Lesson 3

3.1 Indefinite Article:

3.1.1 form:
Coptic has two distinct indefinite articles, one for the singular ⲟⲩ⁻ and one for the plural ϩⲁⲛ⁻. Like the definite article, they are prefixed directly to the nouns they modify, examples:

Singular		Plural	
ⲟⲩ.ϫⲟⲓ	a ship	ϩⲁⲛ.ⲉϫⲏⲟⲩ	ships, some ships
ⲟⲩ.ⲣⲱⲙⲓ	a man	ϩⲁⲛ.ⲣⲱⲙⲓ	men, some men

3.1.2 uses:

3.1.2.1 Singular: The indefinite article for singular is used for both masculine and feminine. In English it is translated as 'a' or 'an' before vowel-sounding letters. It is sometimes deleted in Coptic but should always be written out when translating into English.

3.1.2.2 Plural: The indefinite article for the plural is always written out in Coptic. In English it is translated as 'some' or in most cases not translated. Care should be taken in translating the noun that follows it in the plural.

3.2 Genitive (simple possessive):
Relationship between two nouns is expressed by the preposition ⲛ̀ (ⲙ̀) 'of', as follows:

ⲡⲓ.ⲏⲓ ⲙ̀.ⲡⲓ.ⲣⲱⲙⲓ	The house of the man
ϯ.ϣⲉⲣⲓ ⲛ̀.ϯ.ⲥϩⲓⲙⲓ	The daughter of the woman

In special cases, the genitive preposition ⲛ̀ (ⲙ̀) is replaced with the fuller form ⲛ̀ⲧⲉ, as follows:

(a) If the first noun is indefinte:

ⲟⲩ.ϫⲱⲙ ⲛ̀ⲧⲉ ⲡⲓ.ϧⲉⲗⲗⲟ	A book of the monk

(b) If the first noun has a strong definite article:

ⲡⲓ.ⲃⲱⲕ ⲛ̀ⲧⲉ ⲡⲓ.ⲟⲩⲣⲟ	The servant of the king

(c) If both nouns are proper nouns:

ϧⲉⲛ ϯ.ⲕⲁⲛⲁ ⲛ̀ⲧⲉ.ϯ.ⲅⲁⲗⲓⲗⲉⲁ	In Cana of Galilee

3.3 Simple Bipartite Clause - Indefinte Nouns:
Refer to lesson 2 for definition.

3.3.1 <u>Affirmative</u>: In the affirmative, the bipartite is formed in the following manner:

Auxiliary verb + Indefinite noun + Prepositional phrase
or
Auxiliary verb + (Indefinite article + Noun)+ Preposition + (Definite article + Noun)

ⲟⲩⲟⲛ   ⲟⲩ.ϧⲉⲗⲗⲟ   ϩⲓ   ⲡⲓ.ⲙⲱⲓⲧ   A monk is on the road (there is a monk on the road)

3.3.2 <u>Negative</u>: In the negative, the sentence form is as follows:

Negative auxiliary verb + Indefinite noun + Prepositional phrase

ⲙ̀ⲙⲟⲛ   ϧⲉⲗⲗⲟ   ϩⲓ   ⲡⲓ.ⲙⲱⲓⲧ   There is no monk on the road

Note: Before the negative auxiliary **ⲙ̀ⲙⲟⲛ**, the indefinite article for the singular is deleted.

3.4 <u>Vocabulary 3</u>

ⲃⲱⲕ	*m.*	*servant*	ⲧⲉⲃⲧ	*m.*	*fish*
ⲃⲱⲕⲓ	*f.*	*maidservant*	ⲟⲩⲟⲛ		*there is*
ⲉⲃⲓⲁⲓⲕ	*pl.*	*servants*	ⲟⲩⲣⲟ	*m.*	*king*
ⲉⲑⲃⲉ–	*prep.*	*about, concerning*	ⲟⲩⲣⲱ	*f.*	*queen*
ⲉⲙⲣⲱ	*f.*	*harbor*	ⲟⲩⲣⲱⲟⲩ	*pl.*	*kings, queens*
ⲓⲁⲣⲟ	*m.*	*river*	ⲟⲩⲱⲓⲛⲓ	*m.*	*light*
ⲙ̀ⲙⲟⲛ		*there is not*	ⲫⲉ	*f.*	*heaven*
ⲙⲱⲟⲩ	*m.*	*water*	ⲫⲏⲟⲩⲓ̀	*pl.*	*heavens*
ⲛ̀– (ⲙ̀)	*prep.*	*of*	ⲭⲟⲓ	*m.*	*ship*
ⲛ̀ⲧⲉ–	*prep.*	*of*	ⲉ̀ⲭⲏⲟⲩ	*pl.*	*ships*
ⲣⲁⲛ	*m.*	*name*			

3.5 <u>Exercises 3</u>: Translate the following into English:

A   1.   ϩⲓϫⲉⲛ ⲡⲓ.ϫⲟⲓ   6.   ϧⲉⲛ ϯ.ⲉⲙⲣⲱ

     2.   ϧⲁ ⲟⲩ.ⲱⲛⲓ   7..   ϩⲓ ⲡⲓ.ⲓⲁⲣⲟ

     3.   ϧⲁ ϯ.ⲫⲉ   8.   ⲉⲑⲃⲉ ⲟⲩ.ϫⲱⲙ

     4.   ϧⲉⲛ ⲟⲩ.ⲧⲉⲃⲧ   9.   ⲉⲑⲃⲉ ϩⲁⲛ.ⲟⲩⲣⲱⲟⲩ

     5.   ϧⲉⲛ ⲛⲓ.ⲫⲏⲟⲩⲓ̀   10.   ⲉⲑⲃⲉ ⲟⲩ.ⲟⲩⲱⲓⲛⲓ

B   1.   ⲛⲓ.ⲧⲉⲃⲧ ⲙ̀.ⲫ̇.ⲓⲁⲣⲟ   4.   ⲟⲩ.ⲃⲱⲕⲓ ⲛ̀ⲧⲉ ⲡ̀.ⲟⲩⲣⲟ

     2.   ⲡⲓ.ⲣⲁⲛ ⲙ̀.ⲡⲓ.ⲣⲱⲙⲓ   5.   ⲡⲓ.ⲙⲱⲟⲩ ⲙ̀.ⲫ̇.ⲓⲁⲣⲟ

     3.   ⲛⲓ.ⲏⲟⲩ ⲙ̀.ⲡ̀.ⲟⲩⲣⲟ   6.   ϯ.ⲉ̀ϩⲓⲙⲓ ⲙ̀.ⲡⲓ.ⲃⲱⲕ

C   1.   ⲟⲩⲟⲛ ⲟⲩ.ⲟⲩⲱⲓⲛⲓ ϧⲉⲛ ⲛⲓ.ⲫⲏⲟⲩⲓ̀

     2.   ⲙ̀ⲙⲟⲛ ⲧⲉⲃⲧ ϧⲉⲛ ϯ.ⲉⲙⲣⲱ