	Gamma	G (as in Go) if followed by Ε, Ι, Λ, Θ	
		N (as in Νο)	
		if followed by Γ, Κ, Χ, ·	
		GH (as in Arabic O)	
		in all other situations	



Learn the following letters (cont.)



6 Soo This is not a letter, It denotes the numeral 6.



Z Zeta **Z** (as in Zone)

• Kei (**See page 4 – 13 for details**)



1. *In Coptic words* (or in Greek words that became part of the Coptic language)

K (as cook)

e.g. Κει (keemi) Egypt

Κ (ko) put

ΕΘΕΙ (evkee) ask, pray
.. (psikee) soul

2. In some Greek words

a. **SH** (as in Shake) when followed

by Ε, Ι or Θ

e.g. ΕΠΕΙ (shere) Hail

b. **KH** (as in German Achtung) in other situations

e.g. ΠΙΠΤΟΥ (pikhristos)

Christ

• Epsee **P + S**

(Both sounds are pronounced)

Grammatical Notes

A. Indefinite Articles:

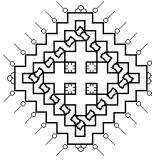
1. Singular (masc. or fem.) ΟΘ
 2. Plural(masc. or fem.) ΗΔΝ
- Examples: For the following words
- | Singular | Plural |
|--|--|
| ΙΩΤ (yot) father,
C,P <small>1</small> (sheeri) son,
Ψ-ΗΜ <small>1</small> (es-himi) lady
or wife | ΙΩ} (yotee) fathers
C,P <small>1</small> (sheeri) sons
ΗΙΩΜ <small>1</small> (hiyomi) ladies
or wives |

The use of definite vs indefinite articles for **Singular**

- | Definite Article | Indefinite Article |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Ω-ΙΩΤ the father | ΟΘΙΩΤ a father |
| Π-Κ,P <small>1</small> the son | ΟΘΕΚ,P <small>1</small> a son |
| Ψ-ΗΜ <small>1</small> the lady | ΟΘΨ-ΗΙΜ <small>1</small> a lady |

The use of definite vs indefinite articles for **Plural**

- | Definite Article | Indefinite Article |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ΝΙΩ} the fathers | ΗΔΝΙΩ} fathers |
| ΝΙC,P <small>1</small> the sons | ΗΔΝC,P <small>1</small> sons |
| ΝΙΗΙΩΜ <small>1</small> the ladies | ΗΔΝΗΙΩΜ <small>1</small> ladies |



Grammatical Notes (cont.)

- B. The use of nouns with definite and indefinite articles in simple sentences of the type:**

This is ..(noun).

1. using **sing.**, **masc.** nouns such as ζειμ (book)

- If the noun has the indefinite article, the particle ΠΕ precedes the noun

ωδι ΠΕ πιζειμ (This is the book)

- If the noun has the indefinite article,

the particle ΠΕ follows the noun

ωδι οθεζειμ ΠΕ (This is a book)

2. Similar rules are followed for
sing. **fem.** and the particle ΤΕ
 and the **plural** and the particle ΝΕ

- for **sing. fem.**

γδι ΤΕ } γ-ηιμ (This is the lady)
 γδι οθεγ-ηιμ ΤΕ (This is a lady)

- for **plural**

νδι νε νικ, πι (These are the sons)
 νδι νανγ, πι νε (These are sons)

Learn the spelling, pronunciation, meaning and use of the following

ΟΘ	Indefinite article (sing.) a or an
ΗΑΝ	Indefinite article (plural)
ΔΕ ?	what ?
ΠΑΝ	name (masc.)
ΖΕΙΜ	book (masc.)
ΚΑΣ	pen (masc.)
ΔΗΖ, Β	school (fem.)
ΩΟΡΚΙ	table (fem.)
Τ-ΠΑΠΕΖΔ (Gr)	table (fem.)
ΔΓΓΕΛΟΨ	angel (masc.)
ΒΙ	tree (fem.)
Δ-ΛΟΙ	grapes
ΒΙ Η-Δ-ΛΟΙ	vine (tree of grapes)
ΕΓΟΘΑΣ	holy
Π-ΝΕΘΗΔ	spirit (masc.)
ΠΙΓ-ΤΑΘΟΨ	The cross
..	soul (fem.)
ΨΕΙΜΑ	body (masc.)
ΤΗΜΙ	Egypt
ΕΘΕ,	ask, pray (v.), Prayer (n.)
ΕΡΚΙ	slumber, forgetfulness, sleep
ΤΕΡΨ	hail, peace to ..
ΠΙ-ΠΙΨΤΟΨ	Christ

Learn the following

ας πε περπάν?	What is your name? (sing. masc.)
ας πε περπάν?	What is your name? (sing. fem.)
Παρπάν πε ..	My name is .. (for both genders)
ας τε γαι?	What is this? (fem.)
ας πε ωλι?	What is this? (masc.)
ωλι πε πικάς	This is the pen
ωλι οθκάς πε	This is a pen (ΠΕ at the end)
γαι τε }τ-παπέζα	This is the table
γαι τε λωορci τε	This is the table
γαι οθωορci τε	This is a table (ΤΕ at the end)
ναι νε νιαργελοφ	These are the angels
πιπ-νεθμά	These are angels (ΝΕ at the end)
εγοθάρ	The holy Spirit
τερε νε ήλπια	Hail to you Mary
τερε νακ η-	Hail to you O
πιψ-ταθροφ	cross
νεή	Our souls and our bodies
νεηντιμά	From Egypt
ε-βολδέν τημ	Vine (Tree of grapes)
βι η-α-λοι	Through the prayers
ητεηηηεθ/η-τε	Through the prayers of the saints
ηεγοθάρ	

Exercises:

4. 1. Translate into English

1. ηιμ τε γαι?
2. γαι τε ταμάθ
3. ας τε γαι?
4. γαι οθδηζ, β τε
5. ας πε ωλι?
6. ωλι οθζημ πε
7. ωλι πε πικάς
8. ας πε πεκράν?
9. ας πε περάν?
10. παράν πε ήλα
11. παράν πε ήλπια
12. ηιμ πε ωλι?
13. ωλι οθαλγελοφ πε
14. ωλι πε παλγελοφ
15. γαι οθωορci τε
16. πιπ-νεθμά εγοθάρ
17. βι η-α-λοι
18. τερε ηε η-βαργενοφ
19. τερε νακ η-πι-ριγτοφ
20. νανε δ-τοοθι πλιγτ
21. ηοφρι ε-ζηρη ταμάθ
22. α-ηοθ η-ηλι παζ, βρ
23. σεπη-ηοτ ταγιρι

Exercises:

4.2. Translate into Coptic

4.3 Pronounce the following

1. What is this ? (masc.)
2. What is this ? (fem.)
3. Who is this ? (masc.)
4. Who is this ? (fem.)
5. This is the book
6. This is a pen
7. This is your father
8. This is my sister
9. What is your name ? (masc.)
10. My name is Mark
11. What is your name ? (fem.)
12. My name is Sara
13. Vine
14. Through the prayers of saints from Egypt
15. our souls and our bodies
16. The holy Spirit
17. The father and the Son
18. Hail to you O Mary
19. Hail to you O Christ
20. Good morning my mother
21. Thanks
- 22.
23. Answer to thanks (you"re welcome)

Exercises:

1. δένι ω-πάι η-ω-ΐρτ νέμ π-ζήρι
2. νέμ πιτ-νέθια εγοθάρ
3. π-οθρο η-τε ιηρηνί
4. πι-ριγτοι αφτηιφ
5. δένι οθιγγι φτηιφ
6. αχια αχια λαγια ήπρια παργενοι
7. ω-ιοθη ιλι ιλι
8. αηψηιη μαρενοθεστη η-τ-πιλι εγοθάρ
9. ιγοθη ήι-ριγτοι π-ζήρι η-ω-ιοθη
10. ητηει ε-ροη οθοη ιλι ιλι
11. λοχα πατρι κε θ-ιι κε αρι π-ιεθατι
12. κε ηθη κε α-ι-ι κε ιγ-τοθη ε-ι-ηδη
13. τηιη ε-ι-ιηιη αηη άλλαθια
14. ζηηρ ε-ροη η-ηιζαζη η-τε }εκκ-ληθια
15. ιερει ηλκ ι-πιηαρτ-θροι
16. ιλι ιλι ο-ιοθη πιενηζητηρ
17. ι-ιοθη ε-ροφ δεη ιλικαπ

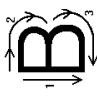
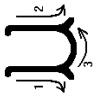
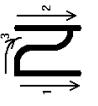
Table 3. Summary of the
Names and Pronunciation of the Coptic Alphabet

Letter				pronunciation
Alpha *	Ⲁ	Ⲁ	Ⓐ	as in <u>father</u> , or as in <u>Fan</u>
Veeta *	Ⲃ	Ⲃ	Ⓑ, B	based on position in the word
Gamma	Ⲅ	Ⲅ	Ⓖ, N, GH	based on position in the word
Delta	Ԇ	Ԇ	Ⓓ, TH, D	TH as in <u>then</u> , (D in names)
Ei	Ҽ	Ҽ	Ⓔ	as in <u>pen</u> , or as in <u>Rain</u>
Soo	Ԇ	Ԇ	Ⓕ	it is the numeral 6
Zeeta	Ԇ	Ԇ	Ӡ	as in <u>zebra</u>
Eeta	Ԇ	Ԇ	Ԇ	EE
Theeta	Ԇ	Ԇ	Ԇ	as in <u>meet</u>
Iota	Ԇ	Ԇ	Ԇ	as in <u>think</u>
Kappa	Ԇ	Ԇ	Ԇ	based on position in the word
Lavia	Ԇ	Ԇ	Ԇ	as in <u>cook</u>
Mei *	Ԇ	Ԇ	Ԇ	as in <u>look</u>
Nei *	Ԇ	Ԇ	Ԇ	as in <u>mother</u>
Eksee	Ԇ	Ԇ	Ԇ	as in <u>nancy</u>
O	Ѻ	Ѻ	Ѻ	as in <u>box</u>
Pee	Ѽ	Ѽ	Ѽ	as in British <u>not</u>
Ro	Ѽ	Ѽ	Ѽ	as in <u>Peter</u>
Seema	Ѽ	Ѽ	Ѽ	as in <u>room</u>
Tav *	Ѽ	Ѽ	Ѽ	based on position in the word
Epsilon*	Ѽ	Ѽ	Ѽ	as in <u>take</u>
Fei	Ѽ	Ѽ	Ѽ	based on position in the word
Kei	Ѽ	Ѽ	Ѽ	as in <u>fan</u>
Epsce	Ѽ	Ѽ	Ѽ	based on position in the word
Oo	Ѽ	Ѽ	Ѽ	both p and s are pronounced
Shai	Ѽ	Ѽ	Ѽ	as in <u>throw</u>
Fai	Ѽ	Ѽ	Ѽ	as in <u>shake</u>
Khai *	Ѽ	Ѽ	Ѽ	as in <u>fan</u>
Hori	Ѽ	Ѽ	Ѽ	as in Arabic <u>Kh</u>
Ganga	Ѽ	Ѽ	Ѽ	as in <u>house</u>
Cheema	Ѽ	Ѽ	Ѽ	based on position in the word
Tee *	Ѽ	Ѽ	Ѽ	as in <u>Church</u>
Jinkim	Ѽ	Ѽ	Ѽ	as in <u>tea</u>
				Makes the letter a Separate syllable

* Capital Letters are written in a different way than small letters

Learn to write the following Capital Letters

These are the ones written differently from the corresponding small letters

Name	Small Letter	Capital Letter	How to write it
Alpha	ά	Ἄ	
Veeta	β	Β	
Mei	μ	Μ	
Nei	ν	Ν	
Tav	τ	Τ	
Epsilon	ε	Ἐ	
Khai	σ	Ϛ	
Tee	τ	Ͳ	

Pronunciation of the letter .

This letter is common in both Coptic words as well as in words of Greek origin.

In any **Coptic** word, it is pronounced **ꝝ**.

In words of **Greek origin**: The original pronunciation in the Greek language is not K but it is different from any sound in the Coptic language and it is somewhat between **SH** and **KH**, depending on its position in the word.

It is pronounced closer to the **SH** in words where this letter is followed by ε, ι, ς, or ο, and pronounced closer to **KH** in other situations. Therefore the Copts adopted an **approximate** rule to pronounce it **SH** in words where the letter is followed by ε, ι, ς, or ο, and **KH** in other situations.

However, traditionally, this rule was never followed all the time, and in many words of Greek origin, is traditionally pronounced **K**. Such words include

επ·πια pronounced er-ekriya **not** er-ekhriya,

-πχη pronounced ekrom **not** ekhrom

κ&τι·οθιεν pronounced katikomeni **not** katikhomeni,

-ποιοτ pronounced ekronos **not** ekhronos,

ε·μαλοσιя pronounced ekmalosiya **not** ekhmalosiya

-πχεма pronounced ekreema **not** ekhreema

.. pronounced psikee **not** psishee,

and ε·θε·, pronounced evkee **not** evshee especially since evshee sounds very similar to the Coptic word ερci evshi which means slumber and sleepiness, and confuse the listener whether you mean prayer or sleepiness.