

Hieroglyphs 11

And even more Grammar

Nouns: connections and possessions

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Hieroglyphs, Text and Society

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Nouns – connections – English

- Apposition – noun phrases refer to same person or thing
 - *[NP 1]The living room, [NP 2]the biggest room in the house, looks out on to a beautiful garden. (The living room and the biggest room in the house are the same room.)*
 - second noun phrase tells something more about first (identity, qualities)
We can also reverse the order of the phrases:
 - *[NP 1]The biggest room in the house, [NP 2]the living room, looks out on to a beautiful garden.*
- *and* – conjunction / coordination
 - Mary *and* Joseph
 - Bread *and* butter
- *or* – disjunction
 - Coffee *or* tea?

Nouns – connections – Middle Egyptian (ME)

□ Apposition



nswt



tw-nḥ-imn

King Tutankhamun

When these nouns are placed in *apposition*, they form a **noun phrase**, "(the) king, Tutankhamun."



nswt



twt-^hnh-imn

King Tutankhamun

- *Apposition* : **noun phrase**, “(the) king, Tutankhamun”
- **honorific transposition**: out of respect → names for gods and kings are commonly at front of noun phrases, even should be read after the connected nouns
- orientation of the hieroglyphs: *imn-twt-^hnh*, but transliteration: *twt-^hnh-imn*

Nouns – connections – Middle Egyptian (ME)

□ conjunction / coordination → Egyptian has no word for *and*

- Nouns simply following each other

- *t3 hnḳ.t* - bread and beer (literally: bread, beer)

- Sometimes: inclusion of

 *hn^c* “together with” or  *hr* “upon”

- *ḥ3tj hn3 sm3* - the heart and the lungs – literally: heart together with lungs

- *d^c hr hyt* - stormwind and rain – literally: stormwind upon rain

Nouns – connections – Middle Egyptian (ME)

- Disjunction → Egyptian has also no word for *or*
 - Nouns simply following each other
 - *db3 s3h* – a finger or a toe (literally: finger, toe)
 - Sometimes: putting
 *r-pw* (meaning something like “whichever”)
after second noun

Genitive - Possession

- Possession: one noun belongs to the other
 - First noun = possessive → direct genitive
 - *the girl's shoes*
 - Adding *of* → indirect genitive
 - *the shoes of the girl*

Genitive – Possession ME

□ Direct:

- formed by two nouns that are placed in *apposition*
- *No change to either noun visible*
- expresses a relationship of possession
 - X Noun's Y Noun (The king's wife)—the possessor noun and the possessed noun.
 - Middle Egyptian: possessed noun always precedes its possessor

Example direct Genitive



𓆎

ḥq3

𓆏

iwnw

𓆑

šm'w

"Ruler of Heliopolis of Upper Egypt" "The Ruler of Upper Egypt's Heliopolis."

Examples direct genitive

r jz (Sin. B 195) “the tomb’s door” or “the door of the tomb” (*r* “mouth, door,” *jz* “tomb”)

hjmt w^cb (Westc. 9, 9) “a priest’s wife” (*hjmt* “woman, wife,” *w^cb* “priest”)

z3 zj (Peas. R 6, 5) “a man’s son” (*z3* “son,” *zj* “man”)

hrwj sth (CT IV, 237b M1C) “Seth’s testicles” (*hrwj* “two testicles,” *sth* “Seth”)

nswt t3wj (Urk. IV, 59, 16) “Egypt’s king” (*nswt* “king,” *t3wj* “Two Lands” = Egypt)

nswt ntrw “the gods’ king” or “king of the gods” (*nswt* “king,” *ntr* “god”)

Indirect genitive

Possessive/Genitival Adjectives

Number	Masculine	Feminine
Singular	 <i>n(y)</i>	  <i>nt</i>
Plural	   <i>n(y)w</i>	  <i>n(y)t</i>
Dual	   <i>n(y)wy</i>	   <i>n(y)ty</i>

    *mwt nt s3t* "the mother of the daughter."