

THE NEWLYN CORNISH LANGUAGE CLASS

Weekly lessons by Zoom

For your diary: Monday **12 April** 2021, 19:30; Monday **19 April** 2021, 19:30; Monday **26 April** 2021, 19:30; further lessons to be announced. For each lesson the Zoom joining details will be emailed several days beforehand.

MONDAY 12 APRIL 19:30

Lesson plan 19:30 Welcome, 19:40 Revision of prepositions, 20:00 Simple story, 20:30 Chat (in English, with a little Cornish thrown in) about Cornish language and culture

PREPOSITIONS

These are words that show position or relationship. Here are the most common prepositions. Don't try to learn them all at once. Keep the table for reference, learn them little by little.

a² of (not possession)	ha with (attribute, circumstance)
adrëv behind	heb without
adro dhe² about	in in, into
a-ugh above	in dadn² under
bys until	in mes a² out of
dhe² to, at (clock time)	inter between
dhia² from (place or time)	kyns or kyns ès before
dhyrag in front of	orth or worth up against
dhywar² off	rag for (with verb-noun 'in order to')
dhyworth or dhort from (person or place)	ryb beside
dre² through (usually der before vowel)	saw except
dres across, past	wàr² on, on to
gans or gen with, by (agent)	wosa or woja after (time)

We already know **ha** as 'and'. It usually becomes **hag** before a vowel but this change is not compulsory. **Saw** is another busy word: it also means 'but', as well as 'safe, intact'.

Four more common prepositions, **in le** 'instead of', **in mesk** 'among', **warbydn** 'against' **warlergh** 'after', behave in a special way that we shall learn later. They are used with nouns just like any other preposition.

FIVE simple prepositions change the first letter of the next word to Second State. These are **a, dhe, dre, in dadn, wàr**. The compound prepositions **adro dhe, dhia, dhywar, in mes a** likewise cause Second State of the following word.

We've already seen that prepositions can combine with personal pronouns. We shall learn more about this phenomenon in later lessons. For now it is enough to note just a few very frequent combinations.

anodho of him, of it (masculine)	genama with me
anedhy of her, of it (feminine)	genes with you (singular)
anodhans of them	ganso with him, with it (masculine)
dhodho to him, to it (masculine)	gensy with her, with it (feminine)
dhedhy to her, to it (feminine)	genowgh or geno'why with you (plural)
dhedhans or dhodhans to them	gansans with them

SIMPLE STORY

In preparation for the lesson, check the revision grammar above, then read the story quietly until you think you've got the hang of it. Use the Vocabulary at the back of the coursebook to look up words. Read the story aloud as well, to practise your pronunciation.

Yma Peternel ow trùssa sagh kyns mos dhe'n scol. Nyns yw an chy kempen màn. Cales yw cafos oll an taclow. Yma an skyjyow sport i'n chambour adrëv an daras. Yma an lyver *Jane Eyre* in dadn an gwely. Yma Peternel ow mos der an chy rag cafos an taclow erel. Yma an pad paper i'n esedhva – wàr an leur dhyrag an bellwolok. Yma Peternel ow mos dres an hel. Yma an restryn Sowsnek i'n gegyn wàr an bord. Yma an bluen i'n trog tedna in mesk an daffar lybm. Yma Peternel ow kemeres kysten plastyk dhywar an estyllen a-ugh an new, rag don ly vian. Dâ yw keus gensy pùb termyn. In mes a'n yêyner yma hy ow kemeres try darn bara, ha keus, ha dew aval dhodho. Yma hy ow tôwys sùgan lus rudh rag eva gans an ly. Peternel yw parys wosa hedna dhe dhallath tro ha'n scol. Dhia'n chy bys i'n scol yma hy ow kerdhes ogas ha udn vildir.

VOCABULARY NOT IN THE COURSEBOOK OR THE PREVIOUS WORKSHEETS

Expanding your vocabulary at a reasonable pace is an important part of learning Cornish. It's a good idea to write new words down in your exercise book as you come across them.

trùssa *v* pack

kempen *adj* neat, tidy

taclow *plural of tra* thing

skyjyow sport = **eskyjyow sport** trainers (the e- is frequently dropped)

chambour *m* bedroom

aral *adj* other – this is the only adjective to have a special plural form: **erel**

pad paper *m* pad of paper

esedhva *f* sitting-room, lounge

hel *m* hall (not to be confused with adjective **hel** 'generous')

restryn *m* file (for documents etc)

kegyn *f* kitchen

bord *m* table (this word is much more common than **moos** 'table')

trog tedna *m* drawer (literally, 'pull-box')

daffar lybm *m* cutlery (literally, 'sharp equipment')

kysten *f* small box, small container (compare bigger **kyst**, **trog** 'box, container')

plastyk *m* plastic

estyllen *f* shelf

new *f* sink

yêyner *m* fridge (compare **yêyn** 'cold')

darn *m* piece [of]

dôwys *v* choose

sùgan lus rudh *m* cranberry juice (compare **lus** 'blueberries')

parys *adj* ready

dallath *v* begin, start

tro ha *preposition phrase* towards (literally, 'turn with')

ogas ha *preposition phrase + noun or numeral* almost (literally, 'near with')

mildir *f* mile