

KERNEWEK DRE LYTHER

Dyskans Peswardhek

Peswardhegves Dyskans

Present and Past tenses of **gul**, Interrogative particle **A²**, Particle **Y⁵**,

Res yw, **Gwell yw**, Possessive Adjectives with nouns and verb nouns,

Future Tense, Present and Past tenses of **gweles** and **galloes**

Y'N TREN

Dy' Lun, myttinweyth, Erwan a² wrug mos dhe Roazhon y'n tren. Res yw dhodho drehedhes ena erbynn unnek eur. Y'n eur na yma dyskans yn kever an yeth kernewek. Dhe'n gorsav, ev a² vetyas orth dew² goweth a² wra mos dhe'n² bennskol kekeffrys.

“Myttin da, Erwan,” yn-medhons i dhodho.

“Myttin da,” Erwan a² worthybis, “Fatla genowgh hedhyw? A² wrussowgh hwi kowlwul an skrif yn kever ‘Gwrians an Bys?’”

“Na² wrug,” unn koweth a worthybis. “Yma genen bys y'n seythun a² dheu dh'y² worfenna. A² wrussysta y² gowlwul dha honan?” “Gwrug,” Erwan a² worthybis.

“Ottomma an tren!” yn-medh an nessa kothman. “Res yw dhymm kavoes kocha ma nag eus meggi. Gwell yw genev kocha a'n par na.”

Yn gwella prys, an tren a wrug hedhi, ha daras a-dherag an tri howeth gans arwoedh “Meggi difennys.”

“Deun yn rag!” yn-medh Erwan. “Nyns eus saw unn den ynno.”

An tri a² wrug gorra aga seghyer war an roes-fardellow. Skon, an tren a wrug dalleth an fordh, an peswar tremenyas a'ga esedh, attes. Wosa pypm mynysenn an den a² wrug gorra tan dhe sigaret ha hwytha kommolenn euthek a² vog a-berth y'n kocha!

Gerva

a ² wrug mos	went
tren (p) trenow	train
res yw dhodho	he must
erbynn unnek eur	by 11 o'clock
y'n eur na	at that time
dyskans (p) dyskansow	lesson
gorsav (p) gorsavow	station
kekeffrys	also
a ² worthybis	answered.
fatla genowgh?	how are you?
A ² wrussowgh hwi kowlwul?	Have you completed?
kothman(p)kothmans	friend/comrade
a'ga esedh	sitting
Na ² wrug	No, I haven't
an seythun a ² dheu	the coming week
dh'y worfenna	to finish it
ottomma	here is
res yw dhymm	I must
kavoes	(to) find
kocha	carriage

ma nag eus meggi	where there is no smoking
gwell yw genev	I prefer
a'n par na	like that
yn gwella prys	fortunately
hedhi	to stop
daras (p) darasow	door
a-dherag	in front of
arwoedh (f) (p) arwoedhyow	sign
meggi difennys	no smoking
deun yn rag!	come on!
nyns eus saw	there is only
gorra	to put
sagh (p) seghyer	bag
roes-fardellow (f)	luggage rack
dalleth	to begin
fordh (f) (p) fordhow	journey
tremenyas	passenger
attes	comfortably
mynysenn(f)(p)mynysennow	minute
tan (p) tanyow	fire
sigaret	cigarette

hwytha	to blow	a² vog	of smoke
a-berth y'n	into the	leverel	to say
kommolenn(f)(p) kummol	cloud	eva	to drink
euthek	frightful		

“Gwrians an Bys” “The Creation of the World” is a Cornish Miracle Play

Govynnnow

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) Fatell² wrug Erwan mos dhe Roazhon? | 6) Piw a leveris, “Ottomma an tren.”? |
| 2) P'eur eus dyskans dhodho? | 7) Pygemmys tus esa y'n kocha? |
| 3) Piw a² vetyas orth Erwan dhe'n gorsav? | 8) Ple⁵ hworras an gowetha aga seghyer? |
| 4) Piw ny² wrug kowlwul an skrif? | 9) Pandr'a² wrug an den? |
| 5) Prag na² wrug ev y worfenna? | 10) Pyth esa y'n kocha ena? |

Gramasek

A. Present Tense of **gul** (to do/make). Here are the unmutated forms.

gwrav	I do/make	gwren	we do/make.
gwredh	you do/make	gwrewgh	you do/make.
gwra	he/she/it does/makes	gwrons	they do/make.

These unmutated forms are not normally used except to answer “Yes” to a question:

A² wra ev dos a-vorow? Gwra.	Will he come tomorrow? Yes. (he will.)
A² wredh megi? Gwrav.	Do you smoke? Yes (I do).
A² wra Yowann gwertha lyvrow? Gwra.	Does Yowann sell books? Yes.
A² wren ni mos y'n tren? Gwren.	Do we go in the train? Yes (we do)

B. Interrogative particle **A²**. The questions above show how this is used. It is put before the verb, and so starts the question off when there is no question word like “What” or “Where.” If the subject is a pronoun, it may be omitted or placed after the verb. (See lessons 7 & 12). If the subject is a noun, as in the third example, it follows the verb.

Exercise 1. Translate the following into Cornish with the help of the examples above.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1) Do we go to Cornwall today? Yes. | 6) Do they correspond? Yes. |
| 2) Do they speak Breton? Yes. | 7) Does Anjela learn Cornish? Yes. |
| 3) Do you drink beer? Yes. | 8) Do Anjela and Yann live in Brittany? Yes |
| 4) Does he fish? Yes. | 9) Do they drink coffee? Yes. |
| 5) Do you like Lowena? Yes. | 10) Do they go to a class? Yes. |

C. Particle **Y⁵**. When used in a simple verbal sentence or main clause, the verb has the particle **Y⁵** in front, and is often followed by the subject whether noun or pronoun. Subject pronouns may be in the forms given in lesson 12. These forms usually carry some stress. Alternative unstressed forms are often used and these are joined on to the verb. Both possibilities are shown in the table below:

Y⁵ hwrav vy (hwrama)	I do/make	Y⁵ hwren ni	We do/make
Y⁵ hwredh jy (hwreta)	You do/make	Y⁵ hwrewgh hwi	You do/make
Y⁵ hwra ev (hwrava)	He/It does/makes	Y⁵ hwrons (hwrons i)	They do/make
Y⁵ hwra hi	She/It does/makes		

e.g.	Y⁵ hwrav vy kewsel Kernewek	I (do) speak Cornish.
	Y⁵ hwra kesskrifa gans Yann.	He corresponds with Yann.
	Y⁵ hwren ni triga yn Kernow.	We live in Cornwall.

Note that these verbal sentences start with **Y⁵** followed by the verb, then the subject, if expressed.

Exercise 2. Translate the following into Cornish using verbal sentences, as in the examples above.

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1) I learn Cornish. | 6) He sends the letter. |
| 2) Yowann sells books. | 7) You drink beer. |
| 3) We fish. | 8) They work. |
| 4) They read my letters. | 9) He goes. |
| 5) Anjela speaks French. | 10) She returns. |

D. Negative of gul. The verb is made negative by replacing the particle **Y⁵** with the negative particle **Ny²**.

Ny² wrav kewsel Kernewek.	I do not speak Cornish.
Ny² wra hi kesskrifa gans Yann.	She does not correspond with Yann.
Ny² wra Anjela triga yn Kernow.	Anjela does not live in Cornwall.

Exercise 3. Repeat exercise 2 in the negative, with the help of the examples.

E. Past Tense of Gul. The table below shows the unmutated forms:

Gwrug (Y⁵ hwrugavy)	I did/made.
Gwrussys (Y⁵ hwrussysta, hwruss'ta)	You did/made.
Gwrug (Y⁵ hwruga)	He/She/It did/made.
Gwrussyn	We did/made.
Gwrussowgh	You did/made.
Gwrussons (Y⁵ hwrussons i)	They did/made.

These forms are used just like the present tense forms, i.e.:

Preceded by "A²" to ask a question:

A² wrug ev mos dhe Roazhon?	Did he go to Rennes?
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Unmutated to answer "Yes" to a question:

A wruss'ta gweles Erwan? Gwrug.	Did you see Erwan? Yes (I did.)
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Preceded by "Y⁵" to make a simple affirmative statement:

Y⁵ hwrugavy gul an ober.	I did the work.
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Preceded by "Ny²" to make a negative statement:

Ny² wrussons i gul an ober.	They did not do the work.
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Exercise 4. Using the past tense of gul and with the help of these examples, translate the following into Cornish.

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1) I went to Rennes. | 6) He did not fish. |
| 2) She sent the letter. | 7) Did he sell the book? Yes. |
| 3) They spoke to you. | 8) Did you drink the wine? Yes. |
| 4) We did not work. | 9) Did they put their bags on the luggage rack? Yes. |
| 5) You did not write. | 10) Did I show you my book? Yes. |

(Remember that any of the above affirmative statements can also be expressed as a Nominal sentence, and indeed this would be the more usual and natural form:

e.g. (example 1, above) **My a² wrug mos dhe Roazhon.** I went to Rennes.
 But questions and negative statements must be expressed verbally as above. However for the sake of emphasis it is possible to put a subject before the **Ny²** in a negative sentence: **An studhyoryon ny² wrussons mos dhe Sen Malo.**

The students did not go to St. Malo.

Such sentences in the singular were dealt with in Dyskans 4.

F. Negative answers. To make negative the unmutated forms of **gul** expressing an answer “Yes” so as to give an answer “No,” the particle **Na²** is used:

A² wreta mos dhe Druru? Na² wrav. Are you going to Truro? No (I’m not).

A² wruss’ta redya “Gwrians an Bys”? Na² wrug.

Have you read “The Creation of the World.” No. (I haven’t).

A² wra ev studhya y’n² Bennskol? Na² wra.

Does he study at the University? No (he doesn’t).

A² wrussons i metya orth Jenifer? Na² wrussons.

Did they meet Jenifer? No (they didn’t).

Exercise 5. Translate the following into Cornish. The form of question is the same in Cornish, whether it starts in English with “Have,” “Has”, or “Did.”

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) Have you read Kemmysk Kernewek? No. | 6) Did he read your letter? No. |
| 2) Did she reach St. Malo? No. | 7) Did we drink the coffee? No. |
| 3) Do you speak Cornish? No. | 8) Does he like Anjela? No. |
| 4) Did they write to the secretary? No. | 9) Have they shown you their house? No. |
| 5) Do you learn Spanish? No. | 10) Has she written to him? No. |

G. Res yw (It is necessary). When followed by **dhe²** this phrase indicates that someone must do something:

Res yw dhodho. It is necessary for him, He must.

Res yw dhe Yann. Yann must.

Res yw dhymm. I must.

Res yw dhe Anjela oberi y’n koffiji. Anjela must work in the café.

As the last example shows, a verb noun indicates what it is the person must do.

Exercise 6. Translate the following into Cornish:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1) I must go to Cornwall. | 4) Yann must fish. |
| 2) We must work for Cornwall. | 5) Marie must go with Anjela. |
| 3) Lowena must study. | |

H. Gwell yw (It is better). When followed by **gans** this phrase indicates that someone prefers to do something.

Gwell yw ganso. It is better with him, He prefers.

Gwell yw gans Yann. Yann prefers.

Gwell yw genev. I prefer.

Gwell yw gans Yowann oberi yn Kernow. Yowann prefers to work in Cornwall.

Exercise 7. Translate the following into Cornish:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) She prefers to go to Brittany. | 4) Jenifer prefers to live in Cornwall. |
| 2) They prefer to write letters. | 5) I prefer to learn Cornish. |
| 3) Anjela prefers to work in the café. | |

I. Possessive Adjectives. We have already met some of them. Here is a complete list:

ow³	my	agan	our
dha²	your (s)	agas	your (p)
y²	his/its	aga³	their
hy³	her/its		

Note that the “a” in **dha²** (your) is a neutral vowel so that the word sounds the same as the English word “the”:

ow³ har	my friend.	dha² das	your father.
agan chi	our house.	aga³ herens	their friends.

You will see that particular care is needed here with mutations. KDL will continue to give the mutation number with every word causing it throughout the first and second/third grade courses. You must check with your Mutation Chart. Eventually you will find (to your surprise!) that you are making the correct mutations without even thinking about it!

Exercise 8. Translate the following into Cornish taking particular care with the mutations:

- 1) my house 3) our father 5) their books 7) my father 9) your (s) glass
2) your (s) friend 4) her friend 6) your(p)country 8) their friends 10) our car

J. Object Pronouns. Possessive adjectives are also used to express object pronouns with verb nouns:

Y⁵ hwrav y² dhannvon	I do his sending, I send him.
My a² vynn y² dhyski	I want its learning, I want to learn it.
Res yw dhymm dha² dhannvon	It is necessary to me to send you, I must send you.
Res yw dhe Jenifer y redya	Jenifer must read it.
Y⁵ hwrussons i aga honvedhes	They understood them.

Notice that the possessive adjective goes in front of the verb noun, whereas in English, the corresponding pronoun follows it.

Exercise 9. With the help of the examples, translate the following into Cornish:

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1) He must learn it. | 6) I prefer to send them. |
| 2) He lost her. | 7) We prefer to sell it. |
| 3) She lost him. | 8) They found us. |
| 4) I have found you. | 9) He can find me. |
| 5) We must send him. | 10) She cannot find me. |

K. The Future Tense. Cornish has no separate future tense but the Present Tense also serves as a Future Tense, so that all the examples we have met so far in the present tense could also have a future meaning if this were appropriate:

Y⁵ hwrav y² dhannvon (also) I shall send him.

We have met the two present tenses of **bos** (to be) and the present and past tenses of **gul** (to do/make). **Bos** is one of the few exceptions to the above rule. It does have a separate future tense which we shall meet later. Now some more verbs:

L. Gweles (To see).

Present Tense

gwelav	I see
gwelydh	You see
gwel	He/she/it sees.
gwelyn	We see
gwelowgh	You see
gwelons	They see

Past Tense

gwelis	I saw
gwelsys	You saw
gwelas	He/she/it saw
gwelsyn	We saw
gwelsowgh	You saw
gwelons	They saw

As with **gul**, these forms are used with **Y⁵** to make a simple affirmative statement, with **Ny²** to make a negative statement, with **A²** to ask a question, and with **Na²** to give a negative answer. The unmutated form is used to give an affirmative answer.

Y⁵ hwelav dha² ji

I see your house.

Ny² welav dha² ji

I do not see your house.

A² welsysta ow chi?

Did you see my house?

Gwelis, my a² welas dha² ji

Yes, I saw your house.

Na² welis, ny² welis vy dha² ji

No, I did not see your house.

Exercise 10. Translate the following into Cornish, using the present or past tenses of **gweles**:

- 1) Did you see the shop? Yes.
- 2) Did he see your friend? No.
- 3) They saw the café.

- 4) You see the fishing boat.
- 5) She sees her mother.

M. Galloes (to be able). This verb usually indicates that a person can do something because it is permissible or physically possible, not that he has the knowledge necessary to do it. This distinction was mentioned briefly in lesson 6.

Present Tense

gallav	I can
gyllydh	You can
gyll	He/She/It can
gyllyn	We can
gylowgh	You can
gyllons	They can

Past Tense

gyllis	I could
gyllsys	You could
gallas	He/She/It could.
gyllsyn	We could
gyllsowgh	You could
gallsons	They could

This verb can also be used as indicated above with the appropriate particles and mutations. It is used with a verb noun to indicate the action which can be done which may have a possessive adjective before it to express an object pronoun:

Y⁵ hyll ev ow gweres

He can help me.

Ny² allav y² weres

I cannot help him.

A² yllsys dannvon an lyther?

Were you able to send the letter?

Gyllis, y⁵ hyllis y² dhannvon

Yes, I could send it.

Na² yllis, ny² yllis y² dhannvon

No, I could not send it.

Exercise 11. Translate the following into Cornish, using the present or past forms of **galloes**:

- 1) I can go to the University.
- 2) We could not drink the beer.
- 3) Could you send the letter? No.

- 4) Can you read the letter? Yes.
- 5) I can work in the bookshop.

(This lesson has been something of a Marathon, but do not lose heart! Later lessons will be rather shorter!)