

ASKING QUESTIONS

FINDING THE GRAMMAR

[TO BE EXPANDED ONCE QUESTIONS OF QUANTITY / QUALITY AND ALTERNATIVE WHERE / WHITHER QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN COVERED IN THE INTERMEDIATE CLASS]

Recommended reference works: Desky Kernowek (Nicholas Williams), A Grammar of Modern Cornish Third Edition (Wella Brown)

Yes-no questions

Cara Kernowek 1-1

What questions

Cara Kernowek 1-1

Who questions

Cara Kernowek 1-2

Where questions

Cara Kernowek 1-3

When questions

Cara Kernowek 2-3

How questions

Cara Kernowek 2-4

Why questions

Cara Kernowek 2-18

*Use of particles **a** and **y** to link question words / phrases to the verb*

- (1) Basic rule: use **a** when question word or phrase is in subject or direct object relationship with verb, use **y (yth)** when question word or phrase is in adverbial relationship, replace both by **na (nag** before forms of **bos** and **mos** beginning with a vowel) if question is negative.
- (2) But **fatell** and **fatla** are notionally followed by **a**, which is dropped in the case of **fatell** and incorporated into the word in the case of **fatla**; Second State mutation remains in each case. Neither an infixed pronoun nor a negative may be employed with **fatell / fatla**.
- (3) **y** is dropped after **py le (pyle, ple)**, **a byle (a ble)**, **py eur (peur)**; Fifth State mutation remains. Infix pronoun requires reinstatement of this **y**. Negative with these question words / phrases is **ny (nyns)**.
- (4) **a** often replaces undropped **y (yth)** in colloquial registers, but any such **y (yth)** is usually retained when question *phrase* begins with **py**.
- (5) **a** replaces **y (yth)** when question phrase begins **pan / pana** (optional exception: **yma** may be used instead of **eus**). Commonly dropped after **pana dermy**; Second State mutation remains.