CARA KERNOWEK

BOOK TWO

Council of Europe
Common European Framework of Reference
for Languages
Level A2 (Waystage, Pre-Intermediate)

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Raglavar
Foreword

Cara Kernowek Book Two is a straightforward grammar-based course designed for motivated adults learning revived traditional Cornish with a teacher or by self-study. At present only some teachers of Cornish have a formal teaching qualification, and many teachers of those moving on from initial classes may still be learners themselves at a higher level. The course is scaffolded to encourage teachers to be confident of the core material, passing that confidence on to the student, who can then become a confident teacher of further students, in a virtuous cycle.

Standard Cornish is the spelling system used throughout. The course is divided for convenience into lessons, but teachers should work through the material at a pace that matches the interest and aptitude of the class. Teachers will no doubt wish to provide much additional opportunity to develop listening, speaking, reading and writing skills within the framework of each lesson.

Cara Kernowek Book One (Ian Jackson, lovinglivingcornish, September 2023) provides an introduction to Cornish for beginners. This coursebook assumes the student is already familiar with the material covered in Book One.

For the sake of clear exposition the Cornish presented in Book One is based on the literary language that had evolved to the end of the 16th century. Cornish as actually spoken was certainly rather different. Grammar and pronunciations truer to everyday speech were preserved in records of the 17th and 18th centuries, and from this evidence we can restore a conversational register for use alongside more formal prose

styles. Book Two gradually introduces truly colloquial alternatives so you can start to develop a lively idiom of your own.

Cara Kernowek departs from the typical coursebook convention which has characters using Cornish but not explicitly inhabiting a world where Cornish is a part of everyday life. The various dialogues in this book are set in a slightly modified universe where Cornish is already the language of home and work for a significant minority of people in Cornwall. Students can be encouraged to think wisely about the personal, social and political issues that naturally arise in this scenario.

I am ever grateful to Professor Nicholas Williams and Michael Everson for their advice and support; and I should like to thank my students who road-tested the book, especially Carmen Cernadas, Dominic Ó Ceallaigh, Kyle Odgers, Dilwyn Roberts, and Nigel J. Roberts.

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lovinglivingcornish, January 2024

Contens

Contents

as attributive adjectives; personal forms of **in**; personal forms of **in dadn**; colloquial Cornish

Find **model answers** for the exercises
and a **consolidated index** at
www.skeulantavas.com/courses-1

Lesson Onen
Lesson One

Saying 'the same'

The phrase **an keth** means 'the same'. But it cannot be used without a following noun or pronoun. For example, 'we did the same' is rendered as **ny a wrug an keth tra** or **ny a wrug an keth hedna**. An emphatic alternative to **an keth** is **an kethsam** 'the very same'. There is generally no mutation after either of these phrases. But we do sometimes encounter Second State of **gw** and **m** after **an keth**.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words. Use the Vocabulary at the end of the book to check plural forms for nouns where these are available.

anwos *m* cold (illness; *also* chill), **apposyans** *m* examination, **bloodh** *m* year of age, **clojy** *m* hospital, **dell yw ûsys** as usual, **dywyêthek** bilingual, **gasa** *v* leave, **i'n gwelha prës** fortunately, **in bàn** up, **kyns napell** before long, **mab** *m* son, **maner** *f* manner, way, **marow** dead, **myrgh** *f* daughter, **pedn** *m* end (*also* head), **prenassa** *v* go shopping, **sawya** *v* recover (after illness), **tevy** *v* grow, **ugh-clojiores** *f* sister (senior nurse)

It will be worth simultaneously learning the opposite of **i'n gwelha prës**. That is **i'n gwetha prës** 'unfortunately'.

Practys Onen
Exercise One

And here is a short introduction to the Tonkin family.

Yma whel Elen Tonkin in clojy. Ugh-clojiores yw hy. Êtek bloodh warn ugans yw hy. Trigys yma hy in Trûrû. Yma gour dhedhy hag udn vyrgh ha dew vab inwedh. Hanow an gour yw Powl. An vyrgh yw Demelsa ha'n dhew vab yw Mark ha Danyel. Yma Demelsa ow parusy dhe'n apposyansow TODN. Yma Mark i'n Seythves Bledhen i'n kethsam scol. Whath yma Danyel i'n Peswora Bledhen i'n scol elvednek. Yma Elen ow côwsel Kernowek orth hy myrgh ha worth hy mebyon pùb eur oll. I'n vaner-ma ymowns y ow tevy dywyêthek in bàn.

The abbreviation **TODN** stands for **Testscrif Ollkemmyn Dyscans Nessa**. That is, General Certificate of Education (GCSE).

Practys Dew
Exercise Two

Here is an everyday conversation between Jana Bligh and Elen Tonkin.

Jana	**Dëdh dâ dhis, Elen.**
Elen	**Dëdh dâ, a Jana.**
Jana	**Osta yagh?**
Elen	**Heb bos marow na whath! Ha tejy?**
Jana	**Gwell solabrës. Yth esof ow sawya wosa anwos.**
Elen	**Pandra wrussys gwil dres pedn an seythen?**
Jana	**Ogh, prenassa de Sadorn dell yw ûsys. Mabm ha Tas a wrug vysytya de Sul. Ny a wrug kerdhes wàr an âls ha gasa an ky dhe bonya der an treth.**
Elen	**Drog yw an gewar i'n mis-ma.**
Jana	**Wèl, crev o an gwyns de Sul, mès i'n gwelha prës nyns o an glaw pòr boos.**
Elen	**Howlek vëdh kyns napell. Ow gaja dhe why!**
Jana	**Re bo govenek!**

Mès is another word meaning 'but'. **Ow gaja dhe why** literally means 'My pledge to you'. This corresponds to the English expression 'I'm willing to bet' when making an assertion.

Short form (copula) imperfect tense of bos

The imperfect (also called the past continuous) tense of **bos** has copula and local forms, just like the present tense of **bos**. We have been using the copula imperfect form **o** for a long time. Here are all the short forms.

en vy	I was	**en ny**	we were
es jy	you were	**ewgh why**	you were (plural or stranger)
o ev	he was it was (masculine reference)	**êns y**	they were
o hy	she was it was (feminine reference)		
o	was / were (with noun subject)		

These forms are also used in closed questions (expecting the answer yes or no). They are preceded by negative particle **nyns** in negative statements. If we add interrogative particle **a** in front of particle **nyns**, we arrive at a negative question.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

cuv kind, **mater** *m* matter, **muscok** mad, **skyla** *f* reason, **terrys** broken

Practys Try
Exercise Three

Put these sentences into the imperfect tense. Check you know what each one means.

Nyns yw an bord bian. Brâs yw va. Osta sqwith? Nag ov. Yns y parys? Nyns yns y màn. Ty yw muscok. Nyns ov vy flogh! Pandr'yw an mater? Medhek yw hy. Pyw yw an dhescadoryon? Cuv owgh why. Lowen nyns on ny. Yw an dra terrys? Pëth yw an skyla rag hedna?

Practys Peswar
Exercise Four

How would you say the following in Cornish?

She was my teacher. The children were very happy. Were you tired after the lesson? Was I ready? No, I wasn't ready at all.

*Long form (local) imperfect tense of **bos***

Here are all the long forms of the imperfect tense of **bos**.

yth esen vy	I was	**yth esen ny**	we were
yth eses jy	you were	**yth esewgh why**	you were (plural or stranger)
yth esa ev	he was it was (masculine reference)	**yth esens y**	they were
yth esa hy	she was it was (feminine reference)		
yth esa	[there] was / were (with noun subject)		

The long form imperfect is simply the short form prefixed with an additional element **es-**. The spelling **esa** for expected *eso* is the outcome of regular sound change.

In closed questions (expecting the answer yes or no) particle **yth** is dropped. In negative statements particle **yth** is replaced with particle **nyns**. If we add interrogative particle **a** in front of particle **nyns**, we arrive at a negative question.

Long forms of both present tense and imperfect tense are generally not interchangeable with short forms. The long forms should be used in two specific situations: (1) when **bos** is found with a word or phrase indicating location and (2)

when **bos** is coupled with particle **ow** (**owth**) and a verb-noun. In any other case the short forms must be employed.

So we say **Tiak en vy** 'I was a farmer' and **Sqwith en vy** 'I was tired', but **Yth esen vy wàr an treth** 'I was on the beach' and **Yth esen vy ow qwary pel droos** 'I was playing football'.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

amanyn *m* butter, **bolla** *m* bowl, **collel** *f* knife, **forgh** *f* fork, **holan** *m* salt, **kerhes** *v* fetch, **kyfeth** *m* preserve (jam or marmalade), **plât** *m* plate, **pot** *m* pot, **puber** *m* pepper, **shùgra** *m* sugar

Practys Pymp
Exercise Five

Put these sentences into the imperfect tense. Check you know what each one means.

Yth eson ny ow parusy an hawnsel. Wàr an bord yma plâtys ha kellyl ha ferhy. Nyns eus hanavow. Mowns y i'n amary whath. Th'esof ow kerhes an holan ha'n puber, hag yma an kyfeth wàr an bord solabrës. Usy an amanyn i'n yêyner? Yma an leth ena kefrës. Ma an coffy i'n pot; ma'n shùgra i'n bolla. Why a yll esedha worteweth.

Practys Whe
Exercise Six

How would you say the following in Cornish?

I was talking to my friend. Our dogs were playing together in the garden. Were you waiting a long time? My grandmother wasn't listening. They were avoiding the question.

Colloquial Cornish

The forms **ma** and **mowns** instead of **yma** and **ymowns** are colloquial.

Cornish, like every living language, has various 'registers' or styles for use in different contexts. We might employ a compressed register for poetry where much is said in a few words. For prose writing we will generally prefer registers that are suitable for a story, explanation, persuasion etc. For conversation we will typically opt for an informal register that is rich and versatile but also lively, carrying a strong personal stamp. Learners of a language should first concentrate on a single register until a degree of fluency has been achieved. In Book One a relatively formal prose register was taught: one that can serve as a starting point for conversation and for ordinary

writing. But from now on you should always bear in mind that 'Cornish for beginners' is much less than the totality of Cornish.

We shall be mentioning from time to time some of the most important features of colloquial Cornish. Be prepared to encounter these variants, and gradually to start using them yourself. Here is one more for now. Colloquially **mès** turns into **bùs** or **bès** under the influence of English 'but'.

Drilling

This word means exercises or training in a military context of course. But it is also used to refer to regular practising of forms and patterns in a language. It is particularly important to drill constantly when learning a Celtic tongue like Cornish, because the verbs are often phrases, not just individual words, and those phrases do not neatly correspond to the way that verbs are formed in English.

If you were learning the piano, you would certainly be required to practise every day or even several times a day. Now you are taking your Cornish to a higher level you should do the same, with verb patterns being your 'scales and arpeggios'.

Here is a drill based on **yth esof vy ow qwary** 'I am playing' to show you how to go about it.

Present affirmative
yth esof vy ow qwary, yth esta ow qwary, yma ev ow qwary, yma hy ow qwary, yth eson ny ow qwary, yth esowgh why ow qwary, ymowns y ow qwary

Present interrogative
esof vy ow qwary? esta ow qwary? usy ev ow qwary? usy hy ow qwary? eson ny ow qwary? esowgh why ow qwary? usons y ow qwary?

Present negative
nyns esof vy ow qwary, nyns esta ow qwary, nyns usy ev ow qwary, nyns usy hy ow qwary, nyns eson ny ow qwary, nyns esowgh why ow qwary, nyns usons y ow qwary

For a simple variation, repeat the drill in a different order: say, present interrogative, present affirmative, present negative. Then you might try grouping the I-forms together, likewise we-forms, he-forms, etc. Then you might try omitting the reinforcing pronouns **vy**, **ev**, etc. (Remember that the element **ta** in **esta** cannot be dropped; but we can replace the whole of **esta** with **esos**.) Then you might try substituting colloquial **th'esof, th'esta, ma**, etc. Then you might repeat the whole thing based on **yth esen vy ow qwary** (imperfect tense). Eventually you will know the permutations well enough to shuffle them without a lot of conscious thinking.

All this requires time and patience but will be worth the investment. Ask any piano player about those scales.

Lesson Dew
Lesson Two

Asking 'what / which'

In English you can say 'What language are you learning?' or 'Which language are you learning?' Cornish **pana** or **pan** means 'what' and **py** means 'which'. In practice the words are used more or less interchangeably. So you may say **Pana davas esta ow tesky?** or **Pan tavas esta ow tesky?** or **Py tavas esta ow tesky?** We apply Second State mutation after **pana**; there is no mutation after **py**; after **pan** there is usually no mutation, but we do find **pan vaner** 'what kind of' and **in pan vaner** 'in what way' as fixed expressions.

The vowel in **py** is short, and the word is always unstressed. In English we may place emphasis on the corresponding question word, saying for instance 'I have to press one of these buttons. But *which* one?' To achieve the same effect in Cornish we must employ a reinforcing adverb, saying for example **Res yw dhybm gwasca onen a'n botodnow-ma. Saw py boton iredy?** 'I have to press one of these buttons. But *which* one?' (literally, which one indeed?) We may place emphasis on **pan** and **pana** without restriction.

We must use **pana**, **pan**, **py** with a noun. If we wish, for instance, to select a number of cars, we will ask **py kerry?** 'which ones?' To select one car, we will generally ask **py carr?** But when there are only two possibilities we may alternatively use the pronoun **pyneyl** 'which one (of two)'. So to choose between two cars we say **py carr** or just **pyneyl**.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

biologieth *f* biology, **calcorieth** *f* mathematics, **colour** *m* colour, **enef** *f* soul, **Frynkek** *m* French (language), **fysyk** *m & f* physics, **gwelha** best, **kemyk** *m & f* chemistry, **lien** *f* literature, **longya** *v* belong, **sciens** *m* science, **Spaynek** *m* Spanish (language)

Practys Seyth
Exercise Seven

Here are some more examples of **pana**, **pan** and **py** in conversation. Check you understand everything teenagers Wella Kent and Tamsyn Kneebone are saying.

Wella	**Pana davas esta ow tesky i'n scol?**
Tamsyn	**Spaynek. Ha tejy?**
Wella	**Frynkek. Saw me a vydn gasa hebma dhe godha.**

Tamsyn	**Ha pan sciens esta ow tesky?**
Wella	**Yth esof ow tesky oll an try: fysyk, kemyk ha biologieth.**
Tamsyn	**Hèn yw ober poos! Py onen yw gwell dhys?**
Wella	**Fysyk, heb dowt. Dâ yw genef oll an galcorieth i'n fysyk. Py sciens yw dâ genes sy?**
Tamsyn	**Sciens dâ nyns eus màn! Lien Sowsnek hag istory yw an gwelha taclow genef vy.**
Wella	**Nâ nâ, hunrosow ha'n dedhyow coth yw hedna. Ma sciens ow longya dhe'n termyn usy ow tos. Dhe'n jëdh hedhyw kefrës.**
Tamsyn	**Ogh Wella! Ty yw heb enef vëth!**

Gasa dhe godha literally means 'leave to fall'; this is a common way of expressing the sense 'drop'. And **an jëdh hedhyw** is the Cornish way of saying 'the present day'.

Linking question phrase to verb

Provided a question phrase made with **pana** / **pan** / **py** is either the subject or the direct object in the sentence, forms of the present and imperfect tenses of **bos** that we have learned follow the question phrase without any connecting particle. But we use link particle **a** (followed by Second State mutation) to connect a subject or direct object question phrase to the *future* tense of **bos**, and to all forms of **mydnas**, **gwil**, **godhvos**, **gallos**.

So for example **pan sciens esta ow tesky?** (present) becomes **pan sciens a vynta** (or **wreta**) **desky?** (future). **Pana sciencys a yllysta desky i'n scol-ma?** means 'what sciences can you study in this school?' **Py tavosow a wosta côwsel** means 'what languages can you speak?'

*More about local present tense of **bos** in questions*

We employ **eus** or **usy** as local forms of **bos** when **pëth, pandr', pyw** or a question phrase made with **pan** / **pana** / **py** is the subject. We may use **eus** in every case (occasionally we find **yma** instead); **usy** is a justifiable alternative when we are seeking information about some person or thing of whom / which we already have some definite idea. When **pëth, pandr', pyw** or a question phrase made with **pan** / **pana** / **py** is the direct object we use **usy** or **usons** as appropriate (*not* **yma** or **ymowns**).

Negative particle in open questions

To make a negative question with **pan** / **pana** / **py** or with **pëth** / **pandra** / **pyw** we employ particle **ny** (**nyns**), just as for closed questions. For example, **Py gwlas ny wrug ev vysytya?** 'What country has he not visited?'

Practys Eth
Exercise Eight

How would you say the following in Cornish?

> What museums will you be visiting? Which bus does she use to go to school? What sandwiches are there in the shop today? Which colour did you choose? Which pub is that?

More about asking 'where'

We know we can use **ple** to ask 'where' someone or something is. This word is a contraction of **py le** (also **pyle**) 'which place'. The uncontracted form is found too, especially in writing; in conversation it is principally used for asking a quick question on its own, without bothering with a full sentence. We use particle **y** to join **py le** to a verb (**yth** when the verb begins with a vowel or h; while **yma** and **ymowns** already incorporate the particle). But the verb is placed directly after **ple** without a particle; **ple** becomes **pleth** when the verb begins with a vowel or h. Both **ple** and **py le y** cause Fifth State mutation of a verb beginning with a consonant. We know that that **yma** is simplified to **ma** after **ple**. Likewise **ymowns** is always simplified after **ple** to **mowns**.

So we say, for example, **Ple** (or **py le y**) **fynta mos?** 'Where will you go?'; **Pleth** (or **py le yth**) **esta trigys?** 'Where do you live?', literally meaning 'Where are you dwelt?'; and **Ple mowns y** or **py le ymowns y?** 'Where are they?'

Single word **py** is an alternative to **ple**. This is not **py** 'which' but a different **py** specifically meaning 'where'. It is followed by Fifth State mutation just like **ple**. It becomes **pyth** before a vowel or h. Though it is largely confined to literary usage, **py ma** and **py mowns** occur conversationally alongside **ple ma** and **ple mowns**. Just as for **py** 'which', the vowel in **py** 'where' is short, and the word is always unstressed. If in English we would place emphasis on the question word, we must use **ple** to carry the emphatic tone or use **py le** (with extra stress on **le**).

Another way of asking 'where' is **py tyller** (literally, 'which place'). It works just like **py le**. For example, **Py tyller yth eses jy trigys?** 'Where were you living?' **Py tyller yma an park kerry?** 'Where is the car park?' Or use **py tyller** to mean 'where' on its own. If **py tyller** needs to be emphasized, we place extra stress on **tyller**, not on **py** (see above).

Whither, hither, thither

Nowadays these words are scarcely used. In contemporary English 'where', 'here', 'there' can refer to location (place at which) or destination (place to which). The same applies in Cornish for 'where' and 'here'. So we can say, for example, **pleth esta ow mos?** 'where are you going' and **Fatell wrusta dos obma?** 'how did you get here?' But

ena refers only to location. For destination there is a separate word **dy** (*or* **dhy**). So we say **yma ev trigys ena** 'he lives there' but **yma ev ow mos dy** 'he is going there'.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

Breten Vian Brittany, **entrans** *m* entrance, **gorra** *v* put (*also* 'take' to a place), **wharvos** *v* happen, take place

evreth means 'disabled' in the sense of having a disability. The adjective is also used as a plural noun **evredhyon** meaning 'disabled people'.

Practys Naw
Exercise Nine

Here are some more examples of 'where' questions. Check you know what they all mean.

Ple ma an entrans rag evredhyon? Pleth eson ny ow mos? Py tyller yma an shùgra? Pleth esa hy trigys in Breten Vian? Py mowns y lebmyn? Pleth esens y dê? Py tyller yth esa an class ow wharvos? Ple hallaf y gafos? Py whrug ev aga gorra?

Pobel

Pobel as a feminine singular noun means a specific people. It is also employed in the collective sense 'people' (= persons). When **pobel** is used in the collective sense, it still behaves grammatically as a feminine singular noun for the purpose of mutation after **an** 'the' (**an bobel**); but it behaves as if it were grammatically a collective noun for the purpose of pronoun reference: that is, we refer to **pobel** 'people' in the collective sense as **y** or **anjy** 'they'.

*Personal forms of **wàr***

Here are the personal forms of preposition **wàr** 'on' (*also* 'on to').

warnaf *or* **wara vy** 'on me'
warnas *or* **wara jy** 'on you'
warnodho 'on him' *or* 'on it' (masculine reference)
warnedhy 'on her' *or* 'on it' (feminine reference)
warnan *or* **wara ny** 'on us'
warnowgh *or* **wara why** 'on you' (plural or stranger)
warnodhans *or* **wàr anjy** *or* **warnedha** (mostly confined to written Cornish) 'on them'

*Personal forms of **dres***

And here are the personal forms of preposition **dres** 'over (across), *also* past'.

drestof *or* **dresta vy** 'over me *or* past me'
drestos *or* **dresta jy** 'over you *or* past you'
dresto *or* **drest'ev** 'over him' *or* 'past him'; *or* over it *or* past it (masculine reference)
dresty *or* **dresta hy** 'over her' *or* 'past her' *or* 'over it' *or* 'past it' (feminine reference)
dreston *or* **dresta ny** 'over us' *or* 'past us'
drestowgh *or* **dresta why** 'over you' *or* 'past you' (plural or stranger)
drestans *or* **dresta** (mostly confined to written Cornish) 'over them' *or* 'past them'

It is worth noting that **dres** occurs in time expressions like **dres an hâv** 'during the summer'. But it is only appropriate in time phrases containing numerals when particular emphasis is sought. So **dres teyr seythen** means 'over a whole three week period'; **teyr seythen** alone means 'three weeks' and 'for three weeks'.

Practys Deg
Exercise Ten

Look at the picture below. What can you talk about, using all you have learned so far? You can say what is *not* in the picture as well. Ask questions about it too.

Extra vocabulary: **basnet** *m* helmet, **cauns** *m* pavement, **carven** *f* van (*also* carriage of a train), **dywros jyn** *f or* **jyn dywros** *m* motorcycle, **posa worth** *v* lean against, **sevel** *v* stand still, stop (*also* stand up), **treusva** *f* crossing

Colloquial Cornish

Colloquially, link particle **a** connecting subject to verb is sometimes omitted. Be ready to encounter formal **my a wra** and **my a vydn** expressing future tense in their colloquial versions **me 'ra** and **me 'vydn**. Interrogative particle **a** may also be so lightly pronounced that it effectively disappears, especially before another a-sound. So you may meet ʼ**Allaf vy …?** instead of **A allaf vy …?** Another particle that may disappear in colloquial speech is **ow**, especially when its notional presence is audibly marked by Fourth State in the following verb-noun. So **yth esof vy ow qwil hedna** 'I'm doing that' might well be heard as **th'eso'vy qwil hedna**.

Lesson Try
Lesson Three

*Future tense of **bos***

The verb **bos** 'be' has its own future tense; it is not formed with the help of **mydnas** or **gwil**. With this tense there are no 'short' and 'long' forms – the same form is used in every situation. We already know **vëdh**. Here is the future tense in full.

vedhaf vy	I will be	**vedhyn ny**	we will be
or **vedham[a]**			
vedhys jy	you will be	**vedhowgh why**	you will be
or **vedhysta**			(plural or stranger)
vëdh ev	he will be	**vedhons y**	they will be
	it will be (masculine reference)		
vëdh hy	she will be		
	it will be (feminine reference)		
vëdh	will be (with noun subject)		

If we put affirmative particle **y** before these forms the initial v becomes f. So **y fedhaf vy**, etc. With an indefinite subject **y fëdh** means 'there will be'.

To make a closed question (expecting the answer yes or no) we put interrogative particle **a** in front of each of these forms. With an indefinite subject **a vëdh?** means 'will there be?'

The underlying initial letter is b, and this surfaces in the forms we can use when saying yes to questions involving the future tense of **bos**. For example, **A vedhys i'n kyffewy avorow? Eâ** *or* **Bedhaf.** 'Will you be at the party tomorrow? Yes.' Compare the negative answer **Nâ** *or* **Na vedhaf**.

To make a negative statement we put particle **ny** in front of each of these forms. With an indefinite subject **ny vëdh** means 'there will not be'. If we add interrogative particle **a** in front of particle **ny**, we arrive at a negative question.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

certan certain, **dydro** direct, **floghcovia** *v* babysit, **haneth** tonight, this evening, **kelly** *v* lose, miss, **lesson tre** *m* homework, **radn** *f* part, **sodhva** *f* office (place), **wharvedhyans** *m* event

Practys Udnek

Exercise Eleven

Here is a conversation over breakfast with lots of examples of the future tense of **bos**.

Elen	**Haneth y fëdh Demelsa ow kemeres radn in nosweyth ilow an scol.**
Powl	**Py eur fëdh an wharvedhyans ow tallath?**
Elen	**Hanter wosa seyth. A vedhys ena?**
Powl	**Bedhaf. Bysy lowr vedhaf vy der an jëdh. Saw gas cavow dhe wandra. Me a vëdh ow trîvya dy in mes a'n sodhva yn tydro. Dhana ny wra vy kelly gweles hy ferformans wosa oll an ourys a bractys!**
Elen	**Ow mabm a vëdh ow tos seyth eur rag floghcovia. Hy a wra gorra Mark ha Danyel dhe'n gwely mar ny vedhyn ny dewhelys na whath.**
Powl	**Hag a vedhons y ow corfedna aga lessons tre?**
Elen	**Certan yw hedna. Ow mabm a vëdh hardh ortans y!**

Nosweyth ilow is literally 'a music evening'. This is the usual way of referring to a concert taking place late in the day.

The meaning of **dewhelys** is 'returned' in the sense '[having come] back'. We shall be giving more explanation about verbal adjectives later in this Lesson.

The adjective **hardh** means 'able and bold' as a single notion. There is no one-word equivalent in English. Sometimes it corresponds to English 'competent', sometimes to 'decisive'.

Practys Dêwdhek

Exercise Twelve

How would you say the following in Cornish? Use the future tense of **bos** in each.

> She will be in her office tomorrow at ten o'clock. The stranger will be visiting the town's library to research for his book. We shall be happy to meet the teacher. Where will the conference be happening? You won't find any food there!

Asking 'when'

To ask 'when' someone or something happened or will happen, Cornish says **peur**. This is a contraction of **py eur** that we have already learned in the sense 'what time (o'clock)?' We can also use **py eur** to ask 'when' without reference to clock time if the clock is not relevant in the context. But this is a somewhat literary usage. Since the contracted form is *not* used in questions about clock time, it is practical in conversation to reserve **py eur** for clock time, employing **peur** for other situations.

Peur causes Fifth State mutation of a following consonant, just like **ple**. For example, **peur fynta prena carr nowyth?** 'when will you buy a new car?' **Py eur** is followed by particle **y** (**yth** before a vowel or h), just like **py le**.

Another way of saying 'when' in a question is **pana dermyn** or **pan termyn** 'what time'. These phrases are followed by Second State mutation, with optional linking particle **a**, so we could also say **Pana dermyn** [a] **vëdh an prës ly?** 'When will lunch be?' **Pana dermyn** is also commonly used for a quick question on its own, without bothering with a full sentence.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

dyweth *m* end, **menestrouthy** *m* orchestra, **performya** *v* perform, **peswarden** *m* quartet, **powes** *m* rest, pause, **presentya** *v* present, **sôlô** *m* (also adjective) solo, **torr** *f* belly, **whyst** *interj* hush

Practys Tredhek
Exercise Thirteen

Powl has just arrived at the school concert and found Elen already in her seat.

Powl	**Pana dermyn a vëdh Demelsa ow performya hy darn?**
Elen	**Hy a vëdh ow presentya dywweyth. In peswarden ha sôlô.**
Powl	**Wèl, peur fëdh hy kensa darn?**
Elen	**Obma an dowlen. Knack kyns an powes y fëdh an peswarden. Ha'n darn sôlô a vëdh ogas dhe'n dyweth.**
Powl	**Ha peur fëdh an powes? Ny wrug vy debry soper. Hanaf tê ha tesen ganso a vëdh pòr wolcùm.**
Elen	**Py eur i'n jëdh nyns esta ow predery a'n dorr iredy?**
Powl	**Whyst! An menestrouthy yw parys dhe dhallath.**

Pedn and **dyweth** both correspond to English 'end', but they are not interchangeable. **Pedn** (which also means 'head') refers to the end of a physical object or to the end of a period of time. **Dyweth** refers to the cessation or completion of some action or event.

Powes is both a verb-noun and an ordinary noun. One of its uses as an ordinary noun is to refer to the 'interval' in a performance.

Negative particle **ny** (**nyns**) is another little word with a short vowel that cannot be stressed. So we use the same approach as for **py** when we wish to add emphasis.

Menestrouthy (literally 'minstrelsy') is the typical Cornish word for any group of musicians. **Orkestra** is generally reserved for large professional orchestras.

Practys Peswardhek

Exercise Fourteen

How would you say the following in Cornish?

When do the lessons start every morning? When will you finish the job? When did he go to bed? When does the café open? When can I leave?

Verbal adjectives

In Book One we met four verbal adjectives: **aswonys**, **devedhys**, **gorfednys**, **gyllys**. So far in this Book we have learned two more: **terrys** and **dewhelys**. Almost every verb has an adjective associated with it, describing the 'action' of the verb as applied to something. Often the implication is that the action has been completed. For example, 'written work', 'burnt cakes'. The verbal adjective is sometime called the past participle. But this name is best avoided because the sense is not *always* past.

In Cornish the verbal adjective is usually formed with the ending **ys**. Thus, **ober scrifys** 'written work' from **scrifa** 'write', **tesednow leskys** 'burnt cakes' from **lesky** 'burn'. Note that e + ys becomes **ës** and i + ys becomes **ies**, so we form verbal adjectives **degës** 'closed' and **aspies** 'seen' from **degea** 'close' and **aspia** 'catch sight of'. We express the 'agent' of a verbal adjective with the preposition **gans**. For example, **lyver scrifys gans an Bardh Meur** 'a book written by the Grand Bard'.

Cornish also frequently uses the verbal adjective with verb **bos** 'be'. Sometimes this corresponds to similar usage in English. For example, **leskys yw an bara cras-ma** 'this toast is burnt'. But the Cornish expression is often equivalent to a different construction in modern English. For example, **scrifys yw an lyver solabrës** 'the book has already been written'. In sentences of this kind, words like **solabrës** 'already' and **lebmyn** 'now' can be very important to clarify the time of the action. Distinguish **debrys yw an tesednow solabrës** 'the cakes have [already] been eaten' from **debrys yw an tesednow lebmyn** 'the cakes are [now] being eaten'.

Devedhys and **gyllys** are verbal adjectives with an unexpected form. Here are a couple more: **gwrës** 'made, done', **rës** 'given'. As we observed in Book One, **gyllys yw ev** is the usual way of saying 'he has gone'; **devedhys yw hy** is the usual way of saying 'she has come / arrived'.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

arnowyth modern, **boneyl … bò** 'either … or', **classyk** classic(al), **dre vrâs** on the whole, mostly, **dyvers** diverse, different **ervira** *v* decide, **freth** eager, energetic, **golsowyas** *m* listener, **mûsyk** *m* music, **pryntya** *v* print, **scolor** *m* (school) pupil, **tackya dêwla** clap, applaud, **tawesek** silent

When used with the verbal adjective formed from a verb of action, **gans** means 'by' expressing the agent of that action.

Practys Pymthek
Exercise Fifteen

Replace the verb-nouns in square brackets with the corresponding verbal adjectives to complete the story. Make sure you understand the story before moving on.

[Dos] **dhe'n nosweyth ilow yw Elen ha Powl. Ymowns y [esedha] in scol Demelsa, ow colsowes mûsyk an scoloryon. [Parusy] gans an flehes yw darnow dyvers. Yma pùb darn a vûsyk [scrifa] i'n dowlen. [Pryntya] ena yma hanow pùb flogh kefrës. Dre vrâs an mûsyk [performya] i'n nosweyth ilow yw darnow, boneyl classyk bò arnowyth, dôwysys gans an dhescadoryon. Saw Demelsa a wrug dôwys an mûsyk [presentya] gensy in hy sôlô crowd. [Ervira] yw hy dhe wil performans pòr dhâ. [Mos] tawesek yw an wolsowysy. Ha lebmyn an darn yw [gorfedna] hag yma an bobel ow tackya dêwla yn freth.**

Colloquial Cornish

Unlike **py**, particles like **ny** (**nyns**), and the possessive pronouns **ow**, **dha**, **y**, **hy** and **y**, all of which may never carry a stress accent, the *personal* pronouns **my** (**me**), **vy**, etc

may be spoken without stress or stressed for emphasis. When there is no emphasis, **vy** and **jy** (**sy**) after an inflected verb or preposition are frequently replaced by **ma** and **ta** respectively.

These replacements **ma** and **ta** likewise never carry a stress accent. So we spell them as part of the preceding word, and the result is often somewhat simplified. For examples, instead of **yth esof vy** 'I am not' we can say colloquially **th'esoma.** We have already learned many instances of **ta**: **osta** for **os jy**, **esta** for **esos jy**, **vynta** for **vydnys jy**, **wreta** for **wreth jy**, **ylta** (or **yllysta**) for **yllyth jy**, **wosta** for **wodhes jy**. The **ta**-forms were originally colloquial but have spread widely to all but deliberately formal language; and **ma**-forms are treated similarly by some speakers.

Alternatively, if you wish to put *a lot* of emphasis on **vy** or **jy**, you can combine them with **ma** / **ta**. For example, **yth esoma** *vy* 'I am' or **yth esta** *jy* '*you* are'. If we wish to say an emphatic '*me*' or '*you*' on its own, without a verb, in Cornish that is **mavy** and **tejy**, each stressed on the second syllable. We first met **tejy** right back at the very beginning of Book One.

Like **ma** and **ta** there is **va** (never stressed) which may be substituted colloquially for subject pronoun **ev**. Thus **yma ev** 'he is', for instance, can become **yma va**. But **va** is not employed as widely as **ma** and **ta**. With inflected verbs it is largely confined to forms of **bos** and **gwil** ending in a vowel; it is not used at all with inflected prepositions.

Unlike **ma** and **ta** we write **va** as a separate word except after **eu**. For **yw va** there is also a simplified one-word alternative **ywa**. And **va** cannot be combined with **ev**. Instead **ev** has a forcefully emphatic form of its own, **eev** (stressed on the second syllable), for use with or without a verb, but not found with inflected prepositions.

There are no alternatives for the personal pronouns **hy**, **ny**, **why**. Of the two words for 'they', **anjy** is colloquial in origin; so in very formal Cornish we should really only employ **y**.

Lesson Peswar
Lesson Four

Asking 'how'

Both **fatell** and **fatla** mean 'how'. Both are followed by Second State mutation. We may stress **fatell** on either the first or second syllable; **fatla** is always stressed on its first syllable and abbreviates to **fatl'** before vowels in forms of **bos**. So **fatell wreta mos tre alebma?** and **fatla wreta mos tre alebma?** both mean 'how will you get home from here?'

For a quick question on its own, without bothering with a full sentence, we must use **fatla**. Likewise we only employ **fatla** in the fixed expression **fatla genes?** 'how are you?

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

cosel quiet, peaceful, **cùsk** *m* sleep, **down** deep, **dysqwedhes** *v* show, **êwnans** *m* repair, **govel** *f* workshop, garage (for repairs), **gwertha** *v* sell, **in mes** *phr* out, **pory** *v* browse, **spladna** *v* shine, **tôkyn** *m* *tôknys* ticket, **tremenyades** *f* passenger (female), **tremenyas** *m* passenger

Practys Whêtek
Exercise Sixteen

Here is a short conversation demonstrating the two ways of saying 'how'.

Lowda	**Fatell allaf vy mos dhe Penzans? Yma ow harr i'n wovel rag êwnans.**
Clemens	**Te a yll kemeres kyttryn pò train.**
Lowda	**Yma lies kyttryn, mès termyn hir yw an viaj, ha chaunjya in Trûrû. Fatl'yw euryow an train dhe gafos?**
Clemens	**Checkya wàr lînen, heb mar.**
Lowda	**Fatla?**
Clemens	**Ogh, Lowda! Êsy yw. Gwra kerhes dha fon in mes. My a vydn dysqwedhes. Hag y hyllyn ny prena an tôkyn i'n kettermyn.**

Proleptic infinitive

We first encountered **dhe gafos** 'available' in Lesson Seven of Book One. This grammatical construction (**dhe** + verb-noun) is called the 'proleptic infinitive' when it forms such an adjectival phrase. Other instances corresponding to English 'available' in specific contexts are **dhe dhebry, dhe redya, dhe brena**. Note how English reverses

this last idea in the phrase 'for sale'. Also common are **dhe wetyas** 'expected' and **whel dhe wil** 'work (available or waiting to be done)'.

Heb + verb-noun makes a negative equivalent, always with the addition of a possessive pronoun (optional, and rare, for the proleptic infinitive itself). So, for example, **heb y wetyas** 'unexpected'.

Practys Seytek
Exercise Seventeen

Here is an exercise to revise the formation of adverbs from adjectives. If in doubt, check back to Lesson Twelve of Book One.

Replace the adjectives in square brackets with adverbs to complete the story. We shall learn more about Cornish word order in later lessons, but for now you can see that an adverb formed with **yn** is frequently found at the end of its sentence.

Clemens ha Lowda a wrug checkya euryow an train [êsy]. Yma an kyttrynyow ow mos inter Austol ha Penzans [menowgh] mès [lent]. Yma an trainow ow viajya [uskys]. Ytho Lowda a wrug dôwys an train. An tremenyas esedhys ryb Lowda o codhys dhe gùsk [down]. Yth esa an howl ow spladna wàr an pow [tobm] i'n jëdhna. Yth esa buhas ha deves ow pory wàr an parcow [cosel]. Yth esa an dremenyades adâl Lowda ow pory wàr hy fon [bysy]. Gwas an train a wrug gwertha coffy dhe Lowda [cuv]. An train a wrug dos dhe Penzans [scon].

Inflected comparative of adjectives

If an adjective consists of just a single syllable, it can be given an inflected 'comparative' form by adding suffix **-a**. For example, **cot** 'short', **cotta** 'shorter'; **hir** 'long', **hirha** 'longer'; **pell** 'far', **pelha** 'farther, further'; **wheg** 'sweet', **whecka** 'sweeter'. You will see from these examples that forming comparative adjectives of this kind is not easy – a change of consonant before the suffix is often required. For the time being, it will be best to learn each comparative as you meet it. There are not so very many of them, and a pattern will gradually emerge.

Most ordinary (so called 'positive') adjectives are placed after their noun in Cornish. But comparative adjectives generally precede their noun, though they can be placed after the noun in certain circumstances, especially for emphasis. So, **eglos vrâs** 'a big church', **brâssa eglos** 'a bigger church', **eglos vrâssa whath** *or* **vëth** 'an even bigger church'. Note how mutation does not apply to adjectives that precede their noun.

Saying 'than'

The Cornish word for 'than' is **ès**. There is a longer version **ages** which may always be used instead, but it is less common. **Ages** has inflected forms, but these are rarely encountered outside of literature. If in doubt, use **ès**.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

contentya *v* satisfy, **effethus** effective, efficient, **jyn** *m jynys* engine (*also* machine), **lewyas** *v* steer, **pil** *m* battery, **scav** light (weight), **torrva** *f* breakdown, **tredanek** electric

Practys Êtek
Exercise Eighteen

Here is a conversation with lots of comparative adjectives in it. Note how in lively (and here somewhat adversarial) conversation the possessive pronouns will often be reinforced by adding the personal pronoun. For instance, **dha garr** 'your car', **dha garr jy** '*your* car'.

Bastyn	**Ow harr vy yw creffa ès dha garr jy.**
Allan	**Fatell ylta bos sur a hedna?**
Bastyn	**Y jyn ev yw brâssa.**
Allan	**Yw, mès dha garr jy yw cotha ès ow harr vy. Nyns yw an jyn pòr effethus.**
Bastyn	**Ow harr vy yw scaffa ès dha garr jy inwedh.**
Allan	**Eâ. Rag dha garr jy yw *cotha* ès ow harr vy. Tredanek yw ow harr vy. An pil yw poos, ytho oll an carr yw possa.**
Bastyn	**Wèl, ow harr vy yw gwell heb dowt. Whecka yw dh'y lewyas.**
Allan	**Saw contentys ov vy kefrës. Yma torrva dhyso pùb mis!**

Rag 'for' is used as a conjunction just like in English.

Lewyas means 'steer' in any context. When talking of a car it is also used as an alternative to **drîvya** meaning 'drive'.

No Cornish equivalent of 'the … one'

English can avoid using a noun with an adjective when the noun in question is already known. We can say 'a red car'. But if we already know we are talking about cars, we may prefer to say simply 'a red one'. Similarly, in Cornish we may say **carr rudh** or just **onen rudh**. English can use the same construction with the definite article. So we may say, 'the red car' or 'the red one'. But Cornish *cannot* do this. With the definite

article you must state the noun explicitly. So, **an carr rudh** is the only option in this case.

Onen referring to feminine noun

An adjective after **onen** behaves just as it does when used with the relevant noun. So **carr bian**, **onen bian** 'a small car, a small one' but **dywros vian**, **onen vian** 'a small bike, a small one'. A comparative adjective is typically placed after **onen**, so **tecka eglos**, **onen decka** 'a more beautiful church, a more beautiful one'.

Saying 'everyone' and 'every one'

Pùbonen is usually written as one word when it means 'everyone' referring to people. In English we can use 'every one' (written as two words) referring to people or things. The corresponding usage in Cornish is **kenyver onen**, likewise referring to either people or things. An alternative to **pùbonen** is **pùb huny**. **Pùb huny oll** is more emphatic, like **kettep pedn** that we already know. We find the same **huny** in the phrase **lies huny** 'many [people]'. Contrast **lies pobel** 'many peoples'. In literature, but not in conversation, we may encounter **pùb** alone in the sense 'everyone'; also **peb** and **pob** with the same meaning.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

colm codna *m* [neck]tie, **dyllas** *m* clothes, **gans rach** carefully, **gwydnrudh** pink, **plos** dirty, **rolya** *v* roll, **trog dyllas** *m* suitcase

Practys Nawnjek
Exercise Nineteen

Replace those nouns that you can with **onen**. And make any consequential changes. Be sure you understand the meaning of the passage.

Yma Powl ow trùssa dyllas rag viaj negys a beswar dëdh. Yma va ow tôwys colmow codna. Yma ev ow trùssa colm blou ha colm rudh. Colm melen inwedh. Mès an colm gwer yw tecka – yma Powl ow kemeres hedna kefrës. Soweth, an colm rudh yw plos. In y dyller yma Powl ow trùssa colm gwydnrudh. Pùb colm yw rolys gans rach ha gorrys i'n trog dyllas.

Practys Ugans
Exercise Twenty

Here is a short passage that uses present, past and future tenses. How might we put it into Cornish? Extra vocabulary is supplied immediately after the passage.

Tomorrow will be the tenth anniversary of my graduation. I studied engineering at the university in Bristol. Now I am a civil engineer specializing in transport infrastructure. Last Saturday I returned to Bristol for a dinner with the other engineering students of my year. We also celebrated in this way five years ago. Now our plan is to meet again after five more years. In my profession it is important to network well. So I shall stay in touch with former colleagues.

Extra vocabulary: **pedn bloodh** *m* anniversary (*also* birthday), **gradhyans** *m* graduation, **injynorieth** *f* engineering, **ûnyversyta** *f* university, **Brystow** Bristol, **cyvyl** *adj* civil, **arbenygya** *v* specialize (for 'specializing' you can use the verbal adjective), **caryans** *m* transport, **is-starneth** *m* infrastructure, **dewheles** *v* return, **gôlya** *v* celebrate, **porpos** *m* purpose, intention, plan, **galwans** *m* profession, **formya** *v* form, make, **roosweyth** *m* network, **remainya** *v* remain, stay, **kestaf** *m* contact

Cornish expresses 'it is important to network well' as 'busy is making a good network'. For 'former' we employ adverb **kyns** 'previously' as an attributive adjective; in this usage it is always in First State.

Colloquial Cornish

In some words where an s-sound is derived from Old Cornish d, speakers with a colloquial West Cornwall pronunciation may use a j-sound instead; and this can also be written. For example, **nyns** and **wosa** are often pronounced **nynj** and **woja** (or **oja**) in West Cornwall. (Be careful: you may also hear **osta** pronounced as **oja**.) Sometimes Old Cornish d did *not* develop into an s-sound, but a j-alternative nonetheless emerged by analogy. For example, **descajor** alongside **descador** 'teacher'. Analogy has also operated to produce a few j-alternatives where there never was an Old Cornish d at all. For example, **ujy**, **ujons** alongside **usy**, **usons**.

Lesson Pymp
Lesson Five

*Preterite tense after link particle **a***

The preterite is the 'simple past' tense. It indicates that the 'action' of the verb is regarded as a past event rather than a process that stretched over past time. It corresponds to two tenses in English: 'did' and 'had done'. The context usually tells you which is intended, but the latter sense can also be clarified with an adverb like **solabrës** 'already' or **kyns** 'previously'.

For most verbs it is also possible to form an inflected past tense with the same meanings. But only what is technically the he/she/noun form connected to the subject by link particle **a** is common in colloquial registers.

There are two endings for this form of the verb.

Most verbs use exclusively **as**. For example, we can say **ev a wrug ponya dhe'n scol** or **ev a bonyas dhe'n scol** 'He ran to school'.

A relatively small number of verbs use **ys**. Generally, if the verb-noun ends in **el** we employ ending **ys**; though an everyday alternative form in **as** is also used for a lot of these verbs. For example, **my a wrug leverel** or **my a leverys** or **me a lavaras** 'I said'. We also find **ys** employed in *some* cases when the verb-noun ends in **y**; again an everyday form in **as** may exist in parallel. For example, **my a wrug predery** or **my a brederys** or **me a brederas** 'I thought'.

Continuous action / state marked by tense only in the past

The ordinary *present* tense of a Cornish verb may or may not indicate continuous action. So **yth esof vy ow tebry kig** can mean 'I am eating meat' (continuous) or simply 'I eat meat' (a statement of what I do and always do). If the context is ambiguous, the first meaning can be clarified by adding, for example, **i'n eur-ma** 'now'. And the second meaning can be made plain by adding, for instance, **pùpprës** 'always'.

The ordinary *future* tense of a Cornish verb may or may not indicate continuous action. So **me a vydn debry kig** or **me a wra debry kig** or **me a vëdh ow tebry kig** can all mean 'I will eat meat' or, with specifically continuous sense, 'I will be eating meat'. And it makes no difference if these three are reformulated with affirmative particle **y**. So we can also say **y fydnaf vy debry kig** or **y whrav vy debry kig** or **y fedhaf vy ow tebry kig**'. These too may mean 'I will eat meat' or 'I will be eating meat', according to context.

When we talk about the *past* in Cornish, however, we do *not* rely solely on context or adverbs to distinguish between a continuous and a non-continuous sense. We use the imperfect tense when the sense is continuous and we wish to make that clear. So **yth esen vy ow tebry kig** means 'I was eating meat'; whereas **me a dhebras kig** means simply 'I ate meat', as a statement about the past that does not specifically indicate any continuous action.

It should therefore come as no surprise that we rarely encounter the preterite tense of any verb that expresses a state rather than an action – because states by their very nature are usually continuous.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

areth *f* speech (*also* lecture), **cana** *v* sing, **chyffar** *m* (commercial) deal(ing), **côta** *m* coat, **creslu** *m* police, **cris** *m* shirt, blouse, **dhe dybmyn** to pieces, **dyscowntya** *v* discount, **eskys** *f* shoe, **gohebyth** *m* reporter, **gwlanek** *m* jumper, **iselbris** cheap, **ker** dear, expensive, **lavrak** *m* (pair of) trousers, **lenwel** *v* fill, **losten** *f* skirt, **penvenyster** *m* prime minister, **prenas** *m* purchase, **pris** *m* price (*also* prize), **tobma** *v* heat, warm up, **trouvya** discover, find, **whilas** *v* seek, look for

Practys Onen warn Ugans

Exercise Twenty One

Here are some sentences expressing continuous action in the past. Put them into the preterite tense to remove the specific sense of continuity. All of the verbs in this exercise make their preterite with ending **as** after link particle **a** connecting the subject to the verb. And the preterite ending *replaces* the final suffix of the verb-noun.

Example
Yth esa hy owth eva tê 'She was drinking tea.' This will become **Hy a evas tê** 'She drank tea'.

Yth esa an gohebyth ow colsowes areth an penvenyster. Yth esa aga thas ow metya gansans i'n gorsaf. Yth esewgh why ow cortos i'n lost cabm. Yth esen ny ow studhya yn tywysyk. Yth esens y ow whilas bargen dâ. Yth esen vy ow kerdhes tre. Yth esa an creslu ow whythra an mater. Yth eses jy ow performya yn spladn i'n nosweyth ilow-na. Yth esa oll y dhylajow ow codha dhe dybmyn. Yth esen vy ow tôwys gans rach.

Practys Dew warn Ugans

Exercise Twenty Two

Here are some sentences with preterite verbs. Put them into the imperfect tense expressing continuous action in the past.

Example

Hy gour a dhescas Kernowek 'Her husband learned Cornish'. This will become **Yth esa hy gour ow tesky Kernowek** 'Her husband was learning Cornish'.

My a jeckyas ow rîvbost. An penvenyster a gowsas yn tâ. An havysy a lenwys an treth. An vowes a ganas yn teg. Anjy a whilas aga hothman heb y gafos. Ny a gomptyas an gwedrednow i'n amary brâs. Coweth ow ranjy a barusys an soper. Why a scrifas messach wheg. An bobel a grias in mes. Y vroder a neyjas i'n mor.

Practys Try warn Ugans

Exercise Twenty Three

Here is a summary of Elen Tonkin's visit to the January sales one Saturday morning.

Dre vrâs yma Elen ow prena lies tra wàr lînen, mès hy a wrug vysytya an shoppys dê, rag kemeres prow a'n chyffar dyscowntys. Hy a gerdhas wàr an strêtys prenassa in cres an dre, ow whilas dyllas a brisyow isel. I'n kensa shoppa hy a viras orth côta gwâv, mès nyns o va dyscowntys. Soweth, re ger. Ny wrug hy prena hedna. Saw in shoppa aral hy a drouvyas lavrak ha dew wlanek. In tressa shoppa hy a gafas eskyjyow – anjy o bargen pòr dhâ. Wosa prena an taclow-ma, Elen a wrug eva hanaf tê ha debry breghtan cras tobmys in coffyva vysy. Hy a vetyas ena gans hy hothman Joyas ha dysqwedhes oll hy frenasow dhedhy. Joyas a wrug prena dyllas inwedh – try cris iselbris, ha kerha losten kefrës.

Chyffar dyscowntys is a fixed phrase meaning 'sale' or 'sales' in the sense of a time of discounted offers.

Here the verb-noun **dysqwedhes** means 'showed'. When there is no change of grammatical subject, we do not have to employ a second preterite verb after **ha** 'and' (though we can if we wish; it's a matter of style).

*Comparative formed with **moy***

When an adjective consists of more than one syllable, we usually form its comparative with **moy** 'more'. Adjectives ending in a suffix such as **ak** or **ek** or **us** always make their comparative in this way. So, **gwynsak**, **moy gwynsak** 'windy, windier'; **howlek**, **moy howlek** 'sunny, sunnier'; **troblus**, **moy troblus** 'troublesome, more troublesome'.

Comparatives made with **moy** follow their noun without any mutation. For example, **bledhen moy lowen** 'a happier year'. If we use particle **yn** to convert such a comparative adjective into an adverb, **moy** does not undergo Fifth State mutation. So we say **yn moy lowen** 'more happily'.

Comparatives that buck the system

You will meet a few adjectives of more than one syllable that form a comparative as explained in Lesson Four. Try to learn them when they appear. Common ones are **bian**, **byhadnha** (also simplifed spelling **byhadna**) 'small, smaller', **êsy**, **êsya** 'easy, easier', **hager**, **hackra** 'ugly, uglier', **isel**, **iselha** 'low, lower', **sempel**, **sempla** 'simple, simpler', **uhel**, **uhelha** 'high, higher'. Occasionally either method may be employed. For example, **cales** 'hard', **moy cales** or **calassa** 'harder'; **medhel** 'soft', **moy medhel** or **medalha** 'softer'; **uskys** 'fast', **moy uskys** or **uskyssa** 'faster'.

A few comparatives are very irregular. Two of the most common are **gwell** 'better' and **lacka** 'worse'. The form of these words cannot be predicted from the corresponding positive adjectives **dâ** 'good' and **drog** 'bad, evil'.

If we wish to use **gwell** as an adverb, we say simply **gwell ès** 'better than', or we may use the adverbial phrase **dhe well** 'better'. For example, **yma Barbery ow cana yn tâ** 'Barbara sings well' but **yma Marget ow cana gwell ès Barbery** 'Margaret sings better than Barbara' or **yma Marget ow cana dhe well** 'Margaret sings better'.

The first of these constructions is also available for **lacka**; but not the second. So using the same example we may only say **yma Marget ow cana lacka ès Barbery** 'Margaret sings worse than Barbara'.

The first construction is in fact very common with adjectives much more generally. Many have the ability to function adverbially with or without a preceding **yn**. For example, **ev a wra spêdya [yn] sur** 'he's bound to succeed'.

Vocabulary

Here are a few more new words.

amendya *v* put right, mend, **bufê** *m* buffet, **carygel** *f* trolley, **eseth** *f* seat

Practys Peswar warn Ugans
Exercise Twenty Four

Lowda and her friend Morwena live in St Austell. Morwena is listening to Lowda chat about her trip to Penzance the previous day.

Ow viaj dhe Penzans dê o êsya ès dell wrug vy gwetyas. An train yw moy uskys ès an kyttryn. Kyttrynyow yw lenta ès an train pùpprës. Hag eseth i'n train a vëdh moy

medhel i'wedh. Nyns ov vy sur mars yw an pris iselha, saw my a ylly eva hanaf a goffy dhywar an garygel bufê ha pòr wolcùm o hedna. Th'esa ow harr vy i'n wovel. Lebmyn yma'n carr ow mos dhe well. Amendys yw va yn tâ. Nebes gwell o an gewar, dell hevel, obma in Austol. An howl, th'esa ow spladna myttyn whath. Eâ, in gwir, yth esa ebron dhu ow tos scon dhyworth an west. Saw an gewar o hackra in Penzans solabrës, heb dowt. Gwyns ha glaw ena der oll an jëdh.

Note **ès dell** 'than' before a verb. We have already encountered **dell** meaning 'as' in the phrases **dell hevel** 'as it seems' (often equivalent to English 'apparently'), **dell wosta** 'as you know', **dell yw ûsys** 'as usual'. It is followed by Second State mutation.

Ha'n eseth … a vëdh moy medhel is not making a statement strictly about the future, but about something that both is and always will be the case. The future tense of **bos** sometimes carries this nuance. Lowda might have said **yw moy medhel**, but she has already used **yw** twice to say that the train is faster and buses are slower. She took a stylistic decision. She thereby avoided another repeition; and also achieved a triad of dh-sounds (assonance) while rhyming **a vëdh** with **i'wedh**. Such effects are typical of good fluent Cornish, even in conversation.

Nouns as attributive adjectives

In Lesson Ten of Book One we noted that a noun specifying the material from which something is made is not usually put into Second State when it functions adjectivally after a feminine singular noun; so that **pluven blobm** 'pencil' (literally 'lead pen') must be considered an exception to the rule. In fact there is a general principle that *any* noun remains in First State when it acts as an attributive adjective; but exceptions occur in some specific noun + noun combinations, and these must be learned as they are encountered.

Carygel bufê 'buffet trolley' is true to the general principle. **Carygel** is feminine singular; **bufê** nonetheless remains in First State.

Personal forms of **in**

Here are the personal forms of preposition **in** 'in' (*also* 'into').

inof 'in me'
inos 'in you'
ino *or* **etto** 'in him' *or* 'in it' (masculine reference)
inhy 'in her' *or* 'in it' (feminine reference)
inon *or* **ina ny** 'in us'
inowgh *or* **ina why** 'in you' (plural or stranger)
inans *or* **inhans** *or* **ina** (mostly confined to written Cornish) 'in them'

*Personal forms of **in dadn***

And here are the personal forms of preposition **in dadn** 'under'.

in dadnof *or* **i'dadn vy** 'under me'
in dadnos *or* **i'dadn jy** 'under you'
in dadno *or* **i'dadn ev** 'under him' *or* 'under it' (masculine reference)
in dadny *or* **i'dadn hy** 'under her' *or* 'under it' (feminine reference)
in dadnon *or* **i'dadn ny** 'under us'
in dadnowgh *or* **i'dadn why** 'under you' (plural or stranger)
in dadnans *or* **in dadna** (mostly confined to written Cornish) 'under them'

The forms beginning **i'** can drop this first syllable, so we also hear just **dadn vy**, **dadn jy**, etc.

Practys Pymp warn Ugans
Exercise Twenty Five

All the Tonkins are in the coffee shop today. Look at the picture below. What can you talk about, using all you have learned so far? You can say what is *not* in the picture as well. Ask questions about it too. Extra vocabulary is supplied.
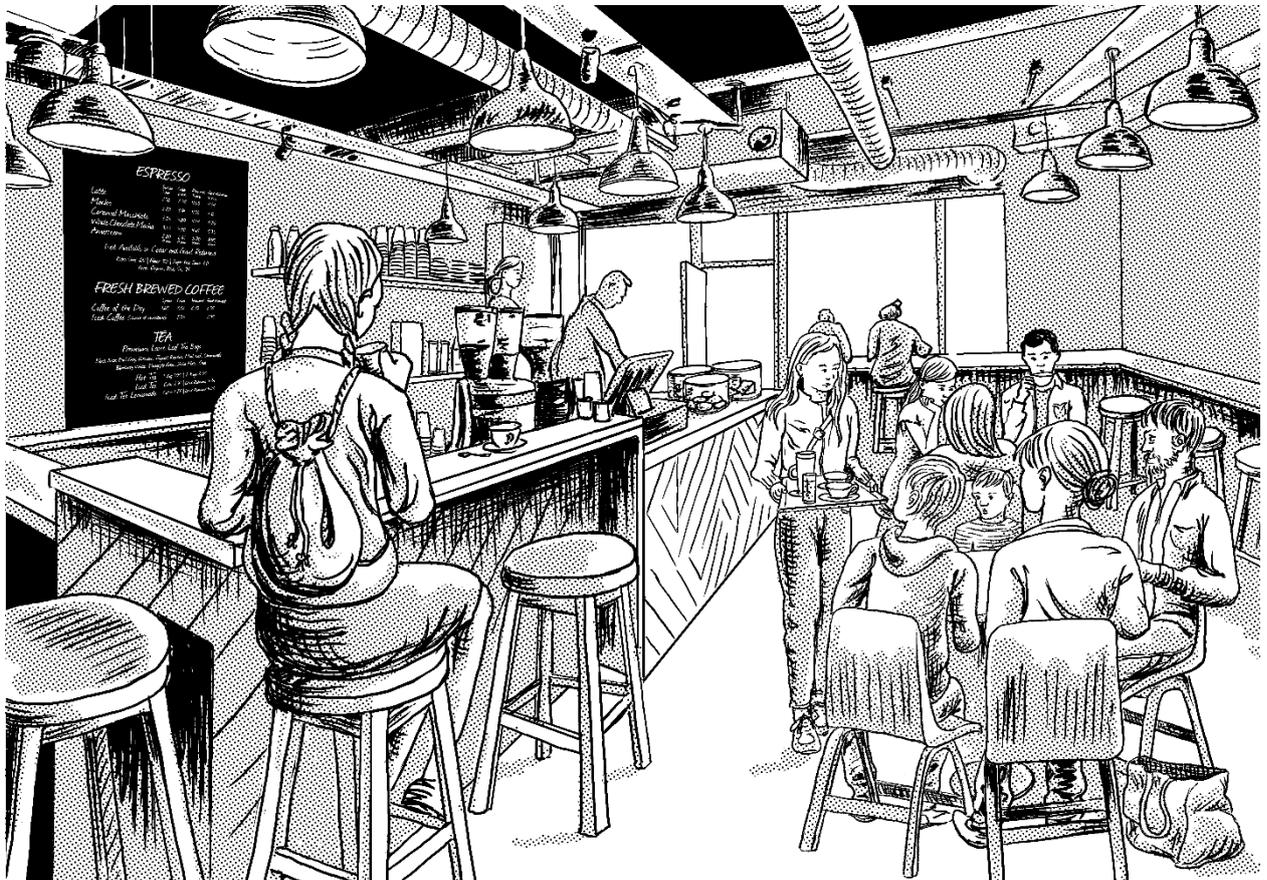
Extra vocabulary: **airêwnans** *m* air conditioning, **brow coffy** *m* coffee grinder, **comptyer** *m* counter, **fav coffy** *col* coffee beans, **gorher** *m* cover, lid, **lemyga** *v* sip, **lugarn** *m* lamp, **nen** *m* ceiling, **pîbel** *f* pipe, **rol prîsyow** price list, **sagh keyn** *m* knapsack, **scavel serth** *f* bar stool, **servyour** *m* tray

Colloquial Cornish

We have seen how formal **yth esof vy** 'I am' can become **th'esoma** in more colloquial Cornish. There are speakers who change **s** to **r** in all the long forms of **bos**, so they say **yth erof** or **yth erof vy** when speaking formally and **th'erof vy** or **th'eroma** when speaking more colloquially.

It is also possible to clip the vowel from the end of **-ma**, in which case you will hear **th'esom** or **th'erom**.

In questions and negative sentences **ny wrug vy** often becomes **ny wrugam** or **ny wrug avy**. And in negative sentences particles **ny** and **nyns** (**nynj**) may be replaced with **na** and **nag**.

Try out these various options to see what suits you best.

There is a broad phenomenon of simplifying words in colloquial Cornish. We may drop final **gh**, final **v**. We may drop **dh** / **th** in the combinations **rdh** and **rth**; and **w** in the combination **wr**. Accordingly, **flogh**, **fav**, **fordh**, **worth**, **wrug** may be pronounced as **flo**, **fa**, **wor'**, **rug**. The pronunciation **rug** may also occur instead of **whrug**. Apostrophes can be used to show what has been dropped but they can appear cumbersome and are not to everyone's taste. Be prepared, then, to encounter **rugam**, **therom**, **thesta** etc. But an apostrophe is required when **rdh** or **rth** become **r'**, to show that the preceding vowel remains short. You may also meet **an vorr**, which is the way some write **an fordh**, to be clearer about how it is correctly pronounced.

Lesson Whe
Lesson Six

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

arweth *f* signal, **kenderow** *m* male cousin, **kenytherow** *f* female cousin, **Keresk** Exeter, **keur** *m* choir, **modryp** *f* aunt, **omdhon** *m* behaviour (*also* verb 'behave'), **ôwnter** *m* uncle, **selwel** *v* save, **seny** *v* sound, play (music etc), **tros** *m* noise, **whybonel** *f* flute

Practys Whe warn Ugans
Exercise Twenty Six

Here is an extract from Demelsa's diary.

De Sul ny a wrug mos dhe Keresk, rag vysytya ow modryp Maryan ha'm ôwnter Jâgô, ha'm kenderow Jûlyan, ha'm kenytherow Vernôna. Powl o gàn lewyor dy. Ow mos dy hag ow tos arta i'n carr yth esen vy wàr an eseth dhelergh gans ow breder. Uthyk o omdhon Danyel der agan viaj dhe Keresk, Ha'n fordh yw hir – cans mildir! Soweth, scant nyns eus arweth dhâ in nebes radnow a'n fordh, ha my owth assaya ûsya an appyow i'm fon. In Keresk ny oll a dhebras kydnyow Sul, ha kerdhes in park poblek gans aga heun, try hy bian, dohajëdh. Ha me a wrug presentya ow darn crowd sôlô mes a'n nosweyth ilow. Yma Vernôna in menestrouthy hy scol, ow seny whybonel, hag yma hy ow cana i'n keur, mès ny yll hy gwil sôlô yn tâ. Mabm a wrug agan drîvya tre. I'n gwelha prës yth esa Danyel ow cùsca an fordh tre, ytho selwys en ny a'y dros!

Although **scant** is usually employed with a negative, the meaning is just 'barely, hardly, scarcely'; there is no 'not' in the corresponding English sentence.

We often use **mes** [**a**] as a shorter alternative to **in mes** [**a**], especially when no actual motion is involved.

*Personal forms of **heb***

Here are the personal forms of preposition **heb** 'without'.

hebof *or* **hebam** 'without me'
hebos *or* **heba jy** 'without you'
heptho *or* **heb ev** 'without him' *or* 'without it' (masculine reference)
hepthy *or* **heb hy** 'without her' *or* 'without it' (feminine reference)

hebon *or* **heba ny** 'without us'
hebowgh *or* **heba why** 'without you' (plural or stranger)
hepthans *or* **heptha** (mostly confined to written Cornish) 'without them'

Heb is a negative notion, and occasionally it corresponds to English 'not'. For example, we say **res yw dhis heb gwil hedna** 'you must not do that', corresponding to affirmative **res yw dhis gwil hedna** 'you must do that'. And compare **heb y wetyas** explained in Lesson Four.

*Personal forms of **ryb***

Here are the personal forms of preposition **ryb** 'beside'.

rybof *or* **rybam** 'beside me'
rybos *or* **ryba jy** 'beside you'
ryptho *or* **ryb ev** 'beside him' *or* 'beside it' (masculine reference)
rypthy *or* **ryb hy** 'beside her' *or* 'beside it' (feminine reference)
rybon *or* **ryba ny** 'beside us'
rybowgh *or* **ryba why** 'beside you' (plural or stranger)
rypthans *or* **ryptha** (mostly confined to written Cornish) 'beside them'
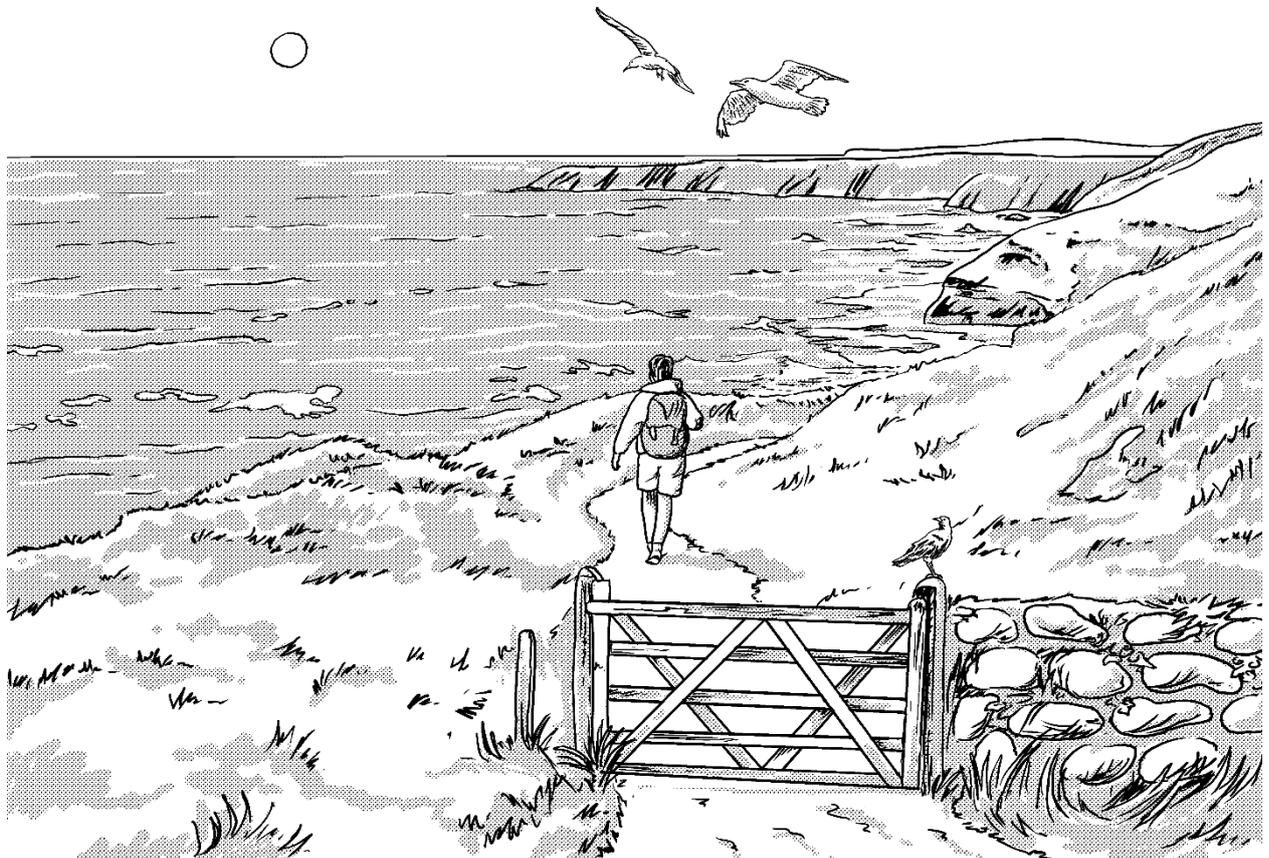
Extra vocabulary: **caregek** rocky, **gorwel** *m* horizon, **gùlan** *f* gull, **lavrak cot** *m* (pair of) shorts, **leder** *m* slope (*also* bias), **serth** steep, **trûlergh** *m* path, **yet** *m* gate

Practys Seyth warn Ugans
Exercise Twenty Seven

Jana Bligh is one of Elen Tonkin's cousins. Another is Peder Noon, who loves walking the Cornish coast. Look at the picture on the previous page. What can you talk about, using all you have learned so far? You can say what is *not* in the picture as well. Ask questions about it too.

*Preterite forms of **dos** and **mos***

The preterite tenses of **dos** 'come' and **mos** 'go' are irregular. The he/she/noun forms are **deuth** and **êth**. Particle **a** is not used with **êth**. We say, for example, **hy a dheuth ajy** 'she came in' and **a dheuth hy ajy?** 'did she come in?, but **hy êth dhe ves** 'she went away' and **êth hy dhe ves?** 'did she go away?'

*Preterite tense of **bos***

The verb **bos** also has a preterite tense. Whereas the imperfect tense of **bos** expresses 'being' in the past as an on-going state at that time, the preterite is used when the 'being' is considered as an historical event. Here are a few more examples. **An ober a veu gorfednys** "the work was finished (preterite: it got done)". Contrast **an ober o gorfednys** 'the work was finished (imperfect: in a finished state)". **Gyllys vowns y** 'they were off (preterite: there and then)'. But **gyllys êns y** 'they had gone (imperfect: 'sometime before)'.

Here are all the forms.

veuv vy *or* **veuma**	I was	**veun ny**	we were
veus jy *or* **veusta**	you were	**vewgh why**	you were (plural or stranger)
veu ev *or* **veuva**	he was it was (masculine reference)	**vowns y**	they were
veu hy	she was it was (feminine reference)		
veu	was / were (with noun subject)		

If we put affirmative particle **y** before these forms the initial v becomes f. So **y feuv vy**, etc. However, as with the preterites of other verbs, it is the he/she/noun form which is most common in affirmative statements for all persons. For example, **ny a veu sqwith** 'we got tired'.

To make a closed question (expecting the answer yes or no) we put interrogative particle **a** in front of each of these forms.

The underlying initial letter is b, and this surfaces in the forms we can use when saying yes to questions involving the preterite tense of **bos**. For example, **A veu hy marow in Kernow? Eâ** *or* **Beu.** 'Did she die in Cornwall? Yes.' Compare the negative answer **Nâ** *or* **Na veu**.

To make a negative statement we put particle **ny** in front of each of these forms. With an indefinite subject **ny vëdh** means 'there will not be'. If we add interrogative particle **a** in front of particle **nyns**, we arrive at a negative question.

The preterite of **bos** is used without a particle but with Second State mutation when a descriptive adjective (or noun) precedes it. This is same usage as for the future tense. So **yêyn veu an gewar dê** 'the weather got cold yesterday'. Compare **yêyn vëdh an gewar avorow** 'the weather will be cold tomorrow'.

Wharvos 'happen' is a compound of **bos**. The spelling of preterite **wharva** for expected *wharveu* is the outcome of regular sound change. For example, **pandra wharva?** 'what happened?'

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

acordyng dhe according to, **arhadow** *m* order(s), **bedh** *m* grave, tomb, **bonkya** *v* knock (single blow), **codna** *m* neck, **cort** *f* court, **demedhyans** *m* marriage, **dhe'n dor** down (literally 'to the ground'), **droglam** *m* (unfortunate) accident, **dydhemedhy** *v* divorce, **in rag** forwards, **kerensa** *f* love, **kert hir** *m* lorry, **margh horn** *m* bike, **mernans** *m* death, **posyjyon** *m* depression, despair, **rêwlys** regular, **soweny** *v* prosper, succeed, **spessly** especially, **teylu** *m* family

Practys Eth warn Ugans
Exercise Twenty Eight

Here is some more information about the Tonkin family, using all the tenses of **bos** you have learned so far.

Elen Tonkin o demedhys unweyth kyns. Demelsa Pentreath yw hy flogh a'n demedhyans-na. Dydhemedhys veu Elen ha'y kensa gour wosa termyn cot. Nyns esa aga ferthynas ow soweny màn. Yma Demelsa ow qweles hy thas yn rêwlys whath, acordyng dhe arhadow an gort, hag anjy yw cothmans dâ lowr. Dre vrâs.

Dhe Demelsa yth esa try hanter-broder. Mès tra uthyk a wharva. An kensa broder, Ross Tonkin, a veu marow in droglam udn vledhen alebma. Ev o tredhek bloodh. Ev êth wàr y vargh horn, ha kert hir a wrug y vonkya dhe'n dor, ha terrys veu y

godna. Pòr drist yw Elen ha Powl wosa mernans aga mab, ha trist yw an try flogh aral kefrës. Elen ha Demelsa spessly, ymowns y ow vysytya an bedh yn fenowgh. Saw ervirys yw an teylu dhe dhon aga bêwnans in rag heb codha dhe bosyjyon. Y fëdh Ross remembrys gans oll aga herensa pùpprës.

Lesson Seyth

Lesson Seven

More about imperatives

We already know that a command can be formed with **gwra** or **gwrewgh** plus a verb-noun. For example, **gwra fystena!** 'hurry!' (addressing one person) or **gwrewgh ow sewya!** 'follow me!" (addressing several people or one person with whom we are not on familiar terms). For negative commands we can use **na wra**, **na wrewgh** in the same way. For example, **na wra dallath!** 'don't start!' and **na wrewgh tava** 'don't touch!'

This is the method generally used for commands. But **bos** 'be', **dos** 'come', **mos** 'go', **ry** 'give' and **dry** 'bring' form *inflected* imperatives that are in common use.

bëdh! bedhowgh!	be!	**na vëdh! na vedhowgh!**	don't be!
deus! dewgh!	come!	**na dheus! na dhewgh!**	don't come!
kê! (*or* **â**) **[k]ewgh!**	go!	**nag â! nag ewgh!**	don't go!
ro (*or* **roy**)**! rewgh!**	give!	**na ro (na roy)! `na rewgh!**	don't give!
dro (*or* **doroy**)**! drewgh!**	bring!	**na dhro (na dhoroy)! na dhrewgh!**	don't bring!

Gwra, **gwrewgh** are themselves inflected imperatives of **gwil**. They are regularly used without a verb-noun in more or less fixed phrases. For example, **na wra mencyon a'n gwerryans!** 'don't mention the war!'. But otherwise this usage is rather literary. So colloquially we are more likely to say **gwra gwil dha lessons tre!** 'do your homework!' than just **gwra dha lessons tre!**

Other fairly common inflected imperatives are **clôw! clôwowgh!** 'listen!' (literally 'hear'), **gorta! gortowgh!** 'wait!', **kebmer! kemerowgh!** 'take!', **mir! mirowgh!** (*or* **merowgh!** – see later in this Lesson) 'look!', **sav!** (*or* **sa'!**), **sevowgh!** 'stand! (*also* stop!)'.

We do not usually give commands to ourselves, but we often 'exhort' ourselves to do something. In poetical Cornish there are inflected forms for some exhortations, and at least one of these is also heard colloquially in the fixed phrase: **deun alebma!** 'let's go!', literally 'let's come from here!' But for everyday purposes we form exhortations with the inflected imperative of **gasa** 'leave, let'. For example, **gas vy dhe weles!** 'let me see!' and **gesowgh ny heb gwil hedna!** 'let's not do that!'

After an inflected imperative we use **vy** for 'me', **jy** for 'you' (one person we know well), **e** (not **ev**) for 'him' or 'it' with masculine reference, and **y** (not **anjy**) for 'them'. **Hy, ny, why** are used as expected.

We usually employ just the verb-noun after **ha** 'and' for the second limb of a double command. For example, **deus ha gweles!** 'come and see!'. But occasionally we find

two imperative forms instead (without **ha**) as in **dewgh kemerowgh e!** 'come and get it!'

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

desempys immediately (*also* abruptly), **pols** *m* moment (very short duration, *not* point in time), **savla** *m* (bus) stop (*also* position), **sehyk** *m* sachet, **skydnya** *v* descend, alight (from vehicle), **sows cogh** *m* tomato ketchup, **war** wary, cautious

Practys Naw warn Ugans
Exercise Twenty Nine

What do these Cornish commands mean?

Gorta pols! Roy e dhybm desempys! Bedhowgh war! Na sevowgh in bàn! Gwrewgh skydnya dhe'n nessa savla! Na wra gorra'n dra dhe'n dor! Gas golok dhybm orto! Kê [in] rag! Dro daffar lybm ha lies sehyk a sows cogh! Deus ha dôwys onen!

Practys Deg warn Ugans
Exercise Thirty

How would you say the following in Cornish? Here are some more inflected imperatives you might use.

assay try! **deber** eat! **gwel** see! **lavar** say!

> Go and see the doctor! Carry these bags to the car! Don't be sad! Order a pizza for supper! Check your email frequently! Don't eat that! Bring up the bodies! Wait five minutes, then try again! Please say kind things! Let the passengers get off first!

'First' as an adverb is usually **kyns oll**. But when making a priority list we may say either **kyns oll** or [**yn**] **kensa**, with the following items being [**yn**] **nessa** 'second[ly]', [**yn**] **tressa** 'third[ly]' etc.

Adar

Adar is a preposition meaning 'apart from'. In this sense it is rare outside literature. But it is very common in all registers of Cornish to express the idea 'not' in a statement with the formula 'A, not B'.

Here are a couple of examples.
Cara warbarth, adar gwerrya.
'Make love, not war.'
Kebmer an belednyk rudh, adar an belednyk vlou.
'Take the red pill, not the blue one.'

Adar is also used occasionally, by analogy, to express the idea 'but' when the formula is 'not A but B'. For instance, **ny wrug ev kemeres an belednyk vlou, adar an belednyk rudh** 'he took not the blue pill but the red one'**.** This could also be expressed as **ny wrug ev kemeres an belednyk vlou, mès an belednyk rudh**.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

arbednyk particular, special, **canel** *f* channel, **fytty** (very) suitable, **kedrydn** *m & f* row, (violent) quarrel, **lyver termyn** *m* magazine, **rêsonus** reasonable, **sqwîthus** tiresome, boring, **tevysak** grown up, adult, **trehy** *v* cut, **whar** civilized (*also* humane)

Practys Udnek warn Ugans
Exercise Thirty One

Here is the Tonkin family, back from Exeter, using lots of imperatives.

Mark	**Pandr'eus i'n bellwolok haneth? Gas ny dhe jeckya i'n lyver termyn.**
Demelsa	**Deus! Roy e dhybm.**
Mark	**Na wrav. My a vydn checkya, adar ty.**
Demelsa	**Wèl, gwra checkya oll an canolyow. Sur ny vêdh tra vêth dh'agan les wàr an BBC.**
Danyel	**Gwra whilas towlen fytty raga vy, heb bos sqwîthus tevysak.**
Mark	**Ogh Danyel, bëdh rêsonus! De Sul gordhuwher nyns eus towlednow arbednyk rag flehes!**
Elen	*(ow cria mes a'n rom kydnyow)* **Gwrewgh trehy gàs tros! Yth eson ow tebry obma yn whar. Na wrewgh kedrydn!**

Elen's response is expressed very idiomatically. Note how **trehy** alliterates with **tros**. Alliteration, like assonance, is a very important device in good Cornish. Elen's choice of the words **whar** and **kedrydn** deliberately employs hyperbole to set up a strong contrast.

Affection

The pair **gas**, **gesowgh** illustrates a pervasive phenomenon in Cornish that linguists generally know as 'umlaut' but which is usually called 'i-affection' or just 'affection' in the specific context of Cornish. It has nothing to do with fondness for Cornish! As a technical term of Cornish grammar it means that a short **a**, and sometimes a short **o**, is changed to a short **e** (occasionally a short **y**) by the addition of a suffix or an ending.

Affection occurs in many situations. For learners it is generally best to keep an eye open for instances of the phenomenon, recognizing them as they occur, rather than

attempting to learn them all before you have made more progress. Affection is a result of historical sound change and is not always predictable.

*Affection caused by ending **ys***

The ending **ys** forming the verbal adjective (Lesson Three) usually causes affection of the preceding syllable. For example, **dalethys** 'begun' (verb-noun **dallath**), **danvenys** 'sent' (verb-noun **danvon**), **gesys** 'left' (verb-noun **gasa**), **kerys** 'loved, beloved' (verb-noun **cara**), **kechys** or **kychys** 'caught' (verb-noun **cachya**). Most of these changes are compulsory, a few are merely optional. You are permitted to say **cachys** if you prefer. You can say **sqwardys** or **sqwerdys** 'torn'. In colloquial speech there is a tendency to prefer an unaffected form if it is available. And there are many verbs that have been borrowed into Cornish with a verb-noun ending **ya** that never apply affection. For instance, **parkys** (verb-noun **parkya**) – you cannot say *perkys*.

*Alternative ending **yes** instead of **ys***

It is also possible to employ alternative ending **yes** to form a verbal adjective if the verb-noun ends in **ya**. This is a useful fall-back if you are in doubt, because **yes** never causes affection. So you can be confident that, for example, **cachyes** 'caught', **sqwardyes** 'torn', **parkyes** 'parked' must be correct.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

capten *m* captain, **cast** *m* trick, **chalynjya** *v* challenge, **charj** task, responsibility (*also* electric charge), **cledh** left (side), **creft** *f* craft, **cresor** *m* midfielder, **dobyl** double, **dyhow** right (side), **egery** *v* open, **fardellyk** *m* package, **gol** *m* goal (football etc), **gwainya** *v* win, **gwarior** *m* player (*also* actor), **gwerthjy** *m* store, retail outlet, **keschaunjya** *v* exchange, swap, **menystra** *v* administer, manage, **opynyon** *m* opinion, **parra** *m* team, **peldrosyor** *m* footballer, **pôtya** *v* kick, **poyntyans** *m* appointment, fixture, **sevur** stern, **sley** skilful

Practys Dêwdhek warn Ugans
Exercise Thirty Two

Replace each verb-noun in square brackets with the corresponding verbal adjective. Give all possible forms of the verbal adjective where applicable. Make sure you understand the meaning of each sentence.

Yw an gwerthjy [egery]? Nag yw, [degea] yw va. [Danvon] veu an fardellyk de Merth. [Gasa] wàr an bord yth esa an hanavow plos. Yw an nosweyth ilow [dallath] solabrës? [Cachya] osta! Y gris o uthyk [sqwardya]. [Mos] yw pùb huny dhe ves. Nyns yw an ober [gorfedna]. Yth esens y ow kerdhes gans aga hy [cara]. Yma an kert [parkya] wàr lînen velen dhobyl. [Dos] a vedhyn ny yn scon.

*Restoring link particle **a***

Link particle **a** occurs notionally between a noun or an adjective immediately followed by a **v**-form of **bos** (accounting for the Second State mutation). The particle is rarely heard or written in this position, but occasionally it is restored as an aid to pronunciation or for stylistic purposes. So usual **yêyn vëdh an gewar** may also be expressed as **yêyn a vëdh an gewar**.

Practys Tredhek warn Ugans

Exercise Thirty Three

Yma Mark ow cara pel droos. I'n scol ev yw capten dhe'n Kensa XI i'n Seythves Bledhen. Cresor yw va. Crev yw y droos dyhow. Ha'y droos cledh kefrës. Yma an parra ow qwary pùb seythen orth an Nessa XI rag gwelhe aga hodnek. Y fëdh an dhew barra ow keschaunjya gwarioryon yn fenowgh. Menystra an Kensa XI ha'n Nessa XI yw charj Mêster Teague, onen a'n dhescadoryon a dhorydhieth. Den sevur yw ev, mès cuv, ha peldrosyor sley kefrës. Yma ev ow tesky castys a'n greft dhe'n vebyon yn tâ. Traweythyow yma parra Mark ow chalynjya scolyow erel. Dewetha seythen, in fyt pòr gales, Mark a bôtyas dew a'n gôlyow, ha'n parra a wrug gwainya, try gol orth onen. Yma Mêster Teague ow tôwys an warioryon dhe bùb poyntyans. Saw opynyon Mark a vëdh govydnys pùpprës.

Colloquial Cornish

There are a few verbs that have an inflected singular imperative containing vowel i. These may retain the i in forms of the verb that comprise more than one syllable. But more colloquially the **i** changes to **e** in all forms of the verb (including the verb-noun) that have more than one syllable. Here are four to learn.

Imperative (singular)	*Imperative (plural)*	*Verb-noun*
gwith 'keep!'	**gwithowgh** or **gwethowgh**	**gwitha** or **gwetha**
mir! 'look!'	**mirowgh** or **merowgh**	**miras** or **meras**
scrif! 'write!'	**scrifowgh** or **screfowgh**	**scrifa** or **screfa**
whila! 'seek!'	**whilowgh** or **whelowgh**	**whilas** or **whelas**

If you encounter the spelling **whelas** etc, be careful not to confuse this verb with the noun **whel** 'work'.

Note also **trigys** or **tregys** 'living' (in a place), literally 'dwelt'. The verbal adjective of **triga** (**trega**) 'dwell, stay' occurs much more frequently than other forms of this verb.

Lesson Eth
Lesson Eight

*More about **honen***

We may employ the possessive pronoun with **honen** to make a 'reflexive' pronoun that can be used as the object of a verb. For example, **me a herdhyas ow honen rag** 'I pushed myself forward'. It can also be used to strengthen the personal form of a preposition, as in **me a wrug miras orthyf ow honen i'n gweder** 'I looked at myself in the mirror'.

If **ow honen** etc is used with a preposition, strictly speaking it should be combined with the appropriate personal pronoun. So **dh'y honen** or **ès y honen** might be heard colloquially, but formal Cornish requires **dhodho y honen** and **ès ev y honen**.

Saying 'on my own' etc

If we add **oll** to **honen**, the result is a useful phrase that means '[all] on one's own, alone'. For example, **a wrusta mos dha honen oll?** 'did you go on your own?'

*Prefix **om***

One of the senses of Cornish prefix **om** is the same as **honen**.

The prefix is added directly to the verb. It causes Second State mutation. For example, **my a vydn gwysca ow honen** or **my a vydn omwysca** 'I shall get dressed' (**gwysca** 'put on', but also 'dress'). A few of these reflexive **om**-verbs are common: we have already met **omdhon** 'behave' and 'behaviour' (literally 'carry oneself') and **omhowla** 'sunbathe' (literally 'sun oneself'). But many have a literary feel. Occasionally an **om**-verb and **honen** are found together. For instance, **ev a wrug omladha y honen** 'he committed suicide'. Compare **ladha** 'kill'.

Many 'transitive' verbs can also be used 'intransitively', and in these cases prefixing **om** to the verb is not strictly necessary. For example, **parusy** 'get ready' will usually be sufficient; **ombarusy** 'prepare oneself' is rather more formal in tone.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

atorny *m* solicitor, **byldya** *v* build, **client** *m* client, **kescôwsel** *v* have a conversation, **kevres** *m & f* series, **omdhesky** *v* teach oneself, **omdhyscor** *m* self-study learner, **omfydhyans** *m* confidence, **talkya** *v* talk

Codnek that we first learned as a noun 'skill' is also an adjective meaning 'clever'.

Practys Peswardhek warn Ugans

Exercise Thirty Four

Powl Tonkin is a solicitor based in Truro. One of his clients is learning Cornish and is interested to hear how Powl came to speak the language.

Client	**Py class y whrussowgh why desky Kernowek ino?**
Powl	**Ny wrug vy desky an tavas in class. Res yw dhybm gwil whel gordhuwher yn fenowgh. Ny yllyn vy mos dhe glass yn rêwlys. Me a wrug omdhesky, ha prevy i'm sodhva worth cowethysy, ha gans ow theylu pedn pùb seythen. Yma ow gwreg ha'm flehes ow côwsel Kernowek in mesk anjy aga honen, ytho golsowes yw mater êsy, ha traweythyow y hallaf vy ow honen kescôwsel Kernowek gans ow gwreg ha'm flehes warbarth.**
Client	**Â, convedhys! Kernowek vëth nyns eus i'm teylu vy, ha ny woraf desky ow honen oll.**
Powl	**A wrussowgh why assaya yn sad?** *Desky Kernowek* **gans Nicholas Williams yw lyver spladn rag omdhyscoryon. Pò why a yll ûsya an gevres** *Cara Kernowek* **wàr lînen.**
Client	**Nâ nâ. Gwell yw genef gorra ow honen in class in dann dhescador connek. Yth esof owth ombarusy dhe wul apposyans.**
Powl	**Wèl, dell hevel dhybm, dha Gernowek yw pòr dhâ solabrës.**
Client	**In agan class yth eson ny ow talkya Kernowek der oll an lesson. Pùb torn. Yth yw maner effethus rag byldya omfydhyans.**

Note how the client uses **gul**, the older form of **gwil**, and does not 'pre-occlude', so **dadn** becomes **dann** and **codnek** becomes **connek**. Pre-occlusion (bm, dn for mm, nn) is a feature associated with West Cornwall, and many Cornish speakers choose not to apply it.

*Particle **re***

Cornish has a particle **re** that can be substituted for link particle **a** in front of the he/she/noun form of a preterite verb to give a greater sense that something has been completed. For example, **hy a dheuth tre** 'she came back', **hy re dheuth tre** 'she has returned home'. Compare **hy yw devedhys tre** 'she has come back (and is still here)'.

Particle **re** is followed by Second State mutation, except that it does not cause mutation of forms of **bos**. So, **yth esen vy in Arwednak dê** 'I was in Falmouth yesterday' (establishing timeframe for some account of what I did there), **my a veu in Arwednak dê** 'I was in Falmouth yesterday' (straightforward past event), **my re beu in Arwednak lies gweyth** 'I was in Falmouth many times' (been there, done that).

Particle **re** is not used in questions or in negative sentences or after a subordinating conjunction (except occasionally after **dell**). But it is possible to make an affirmative statement, then query it. For example, **ev re beu in Porth Ia – yw gwir?** 'he's already been to St Ives, I suppose?' The answer is then simply **yw** 'yes' or **nag yw** 'no'.

Particle **re** can also be substituted for affirmative particle **y** (**yth**) before a preterite verb. **Re beu** 'there has / had been' instead of **y feu** is not uncommon.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

asclas *col* chips, fries, **borger** *m* burger, **cynema** *m* cinema, **gobonya** *v* jog (*also* trot), **gocky** silly, stupid, **kîlogram** *m* kilo[gram], **leth shakys** *m* milkshake, **pel roos** *f* netball, **sconya** *v* refuse

Practys Pymthek warn Ugans

Exercise Thirty Five

Demelsa has been out with her friend Alys Howell for the evening.

Elen	**Otta sy! Ty re dheuth tre. Adermyn! Pòr dhâ. Py whrusta mos?**
Demelsa	**Ny a veu i'n cynema.**
Elen	**Ha fatl'o an fylm?**
Demelsa	**Dâ lowr. Saw gwell veu an kensa i'n kevres. Ha'n dyweth o pòr wocky. Wosa hedna ny êth dhe dhebry borger.**
Elen	**Ogh Demelsa! A nyns eses ow whilas kelly poos?**
Demelsa	**Kelly dew gîlogram my re wrug iredy! Ny a radnas udn borger, agan dyw, heb asclas. Ha kemeres salad ganso. Leth shakys ny a sconyas.**
Elen	**Te a yll gobonya kyns an Sul pàr hap. Yma Mark ow qwary pel droos pùb dëdh oll. Soweth, ny wreta moy sport, ty dha honen ...**
Demelsa	**Pel *roos* dywweyth pùb seythen. Hag avorow me a vydn gwil hanter-our wàr an dhywros saya.**

*Purpose after **mos***

Purpose after **mos** 'go' may be expressed by **rag** and a verb-noun, but **dhe** is more common. Thus, **ny êth dhe dhebry borger**.

'Weekend' phrases

Note the fixed expressions **kyns an Sul** 'before the weekend', **dres an Sul** 'over the weekend', **warlergh an Sul** 'after the weekend'. Cornish idiom still reflects the idea that Saturday is a working day.

More about affection

We saw in Lesson Seven that the ending **ys** forming the verbal adjective causes affection. Suffixes **el** and **y** forming verb-nouns do the same, so there is in fact an *affected* vowel in a few of the verb-nouns we have already learned. We also noted that **ys** is the usual ending of the he/she/noun form of the preterite for these verbs. For example, **selwel** 'save' is formed from **salow** 'safe and sound', and the preterite form is **selwys**. But there are a few verbs with affection in the verb-noun that employ the ending **as**, and in these cases we must reverse the affection, restoring the original vowel of the verb stem.

So **lesky** 'burn', but **ny a loscas an predn wàr an tan** 'we burned the wood on the fire'. Likewise, **kelly** 'miss' (*also* 'lose'), but **ty a gollas an kyttryn** 'you've missed the bus'. This explains the vowels in parallel preterite forms like **leverys**, **lavaras** 'said' (verb-noun **leverel**) and **lebmys**, **labmas** 'jumped' (verb-noun **lebmel**).

An vergh, an veyn

While we are making notes of exceptional words, we can also learn two nouns that have plurals which regularly mutate after **an** 'the', even though they do not refer to people. They are **margh** 'horse', **an vergh** 'the horses'; and **men** 'stone', **an veyn** 'the stones'. But there is no reason to mutate attributive adjectives with these words, so we say **an vergh bian** 'the small horses', for instance, and **an veyn coth** 'the old stones'.

*Personal forms of **der** (**dre**)*

Here are the personal forms of prepositions **der** (**dre**) 'through' (*also* 'by means of').

dredhof *or* **dredha vy** *or* **dredham** 'through me'
dredhos *or* **dredha jy** 'through you'
dredho *or* **dredh'ev** 'through him' *or* 'through it' (masculine reference)
dredhy *or* **dredha hy** 'through her' *or* 'through it' (feminine reference)
dredhon *or* **dredha ny** 'through us'
dredhowgh *or* **dredha why** 'through you' (plural or stranger)
dredhans *or* **dredha** (mostly confined to written Cornish) 'through them'

Intensifiers

We have learned **pòr** 'very', which causes Second State mutation. If you put emphasis on this word it may be pronounced and spelled **pur**, showing that the word literally means 'pure'. Here are a few other words and phrases that can be used to strengthen what you are saying.

> **fest** 'very, really'. This can be placed before or after an adjective. When it precedes the adjective, it does not cause mutation. It may also be placed before an adverb formed with **yn**.

teg 'very, really'. This word literally means 'beautiful'. It is placed after an adjective. It is used to give an adjective a strongly positive 'spin', sometimes also with irony.

glân 'very, completely'. This word literally means 'clean'. It is placed after an adjective. In theory it gives a strongly positive spin but is equally common when the sentiment is more ambivalent. For example, **sqwith glân oma** 'I'm exhausted'.

dres ehen 'extremely', **dres kynda** 'extraordinarily', **yn tien** 'entirely, totally, completely'. These phrases are placed after an adjective. But the adjective is often fronted for emphasis. For example, **hy o hager dres ehen** *or* **hager o hy dres ehen** 'she was extremely ugly', and **me yw acordys yn tien** *or* **acordys ov vy yn tien** 'I totally agree'.

marthys (literally, 'amazing, wonderful') and **uthyk** (literally, 'dreadful, terrible') are employed as intensifiers before an adjective. For example, **marthys dâ** and **uthyk dâ**, both meaning 'excellent'. Just like English 'terribly good' the sense of the latter expression is rather counter-intuitive. It would be fair to say **uthyk** belongs to a lower register than **marthys** in this usage.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

arethor *m* speaker (someone who gives a talk or lecture), **caderyor** *m* chair[person], **compressa** *v* oppress, bully, **cowethas** *f* society, **cowsor** *m* speaker, **dadhel** *f* discussion, debate, **dysqwedhyans** *m* display, exhibition, **frank** free, **frôsek** fluent, **lêdyor** *m* leader, **lewyth** *m* governor (school), **pendescadores** *f* (female) head teacher, **personek** personal, **plegya** *v* please, **scodhya** *v* support, **trevna** *v* arrange

Plegya 'bend' and **plegya** 'please' are two verbs that sound and look the same. Some speakers prefer to distinguish the verb 'please' as **plêkya** (so that, for them, the phrase **mar pleg** 'please' becomes **mar plêk**). For most, the two verbs have become somewhat confused. For example, in the expression **bos plegys dhe wil** 'be inclined to do' it is not really clear whether we are dealing with the verbal adjective of 'bend' or the verbal adjective of 'please'.

All agree that **plegya** (**plêkya**) 'please' cannot have a direct object. The person (or thing) that is pleased is indicated by **dhe**. For example**, a wra hedna plegya dh'y vabm?** 'will that please his mother?'

<div align="center">

Practys Whêtek warn Ugans
Exercise Thirty Six

</div>

Demelsa has an important conversation with her Head Teacher.

Pendescadores   **A Demelsa, dha gows Kernowek ew frôsek glân, a nynj ew?**

Demelsa	**Yth eson ow talkya Kernowek chy pùb dëdh.**
Pendescadores	**Hag i'n vledhen ujy ow tos, heb mar, te a vëdh i'n Wheffes Class.**
Demelsa	**Rag studhya fysyk, kemyk ha calcorieth. Mar pëdh an TODN gwrës yn tâ lowr.**
Pendescadores	**Ma omfydhyans dhèm a hedna. Mis Gwydngala me a vedn dallath cowethas Kernowek i'n scol. Gelwel arethoryon in Kernowek. Trevna dadhlow ha lies dysqwedhyans i'n tavas. Ny a ra dallath classys Kernowek in euryow an creftow frank i'wedh. Th'eroma covyn ort ow honen: 'ellysta jy bos caderyor an gowethas nowyth-ma?**
Demelsa	**Nyns usy Kernowek ow plegya dhe bùbonen i'n scol ...**
Pendescadores	**In gwir. Compressys ew cowsoryon a Gernowek traweythyow, a nynj en'jy? Gèn flehes. Gèn lies descador kefrës? 'Hellyn ny saya chaunjya hedna. An gowethas a vëdh i'm charj vy. Yn personek. Ha scodhyes gèn an Lewydhyon. Lebmyn ow whestyon dheso ew hebma: a venta bos hy lêdyor mesk an scoloryon?**
Demelsa	**Hèn yw qwestyon brâs! Heb y wetyas yn tien. Drog genef, cales yw gortheby yn scon. Res yw dhybm predery warnodho.**
Pendescadores	**Gra pedery, Demelsa. Pedery warnodho, martessen gèn Mabm ha Tas jy warbarth.**

Euryow an creftow frank is 'activity time' at Demelsa's school – timetabled, and offering a range of different creative activities supervised by teachers.

Colloquial Cornish

Demelsa's Head Teacher speaks quite colloquially. She's trying to put a student at ease. So working through the Head Teacher's words carefully is another opportunity to see how colloquial Cornish can differ from formal registers.

Lesson Naw
Lesson Nine

Indefinite pronouns

We have already met the pronouns that are derived from **pùb** 'every': **pùbonen** 'everyone', **pùb huny** 'everyone', **pùptra** 'everything'. And we also know **nebonen** and **neppëth**. These belong to a whole family of indefinites built with **neb**. We occasionally find **neppëth** spelled **nampëth** reflecting colloquial pronunciation. **Neb tra** is an alternative. Since **neb** means equally 'some' and 'any', **nebonen** means 'someone' or 'anyone'. We can also use **neb** alone in this sense. And **neppëth** (**nampëth**) / **neb tra** mean 'something' or 'anything'.

Practys Seytek warn Ugans
Exercise Thirty Seven
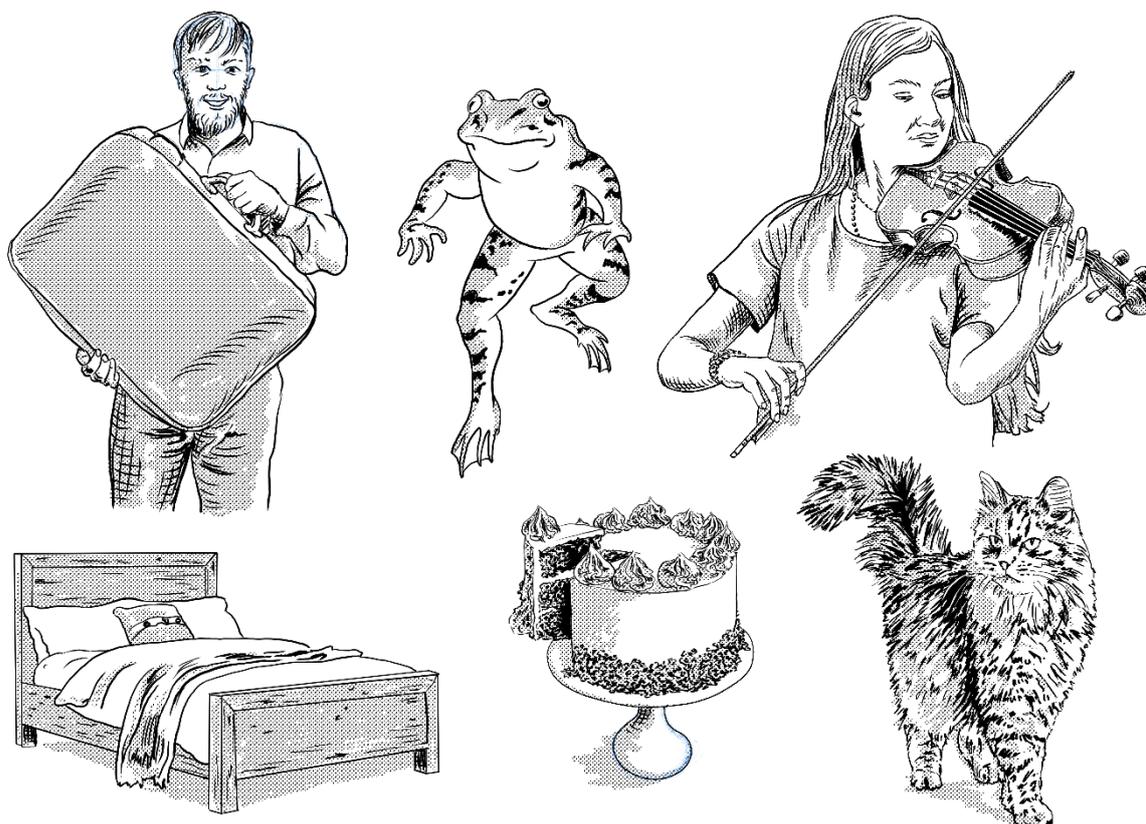
Answer these questions, using complete Cornish sentences. For example, **Yma neppëth i'n cornet** ('corner') **cledh awartha – pëth yw? Trog dyllas yw hedna.**

Yma neppëth in cres an pyctour awartha – pëth yw? Yma nebonen i'n cornet dyhow awartha – pyw yw? Yma neb tra i'n cornet cledh awoles – pandr'yw? Yma neppëth in cres an pyctour awoles – pëth yw? Yma nampëth i'n cornet dyhow awoles – pëth yw?

Superlative of adjectives

Comparative adjectives made with ending **a** have superlative force when they are used with **an** 'the'. For example, **hèn yw flour teg** 'that is a lovely flower', **hèn yw whath tecka flour** (or **hèn yw flour tecka vëth**) 'that is an even lovelier flower', **hèn yw an tecka flour i'n lowarth** 'that is the most beautiful flower in the garden'.

Comparatives made with **moy** change this to **moyha** 'most' for superlative use. For example, **an flour moyha saworek i'n lowarth** 'the most fragrant flower in the garden'. **Moyha**, like **moy**, does not undergo Fifth State mutation after **yn**.

There are a few inflected adjective forms that have specifically superlative force. Paired with **gwell** 'better' we have learned **gwelha** 'best' already, and the common idiom **i'n gwelha prës** 'fortunately'. We often find **gwelha** at the end of messages, in phrases like **oll a'n gwelha** 'all the best' and **gans gormynadow a'n gwelha** 'best regards' (literally 'along with commandment of the best'). We have also encountered **nessa** 'nearest, next' and **dewetha** 'latest, last'.

Inflected superlatives (like inflected comparative forms) usually precede their noun, but may also be found after it. And they may be used without **an** where the sense permits.

The comparative **lacka** 'worse' is often reinforced with **oll** when used with superlative force. So, **lacka termyn** 'a worse time', **an lacka termyn oll** 'the worst time [of all]'.

Saying 'less' and 'least'

The opposite of **moy** 'more' is **le** 'less'. It too can be used to make comparatives. For example, **le saworek** 'less fragrant'. But there are no inflected forms corresponding to **gwell** etc, so we say simply **le dâ** 'less good' as in English.

As a quantifier **le** means both 'less' and 'fewer'. Compare similar use of 'less' in West Country English.

The opposite of **moyha** 'most' is **lyha** 'least'. It is most commonly encountered in the phrase **dhe'n lyha** 'at least'. But we may use **lyha** with an adjective.

Moy and le as adverbs

Moy and **le** can be used on their own with preposition **ès** (**ages**) 'than'. When 'than' is not expressed we use the phrases **dhe voy** and **dhe le**. For example, **Barbery a wrug cana rag an wolsowysy, saw cân Marget a blegyas dhe voy** 'Barbara sang for the audience, but Margaret's song pleased (them) more'.

Dhe voy and **dhe le** may also be used like their exact English equivalents. For instance:

Dhe voy yth esof ow qweles polytygoryon a'n par-ma, dhe voy yth ov vy diegrys a'ga fowt onester, ha dhe le yth yns y dâ genef.

'The more I see of these politicians, the more I'm shocked by their lack of decency, and the less I like them.'

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

Bròn Wenyly Brown Willy, **bÿs** *m* world, **hâtya** *v* hate, **leurneth** *m* area (measurement), **meneth** *m* mountain, **poblans** *m* population, **ryver** *m* river

Practys Êtek warn Ugans
Exercise Thirty Eight

What do these sentences mean?

Ot an cotta fordh dhy. Hèm yw an uskyssa train. Bròn Wenyly yw an uhelha tyller in Kernow. Ple ma an nessa attêsva? Ev yw an hackra a'n try henderow. Towlen moyha gocky o hodna. Ev yw an dyscor lyha lowen in hy class Kernowek. An gwlanek-ma yw le ker ès dell wrug vy gwetyas. Pùb seythen yma ev orth hy hara dhe voy. Pùb mis yma hy orth y hâtya dhe le.

Practys Nawnjek warn Ugans
Exercise Thirty Nine

How would you say the following in Cornish?

She's the cleverest girl in the class. Allan had the heaviest car. That boy will be the strongest midfielder. The café in the museum sells the worst coffee of all. My grandmother was the oldest woman in her village.

Practys Dêwgans
Exercise Forty

A yllowgh why gwil gweres dhe Danyel Tonkin ow whythra y lesson tre in Dorydhieth?

Pëth yw an uhelha tyller in Kernow? Pëth yw an uhelha meneth in Pow an Sowson? Pëth yw an uhelha meneth i'n bÿs? Pëth yw an downha tyller in oll an morow? Pëth yw an hirha ryver in Kernow acordyng dhe Athelstan? Pëth yw an hirha ryver i'n bÿs? Pëth yw an dre moyha dhe'n west in Kernow? Pëth yw an byhadna gwlas i'n bÿs? Pëth yw an brâssa gwlas acordyng dhe leurneth? Pëth yw an brâssa gwlas acordyng dhe boblans?

Lesson Deg
Lesson Ten

'Any' in negative sentences

The indefinite pronouns that we learned in Lesson Nine are mostly found in statements and questions that do not contain a negative. One prominent exception is the phrase **wàr neb cor** 'in any way, at all' which is used to reinforce a negative. But more commonly in a negative statement or negative question 'any' is expressed by **vëth**. So in a negative sentence **den vëth** is 'anyone', and **tra vëth** is 'anything'. For example, **ny wrussyn ny bonkya den vëth** 'we didn't hit anyone', **ny vydn ev debry tra vëth** 'he won't eat anything'. **Benyn vëth** can optionally be used instead of **den vëth** if only women are involved.

If we wish to give a short negative answer to a question without employing a full sentence, we can still use **vëth** and rely on the context to supply the negative. For example:

Pyw a wrussowgh why bonkya? Den vëth.
'Who did you hit? No one.'
Pandra vydn ev debry? Tra vëth.
'What is he going to eat? Nothing.'

In the very common fixed phrases such as **Cudyn vëth!** and **Problem vëth!** 'No problem!' a negative is likewise implied.

Similarly, if **na whath** is used on its own outside a full sentence, the negative will be implied. For instance, **A wrusta debry ly? Na whath.** 'Have you had lunch? Not yet.' It is a common misconception that **na** in **na whath** is itself a negative. That is incorrect. In this phrase **na** is a reduced form of **neb**.

Practys Onen ha Dêwgans
Exercise Forty One

Mrs Pascoe and Mrs Treloar arrive very early for a meeting of the Women's Institute at the Village Hall.

Mêstres Pascoe	**Eus nebonen i'n hel solabrës?**
Mêstres Treloar	**Na whath. Obma nyns eus benyn vëth.**
Mêstres Pascoe	**Eus vytel wàr an bordys? Ha dewosow?**
Mêstres Treloar	**Nyns eus tra vëth dhe weles wàr vord vëth.**
Mêstres Pascoe	**Wèl, devedhys pòr avarr on ny. Res yw dhyn gortos oll an bobel.**

Mêstres Treloar	**Yma pùptra obma i'n gegyn. My a yll dallath parusy tê.**
Mêstres Pascoe	**Tybyans dâ. Hag y hallaf vy dallath gorra oll an breghtanow ha tesednow in mes.**

Practys Dew ha Dêwgans

Exercise Forty Two

What do these questions and brief answers mean?

Pyw a wodhya an gwir? Den vëth. Pëth a wrussons y gwil? Tra vëth. Pan colour yw dâ genowgh? Colour vëth. Pleth esta ow mos? Tyller vëth. Peur whra va dos? Eur vëth.

Common quantifiers

Meur as an adjective means 'great' and is rather formal. We have already encountered it in its much more common usage as a quantifier meaning 'much', For example, **meur moy** 'much more'. Although we have learned that **meur** as quantifier with a noun is usually followed by preposition **a**, it may alternatively be followed directly by the noun, either in First or Second State. But Second State mutation is confined to relatively formal registers and to more or less fixed phrases. For example, **meur a bobel** 'lots of people', **meur gerensa** 'much love'.

By far the most frequent instance of the latter construction is **meur ras** 'thank you', but no mutation is operating in this case. The old Celtic noun **ras** means favour; it ends in a voiced z-sound. It cannot be Second State of **grâss** 'grace' (*also* 'thanks') based on Latin *gratia*, because that ends in a voiceless s-sound.

Moy 'more' also functions as a quantifier. It is either put directly in front of a noun with no mutation or it is linked to the noun by preposition **a**. Thus, **moy dowr** 'more water', **moy gwëdh** 'more trees', **moy a gerry** 'more cars'. **Le** 'less' works just the same.

We also know **bohes**, a quantifier meaning 'little, not much'. It is put directly in front of a singular noun with no mutation. For example, **bohes trobel** 'little trouble'. Contrast **nebes trobel** 'a little trouble'. The commonest way of saying 'few' is to use **lies** in a sentence with a negative verb. We may also use the phrase **bohes aga nùmber** ('little their number'). Again, contrast **nebes** meaning 'a few'. And note the exceptional Second State mutation in fixed expression **bohes venowgh** 'seldom, rarely'.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

argemydnans *m* advertising, publicity, **awedhya** *v* influence, **camdyby** *v* be mistaken, **chauns** *m* chance, opportunity, **cowntnans** *m* attitude, **dre lycklod** probably, **dyharas** *v* apologize, **ger** *m* word, **negedhek** negative, **nyver** *m* number, **poblek** public, **profyans** *m* offer, **revrons** *m* respect, **stowt** stubborn, **unyêthek** monoglot, **whans** *m* wish, desire

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Practys Try ha Dêwgans

Exercise Forty Three

</div>

Demelsa is discussing the Head Teacher's idea with her father, Perys Pentreath, who works with the Cornish language for Cornwall Council.

Demelsa	**Nyns eus lies flogh ow côwsel gàn tavas. Dhe nyver bian yma nebes geryow. Mès meur moy yw unyêthek Sowsnek yn stowt. Fatell yll cowethas Kernowek soweny in scol?**
Perys	**Saw scodhyes yw hy gans an lewydhyon ha'n bendescadores, a nyns yw?**
Demelsa	**Camdybys yns y dre lycklod.**
Perys	**Te a dal bos le negedhek orth an bÿs, Demelsa. An gwir yma dhe'n lewydhyon. Res yw dhyn ûsya an tavas heb dyharas. Yn poblek, adar only chy. Chauns spladn yw hebma dhyso, rag gwainya revrons in mesk an scoloryon. I'n Wheffes Class spessly. Heb dowt y fedhys owth awedhya gà howntnans.**
Demelsa	**Wèl, mars osta sur, me a vydn assaya. Yma dhe'n bendescadores whans a dhadhlow. A ylta gwil gweres dhybm ow cafos arethoryon?**
Perys	**Certan y hallaf. A wrusta predery solabrës a worra nowodhow wàr wiasva an scol pò in mainys socyal? Yth esof vy ow qwil moy ha moy whel wàr argemydnans i'm soodh. A wrav vy cùssulya pàr hap?**
Demelsa	**Hèn yw profyans cuv glân. Meur ras, a Das!**

'Where' and 'when' introducing an adjectival clause

An adjectival (relative) clause is a part of the sentence, with its own verb, that describes the noun immediately preceding it.

If an adjectival clause is introduced by the notion 'where' or 'when', the clause will begin with **may** if it is affirmative, and with **ma na** if it is negative. The verb of the clause follows immediately after these words: in Fifth State in the case of **may**, in Second State in the case of **ma na**. If the verb is a form of **bos** beginning with a vowel, then **may** becomes **mayth** and **ma na** becomes **ma nag**. But **mayth** is not used before **yma** and **ymowns**; instead **yma** becomes **ma** and **ymowns** becomes **mowns** (without mutation). Note that we do not say *mayth eus* nor (save very exceptionally) *mayth usy*, *mayth usons*.

Here are some examples of sense 'where'.

Yma ow hothman trigys whath i'n bendra may feuva genys.
'My friend still lives in the village where he was born.'

Obma an gresen kemeneth mayth esa gàn class Kernowek ow metya dê.
'Here is the community centre where our Cornish class was meeting yesterday.'

Hag obma an tavern may ma dha dhew gothman owth eva pynta.
'And here's the pub where your two friends are having a pint.'

Hòm yw an ostel moyha cosel, ma na vydn pobel gôlya bys i'n maneuryow.
'This is the quietest hotel, where people won't be partying until the early hours.'

Gwrewgh cafos rom ma nag eus tros an gegyn in dadno.
'Get a room that doesn't have the noise of the kitchen underneath it.'

Here are some examples of sense 'when'. Note how English very often suppresses the 'when' word. But in Cornish we cannot leave it out.

Esta ow perthy cov a'n prës-na mayth esen ny ow marhogeth wàr an treth?
'Do you remember that time we were riding on the beach?'

Hèn o an jëdh may whrug ev govyn demedhyans orthyf.
'That was the day he asked me to marry him.'

Th'esa hy remembra an termyn ma na wrug ev kemeres y vedhegneth.
'She was remembering the time he didn't take his medication.'

<p align="center">**Practys Peswar ha Dêwgans**
Exercise Forty Four</p>

How would you say the following in Cornish?

> The gym is the place where he's happiest. But that's not the house where we grew up. Come to Cornwall where the summer is always warm. Do you remember all the years we lived in Falmouth? Is that the week I'll be in Exeter?

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

creftus artificial, **cubmyas** *m* permission, **daffar** *m* kit, equipment, **drefen** because of, **entra** *v* enter, **gwary** *m* game (*also* stage play), **gwels** *col* grass, **gwethyas** *m* keeper, **peryllys** dangerous, **rowtor** *m* manager (football), **whêlva** *f* laboratory

Practys Pymp ha Dêwgans
Exercise Forty Five

Mark has been asked to show a new Cornish speaking pupil round his school.

Mark	**Ot obma an hel sport, may ma'n Êthves Bledhen lebmyn, an mowysy, ow qwary pel roos.**
Scolor nowyth	**Yw res dhe'n vebyon gwary pel roos kefrës?**
Mark	**Nag yw màn! Ty a wra gwary pel *droos*. Osta peldrosyor dâ? Capten an Kensa XI ov vy.**
Scolor nowyth	**Gwethyas gol ov vy, dell yw ûsys.**
Mark	**Spladn yw hedna ren ow thas! Ny a vydn gwary de Merher, may fëdh Mêster Teague, gàn rowtor ny, ow prevy dha godnek. Yma ev ow tôwys an warioryon dhe'n fyttys moyha bysy.**
Scolor nowyth	**A ny vëdh an dor nebes medhel i'n seythen-ma rag gwary vas?**
Mark	**Problem vëth! Yma gwels creftus dhyn, AstroTùrf, may hyllyn ny gwil practys pùb kewar.**
Scolor nowyth	**Sciens yw ow thesten moyha kerys. A wren ny gweles whêlva?**
Mark	**Miras der an fenester, dhe'n lyha. Chy an lies whêlva yw tyller ma na yllyn ny entra heb cubmyas, drefen oll an daffar peryllys.**

Ren ow thas (literally 'by my father') strengthens an assertion. **Ren** is unique to this expression, being a special form of preposition **re** 'by' (followed by Second State mutation) used in exclamations like **re Jovyn** 'by Jove' and **re'm fay** (also **wàr ow fay**) 'upon my word'. Originally these had considerable force, but in modern Cornish they are relegated to situations when a speaker wishes to be polite or at least not to offend.

Adjective **mas** 'good' is archaic. It is mostly encountered nowadays as an invariable Second State form **vas** meaning 'useful'. But dictionaries may still list it under **mas**. You can use invariable **vas** as either an attributive or a predicative adjective; but it is never fronted. And adverb **yn fas** means 'properly'.

Lesson Udnek
Lesson Eleven

Adjectival phrases

An adjective adds information about a noun. But an adjective is a single word. We can fine-tune the information if we use an adjectival *phrase*.

English often employs compound adjectives like 'red-faced' or uses idiomatic expressions such as 'hard up'. In Cornish the adjectival phrase serves the same purpose. The first element is typically an adjective or quantifier. The second element is a possessive pronoun plus a noun. Thus, we say in Cornish **rudh y fâss** 'red-faced' and **bohes y vona** 'hard up'. Conventionally we cite these phrases with possessive pronoun **y**, but the pronoun will vary according to the actual context. So we would say **den rudh y vlew** 'a red-haired man' but **benyn rudh hy blew** 'a red-haired woman'.

Brâs and **meur** are used interchangeably in many adjectival phrases. For example, **brâs y hanow** or **meur y hanow** 'renowned, famous'. **Brâs** and **meur** (rather than **leun**) also correspond in adjectival phrases to English suffix -ful.

We can use the adjectival phrase with or without verb **bos** 'be'. For example, **ev a veu desempys pòr rudh y fâss** 'he suddenly got very red in the face'. Or **i'n tavern me a dheuth warbydn den rudh y fâss** 'I bumped into a red-faced man in the pub'.

We *never* mutate the first word of an adjectival phrase. For example, **an venyn teg hy fows** 'the woman in the beautiful dress'.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words. As always, plural forms can be found in the Vocabulary at the end of the book. But in an adjectival phrase a singular frequently does service for a plural.

bogh *f* cheek, **boll** see-through, **creswas** *m* policeman, **fâss** *m* face, **gwe'us** *m* lip, **plat** flat, **scovarn** *f* ear, **tednva** *f* tension, stress, **toth** *m* speed

Practys Whe ha Dêwgans
Exercise Forty Six

How would you say the following in Cornish? Use an adjectival phrase for each.

a long-legged man, a woman in a see-through blouse, a boy with big ears, a girl with pink cheeks, a flat-footed policeman, a thin-lipped face, a high-speed train, a multi-faceted problem, a hotel with cheap rooms, a stressful job

More about adjectival clauses

An adjectival *clause* is another way of providing additional information. In Lesson Ten we looked at adjectival (relative) clauses beginning with the notion 'where' or 'when'. An adjectival clause can also begin with the notion 'who' or 'which'. For example, in English, 'the woman who taught me Cornish' or 'the book which we are using in class'. In Cornish this kind of clause is introduced by the link particle **a** functioning as a relative pronoun. So these examples will become in Cornish **an venyn a wrug desky Kernowek dhybm** and **an lyver eson ny owth ûsya i'n class**. Note how in Cornish has no separate verb for 'teach' – we simply 'learn something to someone'.

When the verb of the adjectival clause is in the preterite tense, we may substitute particle **re** for particle **a** introducing the clause in order to give a greater sense of completion.

Link particle **a** and completive particle **re** are also used, of course, to connect a subject to a main verb. This can result in potential ambiguity. For instance **an vowes a wrug wherthyn** usually means 'the girl laughed', but it might instead mean 'the girl who laughed'. To make the latter meaning quite clear we add either **neb** or **hag** at the beginning of the adjectival clause: **an vowes neb** (**hag**) **a wrug wherthyn** can only mean 'the girl who laughed'.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

antarlyk *m* pantomime, **avauncya** *v* advance, progress, **cares** *f* girlfriend, **cudha** *v* cover, hide, **dyghtyor kebmyn** *m* general manager, **dyvlâm** blameless, innocent, **ges** *m* joking, **in gwrioneth** really, actually, **les'hanow** *m* nickname, **mery** merry, **mêster** *m* master, boss, **scryvynyades** *f* (female) secretary, **skeusen** *f* photograph, **styfa** *v* squirt, **tednvos** *m* attraction

Compare **budhek** 'victorious' with Boudica, the name of the Brythonic chieftainess whose warriors sacked Roman London in 60 CE.

Practys Seyth ha Dêwgans
Exercise Forty Seven

Yma Coryn ow tysqwedhes dh'y gares Jacket skeusednow a wrug ev kemeres in kyffewy a'n gowethysy usy ow longya dh'y sodhva.

Jacket	**Ha pyw yw an den-ma, hir y fâss, bian y scovornow?**
Coryn	**Ogh, a ny wosta? Hèn yw Mery Merrick – gàn acowntyas ny.**
Jacket	**Mery?**

Coryn	**Les'hanow hag eson ny ow ry dhodho. Ges yw. Y hanow gwir yw Merdhyn.**
Jacket	**Ha'n vowes melen hy blew, meur hy thednvos? Marthys meur!**
Coryn	**Budhek. Victoria Watson yw hy in gwrioneth, mès gwell yw hanow a Gernow gensy. Scryvynyades. Ha demedhys yn salow yw hy!**
Jacket	**Dâ lowr. Ha pyw yw an den obma, gwydn y bedn – an fâss-na, neb a veu cudhys in dehen styfys?**
Coryn	**Eâ, wèl, ev yw agan mêster. An dyghtyor kebmyn. Adam Scrase. Ha my yw an maw usy ow styfa an dehen.**
Jacket	**Scant nyns yw maner effethus rag avauncya i'n negys.**
Coryn	**Sport dyvlâm! Heb namoy. Onen brav yw Adam. Ev a wor convedhes antarlyk garow.**
Jacket	**Codnek, a Coryn, traweythyow nyns osta màn.**

Antarlyk garow is 'slapstick comedy'.

Re meaning 'ones'

The plural equivalent of **onen** 'one' referring to a noun is **re** 'ones'. Unlike **onen**, however, **re** may be used both without *and with* the definite article **an**. For example, **re munys** 'tiny ones', **an re munys** 'the tiny ones'. When **an re** is the grammatical subject, it is used with a *singular* verb just like a plural noun.

'These [ones]' and 'those [ones]' are **an re-ma** and **an re-na**, corresponding to singular pronouns **hebma** / **hobma** and **hedna** / **hodna**.

Saying 'other'

Cornish has two words for 'other'. First, there is **aral**, plural **erel**. This is the only adjective that has a distinct plural form. So we say **an venyn aral** 'the other woman' but **an benenes erel** 'the other women' and **pobel erel** 'other people'. We can use **an aral** as a pronoun meaning 'the other one'. For 'the other ones / the others' we say **an re erel**.

As an adjective **aral** can be used with or without the definite article **an**. So we may say **benyn aral** 'another woman'. Cornish has a second word for 'other' that can *only* be used indefinitely. This is **ken**, which precedes a noun. So 'another woman' can also be **ken benyn**.

For 'another one' we say **ken onen**. We can also use **ken** as an adverb meaning 'otherwise'. We put **ken** *after* the key word in **nebonen ken** 'someone else', **neppëth** (*or* **nampëth**) **ken** 'something else'. And there is also **poken** 'or else'. But note **pùbonen aral** 'everyone else', **pùptra aral** 'everything else', **neb tra aral** 'something else'.

Finally, there are the useful expressions **wàr an eyl tu** (*or* **tenewen**) 'on the one hand' and **wàr an tu** (*or* **tenewen**) **aral** ... on the other hand'.

*Personal forms of preposition **a***

Here are the personal forms of **a** 'from, of'.

ahanaf *or* **ahana vy** 'from / of me'
ahanas *or* **ahana jy** 'from / of you'
anodho 'from / of him' *or* 'from / of it' (masculine reference)
anedhy 'from / of her' *or* 'from / of it' (feminine reference)
ahanan *or* **ahana ny** 'from / of us'
ahanowgh *or* **ahana why** 'from / of you' (plural or stranger)
anodhans *or* **anedha** (mostly confined to written Cornish) 'from / of them'

Saying 'yes please' and 'no thank you'

Cornish for 'yes please' is simply **mar pleg**. For 'no thank you' we say **gromercy na vadna'**. Note that **gromercy** usually comes first, and may even be used alone, with a shake of the head to make the meaning clear. **Na vadnaf** is an alternative form of **na vydnaf** that may be used generally if you prefer it.

Vocabulary

argya *v* argue (a case), **caretys** *col* carrots, **cawlvlejen** *f* cauliflower, **delycyùs** delicious, **fresk** fresh, **frût** *m* fruit, **gwycor** *m* trader, **losow** *col* vegetables, **marhas** *f* market, **organek** organic, **panes** *col* parsnips, **qwalyta** *m* quality, **syght** *m* appearance (*also* sight), **tùrnypen** *f* swede (generally called 'turnip' in Cornwall)

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Practys Eth ha Dêwgans
Exercise Forty Eight

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Yma Cattern Mundy ow prena losow ha frûtys i'n varhas.

Mêstres Mundy	**An avallow-ma, re anodhans yw bian, mès wheg yns y martesen?**
Gwycor	**Avallow Cox yns y, wheg certan.**
Mêstres Mundy	**Ha pan vaner yw an re erel – an re dres ena?**
Gwycor	**Braeburn yns y. Le wheg. Mès brâssa, heb dowt.**
Mêstres Mundy	**Mar pleg. Me a vydn kemeres hanter-dêwdhek a'n re yw brâssa.**
Gwycor	**Eus whans dhywgh a neppëth ken?**
Mêstres Mundy	**Cawlvlejen. Hodna yw pòr vian. An aral, rypthy, yw meur gwell hy syght.**

Gwycor	**Ha nebes caretys organek pàr hap? Poken me a yll gwertha panes dhywgh, fest dâ gà whalyta. Pò neb tra aral?**
Mêstres Mundy	**Yw an panes organek?**
Gwycor	**Nyns yns y hedhyw. Losow organek yw gwell yn fenowgh. Ny allaf vy argya ken. Saw an re-ma yw fresk glân, delycyùs. Prevy udn pens?**
Mêstres Mundy	**Dâ lowr. Udn pens a'n caretys organek, hag udn pens panes i'wedh.**
Gwycor	**Ha tùrnypen dhedha martesen?**
Mêstres Mundy	**Gromercy na vadna'.**
Gwycor	**Ot obma gàs avallow ha'gas losow. Duw genowgh why, Mêstres.**

Colloquial Cornish

Possessive pronouns can be omitted conversationally whenever there is a reinforcing personal pronoun. For example, Coryn in Exercise 47 could have said just **acowntyas ny** instead of **gàn acowntyas ny.** Sometimes the mutation caused by a possessive pronoun is retained when the possessive itself is dropped. For instance, **hothman vy** 'my friend'. But the mutation may well be dropped too, in which case you will hear just **cothman vy** 'my friend'.

Forms of the Cornish verb that are called 'subjunctive' are mostly beyond the scope of this coursebook. They will be introduced in *Cara Kernowek Book Three*. But it will be useful at this stage to learn **re bo** 'may there be', and the pair **re' fo** and **re'gas bo** 'may you have' (corresponding respectively to **te** and **why**). These occur in a number of colloquial expressions. **Re** here is the completive particle we have already learned. But a subjunctive verb gives 'optative' force to the idea of completion, so that it becomes a wish. We already know **re bo govenek** 'I hope so, let's hope so, etc'.

For a birthday or anniversary you can say:
Re' fo Pedn Bloodh lowen dhis!

For Christmas and New Year you'll be saying to your friends:
Re'gas bo Nadelyk lowen ha Bledhen Nowyth dâ!

Lesson Dêwdhek

Lesson Twelve

More about adjectival clauses

An adjectival (relative) clause is introduced by link particle **a** whenever the noun being described is the *subject* or the *direct object* of the clause. But the particle is dropped before a form of **bos** beginning with a vowel; we employ **eus**, **usy**, **usons** as appropriate, not **yma**, **ymowns**. So, for example, in **an ky** [**neb** / **hag**] **a wrug brathy an den** 'the dog who bit the man', **an ky**, the noun being described is the subject: it was the dog that did the biting. In **an den** [**neb** / **hag**] **a wrug an ky brathy** 'the man who(m) the dog bit', the noun being described is the direct object: it was the man was on the receiving end of the biting. The technical name for the noun being described (or any pronoun substituted for it) is the 'antecedent'.

Link particle **a** introducing an adjectival clause must be followed by the he/she/noun form of the verb when the antecedent is the logical subject. So **an keun** [**neb** / **hag**] **a *wrug* brathy an den** 'the dogs who bit the man'. The requirement to use the he/she/noun form of the verb is the same rule you have long been applying in main clauses. For instance, **an flehes a *vydn* mos dhe'n scol** 'the children will go to school'. But contrast **an den** [**neb** / **hag**] **a wrussons y brathy** 'the man who(m) they bit'. In this instance the antecedent is the logical direct object, so the rule does not apply.

In English a preposition may precede 'who' or 'which' at the beginning of an adjectival clause or may come at the very end of the clause. In such a clause in Cornish we use a *personal form* of the relevant preposition, selected to refer back to the antecedent, and typically placed at the end of the clause.

When a preposition is used in this way there is an option to introduce the clause with **may** (literally 'where'). Fifth State mutation follows **may** in the usual way, **mayth** is employed before a vowel, **yma** and **ymowns** become **ma** and **mowns** (without mutation). The preposition may then be omitted in *formal* Cornish if the meaning is still clear without it.

Here are some examples.

> **an bobel dhydo a vydnowgh gwil gweres dhodhans** *or*
> **an bobel dhydo may fydnowgh gwil gweres** [**dhodhans**]
> 'the homeless people who(m) you're going to help'

> **an dhescadores eus dhybm an brâssa revrons anedhy** *or*
> **an dhescadores may ma dhybm an brâssa revrons [anedhy]**
> 'the teacher for whom I have the greatest respect' *or*
> 'the teacher who(m) I have the greatest respect for'

> **an ky a wrug an den whilas scappya orto** *or*
> **an ky may whrug an den whilas scappya [orto]**
> 'the dog from which the man tried to run away' *or*
> 'the dog which the man tried to run away from'

> **an savla esa pùbonen ow cortos ryptho** *or*
> **an savla mayth esa pùbonen ow cortos [ryptho]**
> 'the bus stop at which everyone was waiting' *or*
> 'the bus stop which everyone was waiting at'

The last example brings us back to what we learned in Lesson Eleven. If we employ **may** and omit **ryptho**, the sense is effectively 'the bus stop *where* everyone was waiting'.

We also use **may** when the adjectival clause is introduced in English by 'whose'. So we say, for example:

Pyw yw an den may ma y garr parkys wàr an lînen velen dhobyl?
'Who's the guy whose car is parked on the double yellow line?'

Negative adjectival clauses

Negative adjectival clauses are introduced by **na** followed by Second State mutation or by **nag** before a form of **bos** beginning with a vowel. Otherwise the constructions are the same as for affirmative clauses. We may use **ma na** instead of simple **na** if we prefer, with the same consideration of then possibly omitting the preposition.

Here are some examples.

> **an ky na wrug brathy an den bythqweth kyns**
> 'the dog that had never bitten the man before'

> **an dhescadores nag eus dhybm an lyha revrons anedhy** *or*
> **an dhescadores ma nag eus dhybm an lyha revrons [anedhy]**
> 'the teacher for whom I had not the slightest respect *or*
> 'the teacher who(m) I had not the slightest respect for'

an savla nag esa den vëth ow cortos ryptho *or*
an savla ma nag esa den vëth ow cortos [ryptho]
'the bus stop at which no one was waiting' *or*
'the bus stop which no one was waiting at'

Practys Naw ha Dêwgans
Exercise Forty Nine

What do these sentences mean?

An maw a dhôwysas an gnofen toos o an brâssa wàr an plât. Yth yw an wlas may ma y gotha myrgh trigys etto. An den gocky-na a vonkyas solabrës an carr a wrug vy gwertha dhodho dewetha seythen. Wharvedhyans o va na wrussyn ny gweles kyns. Fâss yw hedna a'n problem na wrussons y miras orto gans rach. Ple ma oll an canys coref a wrussys prena raga ny? Fatell allaf vy derivas taclow ma nag esof ow perthy cov? Scant ny woram hanter a'n istory may hyllowgh redya anodho i'n lyver-na. Py ma'n daffar may fydn ev byldya an crow ganso? Peur hyllyn ny vysytya an dre may ma dha vab ow studhya i'n ûnyversyta?

Practys Deg ha Dêwgans
Exercise Fifty

How would you say the following in Cornish?

That's the same road we'll be using tomorrow to drive home. Did they really eat all the food you'd brought? When will they bring back everything they took? Are you going to keep these half dozen carrots that haven't yet been cooked? The old people I often did the shopping for in the days before the internet are still living in that house over there.

Vocabulary

Here are a some more new words.

cresy *v* believe, **Hellës** Helston, **now** now (interjection), **splat** *m* plot of ground, **whedhel** *m* story

Practys Udnek ha Dêwgans
Exercise Fifty One

Yma Elen Tonkin ow tysqwedhes dhe Mark an strêt in Hellës mayth esa hy trigys kyns.

Elen   **Ot obma an chy mayth esen vy trigys ino. Flogh en vy i'n termyn-na.**
Mark   **A yllyn ny mos ajy?**
Elen   **Nâ. Yma pobel erel trigys ino i'n jëdh hedhyw, heb mar.**

Mark	**Pò ajy dhe'n lowarth martesen?**
Elen	**Na yllyn màn. Lowarth nebonen yw tyller na yll pùb huny mos dredho. Now, gwra miras dres ena. Hèn yw an splat mayth esen ny ow qwary pel droos warnodho.**
Mark	**Pel droos? In gwir?**
Elen	**Eâ! Mebyon ha myrhas warbarth. Ha dha das o onen a'n vebyon mayth esen vy ow qwary ganso. Dell wosta solabrës – whedhel coth yw.**
Mark	**Wèl, nyns esen vy ow cresy bys i'n eur-ma. An splat-na yw fest bian! Meur brâssa yw an park mayth esof ow qwary gans ow hothmans vy.**
Elen	**Byttele ny a wrug gwary lowen teg pùb eur oll. Ha th'yw an tyller may feuv vy metyes gans Powl an kensa tro.**
Mark	**Pana dermyn a veu hedna?**
Elen	**Deg bledhen warn ugans alebma!**

More words of quantity

We know the quantifier **lies** 'many', always followed by a singular noun, or employed as a stand-alone word; and we also know the phrase **lies huny** 'many [people]'. Another quantifier used only with a singular noun is **lower** 'quite a few'. This cannot be used as a stand-alone word without a following noun; nor with **huny**; but we can say **lower onen**. For example, **yma lies wàr an estyllen-ma** 'there are lots on this shelf' or **yma lower onen i'n amary-na** 'there are quite a few in that cupboard.'

We know the quantifier **nebes** meaning 'a little' when used with a singular noun and 'a few' when used with a plural or collective noun. For example, **nebes bara** 'a little bread', **nebes breghtanow** 'a few sandwiches', **nebes asclas** 'a few chips'. **Nebes** may also be employed as a stand-alone word, in which case the sense will depend on the context. For instance, **Eus own dhis? Nebes**. 'Are you scared? A little.' **Eus pastys whath? Nebes.** 'Are there any pasties left? A few.'

For small amounts a useful word is **tabm** 'a bit'. This may be followed directly by a singular noun or we may use it with preposition **a**. For example, **tabm vytel** 'a bit of grub, a snack', **tabm a gân** 'a snatch of song'. We may also employ **tabm** as a stand-alone word. For instance, **A wodhes Kernowek? Tabm.** 'Do you speak Cornish? A bit.'

Spot a 'a spot of' is another common phrase, generally used for small amounts of liquids. For example, **tê ha spot a leth ino** 'tea with a little milk in it'. **Badna** 'a drop' is another possibility for liquids. This word is followed directly by a noun. For instance, **Moy coffy mes a'n pot? Eâ, badna coffy, mar pleg.** 'More coffee from the pot? Yes, a drop of coffee, please.'

Vocabulary

Here are a few more new words.

pysk *m* fish, **tatty** *m* potato, **vytamyn** *m* vitamin

<div align="center">

Practys Dêwdhek ha Dêwgans
Exercise Fifty Two
</div>

Yma Elen ow qwil bargen gans Danyel rag prës soper.

Danyel	**Pandr'yw dhe dhebry haneth orth soper?**
Elen	**Pysk, tettys ha losow gwer. Tabm bara 'manyn.**
Danyel	**Ogh! A ny allaf vy debry fa' pebys in le losow gwer?**
Elen	**Yma lower vytamyn in losow gwer.**
Danyel	**Hag in fa' kefrës!**
Elen	**Yma shùgra i'ga sows cogh y. Uthyk tra. Yth esta ow tebry fav pebys yn pòr fenowgh solabrës.**
Danyel	**Saw fatla mar qwrav vy dôwys nebes fa' hedhyw? Adar lies.**
Elen	**Wèl, dâ lowr. Mar mynta debry dha losow gwer, te a yll kemeres *nebes* fav gansans.**

Bara 'manyn is 'bread and butter'.

We have encountered **fav coffy** 'coffee beans' already. Now we can add **fav pebys** 'baked beans'. There is an alternative spelling **fâ** for clipped **fa'**.

uthyk tra is a fixed stand-alone phrase meaning 'a lot'.

Fatla mar? means 'what if?'. Compare English 'how would it be if?'

Saying 'only'

Cornish has several ways of expressing the idea 'only'. The most common method is to use a negative statement with preposition **marnas** 'except', very frequently shortened to **ma's** (spelled **mès** by some; compare **mès** 'but'). For example, **ny vedhaf vy owth eva coref ma's** (**mès**) **dywweyth an seythen** 'I only drink beer twice a week'.

We may use preposition **saw** 'save' as an alternative to **marnas**. But the many ways **saw** can be employed in Cornish risk being a little confusing. As an adjective **saw** means 'intact', also 'safe'. And it is very common as a conjunction meaning 'but'. **Saw** as preposition is generally a weaker contrast than **marnas**. Conjunction **mès** 'but' is derived from **marnas**, so naturally **saw** as conjunction is likewise generally a weaker contrast than **mès**. To reduce the possibility for confusion, preposition **saw** 'save' is reinforced with **yn unsel** (itself meaning 'only', but not found in more general use). For example, **ny wrug ev kemeres saw onen yn unsel** 'he only took one, that's all'.

A further way of saying 'only' generally is **yn udnyk**. But this is quite a forceful expression: literally it means 'uniquely'. For example, **ev a wrug debry onen yn udnyk** 'he ate just one'. Another fairly strong way to express 'only' is **heb namoy**. The word **only** itself borrowed directly from English, is less emphatic and especially useful in short phrases. For instance, **nyns esa lies huny i'n kyttryn – nebes flehes only** 'There weren't many on the bus – only a few kids.' The first vowel in Cornish **only** is short.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

botel *m & f* bottle, **codna bregh** *m* wrist, **cres** medium (*also* 'middle' as adjective), **ewon** *col* foam, **glebyor** *m* moisturizer, **golghva** *f* bathroom, **gwara** *m* goods, merchandise, **gwycores** *f* (female) trader, **Japanek** Japanese, **omwolhy** *v* wash (oneself), **owraval** *m* orange, **ros** *col* roses, **sampyl** *m* sample, **sawor** *m* fragrance (*also* flavour), **stalla** *m* stall, **yogùrt** *m* yoghurt

Practys Tredhek ha Dêwgans
Exercise Fifty Three

Hedhyw i'n varhas yma Mêstres Mundy ow whythra stalla an gwara omwolhy.

Gwycores	**Why a garsa perna nampëth dh'agas golghva martesen?**
Mêstres Mundy	**Nyns esof vy obma saw rag miras yn unsel.**
Gwycores	**Wolcùm. Gwrewgh meras. Termyn cot pò termyn hir.**
Mêstres Mundy	**An barr seban saworek-ma. Plesont teg. Pandr'yw?**
Gwycores	**Hèn yw owraval Japanek – *satsuma*. Hag ot obma ewon omwolhy ha'n keth sawor dhodho.**
Mêstres Mundy	**Me a vydn kemeres an ewon. Udn votel only. Eus neppëth ha sawor flourys ros ganso?**
Gwycores	**Gwara omwolhy? Nag eus. Agan seban yw sawor frûtys dyvers yn udnyk.**
Mêstres Mundy	**Yma dhywgh an glebyor-ma. Yogùrt corf acordyng dhe'n tôkyn warnodho. A nyns eus neb tra marnas hebma?**
Gwycores	**Oll agan dehen corf yw sawor flourys – lies flour. Eâ, hèm yw sawor ros, an gwir yma dhywgh. Ot obma sampyl. Gwrewgh assaya wàr godna bregh.**
Mêstres Mundy	**Hmm, dâ lowr. Mar nyns eus tra vëth a sawor ros marnas an glebyor, gas vy dhe gemeres udn pot anodho, cres y vrâster. Ev yw gwell ages y hanow!**

perna is a common alternative form of **prena**

We use **ewon omwolhy** for 'bubble bath', and **jel cowas** for 'shower gel'. But these days they are fairly interchangeable. **Lydn seban** is 'handwash' (literally 'soap liquid'), not to be confused with **lydn golhy lestry** 'washing up liquid'.

Lesson Tredhek

Lesson Thirteen

Compound prepositions

There are three kinds of compound preposition in Cornish, exemplified by **dhyrag** 'in front of', **warlergh** 'after', **in le** 'instead of'.

The first kind of compound is a single word that cannot be split. If the second element has personal forms, then the compound will have corresponding forms. So we say **dhyragof**, **dhyworthys**, **dhywarnodho**, etc, exactly as for **ragof**, **worthys**, **warnodho**. The exception is **dhia** which has no personal forms.

The second kind of compound is also employed as a single word, but it may not be followed by a personal pronoun. Instead, the preposition splits, and the second element is preceded by the corresponding *possessive* pronoun. For example, **warlergh an nosweyth ilow** 'after the concert' but **wàr hy lergh** 'after it'. **Warbydn** 'against', that we have already learned in its unsplit form, is another common preposition of this second kind. Here are all its possible forms when it is split.

> **wàr ow fydn** 'against me'
> **wàr dha bydn** 'against you'
> **wàr y bydn** 'against him' or 'against it' (masculine reference)
> **wàr hy fydn** 'against her' or 'against it' (feminine reference)
> **wàr agan pydn** 'against us'
> **wàr agas pydn** 'against you' (plural or stranger)
> **wàr aga fydn** 'against them'

There is a variant **erbydn**, with identical meaning, that works in the same way. It is nowadays mostly confined to the literary language. The element *pydn* in all these forms is in an old dative form (now defunct) of **pedn** 'head'.

The third kind of compound preposition consists of a simple preposition plus a noun. If this kind of preposition is applied to an ordinary noun or indefinite pronoun, it forms the first half of a genitive construction. So when we say **ewon omwolhy in le seban**, the strict grammar is 'bubble bath in the place of soap', that is 'bubble bath instead of soap'. But verb-nouns, demonstrative pronouns and personal pronouns may not appear as the second element of a genitive construction. In the first two of these cases we employ preposition **a**. For example, **in le a wortos** 'instead of waiting' and **in le a hedna** 'instead of that'. As for personal pronouns, they may become possessive pronouns if the sense permits; or we employ preposition **a**.

Other compound prepositions of this kind are **in cres** 'in the middle of' and **dre rêson** 'because of'. So we say **in y le** 'instead of him', **in cres anodhans** 'in the middle of them', **dre rêson an glaw** 'because of the rain', etc.

In kever 'in respect of, in relation to' is a compound preposition of the third kind that is exceptional because it can *only* be used with a possessive pronoun. For example, **gesowgh ny dhe vôtya in y gever** 'let's take a vote on it'.

In dadn 'under' is also exceptional, being treated as a simple preposition even though it *appears* to be a compound. Another preposition like that is **in mesk** 'among'.

There are also a number of *complex prepositions* that are not compounds. These always end in a simple preposition, and their grammar is straightforward. So we have for instance **in mes a** 'out of', and we can say **in mes a'n chy** 'out of the house' or **in mes anodho** 'out of it'. Similarly we have **ajy dhe** 'inside', **avês dhe** 'outside', **adhelergh dhe** 'behind' (an alternative to **adrëv**), **in despît dhe** (or **in despît wàr**) 'in spite of'.

Ha (optionally **hag** before a vowel) is also a preposition, meaning 'with', which is the primary sense of the word, from which its meaning 'and' has been derived. It too forms complex prepositions, such as **tro ha** and **wor'tu ha**, which both mean 'towards'.

Saying 'about'

The literal equivalent in Cornish of 'about' is **adro dhe**, another complex preposition we have known for some time. But it should not be overused. For variety we may employ **in kever**, so long as we remember the limitation to possessive pronouns only. Simple preposition **a** will often be sufficient. Occasionally **wàr** may be suitable. For example, **ny a wrug dadhel a'n dra-na** 'we discussed that' or **yma Perys ow qwil meur whel i'n eur-ma wàr argemydnans** 'Perys is now doing a lot of work on publicity'.

Practys Peswardhek ha Dêwgans
Exercise Fifty Four

How would you say the following in Cornish?

> He ran ahead of (= in front of) me, and I followed behind (= after) him. Take it off the fire immediately! She always has an umbrella with her instead of putting on a raincoat. There'll be lots of questions about this plan. Everyone is arguing against us.

Prepositions with pronouns

Only a relatively few Cornish prepositions may be used with a bare personal pronoun. A common one is **ès** 'than', so we may say **ès my**, **ès ty**, etc. **Marnas** and **saw** also accept a personal pronoun, hence **marnas ev** and **saw hy** 'except [for] him' and 'save

[for] her', for instance. **Adar** too can be used with personal pronouns, as in **yth yw my, adar ty** 'it's me, not you'. Complex prepositions ending **ha** can be followed by a personal pronoun. For example, **tro ha why** 'towards you'.

Where personal forms of the preposition exist, these must be used; though it is true that a few colloquial variants of personal forms do actually employ a bare personal pronoun. So we must say **warnan** or **wara ny** 'on us' but **dhe ny** 'to us' is acceptable.

There are a few one-word prepositions that may be used straightforwardly with a noun, but which must add **dhe** when used with a pronoun (with personal forms as appropriate). So for example we say **adrëv an daras** 'behind the door' but **adrëv dhodho** 'behind it'. Other common instances of this usage are **adâl** 'opposite' and **abarth** 'on behalf of, in favour of'.

The preposition **bys in** 'up to' is employed only with nouns. With pronouns it becomes **bys dhe** (with personal forms as appropriate), and this may *not* be used with nouns. So we say, for instance, **mos bys i'n govep** 'go up to the monument' but **mos bys dhedhy** 'go up to it'. **Bys** 'up to' on its own is only used with numerals, and in fixed phrases like **bys vycken** 'for ever'.

Practys Pymthek ha Dêwgans
Exercise Fifty Five

How would you say the following in Cornish?

> Demelsa's cousin Vernôna is younger than her. I argued in favour of the plan; you argued on its behalf too; but all the time he was arguing against the idea. At the Christmas pantomime everyone was shouting 'Behind you!' She walked up to him and struck him on the face. You have many problems – tell me a little about them.

Mar meaning 'so'

Mar meaning 'if' is followed by Fourth State mutation of a consonant and becomes **mars** before a form of **bos** beginning with a vowel. There is another word **mar** which is followed by Second State mutation. This **mar** means 'so' and is used with adjectives. For example, **mar vrâs** 'so big', **mar vian** 'so small', **mar lowen** 'so happy'.

Fairly colloquially, we may use **mar** 'so' to express a quality emphatically. For instance, **Mar wheg yw an ôn bian-ma!** 'This little lamb is so sweet!'

In all registers of Cornish **mar** can be used to express a comparison of equality. For example:

An ôn o mar wydn avell an ergh.
'The lamb was as white as snow.'

An ôn-ma, nyns yw mar wydn avell an ôn-na.
'This lamb isn't so (as) white as that one'.

Mar does not undergo Fifth State mutation after particle **yn**. But the combination rarely occurs.

A statement like **nyns yw ev mar hir avell y vroder** 'Jowan is not as tall as his brother Jamys' is generally understood to mean that John is *less* tall than James. Just as in English.

*Personal forms of **avell***

Here are the personal forms of preposition **avell** 'as (*also* 'like')'.

avellof *or* **avell my** as / like me
avellos *or* **avell ty** as / like you
avello *or* **avell ev** as / like him *or* as / like it (masculine reference)
avelly *or* **avell hy** as / like her *or* as / like it (feminine reference)
avellon *or* **avell ny** as / like us
avellowgh *or* **avell why** as / like you (plural or stranger)
avellans *or* **avell anjy** *or* **avella** (mostly confined to written Cornish) as / like them

In idiomatic Cornish you may also sometimes encounter **avell** meaning 'than'.

Practys Whêtek ha Dêwgans
Exercise Fifty Six

What do these sentences mean?

Ow chy vy yw mar vrâs avell agas chy why. Nyns yw agan lowarth mar wer avell dha lowarth jy. Hy blew yw mar rudh avell caretys. Mar wocky osta! Mos wàr an train a vëdh mar uskys avell drîvya dy i'n carr. O an poll neyja i'gas ostel mar dhown avell an poll i'gan cresen sport? An attêsva boblek-na yw mar blos! Nyns yw ow than munys chy mar dobm avell an tan spladn usy i'n tavern. Yw an descador mar godnek avell an dhyscoryon? An practys-ma, nyns yw mar gales avell lies aral.

Practys Seytek ha Dêwgans
Exercise Fifty Seven

How would you say the following in Cornish?

His wife is not as dear to him as the other women in his life. I had less money than them perhaps, but I was always as happy as them. She's not as stubborn as him. Alys plays netball as skilfully as Demelsa. You're never as busy as me!

Result clause

We have so far looked at **may** as it is used in adjectival clauses. The basic 'where' sense of **may** also develops, via the notion 'whereby', into '[so] that' expressing a consequence or result.

In writing we usually put a comma before **may** when it is used to mean '[so] that' in this way.

As with other senses of this word, **may** is followed by Fifth State mutation, **mayth** is employed before a vowel, **yma** and **ymowns** become **ma** and **mowns** (without mutation). For example, **an bows o mar hir, may whrug hy tava bys i'n leur** 'the dress was so long that it touched the floor'. When the result clause is negative we substitute **ma na** for **may**, with Second State mutation. For example, **degës o an groglen, ma na yllyn vy miras in mes** 'the curtain was drawn, so that I could not look out'. We use **ma nag** before forms of **bos** beginning with a vowel. **Y lavrak yw mar got, ma nag usy va ow cudha y ufernyow** 'his trousers are so short they don't cover his ankles'.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

an Norvÿs *m* the Earth, **budhy** *v* drown, **bÿs-efan** worldwide, global, **derevel** *v* rise, **dyrêwl** out-of-control, **dysert** *m* desert, **enys** *f enesow* island, **gass** *m* gas, **gwederjy** *m* greenhouse, **pedn êhel** *m* pole (of planet), **peryl** *m* peril, danger, **planet** *m* planet, **rew** *m* ice, **sewyans** *m* consequence, result, **specyfyk** specific, **tesyans** *m* warming

Practys Êtek ha Dêwgans
Exercise Fifty Eight

Yma dhe Danyel Tonkin lesson tre in Dorydhieth unweyth arta. Yma va orth y jeckya gans Elen warbarth.

Elen	**Wèl, pëth a wrusta scrifa?**
Danyel	**Yma oll an bobel wàr an planet ow qwil gass gwederjy mar dhyrêwl, mayth yw an Norvÿs gyllys tobma. Hag yma an tesyans bÿs-efan ow pêsya whath.**
Elen	**Pòr dhâ. Ha pandr'yw oll an sewyans yn specyfyk?**
Danyel	**An gewar yw gwylsa pùpprës. Yma an tyleryow dysert ow tevy, ma na yll tiogow soweny. Hag yma an rew wàr an pednow êhel ow tedha, may ma an mor ow terevel.**
Elen	**Ha pëth yw an sewyans a vor uhelha?**
Danyel	**Yma tir isel ryb an mor ow mos budhys, may fëdh darn a'n enesow in peryl brâs wosa nebes bledhydnyow.**
Elen	**In gwir. Ha lower splat in Kernow kefrës.**

Talking about being ill

If you are sick, you can say you have the relevant illness using the usual formula **yma** … **dhybm**. You can also use **yma ... warnaf**. For example, **th'esa anwos warnaf** 'I had a cold'. Here are names for other common ailments.

cleves strewy *m* hayfever, **covyd** *m* covid, **drog dens** *m* toothache, **drog pedn** *m* headache, **fakel briansen** *f* sore throat, **flû** *m* flu, **losk pengasen** *m* heartburn, **skit** *m* diarrhoea, **stoppyans** *m* constipation, **whej ha skit** *phr* gastro-enteritis

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

benthygya *v* borrow, **botas** *col* boots, **clâv** sick, ill, **durya** *v* endure, **gnas** *f* character, **lendya** *v* lend, **medhegva** *f* infirmary (*also* GP's surgery), **possybylta** *m* possibility, **strethassay** *m* lateral flow test

Practys Nawnjek ha Dêwgans
Exercise Fifty Nine

Yma Mark Tonkin owth ombarusy dhe wary pel droos. Saw nyns yw ev lowen.

Mêster Teague	**Pandr'yw an mater, Mark?**
Mark	**Ny allaf vy gwary i'n fyt hedhyw pàr hap.**
Mêster Teague	**A wrusta kelly radn a'gas daffar? Yma nebes taclow a yll bos lendys dhyso.**
Mark	**Nâ, benthygya nyns eus otham, yma pùb daffar genef. Cris an kensa XI, lavrak ha lodrow. Botas vy kefrës.**
Mêster Teague	**Nena ple ma'n problem?**
Mark	**Warnaf yma anwos crev ha drog pedn uthyk i'wedh. Saw me a gemeras strethassay i'n vedhegva. Negedhek. Nyns yw covyd!**
Mêster Teague	**Wèl, mos tre yn clâv yw possybylta. Poken dysqwedhes gnas an lêdyor ha durya in rag. Hedhyw yma fyt a bris dhyn. Ha ty yw capten an parra, Mark.**
Mark	**Hèn yw gwir. Me a vydn gwary dhana. Gwainya ny a wra sur!**

*Using **lowr** and similar words*

Lowr 'enough' is employed as an attributive adjective in a sentence like **Eus charj lowr i'n pil?** 'Is there enough charge in the battery?' It is used as a predicative adjective in a sentence like **Yw hedna lowr rag agan viaj?** 'Is that enough for our journey?' It is used as an adverb in sentences like **A wrusta debry lowr?** 'Have you eaten enough?' or **Yw hedna brâs lowr?** 'Is that big enough?' It may also mean 'quite' in a phrase like **dâ lowr** 'quite good' or 'okay'.

Lower meaning 'quite a few' preceding a singular noun (Lesson Twelve) is in origin just a variant spelling of **lowr**. It was the revivalist R. Morton Nance who first differentiated the spelling systematically. It is convenient. But the preferred spelling of many Cornish speakers nowadays is **lowr** for *every* meaning, so be prepared to find that too.

Lowr is followed by preposition **a** as an idiomatic quantifier meaning 'lots of'. For example, **lowr a bobel** 'lots of people'. Cornish has several such expressions with similar meaning. We have met **meur a** 'much, a lot of' already; this belongs to a slightly higher register. **Plenta** 'plenty (of)' is followed directly by a noun. **Tomals** 'ample amount' is usually followed by preposition **a**. Then there are **showr a** and **cals a**, both meaning 'loads of'; these belong to a slightly lower register. Preposition **a** is optional with **cals**. Sometimes cals is heard and written as **calj**. Choosing between **showr** and **cals** may be influenced to some extent by the original meaning of these words: **showr** 'shower', **cals** '[rubbish] heap'. But there's no need to be very rigid about it.

Saying 'too' in the sense 'too much'

Re means 'too' in front of adjectives. The adjective is put into Second State. For example, **re vrâs** 'too big', **re dobm** 'too hot'. We can use **yn** to form a corresponding adverb in the usual way. For instance, **hy a dhrîvyas yn re uskys** 'she drove too fast', but **yn** is often omitted before **re**, so **hy a dhrîvyas re uskys** is equally possible.

If **re** 'too' is used on its own, without a following adjective, then the meaning is 'too much' or 'too many'. For example, **ty a dhebras re** 'you've eaten too much' and **ty a gomptyas re** 'you've counted too many'. Note also the phrase **re nebes** 'too little', where **nebes** takes the place of expected **bohes**. A similar replacement occurs in the phrase **very nebes** 'very little'.

*Which **re** is which*

The completive particle **re** can never be confused, because it only appears immediately before an inflected verb where grammatically no other **re** can be placed.

If we encounter the phrase **re anodho** or **re anedhy** or a similar phrase with a *singular* noun, then we must be dealing with **re** 'too much' For example, **re a dra dhâ** 'too much of a good thing'.

If we encounter a phrase like **re anodhans** or a similar phrase with a *plural* or *collective* noun, the meaning could be 'some' or 'too many'. Which sense did Cattern Mundy intend with her **re anodhans** about the apples in Exercise 48? Or was she being a little tongue-in-cheek with the trader perhaps?

If Mrs Mundy had said **radn anodhans** 'some (literally, part) of the apples', we could not mistake her meaning. And an unambiguous way of saying 'too many' is the

adjectival phrase **re aga nùmber**. For example, **yma problemow re aga nùmber** 'there are too many problems' and **an problemow yw re aga nùmber** 'the problems are too many'.

First and Second State distinguish **re munys** 'tiny ones' from **re vunys** 'too tiny'. In **re uskys** 'fast ones' and **re uskys** 'too fast' the Cornish words are identical, but the two phrases work differently in terms of the grammar of a whole sentence, so the intended meaning will usually be plain, provided the phrases are not used in isolation without any context.

*Exclamatory particle **assa***

Assa is used to introduce a sentence of exclamation. It is followed immediately by the verb, with Second State mutation. Before a form of **bos** beginning with a vowel **assa** is clipped to **ass**. For example:

Assa vëdh rial! 'That will be splendid!'
Ass osta fol! 'What an idiot you are!'

Vocabulary

Here are a couple more new words.

porcyon *m* portion, **yahus** healthy (good for health)

Practys Try Ugans
Exercise Sixty

Tùbmas ha'y gothman Hecka re wrug prena pysk hag asclas ganso.

Hecka	**Yma calj asclas genef obma. Re gà nùmber. Eus whans dhis kemeres an re-ma dhyworta vy?**
Tùbmas	**Wèl, eus! Meur ras. Scant ny vëdh asclas lowr dhybm in udn porcyon.**
Hecka	**Re dew osta. Yahus nyns yw.**
Tùbmas	**Ogh, ass esta 'predery re 'dro dhe'n yêhes!**
Hecka	**Nyns esta jy ow predery lowr.**
Tùbmas	**Avorow me a wra debry salad.**
Hecka	**Mès an Avorow, ny vëdh devedhys nefra.**

Duals

In Cornish nouns may be singular, plural or collective. It is also possible to combine the numeral **dew** / **dyw** with the singular of a noun to express the idea of 'two together'. Sometimes this is straightforward word-building, as in **dywros** 'bicycle', making a new singular noun that then has its own plural **dywrosow** 'bicycles'. But in

the case of paired parts of the body the resulting combination is considered to be a 'dual' form of the noun, rather than an entirely new word.

In spoken Cornish the only very common dual is **dêwla** '(two) hands', formed from **leuv** 'hand' (only in fixed phrases in speech, especially **shakya leuv** 'shake hands'), and distinguished from **dorn** 'hand (in action)' and **dornow** 'hands (in action)'. **Dêwlin** '(two) knees' formed from **glin** 'knee' is relatively common.

Here are some duals from the literary language that are occasionally heard in speech: **dewfrik** 'nose' (formed from **frig** 'nostril'), **dewlagas** formed from **lagas** 'eye', **dywscoth** formed from **scoodh** 'shoulder', **dywvregh** formed from **bregh** 'arm'. But in conversational Cornish you are more likely to hear **frigow**, **lagasow**, **scodhow**, **brehow**.

You should not assume that all body pairings can be expressed as a dual in Cornish. For instance, **troos** *m* is 'foot', but for 'feet' we always use plural **treys**; there is no authentic dual form.

Because numeral **dew** / **dyw** itself is followed by Second State mutation, some apply Second State to a following adjective after *any* dual. But there is no historical ground for such an approach. A better way is to put attributive adjectives after duals into Second State only if they are formed from *feminine* nouns. So **dewlagas** should be followed by First State because **lagas** is masculine. But **dêwla** and **dywvregh** should be followed by Second State since **leuv** and **bregh** are feminine. Thus **dewlagas blou** 'blue eyes', **dêwla dobm** 'warm hands', **dywvregh grev** 'strong arms'.

Lesson Peswardhek

Lesson Fourteen

*Indirect statement with **fatell***

Here is an example of reporting 'direct speech'.

Hy a leverys, "Kernowek yw tavas bew."
She said, "Cornish is a living language."

'Indirect statement' most typically occurs when we report what someone says (or thinks) *without* giving their words as an exact quotation. Cornish can construct an indirect statement in a variety of ways. Probably the easiest is to use **fatell**. For example:

Hy a leverys fatell o Kernowek tavas bew.
'She said that (literally 'how') Cornish was a living language.'
Or more colloquially
Hy a lavaras tr'yw Kernowek tavas bew.
'She said Cornish is a living language.'

There are several points to note.

First, **fatell** can be clipped to **tell** or colloquially it may become **tèr** (abbreviated to **tr'** before forms of **bos** beginning with a vowel) when it is used to mean 'that' introducing the indirect statement. **Fatla**, the alternative word for 'how', is not employed in this role. And whereas in English we may omit 'that' at the beginning of the indirect statement, **fatell** (**tell, ter, tr'**) is an essential introductory word; it cannot be dropped.

Secondly, if the verb of saying etc is in a past tense (imperfect or preterite) but the verb of the indirect statement is in the present tense, then we change the present tense in the indirect statement to past tense (imperfect or preterite as the sense requires). This is called the 'rule of sequence of tenses'. It derives from the grammar of classical Latin. But we must acknowledge that it is frequently ignored these days in all but the most formal usage.

There is a third important feature of indirect statement. Pronouns often need to be changed. For example:

Hy a leverys, "Yth esof ow colhy ow blew."
She said, "I'm washing my hair."
Hy a leverys tell esa hy ow colhy hy blew.
'She said that she was washing her hair.'

Or more colloquially

Hy a lavaras tr'ujy hy colhy hy blew.

'She said she's washing her hair.'

After **fatell**, **tell**, **tr'** we employ **eus**, **usy**, **usons** as appropriate, not **yma**, **ymowns**.

Vocabulary

Here are a few more new words.

Normandy Normandy, **perfeth** perfect, **ranjy** *m* flat, apartment, **Sèn Malow** Sant-Maloù (French, Saint-Malo)

Practys Onen ha Try Ugans
Exercise Sixty One

Yma Powl hag Elen ow tôwlel towl a'ga degolyow hâv.

Powl **Hedhyw yth esen vy ow côwsel orth Jack i'n sodhva. Ev êth gans y deylu dhe Vreten Vian warleny. Ha Jack a lavaras fatell yw an pow perfeth rag degolyow hâv.**

Elen **Yth esof ow perthy cov a Sèn Malow, fatell yw an dre ha'y fosow coth fest teg.**

Powl **Jack a lavaras tr'esens y oll trigys dyw seythen in Sèn Malow, ha tell wrussons y vysytya lies tyller meur aga les in Breten Vian hag in Normandy inwedh.**

Elen **Me a vydn whythra nebes i'n gwias. Ranjiow hâv ha prîsyow.**

Practys Dew ha Try Ugans
Exercise Sixty Two

How would you say the following in Cornish?

> They report that the weather will be fine tomorrow. I decided just one is enough. We thought your performance was splendid. I'll tell her that you're ill. He argued the conference had been a great success.

*Indirect statement with **dell***

Dell, meaning literally 'as', is another word that can be used to introduce an indirect statement. For example:

Hy a leverys dell o Kernowek tavas bew.

She said that Cornish was a living language.

In this usage **dell** may colloquially become **dèr** (abbreviated to **dr'** before forms of **bos** beginning with a vowel). Sequence of tenses and changing pronouns as for **fatell**. There is a strong stylistic tendency to move the grammatical subject of what was said, if it is a noun, so that it stands in front of **dell**. Thus, **hy a leverys Kernowek dell o tavas bew** is better Cornish.

After **dell**, **dr'** we employ **eus**, **usy**, **usons** as appropriate, not **yma**, **ymowns**.

Now try doing Exercise 62 again, but this time using **dell** and its variants instead of **fatell** and its variants.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

an pëth what (followed by adjectival clause), **Bretonek** *m* Breton (language), **descryvyans** *m* description, **hevleny** this year, **namoy** any more (in a negative sentence), **person** *m* person, **plâss** *m* place

Practys Try ha Try Ugans
Exercise Sixty Three

Yma Elen ow terivas an pëth a wrug hy cafos i'n gwias.

Elen	**Holergh on ny in gwir. Hevleny lies ranjy yw kemerys solabrës. Saw me a gafas hebma hag a wrug erhy dystowgh.**
Powl	**Yma'n descryvyans a'n ranjy-ma ow tysqwedhes dell yw va brâs lowr dhe whe person.**
Elen	**Ytho chambour dhe Demelsa hy honen oll.**
Powl	**Ha tell eus vu wàr an mor. Ny vydnaf vy leverel an pris dell yw onen isel vëth, mès an plâss yw fytty heb dowt. Ober dâ, Elen.**
Demelsa	**Mabm a leverys tell vëdh fytty i'wedh mar mydnaf vy desky nebes Bretonek lebmyn, dhyrag an degolyow. Fatla, ny wòn màn! Gans oll an TODN kefrës!**
Powl	**Only nebes geryow, Demelsa! In Sèn Malow nyns yw Bretonek namoy côwsys gans lies huny. Soweth!**

Saying 'almost'

Cornish has several ways of saying 'almost'. We can substitute particle **namna** for affirmative particle **y**. We employ Second State mutation after **namna**; and we use **namnag** before forms of **bos** beginning with a vowel. For example, **namna wrug ev codha** 'he almost fell' and **namnag yw naw eur** 'it's almost nine o'clock'. After **namnag** we employ **eus**, **usy**, **usons** as appropriate, not **yma**, **ymowns**.

Otherwise we can use the word **ogasty** 'almost'. **Ev a wrug codha ogasty** 'he almost fell'. The word is particularly useful as a short response. **A wrusta codha? Ogasty!** 'Did you fall? Almost!**'**

With an adjective we can also just say **ogas**, meaning literally 'near'. For instance, **ogas gorfednys** 'almost finished'. Before a noun, a pronoun or a numeral we use **ogas ha**: for example, **ogas ha mothow** 'almost a disaster', **ogas ha pùbonen** 'almost everyone', **ogas hag ugans** 'almost twenty'.

Vocabulary

Here are a few more new words.

cowl-dhyfygys exhausted, burnt out, **perthyans** *m* patience, **truan** poor (to be pitied)

<div align="center">

Practys Peswar ha Try Ugans
Exercise Sixty Four

</div>

Demelsa re wrug seny hy crowd in menestrouthy cowethas drâma in Trûrû, ha gelwys veu Powl hag Elen dhe gyffewy wosa an performans.

Powl	**Namnag yw hanter-nos! Peur hyllyn ny dybarth worteweth?**
Elen	**Perthyans, Powl. Sqwith on ny agan dew. Ple ma Demelsa?**
Powl	**Dres ena. Ow tôwlel hy honen ogasty wàr an maw re sêmly-na.**
Elen	**Hmm, prës yw dybarth in gwir. Demelsa, os ogas parys dhe'n fordh?**
Demelsa	**Eâ sur! Desempys iredy. Gas vy dhe gemeres ow crowd.**
Powl	**Mar pleg. Ogas ha dêwdhek eur solabrës. Ha'n Dama Wydn ow floghcovia lies our.**
Elen	**Res yw bos avorow i'n scol dhe jy, Demelsa. Ha dhybmo bos i'n clojy avarr.**
Demelsa	**Da weles, Jonathan. Y yw cowldhyfygys, ow Mabm ha Tas truan. Ma otham gà gorra dhe'n gwely.**

*More about prefix **om***

In Lesson Eight we saw how prefix **om** is one way of expressing a reflexive verb where the sense is 'oneself'. The prefix is also used to form a reciprocal verb where the sense is 'each other'. So we can say, for example, **anjy a vydn omvetya** 'they are going to meet up'.

Frequently, however, we express a reciprocal with the phrase **an eyl y gela**. For example, **ymowns y ow scodhya an eyl y gela pùb termyn** 'they always support one another'. The formula **an eyl y gela** is invariable, but it can be split by a preposition. For example, **ny a wrug metya an eyl gans y gela lies bledhen alebma** 'we met each other many years ago'.

We may optionally substitute **hy ben** for **y gela** if the reference is *exclusively* feminine. It is possible to say either **an cathas a aspias an eyl y gela i'n strêt** or **an cathas a aspias an eyl** *hy ben* **i'n strêt** 'the cats saw each other in the street'. But if 'the dog and the cat fought each other in the street', then we can only say **an ky ha'n gath a wrug omlath an eyl gans** *y gela* **i'n strêt**.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

felshyp *m* friendship, **omdava** *v* contact (one another), **scodhya** *v* support

Omsensy means 'feel (emotionally, mentally)'. It is derived from the basic verb **sensy** meaning 'hold'.

Practys Pymp ha Try Ugans
Exercise Sixty Five

Yma Demelsa ha'y hothman Alys ow scodhya an eyl hy ben. Lower dëdh yma Mark ha Danyel ow qwary trainow munys an eyl gans y gela. Mès pòr gales yw dhe Demelsa ha'y breder cafos taclow dhe les kebmyn. Traweythyow, ytho, nyns usons y owth acordya an eyl orth y gela yn tâ. Yma Demelsa hag Alys owth omvetya pùb dëdh ogasty. Yn fenowgh ymowns y owth omdava dre vainys socyal inwedh. Yma Demelsa owth omsensy hy felshyp gans Alys dell yw tra a bris brâs.

Trainow munys means 'model railway(s)'.

Asking 'how much' and 'how many'

To ask 'how much' we can use **pygebmys** or **py seul** as in **pygebmys mona eus genes?** or **py seul mona eus genes?** 'how much money have you got [on you]?'

When used with a plural noun **pygebmys** and **py seul** mean 'how many', as in **pygebmys / py seul chairys eus i'n rom?** 'how many chairs are there in the room?' But **pan**[**a**] **lies** or **py lies**, followed by a singular noun, is more common than **pygebmys** (**py seul**) in this sense. **Pygebmys** (**py seul**) is however always used with a collective noun.

We connect the **pygebmys** (**py seul**) or **pan**[**a**] / **py lies** phrase to the verb with link particle **a** followed by Second State mutation if it is the subject or object of the verb, and with affirmative particle **y** followed by Fifth State mutation in other cases. Particle **a** is omitted before forms of **bos** beginning with a vowel. Affirmative particle **y** becomes **yth** before a vowel. For example, **pygebmys caretys a vynta kemeres?** 'how many carrots would you like?' and **py lies our y fëdh res dhyn gortos?** 'how many hours will we have to wait?' However, in colloquial Cornish the link particle a is

frequently substituted for affirmative particle y after a question word or phrase, and the particle then disappears as usual before vowels in **bos**). This practice is especially common when the question is made with **pan** or **pana**. So we may also say **pan lies our a vëdh res dhyn gortos?**

We can use **pygebmys?** on its own for a quick question 'how much?' without a full sentence But 'how much?' when enquiring about the *price* of something is **pana bris?** For 'how many?' without a full sentence we always say **py seul?**

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

bardh *m* bard, **bern** *m* concern, **dasvêwor** *m* revivalist, **fur** wise, sensible, **gwythresek** active, **Kembrek** *m* Welsh (language), **kesobery** *v* co-operate, **present** present, **profya** *v* offer

Practys Whe ha Try Ugans
Exercise Sixty Six

Pygebmys a wodhowgh adro dhe'n Kernowek ha'y istory? Fatl'yw an perthynas inter Kernowek, Bretonek ha Kembrek? Pana lies bledhen alebma y feu scrifys an cotha textow Kernowek usy genen whath? Fatell eson ny owth ûsya oll an textow rag dasvêwa tavas fytty dhe'n dedhyow hedhyw? Fatla wrug an kensa dasvêworyon kesobery an eyl gans y gela? Pëth usy an bobel wythresek ow qwil i'n present termyn? Fatl'yw gàs opynyon a'ga spêda?

A wodhowgh why gortheby dhe bùb qwestyon? Pòr dhâ. Saw gwrewgh remembra: an bardh Caradar a leverys yn fur dell yw *cows Kernowek* **moy y vern ages cows** *adro* **dhe'n Kernowek. Gwrewgh assaya! Pan lies gorthyp a yllowgh why profya in Kernowek?**

Indirect question

An indirect question adjusts the pronoun and the tense just as occurs for an indirect statement. For example:

Me a wovydnas orty, "Esta ow colhy dha vlew."
I asked her, "Are you washing your hair."
Me a wovydnas orty mars esa hy ow colhy hy blew.
I asked her if she was washing her hair.

Just as for indirect statement, the tense of the indirect question is often left unadjusted these days in less formal usage. **Mar** (**mars**) corresponds exactly to English 'if' beginning a closed indirect queston.

Practys Seyth ha Try Ugans

Exercise Sixty Seven

How would you say the following in Cornish?

We asked them if they had enough money to buy all the pizzas. I enquired if she still had a cold. They'll ask how much is a second class ticket from Truro to London. If you're asking who cares, the answer is 'No one'. Shall I ask him when and where he found it?

Colloquial Cornish

Prepositions are typically unstressed, and they are sometimes spelled to reflect weakened pronunciation. So instead of **gans**, **orth**, **dhyworth** you may encounter **gèn**, **ort**, **dhort**. Refer back to Exercise 36. The preposition **in** can appear as **en** or **et**. And **inter** may appear as **tredh**.

Lesson Pymthek

Lesson Fifteen

Indirect statement with infinitive construction

Another common way of expressing indirect statement is to use a clause employing the so called 'infinite' or 'infinitive' construction. This comprises noun / pronoun + **dhe** + verb-noun. For example:

Hy a leverys Kernowek dhe vos tavas bew.
Literally, 'She said Cornish to be a living language.'

We change pronouns as for **fatell** and **dell**.

Hy a leverys, "Yth esof ow colhy ow blew."
She said, "I'm washing my hair."
Hy a leverys hy dhe wolhy hy blew.
Literally, 'She said she to wash her hair.' *or*
Hy a leverys hy dhe vos ow colhy hy blew.
Literally, 'She said she to be washing her hair.'

With this construction there is no need to worry about choosing a tense for the indirect statement. On the other hand, it may be more difficult to understand what time is intended. We must rely on the context to make that clear.

Thus, **Hy a leverys Kernowek dhe vos tavas bew** could mean any of:

'She said that Cornish had been a living language.' *or*
'She said that Cornish was a living language.' *if we opt not to adjust the tense*
(Her actual words: "Cornish was a living language.")

or

'She said that Cornish was a living language.' *or*
'She said that Cornish is a living language.' *if we opt not to adjust the tense*
(Her actual words: "Cornish is a living language.")

or

'She said that Cornish would be a living language.' *or*
'She said that Cornish will be a living language.' *if we opt not to adjust the tense*
(Her actual words: "Cornish will be a living language.")

As you can see, modern English is not wholly without ambiguity. But the degree of ambiguity is much greater in Cornish when we employ the infinitive construction.

If you are worried about the temporal ambiguity when using this construction, you can add a clarifying adverb or adverbial phrase. In the case of the example you could say **Hy a leverys Kernowek dhe vos tavas bew i'n jëdh hedhyw**. But the original spoken words were, you recall, simply **Kernowek yw tavas bew.** It may be dangerous to embroider them – here the added phrase perhaps makes the statement more limited or more emphatic than the speaker may have intended.

Practys Eth ha Try Ugans
Exercise Sixty Eight

How would you say the following in Cornish? Provide three sentences for each: using **fatell** and related words, employing **dell** and related words, and using the infinitive construction.

> I said it was the silliest idea I had heard in many years. He reports that everyone has the equipment they need. It is amazing that she walks three miles to lectures every morning. Did your father say he agreed? Mark felt, after a dreadful first half, that his favourite team had already lost the match.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

alwheth *m* key, **carten** *f* card, **coronal** *m* colonel, **grassa dhe** *phr* thank, **gwary bord** *m* board game, **kedhow** *m* mustard, **keslowena** *f* congratulations, **lovan** *f* rope, **mùrder** *m* murder, **Pywdô** Cluedo®, **stevel** *f* room, **tyby** *v* think (an idea)

Practys Naw ha Try Ugans
Exercise Sixty Nine

Danyel re drouvyas an gwary bord Pywdô.

Danyel	**Mabm! Fest lowen oma. Mark ha Demelsa, anjy a gollas. Aga dew! Ha my a wrug gwainya!**
Elen	**Fatla wrusta hedna, Danyel?**
Danyel	**Kyns oll, me a wrug tyby Mêstresyk Redrudh dhe wil an mùrder i'n hel dauncya gans an lovan. Hèn o cabm yn tien.**
Elen	**Ha pandra wrusta tyby nessa?**
Danyel	**Coronal Kedhow dhe wil an mùrder i'n gegyn gans an alwheth know.**
Elen	**O hedna gwir?**
Danyel	**Nag o, soweth. Ena me a jaunjyas only an stevel. Me a leverys an mùrder dhe vos gwrës i'n *rom studhya*. Ha gans Mark nyns esa carten vëth. Na gèn Demelsa. Na genef vy naneyl. Ytho hèn o gwir glân – ha my a wrug gwainya!**

Elen   **Keslowena! Now remember grassa dhe Demelsa ha Mark a dhesky an gwary dhyso.**

Alwheth know means 'spanner'.

Remember is the inflected imperative (addressing one person) of **remembra**.

Unforced word order

Unforced word order is the order in which words and phrases are arranged when we are not putting special emphasis on any of them, nor concerned to achieve a more pleasing rhythmical effect.

We already know a lot about word order for the verb, the subject, the direct object. Other information in a sentence is provided by what we call 'adverbials'. These may be single word adverbs or phrases made with prepositions.

In Cornish the correct unforced position for adverbials is *after* the verb / subject / object. And the proper unforced order for adverbials in this position is (1) place, (2) manner, (3) time. That is why Danyel says he guessed Miss Scarlett committed the murder **i'n hel dauncya** (place) **gans an lovan** (manner). If it had been part of the game to guess *when* the murder was committed, Danyel might have said **i'n hel dauncya gans an lovan nos Sul** ('on Sunday night').

If adverbials are fronted, the word order is typically reversed. So a really excited Danyel might have said **Nos Sul gans an lovan i'n hel dauncya hy a wrug mùrder!** But where all three kinds of adverbial occur together, it is often better style to break the string by fronting just one of them. Most commonly this will be the time adverbial. So Danyel could also say **Nos Sul hy a wrug mùrder i'n hel dauncya gans an lovan**.

Some other uses of the infinitive construction

The infinitive construction is also employed in certain other situations.

It may be used with **govenek** 'hope'. For example, **yma govenek dhedhy ev dhe bassya y apposyans** 'She hopes he'll pass his exam'.

It can be employed with **otham** 'need'. For instance, **ma otham dhèm why dhe waya gàs carr** 'I need you to move your car'.

We may use the infinitive construction with **whans** 'wish'. For example, **yma whans dhedha ty dhe dhos dhe'n kyffewy** 'they want you to come to the party'.

The infinitive construction is also employed with **res** 'necessity' when making an assertive inference. For instance, **res yw why dhe gôwsel Kernowek in Yêth an**

Weryn 'you must have been speaking Cornish at Yeth an Werin'**.** Contrast **res yw dhywgh côwsel Kernowek in Yêth an Weryn** 'you must speak Cornish at Yeth an Werin', expressing obligation. And remember that **res** requires the short forms of verb **bos**.

Vocabulary

Here are a few more new words.

arayans *m* layout (*also* arrangement), **cortes** polite, **grassyans** *m* gratitude

Practys Deg ha Try Ugans
Exercise Seventy

Otta Danyel ha'y rassyans ev.

Danyel	**Gromercy, Demelsa, te dhe wary Pywdô genama.**
Demelsa	**Res yw Mabm dhe erhy hebma dhis. Wèl, cortes teg osta, ytho my a vëdh cortes inwedh. Bÿth na lavar a'n dra, Danyel! Pywdô yw gwary a'n cotha in gwir, mès y brevy unweyth arta a veu showr a wherthyn.**
Danyel	**Mark, gromercy ty kefrës dhe wary genam.**
Mark	**Dâ lowr, Danyel. Ow thro vy lebmyn. Yma otham dhybm ty dhe dhos ha gorfedna genef arayans nowyth dhe'n trainow munys.**

Bÿth na lavar a'n dra means 'Don't mention it', politely acknowledging someone's thanks.

*'If' construction with **dos***

Mar 'if' is often combined with inflected forms of verb **dos**, and these are followed by **ha** + verb-noun. For example:

mar teuv vy (*or* **teuma**) **ha redya**	if I read
	(literally, 'if I come and read')
mar têta ha redya	if you read
mar teuva ha redya	if he reads
mar teu hy ha redya	if she reads
mar teun ny ha redya	if we read
mar tewgh why ha redya	if you read (plural or stranger)
mar towns y ha redya	if they read

So we could say, for instance, **mar teuv vy ha redya an lyver-ma, me a yll desky moy Kernowek** 'if I read this book I can learn more Cornish'.

We use either particle **ny** (more common) or particle **na** to make a negative 'if' clause. As usual, these become respectively **nyns** and **nag** before forms of **bos** beginning with a vowel. So we might say, for example:

Mar ny (*or* **na**) **dheta ha checkya an wiasva, ny wodhes py fordhow yw degës.**
'If you don't check the website, you won't know which roads are closed.'

As always, we generally substitute **hag** for **ha** in front of a vowel. For instance, **why a vëdh attês mar tewgh hag esedha obma** 'you'll be comfortable if you sit here'.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

aysel *m* vinegar, **larj** generous, **olew** *m* olive oil, **plegadow** *m* wish, inclination, **sêsnans** *m* dressing (for salad)

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Practys Udnek ha Try Ugans
Exercise Seventy One
</div>

Tùbmas ha Hecka êth dhe dhebry salad.

Tùbmas	*(dhe was an boosty)* **Yma whans dhybm erhy an salad.**
Hecka	**Ha dhybmo kefrës.**
Tùbmas	*(dhe Hecka)* **Ha mar teuma hag erhy borger gans an salad, le gwag vedhaf vy dohajëdh pàr hap.**
Hecka	**Ogh, Tùbmas!**
Tùbmas	*(dhe'n gwas)* **Mara teuv vy ha govyn borger, a vëdh keus warnodho?**
Gwas	**Mars owgh plegys, syra. Ha mar tewgh hag erhy an borger, why a yll kemeres asclas ganso inwedh.**
Hecka	**Tùbmas, nâ! Asclas ny a dhebras dê.**
Tùbmas	**Dâ lowr. Asclejen vëth, mès borger ha keus wàr ev. Ha'n salad, mar pleg.**
Gwas	**Ha pan vaner sêsnans wàr agas salad?**
Hecka	**Olew hag aysel a vëdh dâ.**
Tùbmas	**Maras yw res debry salad, tabm whecka tra yw flegadow vy. Me a vydn kemeres porcyon larj a sêsnans mil enys.**

Mara is an alternative form of **mar** 'if' and **maras** is an alternative form of **mars**.

Talking about sand

The ordinary word for 'sand' when it is on the seashore is **treth**. The tendency to interpret **treth** as 'beach' is understandable, but **treth** can in fact be any sandy place that is *like* the seashore: a sand pit in a children's play area, for instance. And not every

beach will be **treth** – if the beach is shingle, that will just be **bùly bian** ('pebbles') **ryb an mor**. Other Cornish words may correspond to English 'sand'. A sand dune is **towan**. Sand as a material, or occurring naturally inland, is **tewas**. Note that **treth** has a colloquial alternative **dreth**.

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Practys Dêwdhek ha Try Ugans

Exercise Seventy Two

</div>

It's a warm weekend and the Tonkins are relaxing on a Cornish beach. Look at the picture below. What can you talk about, using all you have learned so far? You can say what is *not* in the picture as well. Ask questions about it too.

Extra vocabulary: **bùcket** *m* bucket, **castel** *m* castle, **gwedrow howl** *pl* sunglasses, **hot** *m* hat, **towal** *m* towel

Lesson Whêtek

Lesson Sixteen

*Indirect statement with **bos** clause*

To express an indirect statement when the tense of the actual words is *present* we may substitute a '**bos** clause' for an infinitive construction. For example:

Hy a leverys bos Kernowek tavas bew.
'She said that Cornish was a living language.'

Here **bos Kernowek** is akin to a genitive construction. Literally, the meaning is 'She said Cornish's being a living language.'

The form of a **bos** clause resolves the ambiguity inherent in the infinitive construction, because its use as an indirect statement signals the actual words must have been **"Kernowek *yw* tavas bew."**

Usually in Cornish, as we have learned, possessive pronouns are employed with a verb-noun to indicate a direct object. But in the case of a **bos** clause, exceptionally, the possessive pronoun will refer to the grammatical *subject*. For instance:

Hy a leverys *y vos* tavas bew.
'She said that it (Cornish) was a living language.'
(Literally, 'She said its being a living language.')

For greater clarity we often prefer to use *special personal forms of verb-noun **bos*** instead.

So
Hy a leverys dha vos ow côwsel Kernowek yn tâ.
may also be expressed as
Hy a leverys *y bosta* ow côwsel Kernowek yn tâ.
'She said that you speak Cornish well.'

Here are all the personal forms of verb-noun **bos**. The initial **y** in these forms is a merely a 'dummy' that causes no mutation. It is *not* the affirmative particle **y** that is regularly followed by Fifth State mutation.

y bosaf vy *or* **y bosama**	that I am / was
y bosta	that you are / were
y bos ev	that he is / was *or* that it is / was (masculine reference)
y bos hy	that she is / was *or* that it is / was (feminine reference)

y boson ny	that we are / were
y bosowgh why	that you are / were (plural or stranger)
y bosans y	that they are / were

So putting all this together:

Hy a leverys, "Th'eroma colhy ow blew."
becomes
Hy a leverys hy bos ow colhy hy blew.
or
Hy a leverys y bos hy ow colhy hy blew.

Bos clause in other situations

A **bos** clause may replace an infinitive construction in *any* situation where the reference is *present* as opposed to future or past. So we might for instance say either **res yw ty dhe vos muscok** or **res yw dha vos muscok** 'you must be mad'. Contrast the examples with **govenek**, **otham**, **whans** and **res** in Lesson Fifteen, where in each case the reference was either future or past, so a **bos** clause would not be a possible alternative.

Indirect statement expressed with affirmative particle y

Whenever the actual words begin with affirmative particle **y** (**yth**), we are permitted to retain them as an indirect statement, adjusting the pronoun and optionally adjusting the tense as usual. So a further possibility will be **Hy a leverys yth esa** (*or* **yma**) **hy ow colhy hy blew**.

Indirect statement with fronted subject

There is another way of tackling indirect statement when its subject is positioned before the verb (connected by link particle **a**) and the actual words are *future* or *preterite* (or employ any inflected tense of the principal verb). If the actual words are for instance **"Me a vydn** (*or* **wra**) **golhy ow blew"** or **"Me a wrug golhy ow blew"** or **"Me a wolhas ow blew"**, then we can simply retain these words as an indirect statement (adjusting the pronoun), saying **Hy a leverys hy a vydn** (*or* **wra**) **golhy hy blew** or **Hy a leverys hy a wrug golhy hy blew** or **Hy a leverys hy a wolhas hy blew** as appropriate.

This way of forming an indirect statement is shunned by many speakers of Cornish today, perhaps because it is too reminiscent of English grammar. Certainly it will be poor style to express every relevant indirect statement in this manner, to the exclusion of other possibilities. But there can be no harm in using the method judiciously.

Very limited interchangeability of short and long forms

If the predicate is an adjective, **yma** and **ymowns** may be substituted for usual **yw** / **yns**. Imperfect **esa** / **esens** may *not* be substituted for **o** / **êns**. But we do sometimes encounter **o** / **êns** where **esa** / **esens** would more strictly be required.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

dystrôwy *v* destroy, **genesyk** native, **kepar dell**[2] just as / like, **porth** *m* harbour (*also* cove), **prowt** proud, **settya** *v* set

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Practys Tredhek ha Try Ugans
Exercise Seventy Three

</div>

An teylu Tonkin yw devedhys in Sèn Malow.

Danyel	**A allaf vy mos ow honen oll dhe'n dre in mes?**
Mark	**Na yllyth. Kepar dell in Trûrû, res yw dhe jy mos gèn Mabm pò Tas pò Demelsa pùpprës. Naneyl ny allama *vy* mos ow honen oll, saw in cres an dre yn unsel.**
Danyel	**Pandr'yw dhe weles obma?**
Mark	**Wèl, an mor, ha'n porth. Ha cals istory. Fosow settys adro dhe'n dre goth. Ny a yll kerdhes warnodhans. Yma an dre teg – mars yw dâ genes tyleryow a'n par-na. Tas a lavaras tell yw Sèn Malow udn dre a veu dystrôwys in Secùnd Gwerryans an Bÿs. Ha leverel y bosans y prowt a'y byldya arta dres lies bledhen.**
Danyel	**A yllyn ny côwsel Sowsnek orth an bobel?**
Mark	**Ymowns y oll ow côwsel Frynkek. Me a wor nebes geryow deskys i'n scol. Yma darn a'n dus ow côwsel Bretonek kefrës, saw ma meur moy Bretonek i'n pow dhe'n west. Demelsa a dhescas tabm Bretonek. An kensa chaptra a'y lyver hy! Yma hy ow leverel bos res dysqwedhes revrons dhe bobel ha'ga thavas genesyk mars eson ny ow qwetyas revrons dhe'n Kernowek. A wosta? Bretonek ha Kernowek yw kenderow an eyl dh'y gela.**
Danyel	**Now kenderow yw dhe wil revrons dhodho. Mabm a leverys hedna lower mis alebma, i'n carr, ow mos dhe vysytya Jûlyan in Keresk. Orth pobel obma i'n dre dhana – my a vydn côwsel Kernowek.**

Le meaning 'place'

Le 'less' should not be confused with **le** 'place'. The usual words for 'place' are **tyller** and **plâss**, but the old word **le** 'place' is still employed in certain fixed expressions. We have already met **py le** 'where' and **in le** 'instead of'. To these we can add **in neb**

le 'somewhere, anywhere' and **in pùb le** 'everywhere'. And **may** 'where' is regularly strengthened to **le may** whenever it has no specific antecedent. For example:

Ev êth le may hylly ev cafos dewas.
'He went where he could get a drink.'

Likewise, we employ **le na** if the 'where' clause is negative. For example:

Ev êth le na wodhyn ny y gafos.
'He went where we could not find him.'

We sometimes find **le may** / **le na** used when **may** alone, or **ma na** in a negative context, would be enough. In these cases, a comma is appropriate in writing.

Ev êth dhe'n tavern, le may hylly ev cafos dewas.
'He went to the pub, where he could get a drink.'

Ev êth dhe Loundres, le na yllyn ny y gafos.
'He went to London, where we could not find him.'

Colloquially **le may** can become **le'ma**, **lebma** or **leba**.

*Conjunction **pàn***

We cannot use **may** to mean 'when' or **ma na** 'when not' if there is no specific antecedent. Instead we employ the conjunction **pàn**. This is followed by Second State mutation. The negative equivalent is **pàn na**, followed by Second State, or **pàn nag** before forms of **bos** beginning with a vowel. For example:

Pàn wrussyn ny vysytya Trûrû, pòr dhâ veu an beneglos genen.
'When we visited Truro, we really liked the cathedral.'

Me a gemeras marth pàn na wrug ev dos adermyn.
'I was astonished when he did not arrive on time.'

Occasionally **pàn** / **pàn na** is used even though **may** / **ma na** would also be possible.

For example, we might say either of the following:
An kydnyaf yw an sêson may ma an del ow codha dhywar an gwëdh.
An kydnyaf yw an sêson pàn usy an del ow codha dhywar an gwëdh.
'Autumn is the season when the leaves drop from the trees.'

When the action or state of the verb is continuous, **pàn** is equivalent both to 'when' and also to English 'while'. For example, **ny a wrug gweles lies gùlan pàn esen ny ow kerdhes wàr an âls** 'we saw many gulls when (while) we were walking on the cliff'.

For now, you should employ **pàn** with past tenses only. You will need a little more grammar to handle **pàn** correctly in other situations. That will come in Book Three. And you must be careful not to confuse **pàn** 'when' (short vowel) with **pan** 'what' (longer vowel).

Colloquially **pàn** is often heard as **pà**, and it can be so written. Note also the irregular particle that may be inserted in idiomatic phrases like **pàn th'esa dyweth an vledhen** 'at the end of the year'.

Practys Peswardhek ha Try Ugans
Exercise Seventy Four

How would you say the following in Cornish?

When there was a lot of snow last winter, we couldn't drive on these roads at all. I met your friend Alys while I was visiting Truro. That must be the time I had flu. Once they had finished their supper they sat and watched a film. I was shocked when they told me what they had done.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

Eglos Melan Mullion, **Kembra** Wales, **peneglos** *f* cathedral, **sans** holy, **semlant** *m* appearance

Practys Pymthek ha Try Ugans
Exercise Seventy Five

Yma an teylu Tonkin ow vysytya an Beneglos in Sèn Malow.

Demelsa	**Kerys dhybm yw an beneglos-ma. Hy yw meur cotha ès an beneglos in Trûrû.**
Powl	**Nebes radnow inhy a veu byldys i'n dêwdhegves cansbledhen. Byldyes o an beneglos in Trûrû i'n *nawnjegves*. Onen a'n nowetha peneglosyow in Breten Veur yw hodna.**
Mark	**A wrug Malow, an den sans, byldya an eglos-ma pà veuva devedhys in mes a Gembra?**
Powl	**Hèn o pell kyns, i'n wheffes cansbledhen.**
Danyel	**Ha pàn nag o va devedhys dhe'n Vreten Vian na whath, yth esa ev trigys in Eglos Melan in Kernow.**
Elen	**Hèn yw whedhel coth, Danyel, adar an gwir.**
Powl	**Gesowgh ny dhe gerdhes le may hyllyn ny miras wàr an Fenester Rosen.**
Demelsa	**Arnowyth yw, mès pòr deg hy semlant.**

Lesson Seytek
Lesson Seventeen

Negative indirect statement

A negative indirect statement is always introduced by **na** (occasionally **dell na** with transposed noun subject – see Lesson Fourteen). We apply Second State mutation after **na** and **dell na**. Before a vowel in forms of **bos** we use **nag** (**dell nag**). For example:

Hy a leverys, "Nyns yw Kernowek tavas bew."
Hy a leverys nag o Kernowek tavas bew.
or occasionally
Hy a leverys Kernowek dell nag o tavas bew.

Sequence of tenses and changing of pronoun as for **fatell** and **dell**.

Hy a leverys, "Nyns esof ow colhy ow blew."
Hy a leverys nag esa hy ow colhy hy blew.
'She said that she was not washing her hair.'
or more colloquially
Hy a leverys nag usy hy ow colhy hy blew.
'She said she isn't washing her hair.'

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

arvor *m* coast, **fram** *m* frame, **Gwengamp** Gwengamp (French, Guingamp), **Lanuon** Lannuon (French, Lannion), **qwartron** *m* part of town (*also* direction), **Sèn Briek** Sant-Brieg (French, Saint-Brieuc)

Saying 'nor'

Na means 'nor'. It combines with possessive pronouns just like **ha** 'and'. It likewise becomes **nag** – optionally but very frequently – when the next word begins with a vowel.

Practys Whêtek ha Try Ugans
Exercise Seventy Six

Udn jëdh a howl tobm, an teylu Tonkin êth i'n carr tro ha'n west. Anjy a erviras nag esa whans brâs dhedhans sevel in Sèn Briek pò Gwengamp. Y a wrug pêsya bys in Lanuon. An lies chy fram predn in qwartron coth an dre-na o pòr sêmly dh'aga syght; dell o kefrës an eglos wàr an vre awartha. Acordys veu Elen ha Demelsa nag

o Sèn Malow hanter mar dhynyak. Wosa prës ly an pymp a lewyas dhe'n arvor in rag. Ena yth esa Elen ha Demelsa owth omhowla gà honen yn lowen, ha Danyel a dhalathas byldya castel treth. Mark a leverys na vydn maw fur gwil an eyl tra na'y gela, hag yth esa ev ow qwary gwyls lowr gans y das i'n mor.

Chy fram means 'timber frame house'.

Conjunction kyn

To say 'though' or 'although' introducing what is called a 'concessive clause' we use **kyn**. This is followed by Fifth State mutation. But before a verb beginning wth a vowel or h the form is **kynth**. For example:

Kyn whrug ev ûsya mappa, ev êth bytegyns wàr stray.
'Although he used a map, he still got lost.'

Kynth esen ny ow coslowes gans rach, ny wrussyn ny clôwes tra vëth.
'Though we were listening carefully, we didn't hear anything.'

After **kynth** we employ **eus**, **usy**, **usons** as appropriate. We do not say *kyn yma* or *kyn ymowns*.

We use **kyn na** if the concessive clause is negative. This is followed by Second State mutation. Before a form of **bos** beginning with a vowel **kyn nag** takes its place. For instance:

Kyn na allama bos i'n class an dhyw seythen usy ow tos, me a wra studhya an lessons chy.
'Although I can't attend class the next couple of weeks, I'll study the lessons at home.'

Kyn nag eus lies ehen coref i'n tavern-ma, an re usy obma yw fest dâ.
'Though there aren't many beers in this pub, the ones they have are very good.'

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Practys Seytek ha Try Ugans
Exercise Seventy Seven

</div>

How would you say the following in Cornish?

Although he is older than me, I'm wiser than he will ever be. Though there are plenty of buses, she chose to walk home, all the way from the city centre. There are only three toppings on this pizza though I certainly ordered four. We're convinced they're under a lot of stress although no one knows the reason. Though I studied three years at university, finding work is very hard.

Coordinating versus subordinating conjunctions

So far we have learned eight *coordinating* conjunctions: **ha** 'and', **pò** (**bò**) 'or', **poken** 'or else', **na** 'nor', **saw** 'but', **mès** 'but', **rag** 'for', **ytho** '[and] so'. And by now we have also learned quite a number of *subordinating* conjunctions: **mar** 'if' and its negatives **mar ny** and (less often) **mar na**; **dell** (**der, dr'**) 'as, *also* that'; **fatell** (**tell, ter, tr'**) 'that'; **na** (occasionally **dell na**) 'that … not'; **may** 'so that' and its negative **ma na** 'so that … not'; **pàn** 'when' and its negative **pàn na** 'when … not'; **kyn** 'although' and its negative **kyn na** 'although … not'.

There is an essential difference between these two different types of conjunction. After a coordinating conjunction any kind of word may appear, depending entirely on the sense of what we wish to say. But a Cornish subordinating conjunction is *always* followed immediately by a verb, subject to just one exception that we shall learn in *Cara Kernowek Book Three*. If you ever find yourself saying or writing a *noun*, a *pronoun*, an *adjective*, an *adverb* or a *preposition* immediately after a *subordinating* conjunction, you can be sure straightaway that you are not employing Cornish grammar correctly.

Vocabulary

Here are a couple more new words.

cresosek mediaeval, **derivadow** information (told or available for telling)

Practys Êtek ha Try Ugans
Exercise Seventy Eight

Kynth esa an howl ow spladna in Lanuon i'n jëdh kyns, an nessa myttyn o leun a law. An teylu Tonkin a wrug vysytya an hendrajy in castel cresosek Sèn Malow. Istory an dre yw hir. Yma lowr a dherivadow anodho i'n hendrajy, kyn nag yw va brâs y les dhe flehes martesen. Danyel a leverys y vos sqwith glân. Ogh soweth!

Saying 'before' and 'after'

In English 'before' and 'after' may be used either as prepositions or as conjunctions. But Cornish **kyns** [**ès**] 'before' (occasionally **dhyrag** 'ahead of'), **wosa** 'after', **warlergh** 'after' are only employed as prepositions. They may be used with a verb-noun when there is no change of subject. Otherwise they may be followed by an infinitive construction or a **bos** clause, and in this usage they are *equivalent* to the corresponding English conjunctions.

Here are a couple of examples with a verb-noun.

Me a wrug alwhedha an daras kyns [ès] mos dhe'n gwely.
'I locked the door before going to bed.'

Wosa vysytya lies gwiasva ev o moy ancombrys vëth.
'After visiting a lot of websites he was even more confused.'

Here are a couple of examples with an infinitive construction.

Yth esen vy solabrës ow wherthyn kyns ès ev dhe worfedna an ges.
'I was already laughing before he had finished the joke.'

Warlergh my dhe bassya an apposyans oll an teylu a wrug gôlya gans kyffewy.
'After I passed the exam the whole family celebrated with a party.'

Here are a couple of examples with a **bos** clause.

Wosa bos y das marow ev a werthas an chy.
'After his father died he sold the house.'

Hy a dheuth ajy kyns y vos parys.
'She came in before he was ready.'

Though we can employ either **kyns** or **kyns ès** with a noun (including a verb-noun) and a **bos** clause, we may only use **kyns ès** with a pronoun or an infinitive construction. **Kyns ages** occurs rarely instead of **kyns ès**.

Kyns has an alternative clipped form **kyn** that is optionally used in the compound preposition **kyn[s] pedn** 'by the end of, within (a period of time)'. Be careful not to confuse **kyn[s]** 'before' with **kyn** (**kynth**) 'although'.

Kyns is a busy word. We have also encountered it when it is used as an adverb meaning 'previously'; and in the phrase **kyns oll** 'first [of all]' (*also* 'most importantly, above all'); and adjectivally to mean 'former' (always in First State).

Practys Nawnjek ha Try Ugans
Exercise Seventy Nine

How would you say the following in Cornish?

> Didn't you check the price before hurrying to order all that kit on-line? Will your brother be showing her the photos before she departs. I'll do it before the end of the month. The police investigated the matter carefully after receiving your letter. We can get supper ready after this programme has finished.

Vocabulary

Here are a couple more new words.

a verr spÿs soon, **tour** *m* tower

Scon (*also* **yn scon**) and **a verr spÿs** both mean 'soon'. **Scon** carries the idea of something happening *quickly*; **a verr spÿs** highlights the *brevity* of the intervening time. **Spÿs** has a parallel form **speyss** that some prefer.

Practys Peswar Ugans
Exercise Eighty

Kyns ès an teylu dhe dhybarth orth an hendrajy, y êth wàr an tour awartha rag aspia an vu. Yth esa an glaw ow codha whath yn fen. Glëb êns y dredhans a verr spÿs, wosa anjy dhe gerdhes dhe'n treth bian in dadn fosow an dre. Scant nyns eus den vëth dhe weles, drefen an gewar uthyk. Ervirys veu Elen bos otham mos muscok yn tien. In hy sagh yth esa oll an dyllas neyja. Ytho y a wrug lebmel, aga fymp, i'n todnow. Warlergh gwary ena yn whyls, nyns o Danyel sqwith màn namoy.

Lesson Êtek

Lesson Eighteen

Asking 'why'

Cornish says **prag** to ask 'why'. In Book One we encountered it as a quick question on its own. It can also be built into a full sentence, in which case it must be followed by affirmative particle **y** (**yth**) in formal Cornish (for which link particle **a** may be substituted in more colloquial registers – it will then drop out before forms of **bos** beginning with a vowel). Remember that **y** causes Fifth State mutation; **a** causes Second State mutation. For example:

Prag y whrug ev mos dhe Bosvena?
or more colloquially
Prag a wrug ev mos dhe Bosvena?
'Why did he go to Bodmin?'

But **prag** is always followed by **yma** and **ymowns** (which have affirmative particle **y** embedded in them), never by **eus**, **usy** or **usons**. For example, **prag yma kebmys pobel obma?** why are there so many people here?

When **prag** is used on its own, or comes at the end of a sentence, an extended form **praga** can optionally be used instead. For example:

Hy a wrug govyn praga.
'She asked why.'

In Book One we encountered **prag na** 'why not' used as a question on its own. When this forms part of a sentence **na** is followed, as usual, by Second State mutation and **nag** is substituted for **na** before forms of **bos** beginning with a vowel. For example:

Prag na vydnowgh why côwsel Kernowek?
'Why won't you speak Cornish?'

Prag nag usons y i'n rom desky?
'Why aren't they in the classroom?'

Finally, we should note colloquial variants [**rag**] **fraga** and [**rag**] **fra** for both **prag a** and **praga**; colloquial variants [**rag**] **fraga na** and [**rag**] **fra na** for **prag na**.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

astel ober *m* strike (industrial dispute), **pobas** *v* bake, **sens a ges** *m* sense of humour, **slynk** slippery (also masculine noun 'slide'), **trebuchya** *v* stumble, **tu** *m* side, **tùlla** disappoint (*also* cheat, deceive), **yar** *f* hen, chicken

Practys Onen ha Peswar Ugans
Exercise Eighty One

Danyel	**Prag y whrug an yar mos dres an fordh?**
Cothman scol	**Na woram. Fraga rug hy nena mos dres an vorr?**
Danyel	**Rag dos bys i'n tu aral.**
Cothman scol	**Dha sens a ges yw a'n lacka oll, a wosta?**

Saying 'because'

To give a reason we employ **drefen**, **dre rêson**, **rag** and **awos**. While any of these prepositions can mean 'because of', each one has its own peculiarities that must be observed.

Drefen is used with nouns (including verb-nouns), nominal clauses (that is, infinitive constructions and **bos** clauses), and **na** (**nag**) clauses. It may also be used like **rag** as a coordinating conjunction meaning 'for'.

Dre rêson is used with ordinary nouns (not verb-nouns), nominal clauses, and **na** (**nag**) clauses. **Dre rêson a** is used with pronouns.

Preposition **rag** in the sense 'because of' is employed with infinitive constructions and with **na** (**nag**) clauses. And in the phrase **rag hedna** 'therefore'. Otherwise it usually means 'for' (benefit or purpose). With a verb-noun its meaning is nearly always purpose – as in Danyel's chicken joke (Exercise 81); but very occasionally we may encounter **rag** + verb-noun with some other meaning.

Awos is used in the sense 'because of' with nominal clauses, but *not* with **na** (**nag**) clauses, nor is it found before verb-nouns other than **bos**. With ordinary nouns and pronouns **awos** means 'concerning', 'because of', 'in spite of' according to context.

Practys Dew ha Peswar Ugans
Exercise Eighty Two

What do these sentences mean?

Ny a vydn kemeres kyttryn dre rêson an trainow dhe vos in astel ober. Contentys on ny dre rêson nag usy an kyttrynyow in astel ober. Hy a godhas awos bos an leder pòr serth. Why a vëdh saw teg drefen nag yw an stappys serth. Anjy a dheuth ha vysytya awos my dhe bobas tesen. Y coodh dhedhy mos dhe'n clojy drefen hy bos pòr glâv. Tùllys êns y dre rêson na wrug vy pobas tesen. An maw a drebuchyas rag

yth esa rew slynk wàr an cauns. Me a wor bos an rew slynk, rag an maw a drebuchyas warnodho. An golsowysy a vëdh sqwith glân, drefen nyns eus tra vëth nowyth i'n performans-ma.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

Carrek Loos i'n Coos St Michael's Mount, **el** *m* angel, **Dowr Tamar** the River Tamar, **empîr** *m* empire, **Frank** *m* Frenchman, **Meneth Myhâl** Mont Saint-Michel, **mytern** *m* king, **Roman** Roman
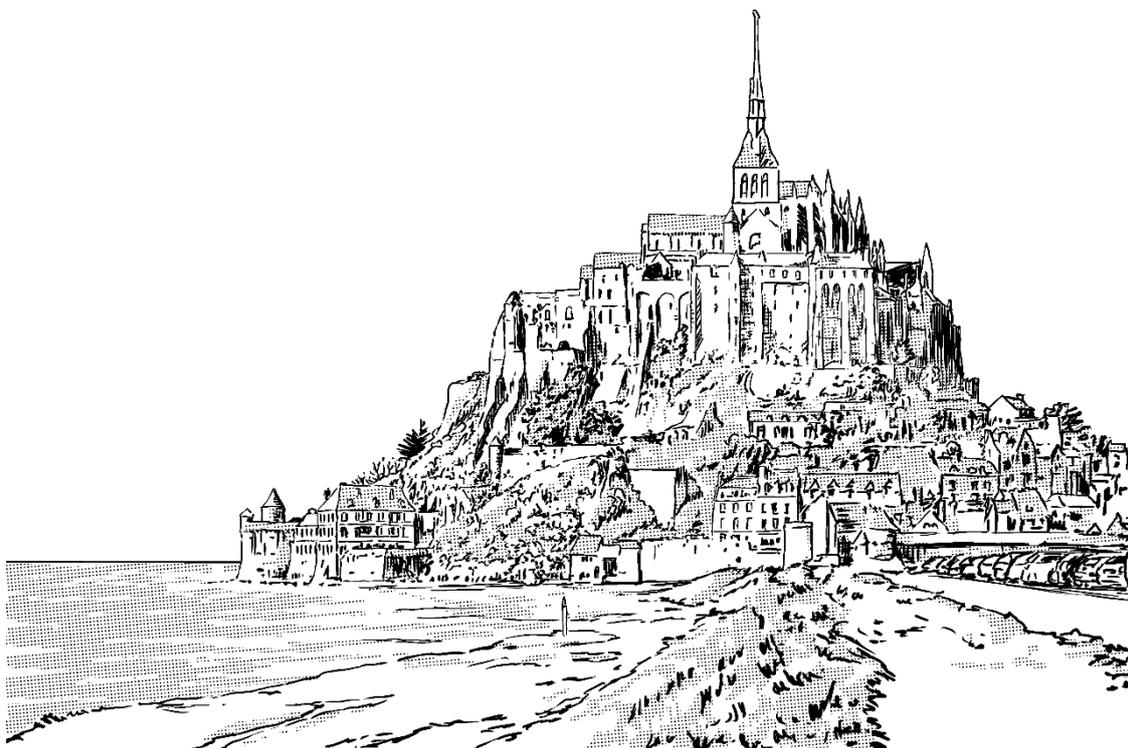
Practys Try ha Peswar Ugans
Exercise Eighty Three

Wosa dëdh a law uthyk, an howl re dheuth ha spladna arta. An teylu Tonkin yw gyllys tro ha'n ÿst, dhe vysytya Mont Saint-Michel.

Mark	**Meneth Myhâl, prag yma ev in Normandy, adar Breten Vian?**
Demelsa	**Drefen an tyller dhe vos kemerys gans an Francas Coth orth dyweth an Empîr Roman.**
Danyel	**Ha prag yth yw Meneth Myhâl y hanow?**
Elen	**Dre rêson an el Myhâl a wrug dysqwedhes y honen lies cansbledhen alebma hag erhy byldya eglos warnodho.**
Danyel	**In gwrioneth?**

Elen	**Wèl, martesen. Yth esa an bobel ow cresy indelma.**
Demelsa	**Ha Carrek Loos i'n Coos a veu rës dhe eglos Meneth Myhâl gans an mytern a'n tu aral dhe Dowr Tamar. Hèn yw skyla hy hanow Sowsnek. Saw an meneth-ma yw meur brâssa, heb dowt.**

Francas Coth: Demelsa is referring here to the Franks, a Germanic tribe that founded Neustria, one of the forerunners of modern France.

*Conjunction **abàn***

To say 'since' with a clause we use **abàn**. Mutation and negative as for **pàn** (Lesson Sixteen). In English we can use 'since' to speak about time or to give a reason, and Cornish **abàn** can be used in both these ways too.

English can also employs 'as' to give a reason, but Cornish does *not* use **dell** in this sense. You should either use **abàn** or one of the 'because' words that were explained earlier in this Lesson.

Vocabulary

Here are some more new words.

cler clear, **desîr** *m* desire, **kentrevak** *m* neighbour, **tregas** *m* stay (in a place)

Kerdhes in mes gans means 'see, date, go out with' in the romantic sense.

Lawl is a conversational form of **leverel** 'say'.

Practys Peswar ha Peswar Ugans
Exercise Eighty Four

What do the these sentences mean?

Meur moy lowen yw ow hentrevogyon abàn wrussons y dallath desky Kernowek. Convedhes ny wòn prag esta whath ow kerdhes in mes gèn an maw, abàn yw cler lowr y vos wor' dha dùlla jy. Abàn na wra glaw ma's yn scav, pàr hap y hyllyn ny ponya dy pòr uskys. Abàn esta 'covyn, me 'ra leverel dhys. Wèl, dhe lawl an gwir, ha te ow covyn …

Practys Pymp ha Peswar Ugans
Exercise Eighty Five

Ogas yw dyweth degolyow an teylu in Breten Vian. Abàn veu gà thregas i'n pow pòr blesont, yma desîr dhodhans vysytya a verr spÿs arta, ha whythra moy a'n tyleryow yw mar byctùresk. Demelsa yw ervirys dhe dhesky Bretonek yn sad rag an nessa tro. An apposyansow TODN, scant ny wrug hy predery anodhans abàn yw

hy devedhys i'n wlas-ma leun a daclow dhe les. Saw remembrys yns y lebmyn! A wrug hy gà fassya? Ha'ga fassya yn tâ? Warlergh nebes dedhyow hy a wra worteweth y wodhvos ...

Dhe les (literally, 'to [one's] interest') is broader than English 'interesting'. Depending on the context it may mean 'useful' or 'valuable'. Frequently the sense embraces all these ideas.

Colloquial Cornish

Do not be shy to elide weak vowels. The **a** in **an** 'the' is weakest of all because it is purely a spelling convention: it is hyper-correct to pronounce it **a** and, if you do, you will create confusion with **a'n** 'of the'. Though we may write **yma an**, for example, we nearly always *say* **yma'n**.

Likewise the vowel of **dhe** is often too weak to be heard in rapid speech. So although we might write **dhe ev**, we will generally say **dh'ev**.

Formal written Cornish marks only a few specific elisions. The reality of easy-flowing conversation is rather different. As well as words being run together, some words and phrases that begin with an unstressed vowel are often clipped, so that you may hear **vell** for **avell**, '**vorow** for **avorow**, **saya** for **assaya**, '**dro-ma** for **an dro-ma** 'this time', and so on.

Gerva

Vocabulary

Find spellings in the International Phonetic Alphabet at
www.skeulantavas.com/grammar/ipa-spellings

The listing is comprehensive for what has been covered specifically in Books One and Two. If you wish to go further at this stage, there is always *Gerlyver Kescows* – a Cornish dictionary for conversation.

Find the dictionary at
www.skeulantavas.com/vocabulary/a-cornish-dictionary-for-conversation

Abbreviations: *adj* adjective, *adv* adverb, *col* collective noun, *conj* conjunction, *f* feminine noun, *interj* interjection, *m* masculine noun, *part* particle, *phr* phrase, *pl* plural noun, *prep* preposition, *pron* pronoun, *quant* quantifier, *v* verb-noun.

Superscript numerals indicate required mutation of following word: ² Second State, etc. ⁽²⁾ means that Second State mutation depends on the overall grammar.

In entries for ordinary nouns, the plural form is also given; except that for collective nouns it is the singulative that is often added. All singulative nouns in **en** are feminine with a plural in **ednow**.

Names of cities, towns and villages can be treated as feminine because **cyta** or **tre** or **pendra** can be understood. Most can equally be regarded as genderless (but **Loundres** is *always* feminine). A few transparent names may be treated as masculine or feminine according to their composition – **Penzans** can thus be considered masculine because **pedn** is masculine or feminine because it is a **tre**.

Cardinal and ordinal numerals are listed up to twenty, together with the cardinals for fifty, a hundred and a thousand.

Find a handy reference table of verb forms taught in Book One at
www.skeulantavas.com/grammar/cara-kernowek-1-verb-forms

A name of letter A
Â! *interj* Ah!
a² *part* interrogative particle used to mark closed question
a² *part* link particle used to connect preceding subject or direct object to verb, also functions as relative pronoun
a² *part* vocative particle, optional when addressing someone
a² *prep* from; of
â *interj* ah
a'n par-ma *phr* such, like this

a'n par-na *phr* such, like that

a ble *phr* where from

a verr speyss *See* a verr spÿs

a verr spÿs *phr* soon

a'y vodh *phr* willingly, gladly

abàn[2] *conj* since

abarth *prep* on behalf of, in favour of (with nouns)

abarth dhe[2] *prep* on behalf of, in favour of (with pronouns)

abecedary *m* alphabet

abrës *adv* early

acordya *v* agree

acordyng dhe[2] *prep* according to

acowntyades *f acowntyadesow* female accountant

acowntyas *m acowntysy* accountant

adâl *prep* opposite (with nouns)

adâl dhe[2] *prep* opposite (with pronouns)

adar *prep* apart from

addys *adj* additional, extra

adermyn *adv* on time

adhelergh dhe[2] *prep* behind

adhevîs *adv* first class

adhewedhes *adv* late

adrëv *prep* behind (with nouns)

adrëv dhe[2] *prep* behind (with pronouns)

adro dhe[2] *prep* around; about

aga[3] *possessive pron* their; them (direct object of verb-noun)

agan *possessive pron* our; us (direct object of verb-noun)

agas *possessive pron* your (plural or stranger); you (plural or stranger, direct object of verb-noun)

ages *See* ès

airêwnans *m* air conditioning

ajy *adv* in(side)

ajy dhe[2] *prep* inside

aken dhewboynt *f akednow dewboynt* diaeresis

aken dhieskynus *f akednow dieskynus* grave accent

aken grobm *f akednow crobm* circumflex accent

alebma *adv* from here; ago

âls *f âlsyow* cliff

Alter Non Altarnun

alwhedha *v* lock

alwheth *m alwhedhow* key

alwheth know *m alwhedhow* spanner

amanyn *m* butter

amary *m amarys* cupboard

amendya *v* put right, mend

amêthyans *m* agriculture

amowntyor dêwlin *m amowntyoryon* laptop (computer)

amowntyor legh *m amowntyoryon* tablet (computer)

an[(2)] *definite article* the

an Bardh Meur *m* the Grand Bard

an eyl hy ben *phr* one another, each other (feminine reference)

an eyl y gela *phr* one another, each other

an jëdh *See* dëdh

an jëdh hedhyw *phr* the present day

an keth *adj* the same

an keth hedna *phr* the same [one / thing]

an kethsam *adj* the very same

an Norvÿs *m* the Earth

an pëth *pron* what (followed by adjectival clause)

an ragwel wàr an awel *phr* the weather forecast

an Tir Uhel North Cornwall

ancombra *v* embarrass; confuse

ancombrus *adj* embarrassing; confusing

anjy *personal pron* they, them

anken *m* adversity, stress

antarlyk *m antarlyckys* pantomime

anwos *m* chill; cold (illness)

ap *m appyow* app

apposyans *m apposyansow* examination

aral *adj (pl* **erel***)* other

arayans *m arayansow* arrangement; layout

arbednyk *adj* particular, special

arbenygya *v* specialize

areth *f arethyow* speech; lecture

arethor *m arethoryon* speaker (someone who gives a talk or lecture)

argemydnans *m* advertising, publicity

argya *v* argue (a case)

arhadow *m* order(s)

arhanty *m arhantiow* bank (financial)

arnowyth *adj* modern

arta *adv* [back] again

arvor *m* coast

Arwednak Falmouth

arweth *f arwedhyow* signal

asclas *col asclejen* chips, fries

ascorn *m eskern* bone

asen *m asenas* ass, donkey

askel *f eskelly* wing

aspia *v* catch sight of

ass *See* **assa**²

assa² *part* exclamatory particle

assaya *v* try (exercise, effort)

assayva *f assayvaow* gym

astel ober *m* strike (industrial dispute)

astell *f estyll* board

astell wydn *f estyll gwydn* whiteboard

aswon *v* know, recognize

atorny *m atornys* solicitor

attês *adj* comfortable

attêsva *f attêsvaow* toilet

a-ugh *prep* above

Austol St Austell

aval *m avallow* apple

aval kerensa *m avallow* tomato

avarr *adv* early

avauncya *v* advance, progress

avell *prep* as, like; than

avês dhe² *prep* outside

avorow *adv* tomorrow

awartha *adv* at the top

awedhya *v* influence

awel *f awellow* breeze; weather *See also* an ragwel wàr an awel

Awhêr vëth! *phr* Don't worry!

awoles *adv* at the bottom

awos *prep* because of; in spite of

aysel *m* vinegar

badna *m banahow* drop

bàn *See* in bàn

bara *m* bread

bara cogh *m* brown bread

bara nowyth *m* fresh bread

bardh *m berdh* bard *See also* an Bardh Meur

bargen *m bargenys* bargain

bargen tir *m bargenys* farm

barr *m barrys* bar

basnet *m basnettys* helmet

Be name of letter B

bedh *m bedhow* grave, tomb

ben *See* an eyl hy ben

Benatuw! *interj* Goodbye!

benthygya *v* borrow

benyn *f benenes* woman

bern *m* concern

berr *See* a verr spÿs

bès *See* mès

bew *adj* living

bêwnans *m* life

bian *adj* small, little

biologieth *f* biology

bledhen *f bledhydnyow* year

blew *col blewen* hair

blòg *m bloggys* blog

bloodh *m* year of age

blou *adj* blue

bò *See* pò

bodh *See* a'y vodh

bogh *f bohow* cheek

bohes *quant* little, not much

bohes venowgh *phr* seldom, rarely

boll *adj* see-through

bolla *m bollys* bowl

boneyl … bò *conj* either … or

bonkya *v* knock (single blow)

boosty *m boostiow* restaurant, café

bord *m bordys* table

borger *m borgers* burger

Bosvena Bodmin

botas *col botasen* boots

botel *m & f botellow* bottle

boton *m botodnow* button

box *m boxys* box

brâs *adj* big, large *See also* dre vrâs

brâs y hanow *phr* famous, renowned

brathy *v* bite (wound)

brav *adj* fine

bre *f breow* hill

bregh *f brehow* arm

breghtan *m breghtanow* sandwich

Breten Vian Brittany

Bretonek *m* Breton (language)

bro *f broyow* area, district

broder *m breder* brother

Bròn Wenyly Brown Willy

brow coffy *m browyow* coffee grinder

bryntyn *adj* noble

Brystow Bristol

bùcket *m bùckettys* bucket

budhek *adj* victorious

budhy *v* drown

bufê *m bufês* buffet

bùly bian *col bùlien vian* pebbles

bùs *See* mès

buwgh *f buhas* cow

bycken *See* bys vycken

bykîny *m bykînys* bikini

byldya *v* build

bys *prep* up to

bÿs *m* world

bÿs-efan *adj* worldwide, global

bys dhe[2] *prep + pron* up to, all the way to

bys in *prep + noun* up to, all the way to

bys vycken *phr* for ever

bysy *adj* busy

bytegyns *adv* however

Bÿth na lavar a'n dra *phr* Don't mention it

bythqweth *adv* ever *past reference*

byttele *adv* nonetheless

cabm *adj* crooked; wrong

cachya *v* catch

caderyor *m caderyoryon* chair[person]

cafos *v* find; get

Cala' Mê *m* May Day

calcorieth *f* mathematics

cales *adj* hard; difficult

caletter *m caleterow* difficulty

cals a[2] *quant* loads of

Cambron Camborne

camdyby *v* be mistaken

cân *f canow* song

cana *m canys* can (of)

cana *v* sing

canel *f canolyow* channel

cans *m/num* a/one hundred

cansbledhen *f cansbledhednow* century (100 years)

canstel *f canstellow* basket

cappa *m cappys* cap; topping

capten *m captenow* captain

cara *v* love; conditional tense used to mean 'would like to'

cara warbarth *phr* make love

caradow *adj* likeable, friendly

caregek *adj* rocky

cares *f caresow* girlfriend

caretys *col caretysen* carrots

cargor *m cargoryon* charger

carnak *adj* rocky

carr *m kerry* car

carrek *f carygy* rock

Carrek Loos i'n Coos St Michael's Mount

carten *f cartednow* card

carven *f carvenow* van; carriage (train)

caryans *m* transport

carygel *f carygellow* trolley

cast *m castys* trick

castel *m castylly* castle

cath *f cathas* cat

cauns *m* pavement

cawlvlejen *f cawlvlejednow* cauliflower

Ce name of letter C

cent *m centys* cent

certan *adj* certain

chair *m chairys* chair

chalynjya *v* challenge

chambour *m chambours* bedroom

charj *m* task, responsibility; electric charge

chaunjya *v* change

chauns *m chauncys* chance, opportunity

checkya *v* check

choclet *m choclettys* chocolate

chy *adv* at home

chy *m treven* house

chy bian *m* toilet, loo (room)

chy fram *m treven* timber frame house

chyffar *m* (commercial) deal(ing)

chyffar dyscowntys *m* (discount) sale(s)

class *m classys* class

classyk *adj* classic(al)

clâv *adj* sick, ill

cledh *adj* left (side)

cler *adj* clear

cleves clun *m* sciatica

cleves strewy *m* hayfever

client *m cliens* client

clojior *m clojioryon* nurse

clojiores *f clojiores* nurse

clojy *m clojiow* hospital

clôwes *v* hear

clùb *m clùbbys* club

codha *v* fall; see Book One Lesson 14 for 'should' / 'ought to'

codna *m conaow* neck

codna bregh *m conaow* wrist

codnek *adj* clever

codnek *m* skill

coffy *m* coffee

coffyva *f coffyvaow* café

cogh *adj* scarlet

côla *m* cola

collel *f kellyl* knife

collverk *m colverkys* apostrophe

colm codna *m colmow* [neck]tie

comolek *adj* cloudy

composa *v* straighten

compressa *v* oppress, bully

comptya *v* count

comptyer *m comptyers* counter

comyck *m comycks* comic

content *m contens* content

contentya *v* satisfy

convedhes *v* perceive, understand

copy *m copiow* copy

cor *See* wàr neb cor

coref *m* beer

corf *m corfow* body

corn *m kern* horn

cornet *m cornettow* corner

coronal *m coronals* colonel

cors *m corsow* course

cort *f cortys* court

cortes *adj* polite

cosel *adj* quiet, peaceful

cot *adj* short

côta *m côtys* coat

coth *adj* old

cothman *m cothmans* friend

covyd *m* covid

cowas *f cowosow* shower

coweth *m cowetha* companion

cowethas *f cowethasow* society

cowethyades *f cowethyadesow* female colleague

cowethyas *m cowethysy* colleague

cowl *m* soup

cowl-dhyfygys *adj* exhausted, burnt out

cowntnans *m* attitude

cows *m* talk[ing]

côwsel *v* speak

cowsor *m cowsoryon* speaker

crambla *v* climb

cras *adj* parched; toasted

creft *f* craft

creftus *adj* artificial

cres *adj* middle, medium *See also* in cres

cresen *f cresednow* centre (for some activity)

creslu *m* police

cresor *m cresoryon* midfielder

cresosek *adj* mediaeval

creswas *m creswesyon* policeman

cresy *v* believe

crev *adj* strong

cria *v* call; shout

cria in mes *phr* shout out; exclaim

cris *m crisyow* shirt, blouse

croglen *f croglednow* curtain

crow *m crowyow* shed

crowd *m crowdys* violin

cubmyas *m cumyasow* permission

cudha *v* cover, hide

cudyn *m cudydnow* difficulty, problem

cùsca *v* sleep

cùsk *m* sleep

cùssulya *v* advise

cuv *adj* kind

cynema *m cynemas* cinema

cyta *f cytas* city

cyvyl *adj* civil

dâ *adj* good

dâ lowr *phr* good / well enough, okay

da weles *phr* be seeing you

dadhel *f dadhlow* discussion, debate

dadn *See* in dadn

daffar *m* kit, equipment

daffar lybm *m* cutlery

dainty *adj* delicate

dallath *v* begin

dama wydn *f damyow gwydn* grandmother

danvon *v* send

dar *interj* damn (but very mild)

daras *m darasow* door

darn *m darnow* piece

dasvêwa *v* revive

dasvêwor *m dasvêworyon* revivalist

dauncya *v* dance

davas *f deves* sheep

De name of letter D

dê *adv* yesterday

de Gwener *adv/m* [on] Friday

de Lun *adv/m* [on] Monday

de Merher *adv/m* [on] Wednesday

de Merth *adv/m* [on] Tuesday

de Sadorn *adv/m* [on] Saturday

de Sul *adv/m* [on] Sunday

de Yow *adv/m* [on] Thursday

debry *v* eat

dëdh *m dedhyow* day

deg *num* ten

degea *v* close

degolyow *pl* holiday, vacation

degrê *m degrês* degree (temperature)

degves *num* tenth

dehen *m* cream

dehen rew *m* ice cream

del *col dêlen* leaves

dell² *conj* as; that

dell hevel *phr* apparently

dell wosta *phr* as you know

dell yw ûsys *phr* as usual

delycyùs *adj* delicious

demedhy *v* marry

demedhyans *m* marriage

den *m tus* man

den vëth *pron* anyone; no one (when negative implied)

der² *prep* through

dèr² *See* dell²

derevel *v* rise

derivadow *m* information (told or available for telling)

derivas *v* report, tell

descador *m descadoryon* teacher

descadores *f descadoresow* female teacher

descryvyans *m* description

desempys *adv* abruptly; immediately

desînor *m desînoryon* designer

desîr *m* desire

desky *v* learn; teach (to someone)

despît *See* in despît dhe² / wàr²

devedhys *See* dos

dew² *num* two

dew cans *num* two hundred

dewas *m dewosow* drink

dêwdhegves *num* twelfth

dêwdhek *num* twelve

dewetha *adj* latest, last

dewfrik *du* nose

dewheles *v* return

dêwla *du* (pair of) hands

dewlagas *du* (pair of) eyes

dêwlin *du* (pair of) knees

dha² *possessive pron* your *singular*; you *singular* (direct object of verb-noun)

dhana *adv* then

dhe² *prep* to

dhe'n dor *phr* down

dhe'n lyha *phr* at least

dhe dybmyn *phr* to pieces

dhe le *phr* less; the less

dhe ves *phr* off, away (motion)

dhe voy *phr* more; the more

dhe well *phr* better

dhia² *prep* from (place or point in time)

dhort *See* dhyworth

dhy *See* dy

dhyrag *prep* in front of

dhywar² *prep* off

dhyworth *prep* from (person or place)

dianowy *v* yawn

diegrys *adj* shocked

dien *adj* entire *See also* yn tien

dobyl *adj* double

dohajëdh *adv/m* [in the] afternoon

dollar *m dollars* dollar

don *v* carry

dor *m* ground *See also* dhe'n dor

dorn *m dornow* hand (in action)

dorydhieth *f* geography

dos *v* come

dôtys wàr[2] *phr* mad (passionate) about

down *adj* deep

dowr *m dowrow* water

Dowr Tamar the River Tamar

dowt *m dowtys* doubt *See also* heb dowt

dôwys *v* choose

dr' *See* dell[2]

drâma *m* drama, stage play

dre[2] *See* der[2] *prep*

dre lycklod *phr* probably

dre rêson *prep* because of

dre rêson a[2] *prep* because of (with pronouns)

dre vrâs *phr* on the whole, mostly

drefen *conj* for

drefen *prep* because of

dres *prep* across; past

dres ehen *phr* extremely

dres ena *phr* over there

dres kynda *phr* extraordinarily

dreth *See* treth

drîvya *v* drive

drog *adj* bad, evil (not used attributively)

drog dens *m* toothache

drog pedn *m* headache

droglam *m droglabmow* (unfortunate) accident

dry *v* bring

du *adj* black

Dùrda dhe why! *phr* Good day!

Dùrdala dhe why! *phr* Thank you!

durya *v* endure

Duw genes / genowgh! *phr* Goodbye!

dy *adv* (to) there

dybarth *v* separate; depart

dydhemedhy *v* divorce

dydo *adj* homeless

dydro *adj* direct

dyghtyor kebmyn *m dyghtyoryon gebmyn* general manager

dyharas *v* apologize

dyhow *adj* right (side)

dyllas *m dylajow* clothes

dynar *m denerow* penny

dynyak *adj* attractive, tempting

dyrêwl *adj* out-of-control

dyscans elvednek *m* primary education

dyscans nessa *m* secondary education

dyscans tressa *m* tertiary education

dyscor *m dyscoryon* learner

dyscores *f dyscoresow* female learner

dyscowntya *v* discount

dysert *m* desert

dysqwedhes *v* show

dysqwedhyans *m dysqwedhyansow* display, exhibition

dystowgh *adv* immediately

dystrôwy *v* destroy

dyvers *adj* diverse, different

dyvlâm *adj* blameless, innocent

dyw[2] *num* two (with feminine noun)

dyweth *m* end

dywros *f dywrosow* bicycle

dywros jyn *f dywrosow* motorcycle

dywros saya *f dywrosow* exercise bike

dywscoth *du* (pair of) shoulders

dywvregh *du* (pair of) arms

dywweyth *adv* twice

dywyêthek *adj* bilingual

dywysyk *adj* eager

E name of letter E

e *See* ev

eâ *interj* yes

edhen *m ÿdhyn* bird

edrek *m* regret

Ef name of letter F

effethus *adj* effective, efficient

egery *v* open

eglos *f eglosyow* church

Eglos Melan Mullion

ehen *f ehenow* kind *See also* dres ehen

El name of letter L

el *m eleth* angel

Em name of letter M

empîr *m* empire

En name of letter N

en *See* in

ena *adv* there; then *See also* dres ena

enef *f enevow* soul

entra *v* enter

entrans *m entransow* entrance

enys *f enesow* island

Er name of letter R

erbydn *See* warbydn

erel *See* aral

ergh *m* snow

erhy *v* order; book

ervira *v* decide

Es name of letter S

ès *prep* than

ès dell[2] *conj* than

esedha *v* sit (down)

esedhva *f esedhvaow* sitting-room, lounge

eseth *f esedhow* seat

eskys *f eskyjyow* shoe

estyll *col estyllen* shelves

êsy *adj* easy

et *See* in

êtegves *num* eighteenth

êtek *num* eighteen

eth *num* eight

êthves *num* eighth

eur *f euryow* time (specific) *See also* i'n eur-ma, i'n eur-na

ev *pron* he, him, it *(masculine)*

eva *v* drink

evredhyon *pl* disabled people

evreth *adj* disabled

êwnans *m êwnansow* repair

Ewny Redrudh Redruth

ewon *col* foam

ewon omwolhy *col* bubble bath

ewrô *m ewrôs* euro

Ex name of letter X

eyl *See* an eyl hy ben, an eyl y gela

fakel briansen *f* sore throat

fardellyk *m fardelygow* package

fâss *m fâssow* face

fast *adj* firm

fatell *adv/conj* how; that

fatla *adv* how

Fatla genes / genowgh? *phr* How are you?

fav coffy *col faven* coffee beans

fav pebys *col* baked beans

fay *m* faith

felshyp *m* friendship

fenester *f fenestry* window

fest *adv* very, really

Fethys glân ov vy! *phr* I give up!

flapjack *m flapjacks* flapjack

flogh *m flehes* child

floghcovia *v* babysit

flour *m flourys* flower

flû *m* flu

fol *m felyon* fool

folen *f folednow* page, sheet

fon *m fônow* phone

fordh *f fordhow* way; road

forgh *f fergh (also ferhy)* fork

formya *v* form, make

fos *f fosow* wall

fowt *m* lack

fra *See* prag *and* praga

fra na[2] *See* prag na[2]

fraga *See* prag *and* praga

fraga na[2] *See* prag na[2]

fram *m* frame

frank *adj* free

Frank *m Francas* Frenchman

fresk *adj* fresh

freth *adj* eager, energetic

frig *m frigow* nostril

frôsek *adj* fluent

frût *m frûtys* fruit

Frynkek *m* French (language)

fùgen Dhanek *f fùgednow Danek* Danish pastry

fur *adj* wise, sensible

fylm *m fylmys* film

fystena *v* hurry

fysyk *m & f* physics

fyt *m fyttys* match (sport)

fytty *adj* (very) suitable

gà[3] *See* aga[3]

gaja *m gajys* pledge *See also* Ow gaja dhe why

gallos *v* be able to

galwans *m galwansow* profession

gàn *See* agan

gans *prep* along with; by

gans rach *phr* carefully

garow *adj* rough

garr *f garrow* leg

gàs *See* agas

Gas cavow dhe wandra! *phr* Stop worrying!

gasa *v* leave, let

gasa dhe godha *phr* drop

gass *m* gas

Ge name of letter G

gela *See* an eyl y gela

gelwel *v* call; invite

gèn *See* gans

genesyk *adj* native

genys *adj* born

ger *m geryow* word

gerva *f gervaow* vocabulary

ges *m* joking

glân *adj* clean

glân *adv* very, completely

glas *adj See* Book One Lesson 1

glaw *m* rain

glëb *adj* wet

glebyor *m* moisturizer

glin *m glinyow* knee

gnas *f gnâsyow* character

gobonya *v* trot; jog

gocky *adj* silly, stupid

godhvos *v* know (facts); know how to

gohebyth *m gohebydhyon* reporter

goheles *v* shun, avoid

gol *m gôlyow* goal (football etc)

goles *m golesow* bottom, base

golf *m* golf

golghva *f golghvaow* bathroom

golhy *v* wash

golok *f* look; scene

Golowan *m* Midsummer

golsowes *v* listen [to]

golsowyas *m golsowysy* listener

gôlya *v* celebrate

gonysegeth *f* culture

goodh *f godhow* goose

gool *m golyow* festival

gordhuwher *adv/m* [in the] evening

gorfedna *v* finish

gorher *m gorheryow* cover, lid

gormynadow *m* commandment

gorra *v* put; take (to a place)

gorsaf *m gorsavow* station

gortheby *v* answer

gortos *v* wait (for)

gorwel *m* horizon

gour *m gwer* husband

govel *f govelyow* workshop, garage (for repairs)

govyn *m* enquiry; request

govyn *v* ask, enquire, request

gradhyans *m* graduation

grâss *m grassow* grace; thanks

grassa dhe[2] *phr* thank

grassyans *m* gratitude

greun olew *col greunen* olives

gromercy *interj* thank you

gul *See* gwil

gùlan *f gùlanas* gull

gwag *adj* empty; blank; hungry

gwainya *v* win

gwandra *v* wander

gwara *m* goods, merchandise

gwarior *m gwarioryon* player; actor

gwary *m* game; stage play

gwary *v* play

gwary bord *m gwariow* board game

gwas *m gwesyon* assistant; waiter

gwasca *v* press

gwâv *m gwavow* winter

gwaya *v* move

gwaynten *m* spring (season)

gweder *m* glass; mirror

gwederjy *m gwederjiow* greenhouse

gwëdh *col gwedhen* trees

gwedren *f gwedrednow* glass, tumbler

gwedrow howl *pl* sunglasses

gwelen *f gwelyny* stick

gweles *v* see

gwelha *adj* best

gwelhe *v* improve

gwell *adj* better *See also* dhe well

gwels *col* grass

gwely *m gweliow* bed

Gwengamp Gwengamp (French, Guingamp)

gwer *adj* green

gweres *m* help

gwerrya *v* make war

gwerryans *m gwerryansow* war

gwertha *v* sell

gwerthjy *m gwerthjiow* store, retail outlet

gweryn *f* folk

gwetha *See* gwitha

gwethyas *m gwethysy* keeper

gwetyas *v* expect

gwe'us *f gwessyow* lip

gwias *m* web; internet

gwiasva *f gwiasvaow* website

gwil *v* make; do; *auxiliary forming future and preterite tenses*

gwil ergh *phr* snow *verb*

gwil glaw *phr* rain *verb*

gwil gweres dhe[2] *phr* help *verb*

gwil keser *phr* hail *verb*

gwil mencyon a[2] *phr* mention *verb*

gwir *adj* true

gwir *m* truth *See also* in gwir

gwitha *v* keep

gwlanek *m gwlanegyon* jumper

gwlas *f gwlasow* country (political)

gwreg *f gwrageth* wife

gwrës *See* gwil

gwrioneth *See* in gwrioneth

gwycor *m gwycoryon* trader

gwycores *f gwycoresow* female trader

gwydhyô *m gwydhyôs* video

gwydn *adj* white

gwydnrudh *adj* pink

gwyls *adj* wild

gwyns *m gwynsow* wind

gwynsak *adj* windy

gwysca *v* put on (clothing); dress

gwythresek *adj* active

gyllys *See* mos

Ha name of letter H

ha *conj/prep* and; with

hag *See* ha

hager *adj* ugly (not used attributively)

hàm *m* ham

hanaf *m hanavow* cup

haneth *adv* tonight, this evening

hanow *m henwyn* name

hanter *m hanterow* half

hanter-broder *m hanter-breder* half-brother

hanter-cans *m/num* fifty

hanter-dëdh *m* midday

hanter-nos *f* midnight

hardh *adj* 'able and bold', competent, decisive

hast *m* haste

hâtya *v* hate

hâv *m havow* summer

havysy *pl* summer tourists

hawnsel *m* breakfast

hay *interj* hey

heb *prep* without

heb dowt *phr* without doubt, of course

heb mar *phr* certainly, of course

heb namoy *phr* only

hebma *pron* this [one] *(masculine)*

hedhyw *adv* today

hedna *pron* that [one] *(masculine)*

hel *m & f helow* hall

Hellës Helston

hèm *See* hebma

hèn *See* hedna

hendrajy *m hendrajiow* museum

hevleny *adv* this year

hir *adj* long; tall (of people)

hobma this [one] *(feminine)*

hodna that [one] *(feminine)*

holan *m* salt

holergh *adj* late

holyor *m holyoryon* follower

hòm *See* hobma

hòn *See* hodna

honen *m* self

hot *m hottys* hat

howl *m* sun, sunshine

howlek *adj* sunny

hudhyk *adj* merry

hunros *m hunrosow* dream

hùrâ *interj* hurray

hy *personal pron* she, it *(feminine)*

hy[3] *possessive pron* her; her, it *(feminine)* (direct object of verb-noun)

I name of letter I

in *prep* in; into

i'n eur-ma *phr* now

i'n eur-na *phr* then

i'n gwelha prës *phr* fortunately

i'n gwetha prës *phr* unfortunately

i'n kettermyn *phr* at the same time

in bàn *phr* up

in cres *prep* in the middle of

in dadn[2] *prep* under

in dadn gel *phr* secretly

in despît dhe[2] *prep* in spite of

in despît wàr[2] *See* in despît dhe[2]

in gwir *phr* indeed

in gwrioneth *phr* really, actually

in kever *prep with possessive pron* in respect of, in relation to

in le *prep* instead of

in le a[2] *prep + verb-noun, demonstrative pronoun* instead of

in mes *phr* out

in mes a[2] *prep* out of

in mesk *prep* among

in neb le *phr* somewhere

in pan vaner *phr* in what way

in pùb le *phr* everywhere

in rag *phr* forwards

indelma *adv* like this

injynor *m injynoryon* engineer

injynores *f injynoresow* female engineer

injynorieth *f* engineering

inter *prep* between

intra *See* inter

inwedh *adv* also

iredy *adv* indeed

is- *prefix* sub-

iscarg *m iscargow* download

isel *adj* low

iselbris *adj* cheap

is-starneth *m* infrastructure

istory *m* history

Italek *m* Italian (language)

Italy Italy

Italyan *adj/m Italyans* Italian

Japanek *adj* Japanese

Je name of letter J

jel *m* gel

jel cowas *m* shower gel

Jovyn Jove

jorna *m jornys* day

joy *m* joy

jùnya *v* join

jy *pron* you *singular* (subject or with inflected preposition)

jyn *m jynys* engine; machine

jyn dywros *See* dywros jyn

Ke name of letter K

kebmyn *adj* common

kedhow *m* mustard

kedrydn *m & f* row, (violent) quarrel

kefrës *adv* too (also)

kegyn *f kegynow* kitchen

kel *See* in dadn gel

kelly *v* lose; miss

Kembra Wales

Kembrek *m* Welsh (language)

kemeneth *f kemenethow* community

kemeres *v* take

kemeres marth *phr* be astonished

kempen *adj* tidy

kemyk *m & f* chemistry

ken *adj* other

ken *adv* otherwise

kenderow *m kenderewy* male cousin

kensa *num* first

kensêwha *m* a.m.

kentrevak *m kentrevogyon* neighbour

kenytherow *f kenytherewy* female cousin

kenyver onen *pron* every one

kepar dell[2] *conj* just as / like

ker *adj* dear, expensive

kerdhes *v* walk

kerdhes in mes gans *phr* see, date, go out with

kerdhfôn *m kerdhfônow* mobile phone

kerens *pl* close relatives, parents

kerensa *f* love

Keresk Exeter

kerhes *v* fetch

Kernow *m Kernowyon* Cornishman

Kernow *f* Cornwall

Kernowegor *m Kernowegoryon* Cornish speaker

Kernowek *m* Cornish (language)

Kernowes *f Kernowesow* Cornishwoman

kert hir *m kertys* lorry

keschaunjya *v* exchange, swap

kescows *m* conversation

kescôwsel *v* have a conversation

kescùssulyans *m* conference

keser *col keseren* hail

keslowena *f* congratulations

kesobery *v* co-operate

kestaf *m kestavow* contact

keth *adj See* an keth

keth *m kêthyon* slave

kethsam *See* an kethsam

kettep pedn *phr* everyone

kettermyn *See* i'n kettermyn

keur *m keuryow* choir

keus *m* cheese

keus lefans *m* toadstools

kevarwedhor *m kevarwedhoryon* director

kever *See* in kever

kevren *f kevrenyon* link

kevres *m & f kevresow* series

kewar *f* weather

keyn *m keynow* back

kig *m* meat

kig yar *m* chicken (meat)

Kilgoodh Ust Cape Cornwall

kîlogram *m kîlogramow* kilo[gram]

kîlomêter *m kîlomêtrow* kilometre

knack *adv* right, just

knack obma *phr* right here

know *col knofen* nuts

ky *m keun* dog

kydnyaf *m* autumn

kydnyow *m kynyewyow* dinner

kyfeth *m* preserve (jam or marmalade)

kyffewy *col* party

kyn *conj* though, although

kyn *See* kyns [ès]

kyn na² *conj* though / although … not

kyn nag *See* kyn na²

kyn pedn *prep* by the end of, within (a period of time)

kynda *See* dres kynda

kyns *adv* previously; former (adjectivally)

kyns ages *See* kyns ès

kyns [ès] *prep* before

kyns napell *phr* before long

kyns oll *phr* first [of all]; most importantly, above all

kyns pedn *See* kyn pedn

kynth *See* kyn *conj*

kyttryn *m kyttrynyow* bus

lacka *adj* worse

lagas *m lagasow* eye

laghyades *f laghyadesow* female lawyer

laghyas *m lahysy* lawyer

Lanuon Lannuon (French, Lannion)

Lanust St Just

Lanwedhenek Padstow

larj *adj* generous

lavrak *m lavregow* (pair of) trousers

lavrak cot *m lavregow* (pair of) shorts

lawl *See* leverel

le *m leow* place *See also* in le, in le a², in neb le, in pùb le

le *quant* less; fewer *See also* dhe le

le'ma⁵ *See* may⁵

le may⁵ *See* may⁵

leba⁵ *See* may⁵

lebma⁵ *See* may⁵

lebmel *v* jump

lebmyn *adv* now

leder *f ledrow* slope; bias

lêdyor *m lêdyoryon* leader

lemyga *v* sip

lendya *v* lend

lent *adj* slow

lenwel *v* fill

lergh *See* warlergh

les *m* interest

les'hanow *m les'henwyn* nickname

lesky *v* burn

lesson *m lessons* lesson

lesson tre *m lessons* homework

lestry *pl* dishes

leth *m* milk

leth shakys *m* milkshake

leun *adj* full

leur *m leuryow* floor

leurneth *m* area (measurement)

leuv *f* hand

lev *m levow* voice

level *m levelyow* level

leverel *v* say

lewyas *v* steer; drive

lewyor *m lewyoryon* driver

lewyores *f lewyoresow* female driver

lewyth *m lewydhyon* governor (school)

lien *f* literature

lies *quant* many

lies gweyth *phr* many times

lies huny *phr* many people

lies torn *phr* often

lînen *f lînednow* line

loder *m lodrow* stocking

longya *v* belong

losk pengasen *m* heartburn

losow *col losowen* vegetables

lost *m lostow* tail; queue

losten *f lostednow* skirt

Loundres *f* London

lovan *f lovonow* rope

lowarth *m lowarthow* garden

lowen *adj* happy

Lowena dhis / dhywgh! *phr* Hello! Hi!

lower *quant* quite a few

lowr *adv* enough; quite

lowr a[2] *quant* lots of

lows *adj* loose; relaxed

lugarn *m lugern* lamp

lus *col lusen* bilberries, blueberries

lus rudh *col lusen* cranberries

ly *m & f lîvyow* lunch

lycklod *See* dre lycklod

lydn *m* liquid

lydn golhy lestry *m* washing up liquid

lyftya *v* lift

lyha *adv* least *See also* dhe'n lyha

lyther *m lytherow* letter

lyver *m lyfryow* book

lyver termyn *m lyfryow* magazine

lyverva *f lyvervaow* library

'm *See* ow[3]

-ma *part* this (with definite article)

mab *m mebyon* son

mabm *f mabmow* mother

mainys socyal *pl* social media

ma na[2] *conj* where not; when not; so that not

ma nag *See* ma na[2]

màn *adv* at all (with negative)

màn *num* zero

maner *f manerow* manner, way *See also* in pan vaner

manerow *pl* manners, habits

maneuryow *pl* small hours

mappa *m mappys* map

mar[2] *adv* so, as

mar[4] *conj* if *See also* heb mar

mar mydnowgh *phr* if you like

mar mynta *phr* if you like

mar pleg *phr* please

mar plêk *See* mar pleg

mara[4] *See* mar[4]

maras *See* mar[4]

margh *m mergh* horse

margh horn *m mergh* bike

marhas *f marhajow* market

marhogeth *v* ride

marnas *prep* except [for]

marow *adj* dead

mars *See* mar[4]

martesen *adv* maybe, perhaps

marthys *adj* amazing, wonderful

ma's *See* marnas

mas *See* vas, yn fas

mater *m maters* matter

mavy *personal pron* me (emphatic)

maw *m mebyon* boy, lad

may[5] *conj* where; when; so that

mayth *See* may[5]

me *personal pron* I

me a'th pës *phr* please

medheges *f medhegesow* female doctor (medical)

medhegneth *m* medication

medhegva *f medhegvaow* infirmary; GP's surgery

medhek *m medhygyon* doctor (medical)

medhel *adj* soft

melen *adj* yellow

mellya *v* interfere

men *adj* vigorous

men *m meyn* stone

mencyon *See* gwil mencyon a[2]

menestrouthy *m* (small) orchestra, band

meneth *m menydhyow* mountain

Meneth Myhâl Mont Saint-Michel

menowgh *adj* frequent

menystra *v* administer, manage

meras *See* miras

mernans *m* death

mery *adj* merry

mès *conj* but

mès *prep See* marnas

mes *See* dhe ves, in mes, in mes a[2]

mes a[2] *See* in mes a[2]

mesk *See* in mesk

messach *m messajys* message

mêster *m mêstrysy* master, boss

Mêster *title* Mr

Mêstres *title* Mrs, Ms, Ma'm

Mêstresyk *title* Miss

metya *v* meet

meur *adj* great

meur *adv* much, a lot

meur [a][2] *quant* much, a lot of

mil[2] *f/num* a/one thousand

mildir *f mildiryow* mile

miras *v* look

mis *m mîsyow* month

mis Du *adv/m* [in] November

mis Ebrel *adv/m* [in] April

mis Efen *adv/m* [in] June

mis Est *adv/m* [in] August

mis Genver *adv/m* [in] January

mis Gorefen *adv/m* [in] July

mis Gortheren *adv/m* [in] July

mis Gwydngala *adv/m* [in] September

mis Hedra *adv/m* [in] October

mis Kevardhu *adv/m* [in] December

mis Mê *adv/m* [in] May

mis Merth *adv/m* [in] March

mis Metheven *adv/m* [in] June

mis Whevrel *adv/m* [in] February

modryp *f modrebeth* aunt

mona *m* money

mor *m morow* sea

mordardhya *v* surf

mos *v* go

mos wàr stray *phr* get lost

mothow *pl* disaster

mowes *f mowesow* girl

moy *quant* more *See also* dhe voy

moyha *adv* most

moyha kerys *phr* favourite

munys *adj* tiny

mùrder *m* murder

muscok *adj* mad

mûsyk *m* music

my *See* me

mydnas *v* wish to (only in fixed phrases); *auxiliary forming future tenses*

mynysen *f mynysow* minute

myrgh *f myrhas* daughter

mytern *m myterneth* king

myttyn *adv/m* [in the] morning

na *conj* nor

na² *conj* that … not

na² *part* expresses certain negatives

na² *pron* who / which … not (introducing adjectival clause)

nâ *interj* no

-na *part* that (with definite article)

na … na *conj* neither … nor

na dâ na drog *phr* so-so

na hen *adv* otherwise (in negative sentence)

na whath *phr* yet (in negative sentence)

Nadelyk *m* Christmas

nag *See* na *and* na²

namna² *part* almost

namnag *See* namna²

namoy *adv* any more (in negative sentence) *See also* heb namoy

nampëth *See* neppëth

naneyl *adv* either (in a negative sentence)

naw *num* nine

nawnjegves *num* nineteenth

nawnjek *num* nineteen

nawves *num* ninth

neb *adj* some, any

neb *pron* someone, anyone

neb tra *pron* something, anything

nebes *quant* a little; a few

nebonen *pron* someone, anyone

nefra *adv* ever *present / future reference*

negedhek *adj* negative

negys *m negycyow* business

nen *m nenow* ceiling

nena *See* i'n eur-na

neppëth *pron* something, anything

nepprës *adv* sometime

nessa *adj* nearest; next; second (in a series)

new *f newyow* sink

neyja *v* swim; fly

neyth *m neythow* nest

Nor'vy *See* godhvos

Normandy Normandy

Norvÿs *See* an Norvÿs

nos *f nosow* night

nos dâ *phr* good night

nos jùnya *m nosow* hyphen

nosweyth ilow *f* (evening) concert

now *interj* now

nowodhow *pl* news

nowyth *adj* new

nùmber *m nùmbers* number

ny² *part* expresses negative statements

ny *personal pron* we, us

nyns *See* ny²

nyver *m nyverow* number

O name of letter O

Ô! *interj* Oh!

ober *m oberow* task, job

obma *adv* here

ogas *adj/adv* near; almost

ogas dhe² *prep* near to

ogas ha *prep* almost (with nouns, pronouns and numerals)

ogas hag *See* ogas ha

ogasty *adv* almost

ogh *interj* oh (emotion)

olew *m* olive oil

oll *adj* all

ombarusy *v* prepare oneself

omdava *v* contact (one another)

omdhesky *v* teach oneself

omdhon *m* behaviour

omdhon *v* behave

omdhyscor *m omdhyscoryon* self-study learner

omfydhyans *m* confidence

omhowla *v* sunbathe

omladha *v* kill oneself

omlath *v* fight (one another)

omsensy *v* feel (emotionally, mentally)

omvetya *v* meet up

omwolhy *v* wash (oneself)

omwysca *v* get dressed

ôn *m ên* lamb

onen *num/pron* one

onester *m* decency

only *adv* only

onyon *col onyonen* onions

optycyan *m optycyans* optician

opynyon *m opynyons* opinion

organek *adj* organic

orkestra *m orkestras* (large) orchestra

ort *See* orth

orth *prep* up against

ostel *f ostelyow* hotel

ot *See* otta

ot obma *phr* here is / are (pointing)

otham *m othobmow* need

otta *interj* there is, there are (pointing)

our *m ourys* hour

ow[3] *possessive pron* my; me (direct object of verb-noun)

ow[4] *part* employed with verb-noun

Ow gaja dhe why *phr* I'm willing to bet

ôwnter *m ôwntras* uncle

owraval *m owravallow* orange

owth *See* ow[4]

pà[2] *See* pàn[2]

packet *m packettys* packet

pad *m paddys* pad

padel *f padellow* pan

pain *m painys* pain

pal *f palyow* spade

pan *adj* what

pàn[2] *conj* when

pan lies *quant* how many

pan termyn [a][2] *adv* when

pan vaner *adj* what kind of *See also* in pan vaner

pana[2] *adj* what

pana dermyn [a][2] *phr* when

pana lies *quant* how many

pandra[2] *pron* what

panes *col panen* parsnips

paper *m paperyow* paper

par *See* a'n par-ma *and* a'n par-na

pàr hap *phr* perhaps

park *m parcow* enclosed field

park poblek *m parcow* park

parkya *v* park

parra *m parrys* team

parusy *v* prepare; cook

parys *adj* ready

passya *v* pass

pasty *m pastys* pasty

Pe name of letter P

peb *See* pùb *pron*

pebor *m peboryon* baker

peder *num* four (with feminine noun)

pedn *m pednow* head; end

pedn bloodh *m* anniversary; birthday

pedn êhel *m pednow* pole (of planet)

pel *f pelyow* ball

pel droos *f* football

pel gowel *f* basketball

pel neyjys *f* volleyball

pel roos *f* netball

peldrosyor *m peldrosyoryon* footballer

pelednyk *f pelenygow* pill

pell *adj* far

pellwolok *f* television

pendescadores *f pendescadoresow* female head teacher

pendom *adj* extreme (in attitude)

pendra *f pendrevow* village

peneglos *f peneglosyow* cathedral

pens *m pensow* pound

penvenyster *m penvenysters* prime minister

Penzans Penzance

perfeth *adj* perfect

performans *m performansow* performance

performya *v* perform

perna *See* prena

person *m persons* person

personek *adj* personal

perthy cov *phr* remember

perthyans *m* patience

perthynas *m perthynasow* relationship

peryl *m perylyow* peril, danger

peryllys *adj* dangerous

peswar *num* four

peswarden *m* quartet

peswardhegves *num* fourteenth

peswardhek *num* fourteen

peswora *num* fourth

pêsya *v* continue

pëth *pron* what *See also* an pëth

peur[5] *adv* when

pîbel *f pîbellow* pipe

pil *m pîlyow* battery

pînaval *m pînavallow* pineapple

planet *m planettys* planet

plâss *m plâcyow* place

plastyk *m* plastic

plat *adj* flat

plât *m plâtyow* plate

ple[5] *adv* where

plegadow *m* wish, inclination

plegya *v* bend

plegya *v* please

plêkya *See* plegya 'please'

plenta *quant* plenty (of)

plesont *adj* pleasant

pleth *See* ple[5]

plobm *m* lead (metal)

plos *adj* dirty

pluv *col pluven* feathers

pluvak *f pluvogow* cushion

pluven *f pluvednow* pen

pluven blobm *f pluvednow plobm* pencil

Plymoth Plymouth

pò *conj* or

pob *See* pùb *pron*

pobas *v* bake

pobel *f* people

poblans *m* population

poblek *adj* public

podcast *m podcastys* podcast

poken *conj* or else

poll neyja *m pollow* swimming pool

pols *m* moment (very short duration, *not* point in time)

polyshya *v* polish

polytygor *m polytygoryon* politician

pons *m ponsow* bridge

ponya *v* run

poos *adj* heavy

poos *m posow* weight

popty *m poptiow* bakery

pòr[2] *adv* very

porcyon *m porcyons* portion

porhel *m porhelly* pig

porpos *m* purpose, intention, plan

porth *m porthow* harbour; cove

Porth Ia St Ives

Porth Towan Porthtowan

Por'treth Portreath

pory *v* browse

posa worth *phr* lean against

possybylta *m possybyltas* possibility

posyjyon *m* depression, despair

pot *m pottow* pot

pôtya *v* kick

pow *m powyow* country

Pow Densher Devon

Pow Rësohen Oxfordshire

powes *m* rest, pause

powes *v* rest

pows *f powsyow* dress, frock

poynt *m poyntys* point

poyntyans *m poyntyansow* appointment, fixture

practys *m practycyow* practice; exercise

prag *adv* why

praga *See* prag

prag na[2] *phr* why not, why … not

predery *v* think

predn *m* wood

prena *v* buy

prenas *m prenasow* purchase

prenassa *v* go shopping

prës *m prejyow* time *See also* i'n gwelha prës, i'n gwetha prës

prës ly *See* ly

present *adj* present

presentya *v* present

presentyans *m* presentation

prevy *v* try (test)

pris *m prîsyow* prize; price

problem *m problemow* problem

profya *v* offer

profyans *m profyansow* offer

prow *m* advantage

prowt *adj* proud

pryntya *v* print

pryntyor *m pryntyoryon* printer

pùb *adj* every

pùb *pron* everyone

pùb eur oll *phr* always

pùb huny *pron* everyone

pùb termyn *phr* always

puber *m* pepper

pùbonen *pron* everyone

pùpprës *adv* always

pùptra *pron* everything

pur *adj* pure

pur[2] *adv* very (emphatic)

py *adj* which, what

py[5] *adv* where

py eur[5] *adv* what time, when

py hanow *phr* who (asking someone's name)

py le[5] *adv* where

py lies *quant* how many

py seul *quant* how much; how many

py tyller *adv* where

pyctour *m pyctours* picture

pyctùresk *adj* picturesque

pydn *See* warbydn

pygebmys *quant* how much; how many

pyle *See* py le

pymp *num* five

pympes *num* fifth

pymthegves *num* fifteenth

pymthek *num* fifteen

pyneyl *pron* which one (of two)

pynta *m pyntys* pint (of)

pysk *m pùscas* fish

pyth *adv* where

pytsa *m pytsas* pizza

pyw *pron* who; whose

Pywdô Cluedo®

qwalyta *m* quality

qwartron *m qwartronys* direction; part of town

qwestyon *m qwestyons* question

qweth *f qwethow* piece of fabric, garment

Qwo name of letter Q

qwylkyn *m qwylkydnow* frog

radn *f radnow* part

radna *v* divide; share

rag *conj* for

rag *prep* for; in order to; because of *See also* in rag

rag fra *See* prag *and* praga

rag fra na² *See* prag na²

rag fraga *See* prag *and* praga

rag fraga na² *See* prag na²

rag hedna *phr* therefore, that's why

raglavar *m raglavarow* foreword

ragwel *See* an ragwel wàr an awel

ranjy *m ranjiow* flat, apartment

ras *m rasow* favour

re *adv* too; too much, too many

re *pron* ones

re² *part* completive particle used with preterite tense; also functions as relative pronoun

re² *prep* by (in exclamations)

re bo govenek *phr* I hope so, let's hope so

re nebes *phr* too little

Redrudh *See* Ewny Redrudh

redya *v* read

remainya *v* remain, stay

remembra *v* remember

ren *See* re² *prep*

res *m* necessity

rës *See* ry

Rësohen Oxford

rêson *See* dre rêson, dre rêson a²

rêsonus *adj* reasonable

restryn *m restrydnow* file

revrons *m* respect

rew *m* ice

rêwlys *adj* regular

Ria reva! *interj* Gosh! Wow!

rial *adj* royal

rîvbost *m* email

rol *f rolyow* roll; list

rol prîsyow *f rolyow* price list

rolya *v* roll

rom *m rômys* room

rom desky *m rômys* classroom

rom kydnyow *m rômys* dining-room

rom studhya *m rômys* study

Roman *adj* Roman

roosweyth *m roosweythow* network

ros *col rosen* roses

rowtor *m rowtors* manager (football)

rudh *adj* red

ry *v* give

ryb *prep* beside

ryver *m ryvers* river

sad *adj* serious

sagh *m seghyer* bag

sagh keyn *m seghyer* knapsack

salad *m saladys* salad

salow *adj* safe and sound

sampyl *m samplys* sample

sans *adj* holy

sant melys *m sandys* dessert

sarf *f syrf* snake

savla *m savleow* position; (bus) stop

saw *conj* but

saw *prep* save [for]

sawor *m saworyow* fragrance; flavour

saworek *adj* fragrant

sawya *v* recover (after illness)

scant *adv* barely, hardly, scarcely

scappya *v* get away, escape

scav *adj* light (weight)

scavel [cronak] *f scavellow* mushroom

scavel serth *f scavellow* bar stool

sciens *m sciencys* science

scodhya *v* support

scol *f scolyow* school

scol elvednek *f scolyow* primary school

scolor *m scoloryon* (school) pupil

scon *adv* soon *See also* yn scon

sconya *v* refuse

scoodh *f scodhow* shoulder

scot *m* bill

scovarn *f scovornow* ear

screfa *See* scrifa

scrifa *v* write

scryvynyades *f scryvynyadesow* female secretary

secùnd *num* second

sëgh *adj* dry

sehes *m* thirst

sehyk *m sehygow* sachet

selsyk *col selsygen* sausages

selwel *v* save

semlant *m* appearance

sêmly *adj* handsome, pretty

sempel *adj* simple

Sèn Briek Saint-Brieg (French, Saint-Brieuc)

Sèn Malow Sant-Maloù (French, Saint-Malo)

sens a ges *m* sense of humour

sensy *v* hold

seny *v* sound, play (music etc)

serth *adj* steep

servyour *m servyours* tray

sêsnans *m* dressing (for salad)

settya *v* set

sevel *v* stand up; stand still, stop

sevur *adj* severe

sewt stanch *m* wetsuit

sewya *v* follow

sewyans *m sewyansow* consequence, result

seytegves *num* seventeenth

seytek *num* seventeen

seyth *num* seven

seythen *f seythednow* week

seythves *num* seventh

shakya *v* shake

shoppa *m shoppys* shop

showr a² *quant* loads of

shùgra *m* sugar

skeusen *f skeusednow* photograph

skit *m* diarrhoea

skydnya *v* descend, alight (from vehicle)

skyjyow sport *pl* trainers

skyla *f* reason

sley *adj* skilful

slynk *adj* slippery

slynk *m* slide

sodhva *f sodhvaow* office (place)

solabrës *adv* already

solas *m* solace; entertainment

sôlô *adj/m sôlôs* solo

son *m sonow* charm

soper *m* supper

soweny *v* prosper, succeed

soweth *interj* oh dear

sows cogh *m* tomato ketchup

Sowsnek *m* English (language)

Spaynek *m* Spanish (language)

specyfyk *adj* specific

spêda *f* success

spêna *v* spend

spessly *adv* especially

speyss *See* a verr spÿs

splat *m splattys* plot of ground

spladn *adj* splendid

spladna *v* shine

sport *m sportys* sport

spot a² *phr* a spot of

spÿs *See* a verr spÿs

sqwardya *v* tear

sqwith *adj* tired

sqwîthus *adj* tiresome, boring

staga *v* attach

stalla *m stallys* stall

stap *m stappys* step

stât *m stâtys* state

stevel *f stevelyow* room

stoppyans *m* constipation

stowt *adj* stubborn

stranjer *m stranjers* stranger

strêt *m strêtys* street

strêt arâg *m* fore / high street

strethassay *m strethassayes* lateral flow test

studhya *v* study

studhyans *m* study, studies

studhyor *m studhyoryon* student

styfa *v* squirt

sùgan *m* juice

sur *adj* sure

surhe *v* ensure; insure

sy *See* jy

syger *adj* lazy

syght *m* sight; appearance

syra *m* sir

tabm *m tybmyn* bit *See also* dhe dybmyn

tackya dêwla *phr* clap, applaud

taclow *pl* things

talkya *v* talk

tan *m tanow* fire

tanow *adj* thin

tas *m tasow* father

tatty *m tettys* potato

tava *v* touch

tavas *m tavosow* tongue; language

tavern *m tavernyow* pub

tawesek *adj* silent

Te name of letter T

te *personal pron* you

tê *m* tea

tecter *m* beauty

tedha *v* melt

tednva *f* tension, stress

tednvos *m* attraction

teg *adj* beautiful, pretty

teg *adv* very, really

tejy *personal pron* you (emphatic)

tell² *conj* that

tenewen *See* wàr an eyl tenewen, wàr an tenewen aral

tèr² *See* tell²

tergweyth *adv* three times

termyn *m termynyow* time

terrys *adj* broken

tesen *f tesednow* cake

testen *f testednow* subject, topic

tesyans *m* warming

tevy *v* grow

tevysak *adj/m tevysogyon* grown up, adult

tew *adj* thick; fat

tewas *col* sand (as material)

Tewyn Plustry Newquay

text *m textow* text (all senses)

teylu *m teyluyow* family

teyr³ *num* three (with feminine noun)

th' *See* yth

tiak *m tiogow* farmer

tioges *f tiogesow* female farmer

tir *m* land *See also* an Tir Uhel

tîtel *m tîtlys* title

to bian *See* aken grobm

tobm *adj* warm, hot

tobma *v* heat, warm up

todn *f todnow* wave

TODN *abbr* GCSE

tôkyn *m tôknys* ticket

tomals *quant* ample amount

toos *m* dough

top *m topyow* top

torr *f torrow* belly

torrva *f* breakdown

toth *m* speed

tour *m tourow* tower

towal *m towellow* towel

towan *m tewednow* sand dune

tôwlel *v* throw

tôwlel towl *phr* make a plan

towlen *f towlednow* plan; program(me)

tr' *See* tell[2]

tra *neuter* thing, stuff

tra vëth *pron* anything; nothing (when negative implied)

train *m trainow* train

trainow munys *pl* model railway(s)

traweythyow *adv* sometimes, occasionally

tre *adj* home

tre *adv* home; back

tre *f trevow* town

trebuchya *v* stumble

tredanek *adj* electric

tredh *See* inter

tredhegves *num* thirteenth

tredhek *num* thirteen

trega *See* triga

tregas *m* stay (in a place)

tregys *See* trigys

trehy *v* cut

tremenyades *f tremenyadesow* female passenger

tremenyas *m tremenysy* passenger

tremil *num* three thousand

tressa *num* third

treth *m trethow* sand; (sandy) beach

Treth Fystral Fistral Beach

treusva *f treusvaow* crossing

triga *v* dwell, stay

trigva *f trigvaow* address

trigys *adj* resident (in a place)

trist *adj* sad

tro *f troyow* turn; time (occasion)

tro ha *prep* towards

tro hag *See* tro ha

trobel *m* trouble

troblus *adj* troublesome

trog dyllas *m trogow* suitcase

trog tedna *m trogow* drawer

troos *m treys* foot

tros *m* noise

trouvya *v* discover, find

truan *adj* poor (to be pitied)

trûlergh *m trûlerhow* path

Trûrû Truro

trùssa *v* pack

try[3] *num* three

tryhans *num* three hundred

tu *m tuyow* side *See also* wàr an eyl tu, wàr an tu aral

tùchyng *prep* about, concerning

tùlla *v* cheat, deceive; disappoint

tùrnypen *f tùrnypednow* swede

ty *See* te

tyby *v* think (an idea)

tybyans *m* idea

tyller *m tyleryow* place

tyller vëth *adv* anywhere (in negative sentence); nowhere (when negative implied)

tyly *v* pay; see Book One Lesson 14 for 'should' / 'ought to'

Û name of letter U

udn[(2)] *num* one (with noun)

udn jëdh *See* dëdh

udnek *num* eleven

udnyk *See* yn udnyk

ufern *m ufernyow* ankle

ugans *num* twenty

ugansves *num* twentieth

ugh-clojiores *f ugh-clojioresow* sister (senior nurse)

uhel *adj* high *See also* an Tir Uhel

unegves *num* eleventh

unsel *See* yn unsel

unweyth *adv* once

unweyth arta *phr* [once] again

unyêthek *adj* monoglot

ûnyversyta *f ûnyversytas* university

uskys *adj* quick

ûsya *v* use

uthyk *adj* dreadful, terrible

uthyk tra *phr* a lot

vas *adj* useful

Ve name of letter V

very nebes *phr* very little

vëth *attributive adj/adv* any (in negative sentence); no (when negative implied); even (after comparative)

viaj *m viajys* journey, trip

viajya *v* travel

vlòg *m vloggys* video blog ('vlog')

vorr *See* fordh

vôtya *v* vote

vu *m vuys* view

vysytya *v* visit

vytamyn *m vytamynow* vitamin

vytel *col* food

'w³ *See* ow³

war *adj* wary, cautious

wàr² *prep* on; on to

wàr an eyl tenewen *phr* on the one hand

wàr an eyl tu *phr* on the one hand

wàr an tenewen aral *phr* on the other hand

wàr an tu aral *phr* on the other hand

wàr neb cor *phr* in any way, at all (with negative)

warbarth *adv* together

warbydn *prep* against

warlergh *prep* after

We name of letter W

wèl *interj* well

west *adj/m* west

whans *m whansow* wish, desire

whar *adj* humane; civilized

wharvedhyans *m wharvedhyansow* event

wharvos *v* happen, take place

whath *adv* still; even (before comparative)

whe *num* six

whedhel *m whedhlow* story

wheffes *num* sixth

wheg *adj* sweet

whegh *See* whe

whej ha skit *phr* gastro-enteritis

whel *m whelyow* work

whelas *See* whilas

whêlva *f* laboratory

wherthyn *v* laugh

whêtegves *num* sixteenth

whêtek *num* sixteen

whilas *v* seek, look for

why *personal pron* you (plural or stranger)

whybonel *f whybonellow* flute

whyst *interj* hush

whythra *v* explore, research, investigate

whythror *m whythroryon* explorer, researcher

wolcùm *adj* welcome

worteweth *adv* at last

worth *See* orth

wor'tu ha *prep* towards

wor'tu hag *See* wor'tu ha

wosa *prep* after

y⁵ *part* affirmative statement particle

y *personal pron* they

y² *possessive pron* his, its *(masculine)*; him, it *(masculine)* (direct object of verb-noun)

'y² *See* y²

'y³ *See* hy²

yagh *adj* well (referring to health)

yahus *adj* healthy (good for health)

yar *f yer* hen, chicken

Ye name of letter Y

yêhes *m* health

yet *m yettys* gate

yêth *f yêthow* language

yêyn *adj* cool, cold

yêyner *m yêyneryow* refrigerator

yn[5] *part forming adverb from adjective*

yn fas *adv* properly

yn scon *adv* soon

yn tien *adv* entirely, totally, completely

yn udnyk *adv* uniquely; only

yn unsel *adv* only (reinforcing **saw**)

yogùrt *m* yoghurt

ÿs wheg *col ÿsen* sweetcorn

ÿst *adj/m* east

yth *See* y[5]

ytho *adv* [and] so, therefore

Zed name of letter Z