

Hieroglyphic sign-lists for the exercises

The following lists are intended to help you to identify particular hieroglyphs quickly and easily, and then work out how they have been used to write words. You can also, if you wish, treat them as a convenient resource for memorising some of the most commonly used hieroglyphs.

List I: 1-consonant signs

ʾ		Called <i>aleph</i> . Originally a throaty trill, it later became a stop, as in cockney pronunciation of <i>bottle</i> as <i>bo'l</i> , and a <i>hat</i> as a 'a'
i		Called <i>yodh</i> . Originally a stop, it tended to sound more like y. A weak sound, often not written
y	¹ ²	Like y in <i>yes</i>
ʿ		Called <i>ayin</i> . A throaty gurgle, like saying a whilst swallowing
w	¹ ²	Called <i>waw</i> . Like w in <i>wet</i> . A weak sound, often not written
b		Like b in <i>bet</i>
p		Like p in <i>pet</i>
f		Like f in <i>fit</i>
m		Like m in <i>met</i>
n		Like n in <i>net</i>
r		Like r in <i>rain</i> , but distinctly trilled as in Scots pronunciation
h		Like h in <i>home</i>
ḥ		Emphatic h pronounced in the throat
ḥ		Like Scots ch in <i>loch</i>
ḥ		Slightly softer than ḥ, like German ch in <i>ich</i>
s	¹ ²	Like s in <i>soap</i>
š		Like sh in <i>ship</i>
k		k pronounced at back of mouth, like Arabic q in <i>Qurʿān</i> (Koran)
k		Like k in <i>kit</i>
g		Like g in <i>get</i>
t		Like t in <i>tub</i>
t		Like t in <i>tune</i>
d		Like d in <i>did</i>
d		Like j in <i>joke</i> , or French di in <i>dieu</i>

List II: Some common 2-consonant signs

	3w		b3		nb		ht		kd
	3b or mr		bh or hw		nm		h3		k3
	3h		p3		nn		hn		km
	iw		pr		nh		hn		gm
	in or nw		ph		ns		hr		gs
	ir		m3		nd		s3		t3
	is		mi		h3		s3		ti
	3		mw		hw or bh		s3		tp
	ck		mn		hm		sw		tm
	cd		mr		hn		sn		t3
	w3		mr		hr		sk or w3h		d3
	wc		mr or 3b		hs		š3		dw
	wp		mh		hd		šw		dr
	wn		ms		h3		šn		dd
	wr		mt		hc		šs		
	wd		m(w)t		hw		šd		

List III: Some common 3-consonant signs

	3m or 3m3		w3h or sk		m3c		h3t		hnt		ššm
	3wn		wc		nbw		h3k3		hrw		šps
	3nh		whm		nfr		htp		hnm		šms
	hc		wsr		ntr		hpr		spd		dw3

List IV: Some common ideograms

	=I	I, my (§36)		3wn	pillar		ch	palace
	3st	office		ib	heart		ch3	fight
	3sw	praise		3mnt	west		3wt	road, way
	ti	come		c	arm		wc	pure

	<i>pr</i>	house, estate		<i>rnpt</i>	year		<i>sr</i>	official
	<i>mšꜥ</i>	expedition		<i>rd(t)</i>	give		<i>šꜥt</i>	countryside
	<i>n</i>	not (§39)		<i>rdwy</i>	legs		<i>šꜥm</i>	hear
	<i>nwt</i>	town		<i>hꜣt</i>	front		<i>šꜥsy</i>	dignified
	<i>nmtt</i>	step, journey		<i>hr</i>	(1) face (2) on		<i>kꜣ</i>	ox, bull
	<i>nꜥr</i>	god		<i>hꜥp</i>	offering		<i>t</i>	bread
	<i>nꜥm</i>	sweet		<i>st</i>	seat, place		<i>tꜣ</i>	land
	<i>r</i>	mouth		<i>spꜣt</i>	district		<i>tp</i>	upon
	<i>rꜥ</i>	sun		<i>smsw</i>	elder, eldest		<i>dsr</i>	(1) clear (2) sacred

