

KERNEWEK DRE LYTHER.

Dyskans seyth warn ugens.

Seythves dyskans warn ugens.

(Preterite tense of “bos.” Passive with Past Participle. Impersonal forms. “Rag” with “bos.” “Kyns,” “drefenn,” and “rag” with other verbs. Infixd object pronouns.)

Penn Bran.

Yth esa kyst an tas-gwynn ryb y² weli, ha gwel Tewdar a² asas an den koth, dhe² wortos war an² gyst. Y'n² gyst, dell² wodhya Tewdar yn⁵ ta, yth esa kyst arall. Gnas an² gyst ma o na² yllys hy igeri heb shyndya an² gyst hy honan. Pan o flogh, y² das-gwynn re² wrussa diskwedhes an² gyst dhe² Dewdar lieskweyth. Yth esa gensi hwedhel pur ankoth, ha'n tas-gwynn re² wrussa y leverel treweythow dhe² Dewdar, hag ev a'n godhya dre gov. Herwydh y² das-gwynn, yth esa yn termyn eus passyes, kyns an Sowson dhe² dhos dhe Ynys Breten, myghtern meur y² vri yn-mysk an² Vrythonyon, Bran, po Bren y hanow. Bran eth dhe Iwerdhon dhe² gavoës kalter hudel, mes goliys veu, hag ev a worhemmynnas dh'y² dus ma'n dibennens i. Seyth den a² dhug an Penn dhe Loundres ha'y ynkleudhyas y'n Bronn Wynn. An seyth den a² drigas seyth blydhen ha peswar ugens “yn helder an Penn,” ha wor'tiwedh y⁵ feu ynkleudhys herwydh gorhemmynn Bran. Wosa lies blydhen, an Penn a veu kemmerys yn-mes a'n dor gans Myghtern Arthur. An Penn ma, Penn Bran, yn kyst y² das-gwynn yth esa!

“Tewdar.”

An den yowynk a² viras orth y² das-gwynn, meur y² varth. Yth esa an den koth ow kewsel, nerthek hag ughel y lev. Yn-medh ev,

“Na² drest nevra dhe lavar den!
Gwith pub eur oll an² gyst ha'n Penn,
Rag ow bos ow honan - BREN!”

Ena, isel y lev, ha deges arta y² dhewlagas, an tas-gwynn a² gewsis, pur² gosel.
“Tewdar, res porres yw gwitha an Penn yn⁵ tiogel. Mar⁴ kwra mos dhe²-ves, traow euthek a wra hwarvos!”

Wosa hemma, enev an den koth eth dhe'n Dyw a'y² dasow.

Gerva.

kyst (f) (p) kystyow = box.	Ynys Breten	= the Island of Britain
godhya = knew.	bri	= renown.
(godhvos = to know)	yn mysk	= among.
gnas (f) = nature.	Brythonyon	= Britons..
na ² yllys = that it was not possible.	Iwerdhon	= Ireland.
shyndya = to damage.	kalter (f) (p) kalteryow = kettle, cauldron.	
hy honan = herself/itself.	hudel	= magic.
lieskweyth = many times.	goliys veu	= he was wounded.
hwedhel (p) hwedhlow = story.	(pron. “gol-i -ys”)	
ankoth = strange.	gorhemmynn (dhe ²) = to order	
ev a'n godhya dre ² gov =	diogel	= safe..
he knew it by heart.	ma'n dibennens i.	= that they should behead him.
yn termyn eus passyes = in time gone by	dug	= carried.
kyns an Sowson dhe dhos =	(doen	= to carry)
before the Saxons came.		

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Loundres	= London.	trestya	= to trust.
ynkleudhyas	= to bury.	lavar (p) lavarow	= word.
helder	= hospitality.	gwitha	= to keep.
y ⁵ feu ynkleudhys	= it was buried.	pub eur oll	= always.
a ² veu kemmerys	= was taken	rag ow bos	= because I am.
marth	= surprise.	isel	= low, quiet.
nerthek	= strong.	dewlagas	= (two) eyes.
ughel	= high, loud.	mar ⁴	= if.
lev (p) levow	= voice.	hwarvos	= to happen.
kosel	= quiet	Dyw	= God.

Govynnadow.

- 1) Pleth esa an² gyst?
- 2) Prag na² yllys igeri an² gyst?
- 3) Pandr'a² wrussa an tas-gwynn dhe² wul pan o Tewdar flogh?
- 4) P'eur o Bran myghtern yn Ynys Breten?
- 5) Prag yth eth Bran dhe Iwerdhon?
- 6) Ple⁵ hwrug an seyth den doen Penn Bran?
- 7) Piw a² gemmeras an Penn yn-mes a'n dor?
- 8) Pleth esa an Penn lemmyn?
- 9) Fatell² wrug kewsel an tas-gwynn?
- 10) Pandr'a² wra hwarvos mar⁴ kwra an Penn mos dhe²-ves

Gramasek.Preterite (Past) tense of "bos."

beuv	= I was.	beun	= We were.
beus	= You were,	bewgh	= You were.
beu	= He/She/It was.	bons	= They were.

Passive with Past Participle. The preterite tense of "bos" is used with the Past Participle to make a verb Passive in the past tense.

- e.g. Goliys veu. = He was wounded.
 Y⁵ feu ynkleudhys = It was buried.
 An Penn a² veu kemmerys yn-mes a'n dor. = The Head was taken out of the ground.

You will see that the Past Participle generally ends in "-ys." However verb-nouns which end in "-ya" have an alternative form "-yes." Here are more examples.

- e.g. Y⁵ feuv gwelys. = I was seen.
 Y⁵ fons i goliys. = They were wounded.
 Yn termyn eus passyes. = In the past.
 Skrifys veu an lyther. = The letter was written.
 Y⁵ feu an lyther skrifys. = The letter was written.

Note that if the Past Participle comes before the verb "bos," the particle "a²" is omitted, but second state mutation takes place just as if it were there, but it is not possible to mark this as is usually done in this course because the actual cause of the mutation is missing.

Exercise 1. Translate the following sentences into Cornish. Start the first five with “Y⁵ + verb” and the second five with the past participle.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1) He was seen. | 6) I was lost. |
| 2) I was wounded. | 7) The box was damaged. |
| 3) They were buried. | 8) The book was read. |
| 4) The door was opened. | 9) The car was driven. |
| 5) The grandfather was shriven. | 10) You were called. |

One may also translate such sentences as Nominal Sentences,

e.g. An den a²veu goliys. = The man was wounded.

If a continuing state, rather than an action of limited duration is indicated, the imperfect of “bos” is used, and some of the examples above could be taken in this way in the appropriate context,

e.g. An den o goliys. = The man was wounded. (State as opposed to action in previous example. It might also translate as “The man had been wounded”)

Exercise 2 Translate the following into Cornish, using nominal sentences and the imperfect tense of “bos” as in the example.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1) I was wounded. | 4) The books were lost. |
| 2) The Head was buried. | 5) The man was called Tewdar. |
| 3) The door was open. (= opened) | |

Here are some past participles you will need for exercises 1 & 2.

igerys = open(ed); kellys = lost; redys = read;
 gelwys = called; assoyls = shriven; shyndys = damaged;
 lywys = driven.

N.B. Some past participles show us examples of “vowel affection”. The past participle ending “...ys” causes vowels like “o” and “a” to change.

e.g. Keblys (blamed) from Kabla (to blame). Mevys (moved, excited) comes from the verb- noun Movya and therefore has an alternative form “movyés”, notice there is no vowel affection with “-yes.”

The Impersonal forms of verbs. These end in “-s” in the imperfect tense and “-r” in the present tense.

e.g. ...na² yllys hy igeri. = ...that it was not possible to open it.

This example from the story is in the imperfect but it is more often used in the present tense.

e.g. Y⁵ hyllir kewsel Kernewek. = It is possible to speak Cornish (Cornish can be spoken.)

Impersonal verbs are usually translated into English by a passive verb form or by using “one” as an indefinite subject.

e.g. Y kewsir Kernewek = Cornish is spoken.
 Y⁵ hwertir pastis omma. = Pasties are sold here.
 Y prenir toknys omma. = One buys tickets here.

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(The most literal sense is “There is a speaking/buying.”)

Exercise 3. Translate the following into Cornish.

- 1) It is possible to bury the Head.
- 2) Pasties are sold in Cornwall.
- 3) Books are bought and sold here.
- 4) One can see Pendennis Castle across the estuary.
- 5) Cornish was spoken in Exeter.

“Rag” with “bos.” “Rag” is used in the same way as “kyns” and “drefenn.” (Dyskans 26.)

e.g. Rag ow bos ow honan Bran! = Because I myself am Bran.
Rag bos Bran dyw an² Vrythonyon.= Because Bran was a god of the Britons.

“Kyns,” “Drefenn,” “Rag,” with other verbs. If these words are used with a verb other than “bos,” the “subject + dhe² + verb-noun” construction is used.

e.g. Kyns an Sowson dhe² dhos. = Before the English came.

The word is followed by the subject of the clause (noun or pronoun), then by “dhe²” then by the verb-noun. More examples:

e.g. drefenn Tewdar dhe² vos tre. = because Tewdar went home.
kyns ev dhe² vires orth y² das-gwynn. = before he looked at his grandfather.
rag an tas-gwynn dhe² verwel. = because the grandfather died.

The tense corresponds to the main verb.

Exercise 4. Translate the following sentences into Cornish using the “subject + dhe² + verb-noun” construction as in the examples above.

- 1) Before Tewdar’s grandfather died, he spoke.
- 2) He speaks because Tewdar wants to get the box.
- 3) Bran was wounded before he got the magic cauldron. (Use the passive, not the impersonal for this.)
- 4) He was tired before he drank the beer.
- 5) They live in London because they keep the head safely.
- 6) Tewdar could rest because his mother went to the monastery.
- 7) He was king before Bran went to Ireland.
- 8) King Arthur was angry because they buried the Head.
- 9) I will look before I open the door.
- 10) Before his grandfather spoke, Tewdar was looking at the box.

Infix Object Pronouns.

e.g. Ev a’n godhya. = He knew it.
..ma’n dibennens i. = ..that they should behead him.

In these two examples the “n” represents “it” in the first case, and “him” in the second. These words are the objects of their respective verbs, and they are pronouns, so they are Object Pronouns. Here are some simpler examples:

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e.g. My a'n pren = I shall buy it.
Hi a'gas gwel = She sees you.
Dha flegthes a'th kar = Thy children love thee.

These pronouns are called “Infix Object Pronouns” because they are infix between the verbal particle (a², y⁵ or ny²) and the verb itself. Here is a full list of them.

'm	= me.	'gan	= us
'th ⁵	= you.	'gas	= you.
'n	= him/it.	's	= them.
's	= her/it		

e.g. Y'th⁵ welav. = I see you.
Ev a'm kar. = He likes me.
Myghtern Arthur a'n kemmeras yn-mes a'n dor. = King Arthur took it out of the ground.

Note the following points:

- 1) These pronouns are used in nominal and verbal sentences, but not with “gul” and a verb-noun. In that case possessive adjectives are used. See dyskans 14.
- 2) The verb does not mutate except after “'th⁵”. This is the modified mixed mutation.

Exercise 5. Translate the following into Cornish.

- 1) She saw us.
- 2) We found them.
- 3) Tewdar heard him.
- 4) I do not like you.
- 5) You send it.
- 6) Tewdar's mother sent him.
- 7) Bran's men buried it.
- 8) They showed them.
- 9) He hears me.
- 10) He sends her.

Skrif.

Imagine you are Tewdar's grandfather, and tell the story of how the box which is supposed to contain Bran's Head came into your possession.