

The Cairo Bowl



dd ddi n hm-ntr intf ms n iw-nht

That which Dedi gave to God's Servant Intef, born of Iunakht:

Sentence structure: relative *sḏm=f*



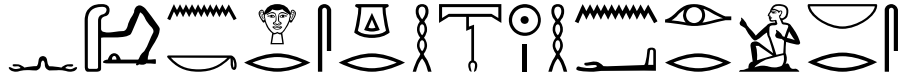
ir t3 b3kt imiw ntt mr.t(i)

Concerning the maidservant Imiu who is ill,

Sentence structure: Stative verb preceded by the relative pronoun *ntt*.



can be understood as an active masculine participle; the seated man acts as a determinative.



n ḥz.n=k ḥr=s grḥ hrw ḥnḥ ir nb r=s

you do not fight concerning her night (and) day against any (man) who acts against her,

Sentence structure: negated *sḏm.n=f*; active masculine participle



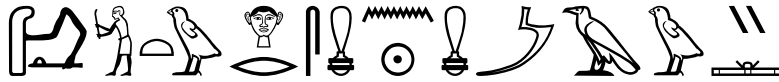
ḥr iḥ can be translated as 'why'.



ḥnḥ irt nbt r=s mrr=k wšt ḥryt=k ḥr iḥ

(or) against any (woman) who acts against her. Why do you wish/desire the destruction of your household/home?

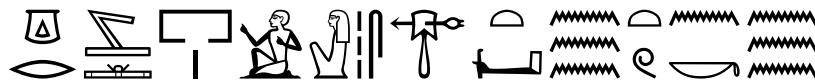
Sentence structure: Feminine active participle; present *sḏm=f* (2nd tense) used to form a rhetorical question, with an infinitive acting as object



ḥ3 tw ḥr=s mīn mī m3wy

Fight, you, concerning her today, like anew,

Sentence structure: Imperative + dependent pronoun (for emphatic effect?) + prepositional phrase



grg pr=s st.tw n=k mw

(and) (re)-establish her household, so that water may be poured out for you.

Sentence structure: Imperative; verb (future passive *sdm=f*) + indirect object (suffix pronoun) + subject (noun)



nfr n is an Old Egyptian negation that is rarely found in Middle Egyptian; it can be translated as 'not'.



nfr n mk=k k3 pr=k hb3(.w)

(If) you do not protect (her), then your household will be destroyed.

Sentence structure: negated present *sḏm=f*; subject-stative


The preposition acts here as a way of introducing a question.

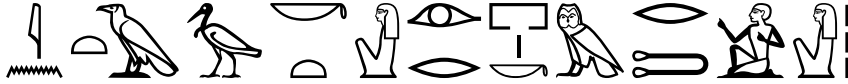


in wn n rh.n=k ntt

Is it (that) you do not know that

Sentence structure: Existential clause + negated *sḏm.n=f* + relative pronoun *ntt*

The preposition  acts here as a way of introducing the participial statement (noun + participle; 'it is the maidservant who...')



in t3 b3kt ir pr=k m rmt

it is the maidservant who makes your household among people.

Sentence structure: Participial statement (noun + masculine participle + object clause)



ḥ3 tw ḥr=s rs tw ḥr=s

Fight, you, concerning her; watch, you, over her.

Sentence structure: Imperative + dependent pronoun + prepositional phrase

