

## Lesson 8

8.1 Tripartite Construction: This sentence structure is the typical verbal sentence in Coptic. It is usually made up of three parts, a verbal prefix (tense marker), a subject (nominal or pronominal), and a verb.

### 8.1.1 First Perfect Tense:

8.1.1.1 Form: This is the best form of the narrative past tense. It corresponds to the English simple past, or in some cases, the perfect tense. It is conjugated with the eight different persons that we have encountered in previous lessons. The verb 'ⲙⲟⲩⲩ' 'to walk' will be used as an example here, and it is conjugated as follows:

<u>Person</u>	<u>Singular</u>		<u>Plural</u>	
1-mf	ⲁ.ⲓ.ⲙⲟⲩⲩ	I walked	ⲁ.ⲛ.ⲙⲟⲩⲩ	we walked
2-m	ⲁ.ⲕ.ⲙⲟⲩⲩ	you (m) walked	ⲁⲣⲉ.ⲧⲉⲛ.ⲙⲟⲩⲩ	you (pl) walked
2-f	ⲁⲣⲉ.ⲙⲟⲩⲩ	you (f) walked	same	
3-m	ⲁ.ϣ.ⲙⲟⲩⲩ	he walked	ⲁ.ⲣ.ⲙⲟⲩⲩ	they walked
3-f	ⲁ.ϥ.ⲙⲟⲩⲩ	she walked	same	

8.1.1.2 Nominal Subject: The use of the nominal subject is dependent in large on the style of the literary writer. Three different forms are available in Coptic, as follows:

ⲁ ⲡⲓ.ⲣⲱⲙⲓ ⲙⲟⲩⲩ	the man walked
ⲡⲓ.ⲣⲱⲙⲓ ⲁ.ϣ.ⲙⲟⲩⲩ	same
ⲁ.ϣ.ⲙⲟⲩⲩ ⲛⲉⲗⲉ ⲡⲓ.ⲣⲱⲙⲓ	same

Note: 'ⲛⲉⲗⲉ' is used in verbal construction to move the nominal subject after the verb. It is frequently used in texts translated from the Greek.

8.2. Prepositions with Verbs of Motion: The prepositions 'ⲉ- , ⲩⲁ , ⲉⲗⲉⲛ' are frequently used with verbs of motion, as follows:

8.2.1 ⲉ- indicates motion to or toward a place or a person:

ⲁ.ϣ.ⲙⲟⲩⲩ ⲉ.ⲡⲉϣ.ⲛⲓ	he walked to his house
ⲁ.ϣ.ϥⲱⲧ ⲉ.ⲧ.ⲉⲕⲕⲗⲛϥⲓⲁ	he ran to the church

8.2.2 ⲱⲁ indicates motion to or up to. It is more frequently used with persons than places:

ⲁ.ϣ.ϣⲱⲧ	ⲱⲁ	ⲡⲉϣ.ⲓⲱⲧ	he ran to his father
ⲁ.ⲛ.ⲱⲉ	ⲱⲁ	ⲡⲓ.ⲉⲡⲓⲕⲟⲡⲟⲥ	we went to the bishop

8.2.2 ⲉⲭⲉⲛ indicates motion onto or on:

ⲁ.ϣ.ⲙⲟⲱⲓ	ⲉⲭⲉⲛ	ⲡⲓ.ⲙⲱⲟⲩ	he walked upon the water
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### 8.3 Vocabulary 8:

ⲓ	vb.	to come	ⲥⲱⲧ	vb.	to run, flee
--- ⲛⲥⲁ	vb.	to come after	--- ⲛⲥⲁ	vb.	to pursue
ⲓⲱ	m.	donkey	ⲱⲉ	vb.	to go
ⲙⲟⲱⲓ	vb.	to walk	ⲱⲗⲏⲗ	vb.	to pray
ⲛⲭⲉ		namely	---	m.	prayer
ⲣⲓⲙⲓ	vb.	to weep	ⲭⲉⲙⲥⲓ	vb.	to sit
			ⲭⲉⲟ	m.	horse

### Greek Nouns:

ⲉⲣⲟⲛⲟⲥ	m.	throne	ⲧⲣⲁⲡⲉⲗⲁ	f.	table
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8.4 Exercises 8: Translate the following into English:

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2. ⲡⲓ.ⲱⲛⲣⲓ ⲁ.ϣ.ⲓ ⲉ.ⲡⲉⲛ.ⲛⲓ
3. ⲁ.ϣ.ⲙⲟⲱⲓ ⲛⲭⲉ ⲓⲛⲥⲟⲩⲥ ⲉⲭⲉⲛ ⲡⲓ.ⲭⲣⲟ ⲛ.ⲧ.ⲑⲁⲗⲁⲥⲥⲁ
4. ⲁ.ⲩ.ⲓ ⲛⲥⲁ ⲡⲟⲩ.ⲱⲛⲣⲓ
5. ⲁ ⲡⲉϣ.ⲙⲁⲑⲏⲧⲏⲥ ⲥⲱⲧ ⲉ.ⲕⲉ.ⲙⲁ
6. ⲁ.ⲓ.ⲣⲓⲙⲓ ⲉⲭⲉⲛ ⲛⲁ.ⲛⲟⲃⲓ
7. ⲁ.ⲩ.ⲭⲉⲙⲥⲓ ⲉ.ⲧ.ⲧⲣⲁⲡⲉⲗⲁ ⲛⲭⲉ ⲧⲉϣ.ⲥⲭⲓⲙⲓ ⲛⲉⲙ ⲡⲉϣ.ⲱⲉⲣⲓ