

Lesson 2:

Writing Practice with Simple Words

Objective

To practice writing common Tamaziyt words in Tifinay script, learn their pronunciation, and understand their meanings. This will help learners familiarize themselves with the shapes of the letters and build vocabulary.

1. Words for Practice

Tifinay	Phone	Meaning	Letter Breakdown
ⵜⵉⵔⵉⵏⵜ	tfuyt	Sun	ⵜ(t), ⵉ(f), ⵓ(u), ⵢ(y), ⵜ(t)
ⵉⵃⵉⵃⵉ	baba	Father	ⵉ(b), ⵃ(a), ⵉ(b), ⵃ(a)
ⵜⵉⵎⵓⵎⵜ	tamamt	Honey	ⵜ(t), ⵉ(a), ⵎ(m), ⵉ(a), ⵎ(m), ⵜ(t)
ⵜⵉⵙⵏⵜ	tisnt	Salt	ⵜ(t), ⵉ(i), ⵙ(s), ⵏ(n), ⵜ(t)
ⵏⵓⵏⵉ	adfi	Snow	ⵏ(a), ⵏ(d), ⵉ(f), ⵏ(l)
ⵏⵓⵏⵉ	ari	Write	ⵏ(a), ⵏ(r), ⵉ(i)
ⵉⵏⵙⵉ	insi	Hedgehog	ⵉ(i), ⵏ(n), ⵙ(s), ⵉ(i)
ⵉⵏⵙⵉ	ils	Tongue	ⵉ(i), ⵏ(l), ⵙ(s)
ⵜⵉⵎⵓⵎⵜ	talfs	Snake	ⵜ(t), ⵉ(a), ⵏ(l), ⵉ(f), ⵙ(s), ⵉ(a)
ⵉⵙⵎ	izm	Lion	ⵉ(i), ⵙ(z), ⵎ(m)
ⵓⵏⵏ	uccn	Wolf	ⵓ(u), ⵏ(c), ⵏ(c), ⵏ(n)
ⵉⵓⵓⵓ	ijdi	Sand	ⵉ(i), ⵓ(j), ⵏ(d), ⵉ(i)
ⵏⵓⵏⵉ	agmar	Horse	ⵏ(a), ⵏ(g), ⵎ(m), ⵏ(a), ⵏ(r)
ⵏⵓⵏⵉ	akrcun	Foal	ⵏ(a), ⵏ(k), ⵏ(r), ⵏ(c), ⵓ(u), ⵏ(n),
ⵏⵓⵏⵉ	ahidug	Idiot	ⵏ(a), ⵏ(h), ⵉ(i), ⵏ(d), ⵓ(u), ⵏ(g)
ⵏⵓⵏⵉ	aghrom	Bread	ⵏ(a), ⵏ(y), ⵏ(r), ⵓ(u), ⵎ(m)
ⵜⵉⵙⵏⵜ	taḍfi	Taste	ⵜ(t), ⵉ(a), ⵉ(d), ⵉ(f), ⵉ(i)
ⵏⵓⵏⵉ	aṭu	Wind	ⵏ(a), ⵉ(t), ⵓ(u)
ⵏⵓⵏⵉ	ašmmid	Cold	ⵏ(a), ⵏ(s), ⵎ(m), ⵎ(m), ⵉ(i), ⵉ(d)

Tip: Short strokes – can are used to make emphatic sounds ⵏ (s) becomes ⵏ (š) and ⵙ (z) becomes ⵙ (z) and ⵉ (d) becomes ⵉ (t).

Exercises:

a) Trace the Words

Use a pencil to trace the following words.

Focus on the angular shapes and the spacing between the letters:

ⵜⵉⵔⵉⵏⵜ (tfuyt - Sun)
 ⵉⵃⵉⵃⵉ (baba - My father)
 ⵜⵉⵙⵏⵜ (tisnt - Salt)

b) Fill in the Missing Letters

Complete the following words by adding the missing Tifinay letters:

ⵜ.....ⵔ..... Sun ⵉ.....ⵉ..... My father ⵜ.....ⵎ..... Honey
 ⵏ.....ⵏ..... Horse ⵙ.....ⵙ..... Hedgehog ⵙ.....ⵙ..... Sand
 ⵏ.....ⵏ..... Bread ⵓ.....ⵓ..... Wolf ⵏ.....ⵏ..... Snow

c) Match the Word to Its Meaning

Match the Tamaziyt word in Tifinay to its English meaning:

ⵉⵏⵙⵉ	ⵉⵏⵙⵉ	ⵏⵓⵏⵉ
a) Bread	a) Hedgehog	a) Wind
b) Tongue	b) Wolf	b) Lion
c) Lion	c) Lion	b) Water

3. Quick Tips

- 1) Repeat Often: Say the phonetics out loud as you write each word.
- 2) Focus on Accuracy: Ensure each letter matches the Tifinay style, with sharp angles and clean lines.
- 3) Engage Creatively: Use the words in sentences or short dialogues.

Note: In the following pages, we will move away from the square-shaped Tifinay script.

Dialogue: Introducing Yourself

ግጽጽ ስጦር ስለ ለ

Azul isem inu d (Hi, my name is)

(Learners can write their names in the blank space.)

ግጽጽ ግጽጽ ተግባራዊ ስለ ?

Mammak tusid-ed ? (How are you ?)

ተጽዕኖ ስለ ስጦር .

Tifawin a yemma. (Good morning, mother.)

Also, try with:

ፀፀፀ (Baba) - Father

ግጽጽ (Uwwa) - Brother

ግጽጽ (Weltma) - Sister

ተጽዕኖ ስለ ስፀፀ .

Timnsiwin a baba. (Good night, father)

Also, try with:

ግጽጽ (Yemma) - Mother

ግጽጽ (Uwwa) - Brother

ግጽጽ (Weltma) - Sister

Explanation of the Dialogue

This simple dialogue introduces greetings and basic family terms. It is structured to be conversational and encourages learners to personalize it by inserting their own names. The key words and phrases are designed to be practical and easy to use in everyday interactions.

New Words in This Lesson

Tifinay	Phonetics	Meaning
ግጽጽ	Azul	Hi/Hello
ስጦር	Isem	Name
ግጽጽ ግጽጽ	Mammak	How
ተግባራዊ ስለ	Tusided	Are you? (Came)
ተጽዕኖ ስለ	Tifawin	Good morning
ተጽዕኖ ስለ	Timnsiwin	Good night
ግጽጽ	Yemma	Mother
ፀፀፀ	Baba	Father
ግጽጽ	Uwwa	Brother
ግጽጽ	Ultma	Sister
ለ	d	Is
ፀ	a	O

Exercises

a) Fill in the Blanks

Complete the sentences below:

ግጽጽ ስጦር ስለ ለ (Hi, my name is)

ግጽጽ ግጽጽ ተግባራዊ ስለ ስፀፀ? (How are you?)

ግጽጽ ግጽጽ ተግባራዊ ስለ ስፀፀ? (How are you?)

ግጽጽ ግጽጽ ተግባራዊ ስለ ስፀፀ? (How are you?)

ግጽጽ ግጽጽ ተግባራዊ ስለ ስፀፀ? (How are you?)

ተጽዕኖ ስለ ስጦር (Good morning)

ተጽዕኖ ስለ ስጦር (Good morning)

ተጽዕኖ ስለ ስጦር (Good evening)

ተጽዕኖ ስለ ስጦር (Good evening)

b) Match the Word to Its Meaning

Match the Tifinay word to its English equivalent:

፳፬	፳፱	ተ፳፱፳፱
a) Good night	a) Sister	a) Good night
b) Name	b) Brother	b) Good morning
c) Father	c) Morning	c) Hello

C. Important Note

Λ in Tamaziyt:

The letter Λ can function like “*is*” or “*to be*,” and it can also mean “*and*” depending on the context.

Example: ፳፱፱ Λ ፳፱፱ (Baba d Yemma) — “Father and Mother.” Here, Λ means “and.”

You will encounter more examples of this usage in upcoming lessons.

° in Tamaziyt:

When ° is placed before nouns, it often conveys a sense of elevation, respect, or affection, similar to “O” in phrases like “O my father.”

Example: ° ፳፱፱! (A Baba!) — “O Father!”

Lesson 3:

Building Vocabulary

Objective

To introduce common everyday words in Tamaziyt. Learners will learn the English meanings and practice writing and recognizing the Tamaziyt equivalents.

Vocabulary List

English	Tamaziyt	Phonetics
Sun	ተዘ፳ተ	Tfuyt
Moon	ተ፳፳፳፳	Taziri
Star	፳፱፳	Itri
Sky	°፱፱	Ajenna
Water	°፱፱	Aman
Fire	ዘሐዘ፳ተ	leafit
Bread	°ሃ፱፳፱	Ayrum
Honey	ተ፳፳፳ተ	Tamamt
House	ተ፳፳፳፱ተ	Taddart
Tree	ተ፳፳፳፳ተ	Taddagt
Mountain	°፳፱፱፱	Adrar
Mountain	°፳፱፱	Azru
Lunch	°፱፳፳፳	Amekli
Dinner	°፱፳፳፳	Amensi

Exercises

a) Memory Test

Cover the English meanings and try to recall the translations for the Tamaziyt words:

ተ፳፳፳፳ → °፳፱፱፱ →

°፱፱ → ተ፳፳፳፳ተ →