

KERNEWEK DRE LYTHER.

Dyskans seyth warn ugens

Seythves dyskans warn ugens

Preterite tense of **bos**. Passive with Past Participle. Impersonal forms. **Rag** with **bos**.
Kyns, **drefenn**, and **rag** with other verbs. Infixed object pronouns.

Penn Bran

Yth esa kist an tas-gwynn ryb y² weli, ha gwel Tewdar a² asas an den koth, dhe² wortos war an² gyst. Y'n² gyst, dell² wodhya Tewdar yn⁵ ta, yth esa kist arall. Gnas an² gyst ma o na² yllys hy igeri heb shyndya an² gyst hy honan. Pan o flogh, y² das-gwynn re² wrussa diskwedhes an² gyst dhe² Dewdar lieskweyth. Yth esa gensi hwedhel pur ankoth, ha'n tas-gwynn re² wrussa y leverel treweythow dhe² Dewdar, hag ev a'n godhya dre gov. Herwydh y² das-gwynn, yth esa yn termyn eus passyes, kyns an Sowson dhe² dhos dhe Ynys Breten, myghtern meur y² vri yn-mysk an² Vrythonyon, Bran, po Bren y hanow. Bran eth dhe Iwerdhon dhe² gavoës kalter hudel, mes goliys veu, hag ev a worhemmynnas dh'y² dus ma'n dibennens i. Seyth den a² dhug an Penn dhe Loundres ha'y ynkleudhyas y'n Bronn Wynn. An seyth den a² drigas seyth blydhen ha peswar ugens yn helder an Penn, ha wor'tiwedh y⁵ feu ynkleudhys herwydh gorhemmynn Bran. Wosa lies blydhen, an Penn a veu kemmerys ynmes a'n dor gans Myghtern Arthur. An Penn ma, Penn Bran, yn kist y² das-gwynn yth esa!

Tewdar.

An den yowynk a² viras orth y² das-gwynn, meur y² varth. Yth esa an den koth ow kewsel, nerthek hag ughel y lev. Yn-medh ev,

Na² drest nevra dhe lavar den!
Gwith pub eur oll an² gyst ha'n Penn,
Rag ow bos ow honan - BREN!

Ena, isel y lev, ha deges arta y² dhewlagas, an tas-gwynn a² gewsis, pur² gosel.

Tewdar, res porres yw gwitha an Penn yn⁵ tiogel. Mar⁴ kwra mos dhe²-ves, traow euthyk a wra hwarvos!

Wosa hemma, enev an den koth eth dhe'n Duw a'y² dasow.

Gerva.

kist f (kistryow)	box.	Ynys Breten	the Island of Britain
godhya	knew.	bri	renown.
(godhvos	to know)	yn mysk	among.
gnas f	nature.	Brythonyon	Britons.
na² yllys	that it was not possible.	Iwerdhon	Ireland.
shyndya	to damage.	kalter f (kalteryow)	kettle, cauldron.
hy honan	herself/itself.	hudel	magic.
lieskweyth	many times.	goliys veu	he was wounded.
hwedhel (hwedhlow)	story.		<i>(pronounced gol-i-ys)</i>
ankoth	strange.	gorhemmynn (dhe²)	to order
ev a'n godhya dre² gov	he knew it by heart.	diogel	safe.
		ma'n dibennens i.	that they should behead him.
yn termyn eus passyes	in time gone by	dug	carried.
kyns an Sowson dhe dhos	before the Saxons came.	(doen	to carry)
Loundres	London.	trestya	to trust.
ynkleudhyas	to bury.	lavar (lavarow)	word.
helder	hospitality.	gwitha	to keep.
y⁵ feu ynkleudhys	it was buried.	pub eur oll	always.
a² veu kemmerys	was taken	rag ow bos	because I am.
marth	surprise.	isel	low, quiet.
nerthek	strong.	dewlagas	(two) eyes.
ughel	high, loud.	mar⁴	if.
lev (levow)	voice.	hwarvos	to happen.
kosel	quiet	Duw	God.

kist, Duw are in the Gerva with their former spellings kyst, Dyw

Govynnadow.

- 1) Pleth esa an² gyst?
- 2) Prag na² yllys igeri an² gyst?
- 3) Pandr'a² wrussa an tas-gwynn dhe² wul pan o Tewdar flogh?
- 4) P'eur o Bran myghtern yn Ynys Breten?
- 5) Prag yth eth Bran dhe Iwerdhon?
- 6) Ple⁵ hwrug an seyth den doen Penn Bran?
- 7) Piw a² gemmeras an Penn yn-mes a'n dor?
- 8) Pleth esa an Penn lemmyn?
- 9) Fatell² wrug kewsel an tas-gwynn?
- 10) Pandr'a² wra hwarvos mar⁴ kwra an Penn mos dhe²-ves

Gramasek.

A. Preterite (Past) tense of **bos**.

beuv	I was.	beun	We were.
beus	You were,	bewgh	You were.
beu	He/She/It was.	bons	They were.

Passive with Past Participle. The preterite tense of **bos** is used with the Past Participle to make a verb Passive in the past tense.

Goliys veu. He was wounded.

Y⁵ feu ynkleudhys It was buried.

An Penn a² veu kemmerys yn-mes a'n dor. The Head was taken out of the ground.

You will see that the Past Participle generally ends in **-ys**. However verb-nouns which end in **-ya** have an alternative form **-yes**. Here are more examples.

Y⁵ feuv gwelys. I was seen.

Y⁵ fons i goliys. They were wounded.

Yn termyn eus passyes. In the past.

Skrifys veu an lyther. The letter was written.

Y⁵ feu an lyther skrifys. The letter was written.

Note that if the Past Participle comes before the verb **bos**, the particle **a²** is omitted, but second state mutation takes place just as if it were there. It is not possible to mark this as is usually done in this course because the actual cause of the mutation is missing.

Here are some past participles you will need for exercises 1 & 2.

igerys open(ed)	kellys lost	redys read;
gelwys called	assoylys shriven	shyndys damaged
lywys driven		

Exercise 1. Translate the following sentences into Cornish. Start the first five with **Y⁵** + verb and the second five with the past participle.

- 1) He was seen.
- 2) I was wounded.
- 3) They were buried.
- 4) The door was opened.
- 5) The grandfather was shriven.
- 6) I was lost.
- 7) The box was damaged.
- 8) The book was read.
- 9) The car was driven.
- 10) You were called.

One may also translate such sentences as Nominal Sentences,

An den a² veu goliys. The man was wounded.

If a continuing state, rather than an action of limited duration is indicated, the imperfect of **bos** is used, and some of the examples above could be taken in this way in the appropriate context,

An den o goliys. The man was wounded. (*State* as opposed to *action* in previous example. It might also translate as *The man had been wounded*)

Exercise 2. Translate the following into Cornish, using nominal sentences and the imperfect tense of bos as in the example.

- 1) I was wounded.
- 2) The Head was buried.
- 3) The door was open (opened).
- 4) The books were lost.
- 5) The man was called Tewdar.

N.B. Some past participles show us examples of vowel affection. The past participle ending **...ys** causes vowels like **o** and **a** to change.

e.g. **Keblys** (blamed) from **Kabla** (to blame). **Mevys** (moved, excited) comes from the verb-noun **Movya** and therefore has an alternative form **movyes**, notice there is no vowel affection with **-yes**.

B. The Impersonal forms of verbs. These end in **-s** in the imperfect tense and **-r** in the present tense.

...na² yllys hy igeri. ...that it was not possible to open it.

This example from the story is in the imperfect but it is more often used in the present tense.

Y⁵ hyllir kewsel Kernewek.

It is possible to speak Cornish (Cornish can be spoken.)

Impersonal verbs are usually translated into English by a passive verb form or by using one as an indefinite subject.

Y kewsir Kernewek Cornish is spoken.

Y⁵ hwerthir pastis omma. Pasties are sold here.

Y prenir toknys omma. One buys tickets here.

(The most literal sense is There is a speaking/buying.)

Exercise 3. Translate the following into Cornish.

- 1) It is possible to bury the Head.
- 2) Pasties are sold in Cornwall.
- 3) Books are bought and sold here.
- 4) One can see Pendennis Castle across the estuary.
- 5) Cornish was spoken in Exeter.

C. **Rag with bos.** **Rag** is used in the same way as **kyns** and **drefenn**. (Dyskans 26.)

Rag ow bos ow honan Bran! Because I myself am Bran.

Rag bos Bran duw an² Vrythonyon. Because Bran was a god of the Britons.

Kyns, Drefenn, Rag, with other verbs. If these words are used with a verb other than **bos**, the subject + **dhe²** + verb-noun construction is used.

Kyns an Sowson dhe² dhos. Before the English came.

The word is followed by the subject of the clause (noun or pronoun), then by **dhe²** then by the verb-noun. More examples:

drefenn Tewdar dhe² vos tre. because Tewdar went home.

kyns ev dhe² vires orth y² das-gwynn. before he looked at his grandfather.

rag an tas-gwynn dhe² verwel. because the grandfather died.

The tense corresponds to the main verb.

*Exercise 4. Translate the following sentences into Cornish using the subject + **dhe²** + verb-noun construction as in the examples above.*

- 1) Before Tewdar's grandfather died, he spoke.
- 2) He speaks because Tewdar wants to get the box.
- 3) Bran was wounded before he got the magic cauldron. (Use the passive, not the impersonal for this.)
- 4) He was tired before he drank the beer.
- 5) They live in London because they keep the head safely.
- 6) Tewdar could rest because his mother went to the monastery.
- 7) He was king before Bran went to Ireland.
- 8) King Arthur was angry because they buried the Head.
- 9) I will look before I open the door.
- 10) Before his grandfather spoke, Tewdar was looking at the box.

D. Infix Object Pronouns.

Ev a'n godhya.

He knew it.

..ma'n dibennens i.

..that they should behead him.

In these two examples the **'n** represents it in the first case, and him in the second. These words are the objects of their respective verbs, and they are pronouns, so they are Object Pronouns. Here are some simpler examples:

My a'n pren

I shall buy it.

Hi a'gas gwel

She sees you.

Dha fleghes a'th kar

Thy children love thee.

These pronouns are called Infixed Object Pronouns because they are infixes between the verbal particle (**a²**, **y⁵** or **ny²**) and the verb itself. Here is a full list of them.

'm	me.	'gan	us
'th⁵	you.	'gas	you.
'n	him/it.	's	them.
's	her/it		

Y'th⁵ welav. I see you.

Ev a'm kar. He likes me.

Myghtern Arthur a'n kemmeras yn-mes a'n dor.

King Arthur took it out of the ground.

Note the following points:

- 1) These pronouns are used in nominal and verbal sentences, but not with **gul** and a verb-noun. In that case possessive adjectives are used. See dyskans 14.
- 2) The verb does not mutate except after **'th⁵**. This is the modified mixed mutation.

Exercise 5. Translate the following into Cornish.

- 1) She saw us.
- 2) We found them.
- 3) Tewdar heard him.
- 4) I do not like you.
- 5) You send it.
- 6) Tewdar's mother sent him.
- 7) Bran's men buried it.
- 8) They showed them.
- 9) He hears me.
- 10) He sends her.

Skrif.

Imagine you are Tewdar's grandfather, and tell the story of how the box which is supposed to contain Bran's Head came into your possession.