

KERNEWEK DRE LYTHER

Dyskans naw warn ugens.

Nawves dyskans warn ugens

Dhe² and **rag** with the verb-noun. Comparison of Adjectives. Combinations of **yn-dann²** with pronouns. Negative expressions.

Myrgh an Mer.

Tewdar a igoras y² dhiwweus rag leverel, “Ny² allav!” mes ny² dheuth ger vydh yn-mes a’y² anow. Nyns esa disputya gans y² das. Ev a² gemmeras an² gyst ha mos yn-mes. Da o mos yn-mes a’n chi yn ayr mygyl an gorthugher. Pandr’a² ylli dhe² wul? Res o kudha an² gyst neb le. Yth esa ow⁴ klywes hwath geryow y² das-gwynn: “Gwith pub eur oll an² gyst ha’n Penn!” Nyns esa fordh vydh dhe² wodhvos gwiryonedh an² dra. Martesen nyns esa penn vydh y’n² gyst; martesen nyns esa marnas penn ki po penn das. Pan o flogh, y² das-gwynn re lavarsa dhodho nag assaya nevra igeri an² gyst. An Penn yn y² gyst o pur feusik, mes anfeusik o an Penn heb kist po gans y² gyst shyndys. Y⁵ fynna kavoes neb le rag y² gudha. Ena, ev a² borthas kov a’n krowji gwag ryb fos an² ger. Yth esa kals kala gweli y’n krowji ha Tewdar a² ylli kudha an² gyst yn-danno.

Wosa gul hemma, ev a² dhallathas kerdhes war-tu ha’n managhti rag kavoes y² vamm. Yth esa benyn yowynk ow⁴ tos trohag ev. Kolonn Tewdar a² dhallathas lemmel yn skav. Aswonnvos an² voves a² wre. Pan o flogh, ev a² wre gwari gensi hag ev ow⁴ kortos y² das yn-mes a’n merji. Myrgh an mer o hi, ha lemmyn ny² wre hy gweles nammenowgh rag bos an merji y’n gwella rann a’n² dre, pell dhiworth chioh ha krowjiow byghan an² Gernowyon. Byttegyns, ev a’s gweli treweythyow dhe’n Oferenn y’n eglos managhti. Pub torn hi a heveli dhodho tekka ha hwekka es dell heveli an torn kyns. Pup-prys hi a² wre minhverthin dhodho, mes ny² ylli kewsel gensi rag hy bos pup-prys gans hy³ thas ha’y mamm. Lemmyn yth esa an² voves hy honan ow kerdhes trohag ev ha nyns esa denvydh gensi!

Gerva

diwweus	lips.	kala gweli	straw bedding
ny...ger vydh	no word at all.	yn-danno	under it.
disputya	to argue.	kolonn f	heart
nyns esa disputya gans	there was no arguing with	lemmel	to beat (heart)
kemmeres	to take.	aswonn	to know (person)
ayr	air.	merji	reeve’s house
mygyl	mild.	ny...nammenowgh	not often.
ki (keun)	dog	gwella	best.
davas f (deves)	sheep	Oferenn f	Mass.
kudha	to hide.	eglos managhti f	minster-church
fordh f (fordhow)	way.	torn (tornys)	time.
gwiryonedh	truth.	heveli	to seem.
assaya	to try.	tekka	more beautiful
nag assaya nevra	that he should never try	hwekka	sweeter.
anfeusik	unlucky.	pup-prys	always.
ev a² borthas kov	he remembered.	ny....denvydh	not anyone.
(perthi kov	to remember)	minhverthin	to smile.

Govynnadow.

- 1) Prag y⁵ fynna Tewdar leverel, “Ny² allav!”?
- 2) Pandr’a² wrug Tewdar?
- 3) P’eur o an Penn anfeusik?
- 4) Ple⁵ hwrug ev kudha an² gyst?
- 5) Pandr’a² wrug Tewdar wosa kudha an² gyst?
- 6) Piw esa ow⁴ tos trohag ev?
- 7) Prag na² wre Tewdar gweles an² voves nammenowgh?
- 8) Ple⁵ hwre ev hy gweles treweythyow?
- 9) Prag na² ylli kewsel gensi?
- 10) Esa nebonan gans an² voves lemmyn?

Gramasek.

A. Rag and Dhe² with the verb-noun.

Both **rag** and **dhe²** are used with a verb-noun to show purpose:

Tewdar a igoras y² dhiwweus dhe² gewsel. Tewdar opened his lips to speak.

Ev a² dhallathas kerdhes war-tu ha’n managhti rag kavoes y² vamm.

He began to walk towards the monastery in order to find his mother.

Rag seems to emphasise the purpose rather more than **dhe²** so that **dhe²** is probably more commonly used.

*Exercise 1. Translate the following into Cornish using either **dhe²** or **rag** with a verb-noun.*

- 1) He came to see his father.
- 2) She came to see us.
- 3) We opened the window to see the trees.
- 4) Tewdar went to the monastery to find a priest.
- 5) Bran went to Ireland to get a magic cauldron.
- 6) We opened the box to find the Head.
- 7) He waited to see the girl.
- 8) She stopped to speak to Tewdar.
- 9) He used to wait to play with the reeve’s daughter.
- 10) Tewdar hid the Head in order to keep it.

B. Comparison of Adjectives.

Hi a heveli dhodho tekka ha hwekka es dell heveli an torn kyns.

She seemed fairer and sweeter to him than she seemed the time before.

Tekka and **hwekka** are the comparative forms of **teg** and **hweg**. The final consonant is doubled (and hardened, or devoiced, if appropriate) and “a” is added. To form the superlative put “an” in front. If there are two consonants, as in **yowynk** there is no doubling, so we get **yowynka**.

teg fair.	tekka fairer.	an tekka the fairest.
hweg sweet.	hwekka sweeter.	an hwekka the sweetest.
bras big.	brassa bigger.	an brassa the biggest.
pell far.	pella farther.	an pella the farthest.

The final consonant of adjectives ending in “**th**” (e.g. **koth**) and “**gh**” (e.g. **kogh**) also double in accordance with this rule. However the doubling is slightly abbreviated to “**tth**” and “**ggh**” to avoid the cumbersome appearance of the complete doubling (“**thth**” and “**ghgh**”). (This is an amendment to the statements in Ken George’s book “The Pronunciation and Spelling of Revived Cornish” where it is recommended that the double form should be spelled the same way as the single form).

koth old.	kottha older.	an kottha the oldest.
kogh red.	koggha redder.	an koggha the reddest

The pronunciation will be “**koth-tha**” and “**kogh-gha**,” and the vowel before the double consonant will be short as indicated in the pronunciation notes.

The following adjectives in common use employ a different word to form the comparative and superlative forms.

byghan small.	le smaller.	an lyha the smallest.
meur big, much.	moy bigger, more.	an moyha the biggest, most.
da good.	gwell better.	an gwella the best.
drog bad.	gweeth worse.	an gweetha the worst.
ogas near.	nes nearer.	an nessa the nearest.

Exercise 2. Translate the following into Cornish.

- 1) Yowann is bigger than (**es**) Wella.
- 2) Peder is the biggest.
- 3) The girl is prettier than Tamsin.
- 4) Truro is nearer than Exeter.
- 5) The reeve is younger than Tewdar’s father.
- 6) Exeter is bigger than Truro.
- 7) London is farther than Exeter.
- 8) Bran is older than King Arthur.
- 9) Tewdar’s heart beat quicker (**skaffa**).
- 10) Exeter is smaller than London.

When a comparative or superlative adjective is used with a noun, it usually goes before it and there is no mutation:

an tekka mowes	the prettiest girl.
pella tre	a further town.

Exercise 3. Translate into Cornish.

- 1) London is the biggest city.
- 2) The oldest man is the grandfather.
- 3) The youngest man is Tewdar.
- 4) The best land is Cornwall.
- 5) England is a nearer country than France.
- 6) Mars (**Meurth**) is the reddest planet (**planet**).
- 7) This is the worst lesson.
- 8) That is the better way.
- 9) Bran was the oldest king.
- 10) Cornwall is not the smallest Celtic country.

C. Combination of **yn-dann²** with pronouns.

Like other prepositions we have met, **yn-dann** combines with pronouns as follows:

yn-dannov	under me.	yn-dannon	under us.
yn-dannos	under you.	yn-dannowgh	under you.
yn-danno	under him/it.	yn-danna	under them.
yn-danni	under her/it.		

The following exercise will help you to learn these and revise the combinations we have already met.

Exercise 4. Translate into Cornish.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1) under me. | 6) to her. | 11) without it. | 16) without me. |
| 2) under them. | 7) to us. | 12) without them. | 17) to him. |
| 3) with us. | 8) on him. | 13) for you (p). | 18) to you. |
| 4) in it. | 9) in them. | 14) under him. | 19) with them. |
| 5) for you (s). | 0) for me. | 15) on them. | 20) on her. |

D. Negatives. The story contains three examples of words normally used only with **ny²** in a negative sense:

- 1) **Ny² dheuth ger vydh yn-mes a'y² anow.** Not a word came out of his mouth.
Vydh can follow any noun in this way to mean “not at all,” but notice that **ny²** must come before the verb also.

Ny² allav kavoes arghans vydh.	I cannot find any money at all.
Nyns esa bugh vydh y'n pras.	There was not a single cow in the field.

- 2) **Nyns esa denvydh gensi.** There was no-one with her.
This is really the same as (1) but in the case of **denvydh** (no one) and **travydh** (nothing) the two words are written as one.

- 3) **Ny² wre hy gweles nammenowgh.** He did not often see her.
“Often” is **menowgh**, but “not often,” or “seldom,” is **nammenowgh** placed after the verb with **ny²** in front of it.

Nyns en nammenowgh.	We do not often go.
Ny² gews ev Kernewek nammenowgh.	He seldom speaks Cornish.

Exercise 5. Translate into Cornish.

- 1) There was nothing in the box.
- 2) No one could find it.
- 3) There was no cauldron in Ireland.
- 4) Tewdar did not see any woman in the street.
- 5) Tewdar's grandfather seldom went to church.
- 6) His mother could not find a priest at all.
- 7) There was no-one in the house.
- 8) The old man did not say a word.
- 9) He did not smile often.
- 10) The reeve did not have a son.