

Dyskans dew ha tri-ugens (62)

An nessa dyskans ha tri-ugens

Future in the past

****Souder Sowsnek**

Euver o dhe'n epskop assaya y hebaskhe. Yn-medh ev dhe'n myghtern, "Hwedhel pur goth yw, heb sel wir, a vyghtern. An Gernowyon yw Kristonyon lel, ha sojets da agas braster. Mars eus gwiryonedh vyth y'n hwedhel, an den yw marow lemmyn, heb mar, ha denvyth ny woer travyth y'n dydhyow ma a'n penn ma."

Mes an myghtern nyns esa ow koslowes. Athelstan re dhegemmersa omrians myghternedh an Vrythonyon nans o naw blydhen, hag omma yth esa Brythonyon ow triga kepar ha Sowson, ha praktisya kryjyans pagan keffrys!

An nos na, yth esa Tewdar a'y worwedh war y gala gweli kales. Yn berr dermyn y fedha an howl ow trehevel. Ny ylli Tewdar koska. Troblys ova yn y enev. Ny wodhya mar kwre gweles Æthelflæd arta. Martesen mos dhe-ves a wrussa gans onan a bennsevigyon an myghtern. Yn y golonn, ev a wodhya hi dh'y gara y honan, kepar dell y's kara ev, hy honan. Yn despit dhe'n Grows gwrys war y gorf gans Æthelflæd, Tewdar a synsi yn y enev galloes an Penn. Ny ylli y asa y'n krowji yn-dann an kala gweli. Res porres o y dhaskavoes ha'y gudha neb le y'n chi le ma na'n gwella y das. Pub eur oll, hag ev y'n krowji, Tewdar a synsi poes molleth an Penn warnodho ev, war Æthelflæd, war y deylu, ha war an ger dhien.

Hag ev ow prederi y'n fordh ma, ev a glewas tros koynt y'n pellder. An tros a dheuth yn nes ha Tewdar a aswonnis y vos tros tus ow kerdhes. Ny ylli konvedhes pyth esa ow koedha. An tros re wrussa dos bys y'n chi pan dhifunas y das. Mos dhe'n daras a wrug, sywys gans Tewdar. Y'n pols na, yth esa garm ughel ha'n tros a hedhis. Tas Tewdar a igoras an daras ha kavoes a-dheragdho souder sowsnek, kledha yn y dhorn!

Gerva

euver	<i>useless, futile</i>	
ny wodhya mar kwre gweles	<i>he didn't know whether he would see</i>	
hebaskhe	<i>to soothe</i>	<i>Note 1</i>
y fedha an howl ow trehevel	<i>the sun would be rising</i>	<i>Note 3</i>
y'n chi le ma na'n gwella y das	<i>in the house where his father wouldn't see it</i>	<i>Note 2</i>

Notennow

1 Hebaskhe to soothe

There are a number of verbs like hebaskhe ending in -he and derived from adjectives.

berrhe to shorten/become short

toemmhe to heat/get hot

glanhe to clean

unnverhe to agree

yaghhe to get better/make better (in health)

hirhe to lengthen/ become long

yeynhe to make/become cold

kothhe to grow old

ewnhe to repair

2 Conjunctions followed by verbs with object pronouns

We saw earlier how object pronouns are infixes between the verb and its particle. When such verbs and infixes are preceded by a conjunction, the following adjustments take place:

i) Mar (if) becomes mara and is followed immediately by the infixes and verb.

Mara'n gwelav, y kowsav orto. *If I see him, I speak to him.*

ii) May (so that) becomes ma and is followed immediately by the infixes and verb.

Mar doemm o ma'n gesis dhe goedha *It was so hot that I dropped it.*

iii) Erna (until) and nammna (nearly) are also followed directly by the infixes and verb.

Gortos a wrug erna's gwelis

I waited until I saw her.

Nammna'n ledhis

I nearly killed him.

iv) Other conjunctions are followed by the verbal particle y and then the infixes and verb.

Pan y'n gwelav, y kowsav orto *When I see him, I speak to him.*

Kyn y'm gwelas, ny gewsis orthiv *Although he saw me, he didn't speak to me*

3 Indirect Statement with "Future in the Past".

In the sentence "He said he would come," "would come" indicates an action which would be in the future at the time the statement was made. What he actually said was, "I will come."

In this kind of sentence, where no condition is stated or implied, the pluperfect/conditional tense is not used in the y clause. We simply use the imperfect, so the Cornish becomes the equivalent of "He said he was coming."

Ev a leveris y to. *He said he was coming/would come.*

(It is possible to use the "subject-dhe-verb-noun" construction also if the clause is affirmative.)

If the verb "to be" is used in the indirect statement a special form of the imperfect called the "habitual imperfect" is used:

bedhen	bedhes	bedha	bedha
<i>I was/used to be</i>	<i>You were/used to be</i>	<i>He was/used to be</i>	<i>she was/used to be</i>
bedhen	bedhewgh	bedhens	
<i>We were/used to be</i>	<i>You were/used to be</i>	<i>They were/used to be</i>	

Thus, in the story: Yn berr dermyn y fedha an howl ow trehevel. In a short time the sun would be rising (showing Tewdar's thought at the time).

Oberenn 1 Exercise 1

Translate the following into Cornish.

- 1) When I found him, I took him to the policeman.*
- 2) As soon as we heard you we came to meet you.*
- 3) Although I know you, I cannot help you.*
- 4) He doesn't know how they do it.*
- 5) Since he knows you, surely he will help you.*
- 6) He nearly lost it.*
- 7) If we read it, it will help us to learn the language.*

Oberenn 2 Exercise 2

Translate the following into Cornish, using y or negative na clauses with the imperfect tense.

- 1) He said he would not come.*
- 2) The boy knew he would find the football.*
- 3) The girl knew the teacher would be angry.*
- 4) I said I would like to learn Cornish.*
- 5) We knew Cornish would not die*

Oberenn 3 Exercise 3

Skrif keskows rag an wel ma. Write a conversation for this scenario

You are at St Austell railway station waiting for a train to Truro. The train has not arrived. You ask the man at the ticket office what has happened. He says the train is late because there is a problem with the doors. You answer how ridiculous that is and say that you have an important meeting at nine thirty at the cattle market. The man apologises and says he is unable to make the train arrive more quickly. He suggests you could take a bus or even a taxi. You complain that you have already paid for your ticket and ask if you can have your money back. The man says you can but you must fill in a long form first. You thank him!

Oberenn 4 Exercise 4

Red an skrif ma ha gorthybi an govynnow a syw. *Read the passage and answer the questions which follow.*

A man is talking about a weekend break.

An gwella prys y'n vlydhen dhe vones dhe Borthmeur yw an gwenton, wosa an gwynsow a vis-Meurth mes kyns an routhow a havysi dhe liva Kernow y'n misyow wosa henna. Gwynn ow bys, my a omdennas a'm soedh, Alhwedhor dhe'n Konsel, yn 2001, ha dre jons da my a gavas kornell gosel ha splann, le may hwren vy dehweles pub blydhen alena rag. Yma ostel vyghan, henwys Chi an Leder, ogas dhe benn an als le may trigav herwydh usadow dew po tri dydh. An berghennoryon, Mester ha Mestres Webb yw kuv dres eghenn ha'n gour yw keginer a'n gwella. Pup-prys ev a bareus boes an mor a'n hwekka ha kegys dhe'n gwella re wrug vy blasa dres ow bywnans oll; ha my a gar boes an mor. Ha wosa dybri, pyth dhe wul marnas kerdhes y'n ayr fresk an gorthugher yn-dann ebron dewl heb golow-stret ha mires yn-bann orth an ster?

*Answer in **English**.*

- 1 When is the best time to go to Porthmeur?*
- 2 Why is this?*
- 3 What was the writer's job before he retired?*
- 4 How many years has he been retired?*

*Answer in **Cornish***

- 5 Ple'ma'n ostel vyghan?*
- 6 Pyth yw hanow an keth ostel ma?*
- 7 Py par boes yw da gans an skrifer?*
- 8 Pyth yw da dh'y wul wosa dybri?*