

(“Dhe<sup>2</sup>” with “gul” and preceding object; Plural of Nouns; Adjectives with Masculine Plural Nouns; Present Participle; Use of “Ha”; Word Order.)

Dy' Sul.

Dy' Sul, Erwan  $\text{æ}^2$  dhrehedhas tre rag an<sup>2</sup> bennseythun. Pur skwith yw ev wosa studhya y'n<sup>2</sup> Bennskol dres an seythun. Yethow keltok a<sup>2</sup> wra ev dhe studhya, an yeth<sup>2</sup> vretonek, an yeth kembrek ha'n yeth kernewek Unnek eur myttinweyth yw hi.

Anjela: Erwan, esosta ow sevel hedhyw? Unnek eur yw!

Yann : Gas ev dhe<sup>2</sup> goska. Owth oberi yth esa bys yn diw eur myttinweyth. Res yw dhodho ri dew skrif hir dh'y<sup>2</sup> dhyskador a-vorow.

Marie : Pur<sup>2</sup> dhiek yw ev. Prag na<sup>2</sup> wrug ev y skrifow kyns? Nans yw unn mis y<sup>5</sup> feu leverys dhodho aga gul.

Anjela: Yv dha<sup>2</sup> goffi, Marie. Pur<sup>2</sup> vysi yw Erwan. Skrifennyas Kowethas Bretonek an<sup>2</sup> Bennskol yw ev lemmyn.

Marie : Dar! Pur<sup>2</sup> vysi yw ev ow kwari peldroes yn le studhya!

Yann : Na<sup>2</sup> wra argya yn y<sup>2</sup> geveer. Ottava lemmyn.

Erwan : Myttin da, oll an bys! Eus koffi? Pur skwith ov vy. Lyver my re<sup>2</sup> gollas.

Angela: Py lyver?

Erwan : Lyver sowsnek yn kever Kernewek.

Marie : Ottava gans dha lyvrow erell war-lergh an<sup>2</sup> bellwolok.

Gerva.

drehedhes = to reach.

tre = home.

pennseythun(f) = weekend.

skwith = tired.

wosa = after.

studhya = to study.

wosa studhya = after studying.

dres = during.

seythun (f) = week.

yethow = languages.

yeth (f) = language.

unnek = eleven.

myttinweyth = in the morning.

esosta ow sevel? = are you getting up?

hedhyw = today.

gas ev dhe<sup>2</sup> goska. = let him sleep.

owth oberi yth esa = he was working.

bys yn = until.

res yw dhodho = he has to.

ri = (to) give.

skrif = writing, essay.

hir = long

a-vorow = tomorrow.

diek = lazy.

prag na<sup>2</sup> wrug ev? = why didn't he do?

skrifow = essays

kyns = before

y<sup>5</sup> feu leverys dhodho = he was told

aga gul = to do them

nans yw unn mis = a month ago.

yv dha<sup>2</sup> goffi = drink your coffee.

skrifennyas = secretary (male)

lemmyn = now.

Dar! = Rubbish!

ow<sup>4</sup> kwari = playing.

peldroes = football.

yn le = instead of.

na<sup>2</sup> wra argya = don't quarrel.

yn y<sup>2</sup> geveer = about him.

ottava = here he is.

myttin da! = good morning!

oll an bys = everybody.

eus koffi? = is there any coffee?  
pur skwith ov vy = I am very tired.

my re<sup>2</sup> gollas = I have lost.  
(kelli = to lose.)

erell	= other (plural)	henwyn	= names.
war-lergh	= behind.	soedh (f)	= job, position.
pellwolok (f)	= television.	herwydh	= according to.
ro!	= give! (imperative)	kellys	= lost.

Govynnadow.

(No further hints will be given on how to answer the questions. You will have realised that sometimes an answer can be found complete in the passage, sometimes just a word or two needs to be changed, sometimes the wording of the answer can be found in the question with just a few words taken from the passage. The main thing is to use common sense to seek out this help that is available rather than thinking up (in English!) an entirely different answer, and then wondering why we cannot put it into Cornish! It is always best to give a written answer in the form of a sentence, and this gives practice in writing Cornish, which will help towards fluency in speech also.)

- 1) Py dydh y<sup>5</sup> trehedhas Erwan tre?
- 2) Prag yth yw ev skwith?
- 3) Pandr' a<sup>2</sup> wra ev dhe studhya? (See "Gramasek," first section)
- 4) Ro henwyn teyr yeth kelttek.
- 5) Py eur yw pan elow (calls) Anjela dhe Erwan?
- 6) Prag y<sup>5</sup> hwrug Erwan oberi bys yn diw eur myttinweyth?
- 7) P'eur<sup>5</sup> feu leverys dhe Erwan gul an<sup>2</sup> dhew skrif?
- 8) Pyth yw soedh Erwan y' n<sup>2</sup> Bennskol?
- 9) Prag yth yw pur<sup>2</sup> vysi, herwydh Marie?
- 10) Ple'ma'n lyver kellys?

Gramasek.

“Dhe<sup>2</sup>” with “gul” and preceding object. “Yethow kelttek a<sup>2</sup> wra ev dhe studhya.” This sentence starts with the object “yethow kelttek” to give it some emphasis, and “gul” is used as an auxiliary verb. In such a case “dhe<sup>2</sup>” is inserted before the verb noun “studhya.” Question 3 is another example of this where the preceding object is the interrogative pronoun “Pandra?” - “What?” Other examples are:

Kernewek a<sup>2</sup> wra ev dhe<sup>2</sup> dhyski. = He learns Cornish.

Y lytherow a<sup>2</sup> wra hi dhe redya = She reads his letters.

Pandr' a<sup>2</sup> wra ev dhe leverel? = What does he say?

Exercise 1. Translate the following into Cornish as in the above examples by putting the object first and using “gul” as an auxiliary followed by “dhe<sup>2</sup>” and the verb noun to express the English verb.

- 1) He learns Cornish.
- 2) He drinks beer.
- 3) He sells books.

5) He reads Cornish books.

4) What does he read?

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Of course, such sentences can also be expressed with a more neutral emphasis by putting the subject first:

e.g. Ev a<sup>2</sup> wra dyski Kernewek = He learns Cornish.

Question 3 may be answered by either method.

Plural of Nouns. In English, the vast majority of nouns are made plural by adding s or es.

e.g. Boy - boys; girl - girls; glass - glasses; dish - dishes. though one or two very common nouns preserve the older ending “-en.”

e.g. child - children; woman - women, and we have one or two oddities like:

e.g. mouse - mice; goose - geese.

Unfortunately, the plural of Cornish nouns is not so simple and we have to be familiar with the plural form of each noun as it comes. However, there are some fairly common endings such as “-ow” which we have met in this lesson in:

yeth (language); yethow (languages); skrif (essay); skrifow (essays)

Here is a list of most of the nouns we have met so far in singular and plural. They are masculine, except those marked (f).

<u>Singular.</u>	<u>Plural.</u>	<u>Meaning.</u>
Kernow	Kernowyon	Cornishman
bro (f)	broyow	country
eseli	eseli	member
kowethas	kowethasow	society
rann (f)	rannow	part
lyther	lytherow	letter
kesskrifer	kesskriforyon	correspondent
kar	kerens	friend
gwreg (f)	gwregedh	wife
teylu	teyluyow	family
hanow	henwyn	name
mab	mebyon	son
myrgh (f)	myrghes	daughter
skol (f)	skolyow	school
gwerthji	gwerthjiow	shop
soedhva (f)	soedhvaow	office
chi	chiow	house

pyskador	pyskadoryon	fisherman
fos (f)	fosow	wall
studhyer	studhyoryon	student
pennskol (f)	pennskolyow	university
mis	misyowmonth	
trigva (f)	trigvaow	address
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<u>Singular.</u>	<u>Plural.</u>	<u>Meaning.</u>
flogh	fleghes	child
gorthyp	gorthybow	answer
kok	kokow	fishing boat
ober	oberow	job
karr tan	kerri tan	motor car
diwotti	diwottiw	“pub”
den	tus	man (pl.= “people”)
dyskador	dyskadoryon	teacher
lyver	lyvrow	book

It is not suggested that you should learn all these now, but the following exercise should help start the process!

Exercise 2 Write out the above nouns in singular and plural, with “an” in front. Remember this causes second state mutation of all feminine singular nouns, and all masculine plural nouns referring to persons.

Adjectives with Masculine Plural Nouns. Masculine plural nouns referring to persons also cause second state mutation in any adjective immediately following them.

e.g. An<sup>2</sup> dus<sup>2</sup> vysi = the busy men.  
fleghes<sup>2</sup> vyghan = little children.

In the following exercise, all the nouns are masculine, but they do not all refer to persons:

Exercise 3. Translate the following into Cornish.

- |                          |                               |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1) The big books.        | 6) The Breton students.       |
| 2) The little men.       | 7) The ordinary house.        |
| 3) The Welsh boys.       | 8) The Cornish correspondent. |
| 4) The Cornish fishermen | 9) The little friends.        |
| 5) The little shops.     | 10) The busy teachers.        |

The Present Participle. This is a verbal adjective, and in English ends in “-ing.”

e.g. a man walking. a woman talking. a boy running.

In Cornish it is formed by putting the particle “ow<sup>4</sup>” in front of the Verb-Noun. “Owth” is used if the verb-noun starts with a vowel or h.

*e.g.* den ow<sup>4</sup> kwertha = a man selling.  
benyn ow kewsel = a woman speaking.

Exercise 4. Translate the following into Cornish.

1) A man sending a letter. 6) My friend working in a shop.

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2) A boy reading a book. 7) A Cornishman thinking.

3) A woman talking with me. 8) A secretary writing a letter.

4) A teacher teaching Cornish. 9) Anjela saying “Good Morning!”

5) A fisherman eating. 10) Erwan studying Celtic languages.

“Ha” (and) can be used with the present participle to express an action taking place at the same time as the main action.

*e.g.* Hag Erwan ow<sup>4</sup> kwari peldroes, yma Marie owth oberi. =  
While Erwan is playing football, Marie is working.

Hag ev ow<sup>4</sup> tos a-berth y’n stevell, Anjela a ros koffi dhodho. =  
As he came into the room, Anjela gave him some coffee.

(This is essentially the same construction as that described in dyskans 9 under “Ha,” where the verb “to be” is understood.)

Exercise 5. Translate into Cornish.

1) While she was working, Anjela received a letter.

2) As she was reading the letter, Yann arrived home.

3) While we study, we learn.

4) When he is selling books, Yowann is happy.

5) While you live in Cornwall, you speak Cornish.

Prepositions and Verb-Nouns. Prepositions usually show the relationship between one thing/person/action/idea and another.

*e.g.* The book is on the chair. He went without speaking. He came after me.

In English, the kind of verb-noun used (sometimes called a “gerund”) ends in -ing just like the present participle mentioned above, and care must be taken not to confuse the two.

*e.g.* after going; by telephoning; before eating.

In Cornish the form of the verb to use after a preposition is always the Verb-Noun.

**e.g.** wosa mos = after going; kyns pellgewsael = before 'phoning; rag dybri = for eating; heb koska = without sleeping.

**Exercise 6.** Translate the following into Cornish.

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1) After sleeping.   | 6) Without working.  |
| 2) Before writing.   | 7) Before saying.    |
| 3) Without speaking. | 8) Without thinking. |
| 4) After going.      | 9) After selling.    |
| 5) For reading.      | 10) Before studying. |

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**Word Order.** There are a number of examples in the reading passage in this lesson showing how Cornish can emphasise a word by putting it first in the sentence.

**e.g.** Pur skwith yw ev. = He is very tired.

It is quite correct to say, "Ev yw pur skwith," but this suggests "He is very tired." whereas "Pur skwith yw ev," suggests "He is very tired."

"Lyver my re<sup>2</sup> gollas" = "I have lost a book."

This puts a main emphasis on "lyver" and a secondary emphasis on "my".

Notice the effect of word order as you study Cornish. Caradar considered flexibility of word order and the variable emphasis that it can produce to be a main feature of the language.

**Skrif.**

Write an account of not less than ten sentences on a day/morning/afternoon/evening at home or with friends. Invent some if you need to do so! The golden rule for writing in a language with which we are not very familiar is to use words and phrases that we know. This is not the time for finding out new ones.