

Bibliographic Reference: Kousoulis, P. (2015). Introduction to ancient Egyptian language and writing [Undergraduate textbook]. Kallipos, Open Academic Editions. http://dx.doi.org/10.57713/kallipos-444

Abstract

The book is a thorough introduction to ancient Egyptian language and writing. It aims to fill a significant gap in Greek literature, as there is no other relevant study available. It is based on many years of research and teaching experience at the Department of Mediterranean Studies of the University of the Aegean. It is aimed at undergraduate and postgraduate students of archaeology, linguistics, and philology, as well as teachers or professional archaeologists and linguists who wish to gain an in-depth understanding of one of the most important ancient languages of the southeastern Mediterranean. Through original hieroglyphic inscriptions, topics related to the following are presented and analyzed: the historical and linguistic evolution of the Egyptian writing system from the proto-hieroglyphs of the Predynastic period to the hieroglyphs of the Pharaonic period and the Coptic alphabet, - the history of decipherment, - the relationship between Egyptian and other linguistic subgroups of the Afro-Asiatic family, - the morphology and use of hieroglyphic signs (ideograms, phonograms, taxograms), - types of writing (hieroglyphic, hieratic, Coptic), - the basic principles and distinctive features of the language, - the components of royal and divine nomenclature, - formulas for votive offerings and funerary offerings. Thematic lists of hieroglyphic signs with their transcription and meaning are also included, as well as a method for designing and recording them. Original interactive exercises and educational quizzes complete the theme of each unit.



The Project is funded by the National Development Programme 2021-2025 of the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs and implemented by the Special Account for Research Funds of the National Technical University of Athens and the Hellenic Academic Libraries Link.

