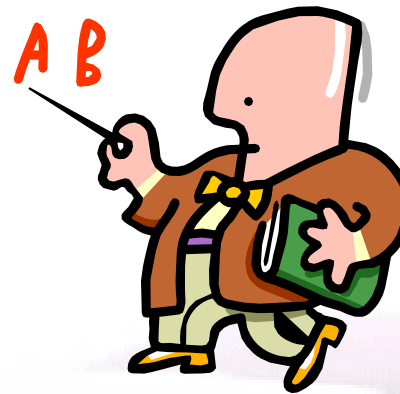




# Our Coptic Language Ⲛⲉⲛⲁⲥⲧⲓ ⲛ̀ⲣⲉⲙⲓⲛⲁⲓ

First Lesson ( 1 )  
Ⲡⲱⲱ Ⲑⲣⲁⲓ ( ⲁ̄ )



## First Lesson ( 1 ) - Πρωτο Οραϊ ( α̅ )

# Why the Coptic Language ?!!

### ❖ The First Principle:

1. Church
2. Orthodox
3. Coptic



### ❖ The Second Principle:

1. Identity
2. Link to the Past
3. Key to the Treasures of the Coptic Church
  - ✓ Language
  - ✓ Bible
  - ✓ Writings of the Fathers
  - ✓ Lives of the Saints
  - ✓ Liturgical Services
  - ✓ Canon Law and Documents



ⲁ	Ⲃ	Ⲅ	Ⲍ
Ⲉ	Ⲛ	Ⲟ	Ⲣ
Ⲥ	Ⲙ	Ⲡ	Ⲧ
Ⲙ	Ⲣ	Ⲟ	Ⲥ
Ⲡ	Ⲣ	Ⲟ	Ⲥ
Ⲥ	Ⲙ	Ⲡ	Ⲧ
Ⲟ	Ⲣ	Ⲟ	Ⲥ
Ⲥ	Ⲙ	Ⲡ	Ⲧ



## First Lesson ( 1 ) - Πρωτο Ορασι ( ᾱ )

### Why the Coptic Language ?!!

“ ... We thank God greatly, for the preservation of the Coptic language, the language of our ancestors, from extinction. In spite of all the persecutions, the Coptic Church still possesses a great part of the Coptic heritage. It is sufficient that the Coptic language was blessed by the Lord Jesus, as He spoke it with His blessed mouth when He grew up in the land of Egypt.

All the Church rites are written in the Coptic language. Among the most ancient transcriptions that the scholars refer to in the Holy Bible is the Coptic version. We are now almost at the beginning of the twenty first century, and the scholars and researchers have realized the importance of this language. It is presently taught in the universities of America and in the whole world.

Learning Coptic will give us the opportunity to become acquainted with the language of our fathers and grandfathers; and penetrate deeply the spirituality of the established Coptic Orthodox Church. Its beautiful and inspiring hymns that are mostly in the Coptic language will enter the depths of the spirit. ...”

On July 15, 1997 by **His Grace Bishop Karas**  
Late Bishop of St. Antony Monastery in the wilderness of California

Ⲁ	Ⲃ	Ⲅ	Ⲇ
Ⲉ	Ⲋ	Ⲍ	Ⲏ
Ⲑ	Ⲓ	Ⲕ	Ⲗ
Ⲙ	Ⲛ	Ⲝ	Ⲟ
Ⲡ	Ⲣ	Ⲥ	ⲗ
ⲙ	ⲟ	ⲡ	ⲣ
Ⲥ	ⲧ	ⲩ	ⲫ
ⲭ	ⲱ	ⲳ	ⲭ
ⲯ	ⲱ	ⲳ	ⲭ



# First Lesson ( 1 ) - Πρωτο Οραϊ ( ᾱ )



**Coptic Letters  
(32 Letters)**

**1 letter  
used alone  
(not inside words)**

**6  
vowel  
letters**

**1 letter  
consonant  
or vowel**

**24  
consonant  
letters**

α	Β	Ϛ	Δ
ε	ϛ	Ζ	Η
θ	Ι	Κ	Λ
ω	Ν	Ξ	Ο
π	ρ	Ϙ	τ
ϣ	ϕ	χ	ψ
ω	ϙ	Ϡ	ϡ
ϣ	ϛ	ϛ	ϛ



Letter	Name	Pronunciation	Meaning
ϛ ϛ	Soo	"soo"	Six (number 6)

# First Lesson ( 1 ) - Πρώτη Οράση ( α )

Consonant Letters similar to English:

Letter	Name	Pronunciation
<b>Κ κ</b>	Kappa	"k"
<b>Μ μ</b>	Mei	"m"
<b>Ν ν</b>	Nei	"n"
<b>Σ σ</b>	Seema	"s"
<b>Τ τ</b>	Tav	"t"
<b>Ζ ζ</b>	Zeeta	"z"



α	β	γ	δ
ε	ζ	η	θ
ι	κ	λ	μ
ν	ξ	ο	π
ρ	σ	τ	υ
φ	χ	ψ	ω
ყ	ϋ	ϛ	Ϝ
ϝ	Ϟ	ϟ	Ϡ



# First Lesson ( 1 ) - Πρώτη Οράση ( ᾱ )



## Vowel Letters:

Letter	Name	Pronunciation	Example
Α α	Alpha	"a"	<b>ΚΑΝ</b> Kan
Ε ε	Ei	"e"	<b>ΚΕΝ</b> Ken
Ι ι	Iota	"i"	<b>ΚΙΝ</b> Kin
Η η	Eeta	"ee"	<b>ΚΗΝ</b> Keen
Ο ο	O	"o"	<b>ΚΟΝ</b> Kon
Ω ω	Omega (Oou)	"oa"	<b>ΚΩΝ</b> Koan
ΟΥ οϋ	Oou + Epsilon	"oo"	<b>ΚΟΥΝ</b> Koon

α	β	γ	δ
ε	ζ	η	θ
ι	κ	λ	μ
ν	ξ	ο	π
ρ	σ	τ	υ
φ	χ	ψ	ω
ყ	ϋ	ϑ	ϛ
Ϡ	ϡ	Ϣ	ϣ



# First Lesson ( 1 ) - Πρώτη Οράση ( ᾱ )

Examples (Quiz 1):



Word	Meaning	Word	Meaning
ΑΝΟΚ	I "me"	ΑΛΛΟΙ	I wish
ΜΗΝΑ	Mina	ΖΩΜΟC	soup
ΛΟΚΛΕΚ	think	ΤΩΟΥ	mountain
ΚΩΤ	build	ΙΩΤ	father
CΩ	drink	CON	brother
CΩΤΕΛ	hear	CΩNI	sister
CINA	Sinai	CONI	thief - robber
ΑΝΤΩΝΙΟC	Anthony	ΟΥΩΟΥ	honor - glory

α	β	γ	δ
ε	ζ	η	θ
ι	κ	λ	μ
ν	ξ	ο	π
ρ	σ	τ	υ
φ	χ	ψ	ω
ϑ	ϰ	Ϭ	ϩ

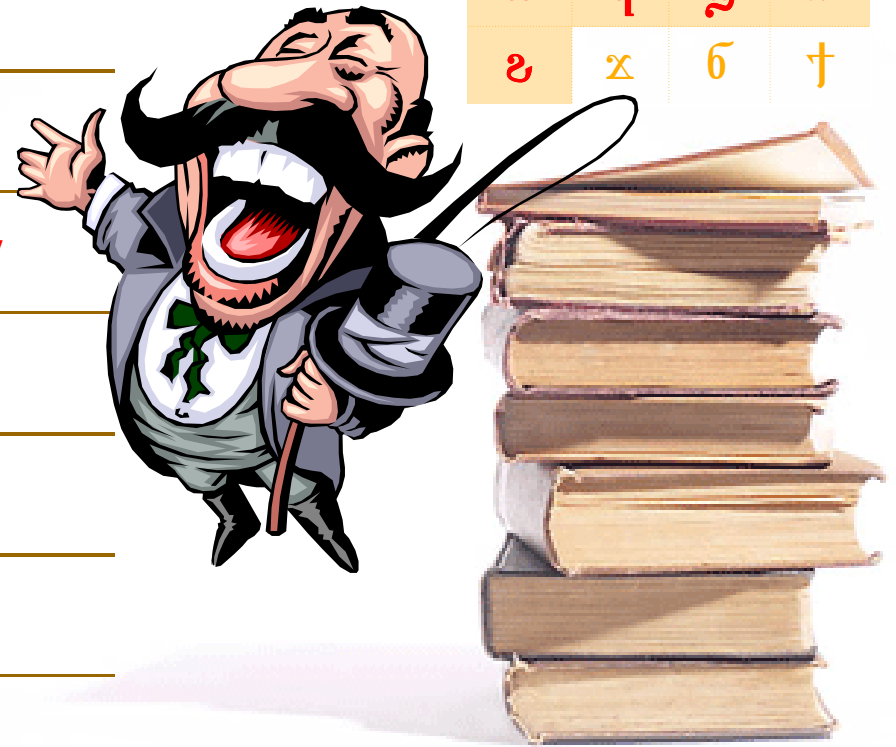


## First Lesson ( 1 ) - Πρώτη Ομάδα ( ᾱ )

Consonant Letters not similar to English:

Letter	Name	Pronunciation
Λ λ	Lolla	"l"
Π π	Pi	"p"
Ρ ρ	Ro	"r"
Φ φ	Fei	"ph"
Ψ ψ	Fai	"f"
Ω ω	Shai	"sh"
Χ χ	Khai	"kh"
Ζ ζ	Hori	"h"

α	β	γ	δ
ε	ζ	η	θ
ι	κ	λ	μ
ν	ξ	ο	π
ρ	σ	τ	υ
φ	χ	ψ	ω
ყ	ფ	ჯ	ბ
ღ	ვ	ძ	წ





## First Lesson ( 1 ) - Πρωτα Ορα ( ᾱ )

Examples (Quiz 2):



Word	Meaning	Word	Meaning
φελ	beans	θεν	in
τραπεζα	table	δελυρι	youth
υηρι	son	δελλοι	old men
παλας	my tongue	δατ	money
λαυπας	lamp	Πετρος	Peter
δαλωυ	cheese	Μαρια	Mary
νοφρι	good	Σαρρα	Sarah
πενσαδ	our teacher	Μαρκος	Mark

α	β	γ	δ
ε	ζ	η	θ
ι	κ	λ	μ
ν	ξ	ο	π
ρ	ς	τ	υ
φ	χ	ψ	ω
ყ	ϭ	Ϯ	ϯ

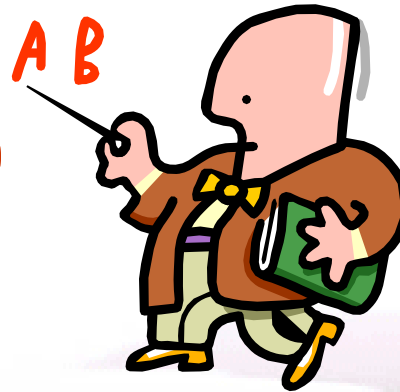






# Our Coptic Language Ⲫⲉⲛⲁⲥⲧⲓ ⲛ̀ⲣⲉⲓⲛ̀ⲭⲏⲓ

Second Lesson ( 2 )  
Ⲡⲱⲱ Ⲥⲛⲁⲣ ( Ⲫ̄ )



## Second Lesson ( 2 ) - Πρωτογενής ( Β )

The "JENKEM" Rule:

Forms		
Rule	\ • / over consonant letter = € + letter over vowel letter = pronounced separately (it splits the word)	
	ε̂ eh	κ̂ ek
	ε̄ em	τ̂ et



Examples (Quiz 3):

Word	Meaning	Word	Meaning
τ̂φ̂ε	the heaven	ω̂ω̂ον	for
α̂ρον	Aaron	π̂ε̂κ̂η̂πος	your garden
π̂κα̂θ̂ι	the earth	φ̂ραν	the name



α	β	γ	δ
ε	ζ	η	θ
ι	κ	λ	μ
ν	ξ	ο	π
ρ	σ	τ	υ
φ	χ	ψ	ω
ϑ	ϰ	ϱ	ϲ



## Second Lesson ( 2 ) - Πρωτοὺς ἑνάρα ( Β̄ )

### Compound Consonant Letters:

Letter	Name	Pronunciation
Ξ ξ	Eksee	"k+s"
Ψ ψ	Epsee	"p+s"
Ϛ ϛ	Cheema	"t+sh"
Ϝ ϝ	Tee	"t+i"



### Examples (Quiz 4):

Word	Meaning	Word	Meaning
ἀξιος	worthy	θεοτης	God
ἰσως	the Lord	εὐαγγελιον	exalted
ψαλμος	psalm	καταλαβω	understand

α	β	γ	δ
ε	ζ	η	θ
ι	κ	λ	μ
ν	ξ	ο	π
ρ	σ	τ	υ
φ	χ	ψ	ω
ϙ	Ϡ	ϡ	Ϣ
ϣ	Ϥ	ϥ	Ϧ



## Second Lesson ( 2 ) - Πρωτοὺς ἑνάτω ( Β̄ )

Letters with two pronunciation:

Letter	Name	Pronunciation		Examples
Β β	Veeta	"v"	if before a vowel letter	βαλ - νιβεν eye - every
		"b"	otherwise	νοῦβ - τωβζ gold - pray
Δ δ	Delta	"d"	In names only	Δανιηλ - Δεμας Daniel - Deemas
		"th"	otherwise	δοξα - δωρον glory - gift
Θ θ	Theeta	"t"	if after (c - ψ - τ)	ῥοθαυ - ἑθουνοϋϋ shut - incense
		"th"	otherwise	θαυ - ἡθοκ this - you
Χ χ	Genga	"j"	if before (ε - ι - η)	ἡχε - χουυ of - find
		"g"	otherwise	χαχου - χουχ enemy - hand



α	β	γ	δ
ε	ζ	η	θ
ι	κ	λ	μ
ν	ξ	ο	π
ρ	σ	τ	ϣ
φ	χ	ψ	ω
ყ	ϋ	ϑ	ϛ



## Second Lesson ( 2 ) - Πρωτὸ Ἐνάρι ( Β̄ )

Letters with three pronunciation:

Letter	Name	Pronunciation		Examples
Ϝ ϝ	Epsilon	"o"	if after (o)	ῥοτρο - οῦταϜ king - fruit
		"v"	if after (α - ε)	αῦραχι - εῦρωϝ speak - save
		"e" or "y"	otherwise	ΚῦριλλοϜ - ἕῦλλον Cyril - wood
Ϝ ϝ	Ghamma	"g"	if before (ε - ι - η - ϝ)	ἄσιοϜ - ῥενοϜ Holy/saint - race
		"n"	if before (Ϝ - κ - ζ - χ)	ἄϜϜελοϜ - ἀναϜκη angel - force
		"gh"	otherwise	ἄϜαπη - Ϝαληνη love - calm
Ϟ ϟ	Kei	"sh"	(Greek) if before (ε - ι - η - ϝ)	χερε - ιϞχροϜ greeting - strong
		"kh"	otherwise in Greek words	μοναχοϜ - ἸϞριστοϜ monk - Christ
		"k"	in all Coptic words	Ϟημι - ἕλομ Egypt - crown

α	β	γ	δ
ε	Ϝ	ζ	η
θ	ι	κ	λ
μ	ν	ξ	ο
π	ρ	σ	τ
ϝ	φ	χ	ψ
ω	ϙ	Ϟ	ϟ
Ϡ	ϡ	β	γ



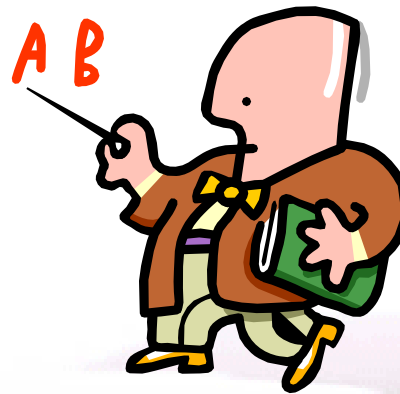






# Our Coptic Language Ⲅⲉⲛⲁⲥⲧⲓ ⲛ̀ⲣⲉⲓⲛ̀ⲭⲏⲓ

Third Lesson ( 3 )  
Ⲡⲱⲱ Ⲙⲟⲩⲧ ( 5 )



## Third Lesson ( 3 ) - Πρωΰ Ψομτ ( ̄ )

### Famous Abbreviations:

Abb.	Word	Meaning
̄αλ	αλληλοια	alleluia
̄Κε	Κριε ελεσον	Lord have mercy
̄πνα	Πνεμα	Spirit
̄εοϑ	Εθοταβ	Holy
̄Ιλημ	Ιεροσαλημ	Jerusalem
̄Ιελ	Πισρανλ	Israel
̄Ιωα	Ιωαννης	John
̄ϩ	μαρτυρος	martyr
̄Φϑ	Φνοϑϑ	God
̄Ποc	Πβοιc	Lord
̄Ιηc	Ιησοϑc	Jesus
̄Πχc	Πιχριστοc	Christ
̄cωρ	cωτηρ	savior
̄ϩc	Πισταϑροc	Cross

α	β	γ	δ
ε	ϛ	ζ	η
θ	ι	κ	λ
μ	ν	ξ	ο
π	ρ	c	τ
ϑ	φ	χ	ψ
ω	ϥ	ϣ	ϣ
Ϸ	ϸ	Ϲ	Ϻ

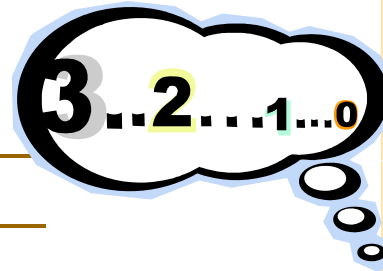


## Third Lesson ( 3 ) - Πρωτ Υομτ ( Ⲯ )

### Coptic Numbers:

#	Coptic	Name
1	ⲁ	ⲟⲩⲁⲓ
2	Ⲃ	ⲪⲎⲁⲩ
3	Ⲯ	ⲩⲟⲙⲧ
4	ⲗ	Ⲫⲧⲟⲟⲩ
5	Ⲉ	ⲧⲓⲟⲩ
6	Ⲩ	Ⲫⲟⲟⲩ
7	Ⲛ	ⲩⲗⲩⲥ
8	Ⲟ	ⲩⲙⲏⲎ
9	Ⲟ	ⲩⲩⲓⲧ
10	ⲓ	ⲙⲏⲧ
20	ⲕ	ⲭⲟⲧ
30	ⲗ	ⲙⲁⲡ
40	ⲙ	ⲫⲙⲈ
50	Ⲏ	ⲧⲈⲂⲓ
60	Ⲛ	ⲪⲈ

#	Coptic	Name
70	ⲟ	ⲩⲩⲥ
80	ⲡ	ⲫⲁⲙⲎⲈ
90	Ⲡ	ⲡⲓⲪⲧⲁⲩ
100	ⲣ	ⲩⲩⲈ
200	Ⲫ	ⲪⲎⲁⲩ ⲩⲩⲈ
300	ⲧ	ⲩⲟⲙⲧ ⲩⲩⲈ
400	ⲩ	Ⲫⲧⲟⲟⲩ ⲩⲩⲈ
500	Ⲭ	ⲧⲓⲟⲩ ⲩⲩⲈ
600	ⲭ	Ⲫⲟⲟⲩ ⲩⲩⲈ
700	ⲭ	ⲩⲗⲩⲥ ⲩⲩⲈ
800	ⲩ	ⲩⲙⲏⲎ ⲩⲩⲈ
900	ⲩ	ⲩⲩⲓⲧ ⲩⲩⲈ
1000	ⲁ	ⲩⲩⲟ
2000	Ⲃ	ⲪⲎⲁⲩ ⲩⲩⲟ
...	...	...



ⲁ	Ⲃ	Ⲯ	ⲗ
Ⲉ	Ⲩ	Ⲛ	Ⲟ
Ⲟ	ⲓ	ⲕ	ⲗ
ⲙ	Ⲏ	Ⲛ	ⲟ
ⲡ	ⲣ	Ⲫ	ⲧ
ⲩ	Ⲭ	ⲭ	ⲩ
ⲩ	Ⲡ	ⲩ	ⲫ
Ⲫ	ⲧ	ⲩ	ⲫ

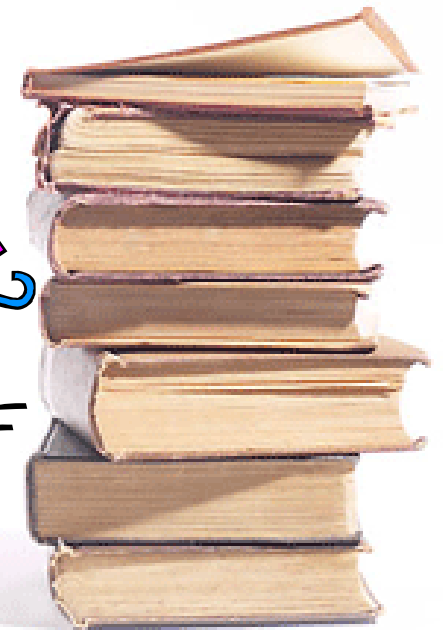
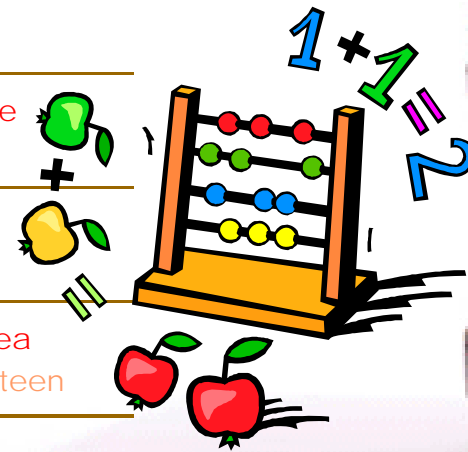
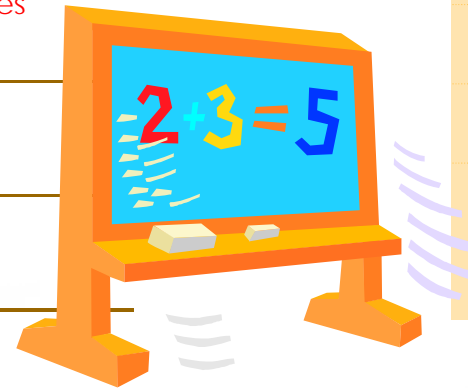


## Third Lesson ( 3 ) - Πρωΰ Ψομτ ( Ϝ )

### Examples (Quiz 5):

Sentence	Meaning
Ϝ̄ ἠζωον ἠασωματοϜ Ϸ̄τοοτ	4 incorporeal creatures four
Ϝ̄ ἠαρχηαϜτελοϜ ψαψϷ	7 archangels seven
ἰβ̄ ἠαποστολοϜ μετ Ϸ̄νατ	12 apostles twelve
κ̄λ̄ ἠπρεϷβητεροϜ χωτ Ϸ̄τοοτ	24 priests twenty four
ἠ̄ ἠεζοοτ ζ̄με	40 days forty
Ϝ̄ ἠτε ΚωσταηηοπολιϷ ψε τεβι	150 at Constantinople hundred and fifty
Ϸ̄ ἠτε ΕφεϷοϷ Ϸ̄νατ ψε	200 at Ephesus two hundred
Ϝ̄ ἠταθωοητ ζ̄εν ἠικιε̄α ψομτ ψε μετ ψ̄μηη	318 assembled at Nicea three hundred and eighteen
ᾱρμ̄λ̄ ψε ζ̄με Ϸ̄τοοτ ἠψο	144,000 hundred and forty four thousand

α	β	γ	δ
ε	Ϸ	ζ	η
θ	ι	κ	λ
μ	ν	ξ	ο
π	ρ	σ	τ
υ	φ	χ	ψ
ω	Ϸ	ψ	Ϝ
Ϸ	χ	β	τ



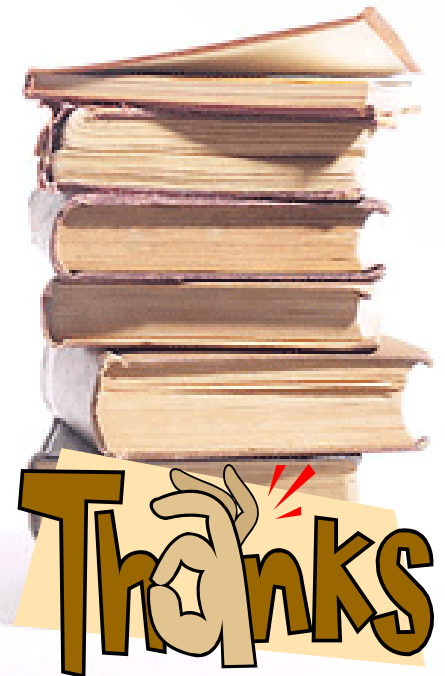
## Third Lesson ( 3 ) - Πρωΰ Ξομτ ( ̅ )

### Examples (Quiz 6):

Word	Meaning
ϸε	yes
̅μ̅ο̅ν	no
α̅μ̅η̅ν	amen
π̅α̅ς̅ω̅ν	my brother
τ̅α̅ς̅ω̅ν̅ι	my sister
π̅ε̅ν̅ι̅ω̅τ	our father
π̅α̅ι̅ω̅τ	my father
τ̅α̅μ̅α̅τ	my mother
π̅ε̅ν̅ν̅η̅β	our master
̅μ̅η̅ν̅ι	always
̅ι̅ρ̅η̅ν̅η̅ π̅α̅ς̅ι	peace be with all
ν̅ο̅ς̅τ̅ρι	happy (greeting)
Ϸ̅α̅ι	feast
Ϸ̅ε̅ ̅η̅ρ̅ο̅μ̅π̅ι	(for) hundred years
ο̅τ̅Ϸ̅ε̅π̅̅μ̅ο̅τ	thanks
α̅ρ̅ι̅̅μ̅ο̅τ	come on

Word	Meaning
ν̅α̅ν̅ε̅ ρ̅ο̅τ̅ζ̅ι	good evening
ν̅α̅ν̅ε̅ τ̅ο̅ο̅τ̅ι̅	good morning
α̅Ϸ̅ π̅ε̅ π̅ε̅κ̅ρ̅α̅ν	what is your name
α̅Ϸ̅ π̅ε̅ π̅ε̅κ̅ρ̅η̅τ̅	how are you
ν̅α̅ν̅ε̅ς	good - fine
̅μ̅π̅α̅ι̅ρ̅η̅τ̅ α̅η̅	not like that
ϸε̅ ̅μ̅π̅α̅ι̅ρ̅η̅τ̅	yes, like that
̅ι̅η̅ς̅ π̅χ̅ς̅	Jesus Christ
π̅ι̅π̅α̅ τ̅ρ̅ι̅α̅ρ̅χ̅η̅ς	the patriarch (pope)
π̅ι̅μ̅ε̅τ̅ρ̅ο̅π̅ο̅λ̅ι̅τ̅ι̅ς	the metropolitan
π̅ι̅ε̅π̅ι̅ς̅κ̅ο̅π̅ο̅ς	the bishop
α̅β̅β̅α̅ Ϸ̅ε̅ν̅ο̅υ̅τ̅	ava Shenouda
π̅ι̅χ̅ω̅μ̅ ϸ̅ο̅υ̅α̅β̅	The Holy Book (Bible)
ο̅τ̅ζ̅α̅ι̅ δ̅ε̅ν̅ π̅ο̅ς̅	(be) saved in God (Goodbye)
μ̅α̅ρ̅ε̅ Ϸ̅η̅ν̅ο̅υ̅τ̅ Ϸ̅ω̅π̅ι̅ ν̅ε̅μ̅α̅κ̅	may God be with you

α	β	γ	δ
ε	ϛ	ζ	η
θ	ι	κ	λ
μ	ν	ξ	ο
π	ρ	ς	τ
υ	φ	χ	ψ
ω	ϣ	ϥ	Ϸ
Ϸ	Ϙ	ϛ	ϣ



**Thanks**

