

Lesson Twelve

Πιωψ ὕμαζ μητ ἔναϣ

Syllables

The Coptic word may consist of one or more syllables.

Types of syllables:

1. Open syllable which ends with a vowel : e.g. ὕμαζ : Place
2. Closed syllable which ends with a consonant :
e.g. ωψ : to read

A syllable is a part of a word which consist of :

1. A vowel
2. Two vowels compounded into one sound (αι).
3. Consonant and a vowel.
4. Consonant with jinkim (π̣).
5. Consonant and a compound sound (ψαι).
6. More than one consonant and a vowel (ψομτ : three {3}).

Dividing the word into syllables facilitates reading.

Examples :

- 1) Two syllable word : βα|κι : city
- 2) Three syllable word : μο|να|χοc : monk
- 3) Four syllable word : ὕ|φ|ρη|τ̣ : like, as
- 4) Five syllable word : εϣ|λο|ση|με|νοc : blessed

Exercise: Divide the following words into syllables and write them:

1. μαρτυροc
2. ἔταυροc
3. εθουαβ
4. πιχριστοc
5. ιεροναλμ
6. θεοc
7. μετμαρτυροc
8. αρχη
9. ασσελοc
10. πιενασσελιcτηc