



# Middle Egyptian: An Introduction to the Language and Culture of Hieroglyphs

By James P. Allen

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Middle Egyptian introduces the reader to the writing system of ancient Egypt and the language of hieroglyphic texts. It contains twenty-six lessons, exercises (with answers), a list of hieroglyphic signs, and a dictionary. It also includes a series of twenty-five essays on the most important aspects of ancient Egyptian history, society, religion and literature. The combination of grammar lessons and cultural essays allows users to not only read hieroglyphic texts but also to understand them, providing readers with the foundation to understand texts on monuments and to read great works of ancient Egyptian literature in the original text. This second edition contains revised exercises and essays, providing an up to date account of current research and discoveries. New illustrations enhance discussions and examples. These additions combine with the previous edition to create a complete grammatical description of the classical language of ancient Egypt for specialists in linguistics and other fields.

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**Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #1322379 in Books
- Published on: 2010-05-24
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.72" h x .98" w x 6.85" l, 2.25 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 520 pages

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#### **Review**

"Middle Egyptian: An Introduction to the Language and Culture of Hieroglyphs, by James P. Allen, is a much needed addition to the meager literature available to Egyptologists, scholars and amateurs today interested studying the basic of ancient Egyptian...Middle Egyptian will always remain a difficult language to tackle, and much of the success of gaining a good grasp of the language depends on the effort of the student. Allen's book, however, will make the task a much easier, and an enjoyable one for students who have a serious interest in taking up the language." Nora Shalaby, Cairo Times Vol. 4, no.32

"One particularly happy feature of Allen's volume is that the abundance of exercises that follow every lesson is accompanied, in the back of the book, with the answers to them all... Allen's textbook should now be the first text of choice for teaching Egyptian." William J. Fulco, Ancient History Bulletin

"Allen, a leading scholar of ancient Egyptian grammar and syntax, has drawn upon his own extensive teaching experience to provide an up-to-date and accessible grammar that could well become the standard textbook in English." Religious Studies Review

#### **About the Author**

James P. Allen is the Wilbour Professor of Egyptology at Brown University. He is a former curator of Egyptian Art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and President of the International Association of Egyptologists. His previous publications include *Genesis in Egypt: The Philosophy of Ancient Egyptian Creation Accounts* (1989), *The Heqanakht Papyri* (2002), and *The Ancient Egyptian Pyramid Texts* (2005).

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