

KERNEWEK DRE LYTHER

Dyskans Tri

Tressa Dyskans

Possession, **yw** and **yma**, to have

YOWANN HA JENIFER

Yowann a² drig yn Truru gans y² wreg ha'y² deylu. Hanow y² wreg yw Jenifer. Yma dhedha mab, Peder y hanow, ha myrgh, Lowena hy hanow. Lowena yw pymthek bloedh, ha Peder yw dewdhek bloedh. Yma aga skol yn Truru. Yowann yw gwerther lyvrow. Yma dhodho gwerthji y'n² dre. Ev a² werth lyvrow kernewek ha keltek. Jenifer yw skrifennyades. Yma soedhva Jenifer y'n² dre ogas dhe² werthji Yowann. Hi a ober rag kowethas-surheans. Teylu pur lowen yns i!

Gerva

ha	and	dhodho	to him
Truru	Truro	yma dhodho	he has
gwreg (f)	wife	gwerthji	shop
teylu	family	y'n	in the
hanow	name	ev a² werth	he sells
yma	is, there is	lyvrow	books
dhedha	to them	skrifennyades (f)	secretary
yma dhedha	they have	dhedhi	to her
mab	son	yma dhedhi	she has
myrgh (f)	daughter	soedhva (f)	office
hy³	her	ogas dhe²	near
pymthek	fifteen	hi a ober	she works
bloedh	years old	rag	for
dewdhek	twelve	kowethas-surheans	insurance company
aga³	their	pur²	very
skol (f)	school	lowen	happy
gwerther-lyvrow	book-seller	yns i	they are

Govynnnow

All answers except 3 and 4 can be copied from the passage. 3 and 4 should be modelled on 2.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) Ple trig Yowann? | 5) Ple'ma (where is) aga skol? |
| 2) Pyth yw hanow y² wreg? | 6) Pyth yw Yowann? |
| 3) Pyth yw hanow y² vab? | 7) Pandr'a² werth ev ? |
| 4) Pyth yw hanow y² vyrgh? | 8) Pyth yw Jenifer? |
| | 9) Ple'ma hy soedhva? |

Gramasek

A. Possession. This is usually shown in English by an apostrophe "s", e.g. his wife's name, Jenifer's office, Yowann's shop.

But sometimes the word "of" is used, e.g. a seller of books, the Queen of England.

This second English method is the best guide to the Cornish way of showing possession. The thing possessed is placed before the person/thing that possesses it, but there is no word for "of".

- e.g. **hanow y² wreg** his wife's name (name (of) his wife)
soedhva Jenifer Jenifer's office (office Jenifer)
gwerthji Yowann Yowann's shop (shop Yowann)

Exercise 1. Translate the following into Cornish:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1) Yowann's shop | 6) Yann's friend |
| 2) Yowann's wife | 7) Lowena's name |
| 3) Jenifer's son | 8) Lowena's letters |
| 4) Jenifer's daughter | 9) Peder's office |
| 5) Yann's books | 10) Peder's town |

B. yw and yma.

Yw means 'is'. **Yma** means 'is' or 'there is'. **Yma** must be used to show where a thing/person is. **Yw** shows who, what, or how it is. **Yma** usually starts the sentence.

e.g. **Yma aga skol yn Truro.** There is their school in Truro,
(or, in more natural English, Their school is in Truro.)

Yma soedhva Jenifer y'n² dre. There is Jenifer's office in the town. ()
Jenifer's office is in the town.)

Exercise 2. Translate the following into Cornish:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1) Yowann is in Cornwall. | 6) Truro is in Cornwall. |
| 2) Yann is in Brittany. | 7) There is a Cornishman in the school. |
| 3) Jenifer is in Truro | 8) There is a school in Truro |
| 4) Lowena is in the school. | 9) Rennes is in Brittany. |
| 5) Peder is in the shop. | 10) Cornwall is in Britain. |

C. 'To have'.

A common way of expressing 'have' in Cornish is to use **yma** followed by **dhe²** followed by the English subject, i.e. the person/thing that has something.

e.g. **Yma gwreg dhe Yowann.** Yowann has a wife (There is a wife to Y.)

Yma soedhva dhe Jenifer. Jenifer has an office (There is an office to J.)

Exercise 3. Translate the following into Cornish:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1) Yowann has a wife. | 6) The secretary has some books. |
| 2) Jenifer has an office. | 7) Yowann has a shop. |
| 3) Yann has (some) letters. | 8) Yann has a friend. |
| 4) Peder has a school. | 9) Yowann has a pen-friend. |
| 5) Lowena has a mother. | 10) Jenifer has a son. |

The word 'some' is omitted in Cornish.

dhe combines with the words for 'he', 'she' and 'they' to form:

dhodho to him

dhedhi to her

dhedha to them

so that 'he has' becomes **yma dhodho**, 'she has' becomes **yma dhedhi**,
'they have' becomes **yma dhedha**.

e.g. he has a daughter **yma myrgh dhodho**.

Exercise 4. Translate the following into Cornish:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1) He has a daughter. | 4) He has a shop. |
| 2) She has a friend. | 5) She has an office. |
| 3) They have (some) books. | 6) They have a correspondent. |