

## Lesson 3

### 3.1 Indefinite Article:

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

	<u>Singular</u>		<u>Plural</u>
ⲟⲩ.ⲭⲟⲓ	a ship	ⲉⲁⲛ.ⲉⲭⲟⲩ	ships, some ships
ⲟⲩ.ⲣⲱⲙⲓ	a man	ⲉⲁⲛ.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 ⲛ (ⲉ) 'of', as follows:

ⲡⲓ.ⲛⲓ ⲉ.ⲡⲓ.ⲣⲱⲙⲓ	The house of the man
ⲧ.ⲱⲉⲣⲓ ⲛ.ⲧ.ⲉⲉⲣⲓ	The daughter of the woman

In special cases, the genitive preposition ⲛ (ⲉ) is replaced with the fuller form ⲛⲧⲉ, as follows:

(a) If the first noun is indefinite:

ⲟⲩ.ⲭⲱⲙ ⲛⲧⲉ ⲡⲓ.ⲉⲭⲁⲛⲟ      A book of the monk

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

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

(c) If both nouns are proper nouns:

ⲉⲛ ⲧ.ⲕⲁⲛⲁ ⲛⲧⲉ.ⲧ.ⲉⲁⲛⲓⲛⲉⲁ      In Cana of Galilee

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

3.3.1 Affirmative: 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.ⲉⲗⲗⲟ ⲉⲓ ⲡⲓ.ⲙⲱⲓⲧ A monk is on the road (there is a monk on the road)

3.3.2 Negative: In the negative, the sentence form is as follows:

Negative auxiliary verb + Indefinite noun + Prepositional phrase

ⲙⲙⲟⲛ ⲉⲗⲗⲟ ⲉⲓ ⲡⲓ.ⲙⲱⲓⲧ There is no monk on the road

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

### 3.4 Vocabulary 3

ⲃⲱⲕ	<i>m.</i>	<i>servant</i>	ⲧⲉⲃⲧ	<i>m.</i>	<i>fish</i>
ⲃⲱⲕⲓ	<i>f.</i>	<i>maidservant</i>	ⲟⲩⲟⲛ		<i>there is</i>
ⲉⲃⲓⲁⲕ	<i>pl.</i>	<i>servants</i>	ⲟⲩⲣⲟ	<i>m.</i>	<i>king</i>
ⲉⲃⲉ-	<i>prep.</i>	<i>about, concerning</i>	ⲟⲩⲣⲱ	<i>f.</i>	<i>queen</i>
ⲉⲙⲣⲱ	<i>f.</i>	<i>harbor</i>	ⲟⲩⲣⲱⲟⲩ	<i>pl.</i>	<i>kings, queens</i>
ⲓⲁⲣⲟ	<i>m.</i>	<i>river</i>	ⲟⲩⲱⲓⲛⲓ	<i>m.</i>	<i>light</i>
ⲙⲙⲟⲛ		<i>there is not</i>	ⲫⲉ	<i>f.</i>	<i>heaven</i>
ⲙⲱⲟⲩ	<i>m.</i>	<i>water</i>	ⲫⲙⲟⲩⲓ	<i>pl.</i>	<i>heavens</i>
ⲛ- (ⲙ)	<i>prep.</i>	<i>of</i>	ⲭⲟⲓ	<i>m.</i>	<i>ship</i>
ⲛⲧⲉ-	<i>prep.</i>	<i>of</i>	Ⲉⲭⲙⲟⲩ	<i>pl.</i>	<i>ships</i>
ⲣⲁⲛ	<i>m.</i>	<i>name</i>			

## 3.5 Exercises 3: Translate the following into English:

A 1. ϣⲓⲕⲉⲛ ⲡⲓ.ⲕⲟⲓ

2. ⲉⲁ ⲟⲩ.ⲱⲛⲓ

3. ⲉⲁ ⲓ.ⲫⲉ

4. ⲉⲛ ⲟⲩ.ⲧⲉⲃⲧ

5. ⲉⲛ ⲡⲓ.ⲫⲟⲩⲓ

6. ⲉⲛ ⲧ.ⲉⲙⲣⲱ

7.. ϣⲓ ⲡⲓ.ⲓⲁⲣⲟ

8. ⲉⲑⲃⲉ ⲟⲩ.ⲭⲱⲙ

9. ⲉⲑⲃⲉ ϣⲁⲛ.ⲟⲩⲣⲱⲟⲩ

10. ⲉⲑⲃⲉ ⲟⲩ.ⲟⲩⲱⲛⲓ

B 1. ⲡⲓ.ⲧⲉⲃⲧ ⲙ̀.ⲫ̀.ⲓⲁⲣⲟ

2. ⲡⲓ.ⲣⲁⲛ ⲙ̀.ⲡⲓ.ⲣⲱⲙ

3. ⲡⲓ.ⲛⲟⲩ ⲙ̀.ⲡ.ⲟⲩⲣⲟ

4. ⲟⲩ.ⲃⲱⲕⲓ ⲛ̀ⲧⲉ ⲡ.ⲟⲩⲣⲟ

5. ⲡⲓ.ⲙⲱⲟⲩ ⲙ̀.ⲫ̀.ⲓⲁⲣⲟ

6. ⲧ.ⲉⲓⲙ ⲙ̀.ⲡⲓ.ⲃⲱⲕ

C 1. ⲟⲩⲟⲛ ⲟⲩ.ⲟⲩⲱⲛⲓ ⲉⲛ ⲡⲓ.ⲫⲟⲩⲓ

2. ⲙ̀ⲙⲟⲛ ⲧⲉⲃⲧ ⲉⲛ ⲧ.ⲉⲙⲣⲱ