

## History

### Sound Changes from Adāta to Æðadě

1. **i** > **j** / \_V: **iarjoba** > **jarjoba**, **hānedia** > **hānedja**
2. **a, e** > **ə** / unstressed: **abesa** > **abəsə**, **lōzera** > **lōzərə**
3. **b, d, g** > **β, ð, γ**: **jabə** > **jaβə**, **Adāta** > **Aðātə**, **gamun** > **γamun**
4. **ə** > nil / following or preceding a stressed syllable and always wordfinal, but never initial or after another vowel or halfvowel: **aβən** > **aβn**, **ēəβ** > **ēəβ**; Exception: **pəpə**, **zəzək**, **hápəβ** and, curiously, **Aðātə** remain
5. Two geminate consonants following each other are simplified to one: **azz** > **az**
6. **ls** > **lz**: **lsō** > **lzō**
7. **n, l, r** > **ŋ, ʎ, ʀ** / final and preceded by a consonant: **aln** > **alŋ**, **khīrl** > **khīrʎ**, **lōzr** > **lōzʀ**
8. **p(h), t(h), k(h)** > **ϕ, β, x** / \_C (but not if preceding /j/): **áplo** > **áϕlo**, **záthŋ** > **záβŋ**
9. regressive assimilation: **áβs** > **áϕs**, **ásð** > **ázð**, **átzən** > **ádzən**, **ðiézk** > **ðiésk**
10. **ai, ei, oi, au, eu** > **aj, ej, oj, aw, ew**: **eul** > **ewl**, **dei** > **dej**
11. **á, é, í, ó, ú** > **æ, ié, í, ú, ué**: **Ádāta** > **Æðātə**
12. **ué, ié** > **wé, jé**
13. Stress shifts to initial syllable
14. **ə** > **a** / stressed: **əpjāp** > **apjāp**
15. **p, t, k** > **b, d, g** / initial, V\_V or final after a vowel: **æk** > **æg**
16. Unstressed long vowels are shortened: **abjāb** > **abjab**
17. **lz** > **ʎz** / wordinitial: **lzō** > **ʎzō**
18. **γ** > **h** / initial: **γémun** > **hémun**
19. **γ** > **x**: **zūly** > **zūlx**

### Sound Changes from Æðadě to Yād

1. Stressed short vowels: **æ** and **é** merge as phonemic /e/ = [ɛ]; phonetic [ɔ] remains but is best analyzed as phonemic /o/; phonemic /i/ and /u/ remain and are phonetic [i] and [u]; phonemic /a/ is retained as such.
2. Stressed long vowels show a vowel shift: **ā** > **ō**, **ē** > **ī**, **ī** > **oi**, **ō** > **ū**, **ū** > **ü** (always long). But long **ī** remains as such in closed syllables and does not diphthongize to **oi**.
3. Short diphthongs and triphthongs (i.e. short vowels + /j/, /w/) develop as follows: **aj, æj** > **ē**, **jej** > **(j)ē**, **oj** > **oi**, **uj** > **y**; **aw** > **au**, **æw** > **ø** (always long); **jew** > **(j)ø** (/j/ is retained only when it does not palatalize a preceding consonant). The diphthong **we** usually, but not always, becomes **ø**. These changes are contemporary with those noted under Pt.2 - i.e. they affect original diphthongs and not, for example, the /oi/ that developed from earlier **ī**.
4. Long diphthongs develop as expected from the corresponding long vowel, with shortening before the glide: **āi** > **oi**, **ēi** > **ī**; **ōi** > **ui**; **āu** > **ou**; **ēu** > **iu**.
5. Short vowels, whether or not stressed, become long in the last open syllable of the word. This change happened after the changes outlined above but before the dropping of weak unstressed vowels (as given in 6.). When the change applies to [ə], it becomes **ā**: **wephoněphěna** > **wepnāpa** *belittle*.

6. Widespread weakening of short vowels in unstressed syllables: basically, **a** > [ə] is retained in word-final position, but is often dropped in internal unstressed syllables unless necessary for pronouncing otherwise difficult consonant clusters. Other vowels are dropped finally (unless needed for support), internally front short vowels reduce to /i/ and all back short vowels reduce to /u/. Since [a] and [ə] are in complementary distribution, they are best considered as allophones of the phoneme /a/. Syllabic /m n/ add an /a/ before them; syllabic /l r/ add an /u/.
7. Initial, post-consonantal and final consonants: there is no need to show aspiration of voiceless stops, as aspiration (as in English) is automatic except after certain other consonants (when it is predictably absent). Thus we can write phonemically: /p t k/. β > v; φ > f; x > h. Palatalization: before /j/ and (original) /i/ and /i:/, dental and velar consonants become palatalized: k, t > tʃ; g, d > dʒ; s > ʃ; z > ʒ; n > ɲ; l > ʎ.
8. Intervocalic ð is deleted. The resulting vowel clusters are resolved as best as can be (e.g.: **Æðadē** > **Yād**)
9. The phone [x] is generally preserved intervocally and before voiceless consonants, but as it is in complementary distribution with the phone [h], it is best assigned to the same phoneme /h/. However, [x] either becomes [g] before voiced consonants or it is lost as in **Kāxd** > **Kōd**. In final position, [x] is normally lost, with compensatory lengthening of the preceding vowel: **æx** > **ē of**.
10. /w/ is deleted after labial consonants (e.g. **vwe** > **ve four**); /j/ is deleted after palatals.
11. Some consonant clusters are simplified. E.g.: lr > rr: **nælrōr** > **nerru horse**.
12. Word-final -r in nouns and adjectives tends to be deleted, because it is identified with the eragive suffix -(u)r. Example: **nælrōr** > **nerru horse**.
13. The initial cluster lʒ > ulz. E.g.: lʒe > ulzi word.

### Sound changes from Yād to Yēt

1. /h/ is inserted between two identical vowels (ignoring vowel length)
2. Short vowels are lengthened to mid-long except before voiceless phones; long vowels are shortened to mid-long before voiceless phones.
3. The voicing of fricatives becomes allophonic, being voiced between two voiced phones and voiceless elsewhere.
4. Voiceless stops and affricates lenite in coda position to fricatives: /p t tʃ k/ > /φ θ ʃ x/.
5. Voiced stops and affricates devoice in coda position.
6. /h/ and the [φ] allophone of /p/ merge, [φ] becoming an allophone of /h/ when following a rounded phone; however, when [φ] preceded a voiced phone it instead becomes /w/.
7. The new diphthongs created by this /w/ as well as older diphthongs in /w/ monophthongise as follows: /i:w i'w iw e:w e'w ew u:w u'w uw o:w o'w ow e:w e'w ew y:w y'w ø:w ø'w/ > /u: u: u: u: u' u u: u: u: u' u o: o' o: o' o' o'/.
8. A push chain vowel shift caused by the lowering of the new /u/ phones on vowels of all lengths as follows: /u o e e i ø y/ > /o o a i i e u/. /o a/ subsequently shift to /a e/. /ø/ shifts to /ə/ when following a non-rounded phone and /u/ shifts to /i/ except in the initial syllable where it re-fronts to /y/. Following this the now marginal vowel phonemes /ø y/ shift to /wə wi/; /ə/

then raises to /i/ in the initial syllable and otherwise lowers to /ɘ/ and merges with /a/. /o/ then lowers to /ɔ/ rendering the resulting vowel system symmetrical.

9. The palatal nasal /ɲ/ merges with /nn/ intervocalically and with /nj/ preceding a vowel elsewhere.
10. Between two vowels epenthetic glides are inserted: [ɥ] following a back vowel, /j/ following a front vowel, /h/ following /i/.
11. Word final sonorants are fortified into clusters when following short and mid-long vowels /r l n m ʎ/ > /rt lt nt mp ʎc/. Simultaneously /ɲ/ is reanalysed and realised as /nji/ in word final position.
12. The palatal lateral /ʎ/ is backed to [ɮ] adjacent to back phones.
13. Alveolars are palatalised preceding /i/ (of any length): [t d s z] > [c ʝ ɟ ʝ]; clusters of alveolar + /j/ become palatals: [tj dj sj zj] > [c ʝ ɟ ʝ].
14. The central vowel is lost, shifting differently in different lengths: /i: i· i/ > /u: e· i/. /e·/ then becomes /eje/ and a little later (following change 16.), /e/ merges with /ε/.
15. The palatal glide /j/ and velar glide [ɥ] are fortified intervocalically to [j ɥ]; [ɥ] is reanalysed as an allophone of /x/.
16. The postalveolars are palatalised (merging with palatals) following close and close-mid front vowels.
17. The vowel length system breaks down. The long vowels break into long diphthongs: /u: ɔ: a: ε: i:/ > /uj ɔ:ε a:ɔ ε:ɔ i:w/. The mid-length vowels break into short diphthongs in word final position: /u· ɔ· a· ε· i·/ > /uj ɔε aɔ εɔ iw/; otherwise they shorten, causing compensatory lengthening on the following consonant.
18. Old double consonants mostly do not merge with new long consonants, instead fortifying: /rr jj nn ff f:f/ > /dr jj nd f: f:w/. New long voiced fricatives fortify also: [ð: z: ʒ: ʝ: ɥ:] > [ðd zd ʒɟ jɥ ɥg].
19. Final open and mid open short vowels and diphthongs are lost when preceded by a single consonant and a syllable also containing an open or mid open short vowel or diphthong. /a/ is inserted following word final consonant clusters containing at least one long consonant.
20. The palatals become alveopalatals, pushing the postalveolars to become laminal alveolars. The old palatal stops become alveopalatal affricates.

## Phonology

### Phoneme inventory

#### Consonants

	Bilabial	Labio-dental	Dental	Alveolar	Alveopalatal	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
<b>Stop</b>	p b			t d			k g	
<b>Affricate</b>				tʃ dʒ	tɕ dʑ			
<b>Fricative</b>		f v <sup>1</sup>	θ ð <sup>1</sup>				x ɣ <sup>1</sup>	h f <sup>1</sup>
<b>Apical sibilant</b>				s z <sup>1</sup>				
<b>Laminal</b>				ʃ ʒ <sup>1</sup>	ç ʑ <sup>1</sup>			

<b>sibilant</b>								
<b>Nasal</b>	m			n				
<b>Approximant</b>						j		
<b>Lateral approximant</b>				l		ʎ		
<b>Trill</b>				r				

<sup>1</sup>Fricative voicing is mostly distributed predictably, being realised as voiced only when between two other voiced segments except for a very small number of cases. The most significant of these is where final short vowels have recently been dropped leaving voiced fricatives in final position.

All consonants distinguish length except for /r/ and some of the voiced fricatives, the long variants of which recently fortified from /ð: z: ʒ: ɣ:/ to the clusters /ðd zd zɖz zɗz ɣg/.

### Monophthongs

	Front	Back
<b>Close</b>	i	u
<b>Mid</b>	ɛ	ɔ
<b>Open</b>		ɑ

### Diphthongs

Diphthongs are all falling and are categorised by the initial vowel element.

	Short		Long	
	Front	Back	Front	Back
<b>Close</b>	iw	uj	i:w	u:j
<b>Mid</b>	ɛɔ	ɔɣ	ɛ:i	ɔ:ɣ
<b>Open</b>		ɑɔ		ɑ:i

### Allophones

Voiceless plosives are aspirated in initial position and when following a fricative or another plosives.

/h h:/ are realised as /ɸ ɸ:/ when adjacent to a rounded segment.

### Phonotactics

Short diphthongs are found only in word final position.

/t d s z/ do not occur before /i iw i:w/.

### Dialects

There are two primary dialects: the one described in this document, which is spoken over by far the largest area and is the prestige dialect; and the ‘highland dialect’, which is more limited in area and population and lacks prestige. These two dialects diverged only very recently and so differ only in a few points:

Firstly, where the lowland dialect has long diphthongs word-internally or –initially, the highland dialect has long vowels: /i: u: ɛ: ɔ: ɑ:/ for /i:w u:j ɛ:ɔ ɔ:ɛ ɑ:ɑ/. Secondly, where the lowland dialect has final long or short diphthongs, these are short diphthongs in the highland dialect: /i:w u:j ɛ:ɔ ɔ:ɛ ɑ:ɑ/ for /i:w u:j ɛ:ɔ ɔ:ɛ ɑ:ɑ/. Thirdly and more significantly, where the lowland dialect has long consonants in word final position the highland dialect has short consonants, and where the lowland dialect has word final plosives these have been lost in the highland dialect. For example, the highland dialect has /ɑygezε/ for lowland /ɑygezεk/ (meaning ‘black’), and /ɑh/ for lowland /ɑh:/ (meaning ‘country-dweller’).

## Orthography

### Consonants

	Bilabial	Labio-dental	Dental	Alveolar	Alveopalatal	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
<b>Stop</b>	p b			t d			k g	
<b>Affricate</b>				c j	t, c d, j			
<b>Fricative</b>		f	th				kh, g	h
<b>Apical sibilant</b>				s				
<b>Laminal sibilant</b>				ch	ch, s, sy			
<b>Nasal</b>	m			n				
<b>Approximant</b>						y		
<b>Lateral approximant</b>				l		ly		
<b>Trill</b>				r				

### Monophthongs

	Front	Back
<b>Close</b>	i, ĭ	u, ŭ
<b>Mid</b>	e, ě	o, ǒ
<b>Open</b>		a, ǎ

### Diphthongs

	Short		Long	
	Front	Back	Front	Back
<b>Close</b>	i	u	ī	ū
<b>Mid</b>	e	o	ē	ō
<b>Open</b>		a		ā

Yeot orthography is historical, based inexactly on a dialect a few hundred years old. It is variable however, and in some dialect areas a more phonemic orthography is used. The following differences may be found between phonemic and orthographic realisation:

### *Fricative voicing*

Fricatives until recently were distributed as follows: where fricatives are between two voiced segments they are voiced; otherwise they are voiceless. However, recent final vowel loss and epenthetic final vowels (see below) have rendered voicing distinctive in final position. Nonetheless voicing is not distinguished at all in orthemes for fricatives. Instead, where fricatives are between two voiced orthemes, they are voiced. The one case in which this does not happen is where a coda voiced stop has been devoiced preceding a (necessarily voiced) fricative. This is not indicated in orthography.

### Fricative voicing

Historical	Phonemic	Orthographic
ʃiːp	/ʃ̥ ip:/	chīp
nivɛːnt	/nivɛːnta/	nīfent
iːtʰzɛːnt	/itʰzɛːnta/	itsent
ɑːfsɑːt	/ɑːfsɑːt/	afsāt
ɔːlzɛʒɛ	/ɔːlzɛʒ/	olsĕchĕ
gɛːrf	/gɛːrfa/	gerf

The velar fricative is written <g> rather than <kh> in the cluster /ɣg/ resulting from fortition of /ɣ/.

### *Vowel and consonant length*

The differentiated consonant lengths recently derive from an older three-way vowel length distinction, and this is still shown orthographically: historical short vowels are written with a breve, historical mid-length vowels are written without diacritic, and historical long vowels are written with a macron. While long vowels broke into diphthongs, and are written as such, mid length vowels merged with short vowels with compensatory lengthening of following consonants or in word final position broke into short diphthongs, and in either case are not written to show this (although the clusters resulting from long fricatives have come to be written as such).

### Historic short vowels

Historical	Phonemic	Orthographic
eʒɛnt	/eʒɛnt/	ĕchĕnt
biʒɛʒɛnt	/biʒɛʒɛnt/	bīchĕchĕnt

### Historic mid-length vowels

Historical	Phonemic	Orthographic
iːbɔːn	/ibɔːgn/	īboen
ɑpɛːh	/ɑpɛːh/	āpĕh
sɪːkɛː	/çikɛː/	sīkĕ

### Historic long vowels

Historical	Phonemic	Orthographic
u:p	/u:jp/	ūp
hi'bi:ve'	/hibi:rwveɔ̯/	hibīfe
ɑvme:	/ɑv:me:ɔ̯/	afmē

Some writers use <iw eo uy oe ae> for the more common <ī ē ū ō ā>.

#### Alveopalatals

The alveopalatals derive from two occasions of recent palatalisation: firstly the then-postalveolar stops and sibilants (which would subsequently shift to laminal alveolars) become alveopalatal when *following* a palatal phone or close front vowel (/i i: e j ʎ/); secondly alveolars became alveopalatal when preceding /i i: i:/ and the clusters [tj dj sj zj] became [tɕ dɕ sɕ zɕ]. Note that the /e/ which caused palatalisation in the first shift occurred only as the sequence /eʒe/ resulting from the older /e/ which itself was derived from the lost /i/. The finally resulting /eʒe/ is written <ěchě>, making it orthographically indistinguishable from the rarer sequence /eʒe/ which resulted from /eʒe/. /eʒe/ is written <ei> by a small number of scribes. The alveopalatal /dɕ/ also results from the fortition of long /z:/ and *double* /jj/ resulting from new /j/ in diphthongs (not long /j:/ resulting from mid-length vowel shortenings). In this second case this is not shown orthographically.

#### First palatalisation

Historical	Phonemic	Orthographic
riʃeʒent	/ritɕeʒent/	řičěchěnt
ɕi:ʃ	/dʒi:wtɕ/	jīc
ɕeʒeɕeʒent	/dʒeʒeɕeʒent/	jěchějěchěnt
ɕ from ʃ?		

#### Second palatalisation

Historical	Phonemic	Orthographic
ti:ve'	/tɕi:wveɔ̯/	tīfe
tɕ from t	internal?	
di:nt	/dɕi:nta/	dīnt
dɕ from d	internal?	
siðe'nt	/ɕiðe:nta/	sīthent
ɕ from s	internal?	
zɕ from z	initial?	
i'nzi:be'	/in:zɕi:wbeɔ̯/	insībe

#### Fortition of /jj/

Historical	Phonemic	Orthographic
u:j	/u:jdɕ/	ūy

Fortition of /z:/

Historical	Phonemic	Orthographic
bɛːbiːzɛzɛnt	/bɛːi:zɛzɛnt/	bebichjěchěnt

*Loss and epenthesis of final vowels*

Final /ɛz̥ ɔɛ̯ ɑ̯/ (that is, short, open and open-mid diphthongs) were lost in final position in multisyllabic words following single consonants where the preceding vowel or diphthong is also open or open-mid.

This sometimes results in final voiced fricatives (and is the primary cause of their phonemicity).

Conversly, words ending in a cluster containing one or more long consonants (but ignoring approximants) gained an epenthetic final /a/. Neither of these is shown in standard orthography, although the epenthetic /a/ is written <ă> by certain scribes.

Final vowel loss

Historical	Phonemic	Orthographic
gɑːrɛː	/gɑːr̥/	gāre
ɛzɛfɔː	/ɛzɛf̥/	ěchěho
Lost final /ɑ/		

Final epenthetic /a/

Historical	Phonemic	Orthographic
iːvjeːnt	/iːvjeːnta/	ifyent
θjiskeːlt	/θjiskeːlta/	thyiskelt
siːmp	/siːmpa/	simp

*The simplified orthography*

Certain writers, almost all speakers of the highland dialect, have in recent years begun to use a new, more logical and phonemic orthography. This orthography is as follows:

*Consonants*

	Bilabial	Labio-dental	Dental	Alveolar	Alveopalatal	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
<b>Stop</b>	p b			t d			k g	
<b>Affricate</b>				c j	ty dy			
<b>Fricative</b>		ff f	th dh				kh gh	hh h
<b>Apical sibilant</b>				ss s				
<b>Laminal sibilant</b>				ch jh	ssy sy			
<b>Nasal</b>	m			n				
<b>Approximant</b>						y		
<b>Lateral approximant</b>				l		ly		



Trill				r				
-------	--	--	--	---	--	--	--	--

All long consonants are indicated by a following apostrophe <'>.

### *Monophthongs*

	Short		Long	
	Front	Back	Front	Back
<b>Close</b>	i	u	ī	ū
<b>Mid</b>	e	o	ē	ō
<b>Open</b>		a		ā

### *Diphthongs*

	Front	Back
<b>Close</b>	i	u
<b>Mid</b>	e	o
<b>Open</b>		a

Note that, being designed to write the highland rather than lowland dialect, this orthography does not distinguish length in diphthongs but does so in monophthongs. At the time of writing, the lowland dialect with its historical orthography is by far the more prestigious and so has been used for the remainder of this grammar. However, some of those examining social forces believe that the highland dialect is destined to become the more influential in future; its innovative orthography is certainly gaining followers.

## **Morphology**

### **Derivational Morphology**

Derivational suffixes often replace final short vowels; this is not the product of historical sound changes but a recently innovated morphophonemic process.

#### *Affixes to derive adjectives and nouns*

These affixes are generally not distinguished as adjectives and nouns can be morphologically treated as each other without derivation (although a word derived by such an affix will nonetheless be either a noun or an adjective).

Affix	Meaning	Etymology
/-ɔ:l:zi/ <-olsǐ>	(derives concepts and ideas as well as story and myth titles)	Cognate with noun <olsěchě> with irregular shortening of the unstressed vowel
/-ɛ:ɔ:n/ <-ēn>	agent, experiencer of verb	Association with <mīhēn>
/-ɦu:js, -ɦu:js/ <-hūs>	great, mighty, large (augmentative and honourific)	Cognate with adjective <hūs>

/-ja:ǻ/ <-yā>	similar to, like	Cognate with preposition <yū>
/-ke:ǻt/ <-kēt>	(derives directions, methods, purposes and other abstract concepts)	Cognate with noun <kēt>
/-lis/ <-līs>	(derives placenames)	Cognate with noun <līs>
/-u:ǻ/ <-ū>	little, small, feminine (diminutive)	Innovation

#### Affixes to derive adverbs

These affixes are generally not distinguished as adjectives and nouns can be morphologically treated as each other without derivation.

Affix	Meaning	Etymology
/-il:ta/ <-ilt>	without, lacking	Cognate with preposition <ilt>
/-pin/ <-pīn>	with, accompanying	Cognate with preposition <pěchěnt> with irregular shortening of the unstressed vowel

### Noun Declension

#### Plural formation

The plural form of nominals is derived from the singular by means of a prefix. This prefix takes a different form depending on the initial phoneme and the initial *historical* phoneme. Phonemically this prefix takes five different forms: /ap af af: av av:/; orthographically, it takes three forms: <ap af āf>. The first phonemic form occurs before vowels and the approximants /j w/; the second phonemic form occurs before voiceless plosives and affricates, and historical voiceless fricatives other than /f/; the third phonemic form occurs before historical voiced fricatives and replaces historical /f/; the fourth phonemic form occurs before nasals and /r l/; the final phonemic form occurs before voiced plosives and affricates. This information is summarised below:

Initial consonant	Prefix	Example		
		Singular	Plural	Meaning
Current	Hist.			
(any vowel)	/ap/ <āp>	/if:/ <if>	/apif:/ <āpif>	man
/j w/ <y w>		/ja:ǻtʃ/ <yāc>	/apja:ǻtʃ/ <āpyāc>	prisoner
/p/ <p>	/af/ <āf>			
/t tʃ/ <t> /t/				
/tʃ/ <c>				
/k/ <k>		/ke:ǻt/ <kēt>	/afke:ǻt/ <āfkēt>	road
/θ/ <th>				
/s ʃ/ <s> /s/				
/ʃ/ <ch> /ʃ/		/ʃavʏgeʒ/ <chāggěchě>	/afʃavʏgeʒ/ <āfchāggeche>	dog
/h/ <h>		/hwi:w/ <hwī>	/afhwi:w/ <āfhwī>	mouse

/f/ < f >		/af:/ < af >			
/f/ < f >	/v/		/fi:wɔ̯ɪs/ < fi̯j̯is >	/af:wi:wɔ̯ɪs/ < affi̯j̯is >	cold
/θ/ < th >	/ð/		/θɛʒɛh/ < thɛchɛh >	/af:θɛʒɛh/ < afthɛchɛh >	child
/s ɸ/ < s >	/z/		/su:j/ < sū >	/af:su:j/ < afsū >	uncle
/ʃ/ < ch >	/ʒ/		/ʃi:wm/ < chīm >	/af:ʃi:wm/ < afchīm >	neighbour
/m/ < m >		/av:/ < āf >	/mi:fɛ:ɔ̯n/ < mi̯hēn >	/avmi:fɛ:ɔ̯n/ < āfmi̯hēn >	baker
/n/ < n >			/nu:jr/ < nūr >	/avnu:jr/ < āfnūr >	woman
/r/ < r >			/rwi:wɪx/ < rwīkh >	/avrui:jɪx/ < āfrūkh >	prophet
/l/ < l >			/lu:j/ < lū >	/avlu:j/ < āflū >	bird
/b/ < b >		/av:/ < af >			
/d ɸ/ < d >	/d/		/dɔ̯s/ < dōs >	/av:dɔ̯s/ < afdōs >	house
/dʒ/ < j >			/dʒu:jl/ < jūl >	/av:dʒu:jl/ < afjūl >	scribe
/g/ < g >			/gɛ:ɔ̯ls/ < gēls >	/av:gɛ:ɔ̯ls/ < afgēls >	border

Certain nominals undergo a stem change with the addition of the plural prefix. There are two of these: nominals which historically underwent the change from <ō> to <ā> in plural, and nominals which historically had <ü> or <ö> in both singular and plural which have since had different outcomes depending on whether or not it is in the initial syllable. The first of these types results either in a shift from /a:ɑ/ to /ɛ:ɔ̯/, <ā> to <ē>, or from /a/ to /ɛ/, <a> to <e>; the second has resulted in shifts from /wi:w u:j/ to /u:j a:ɑ/, <wī ū> to <ū ā>, when occurring before historical voiced phonemes or word final, and /wi ɛʒɛ/ to /ɛʒɛ a/, <wi ěchě> to <ěchě a>, when occurring before voiceless phonemes. In both cases there may be nominals in which the stem has a form which might expect a shift but which does not.

<ō>-derived shifts

Singular	Plural	Meaning
/tɑ:ɑ/ < tāl >	/afte:ɔ̯l/ < āftēl >	moon
/ja:ɑtʃ/ < yāc >	/apje:ɔ̯tʃ/ < āpyēc >	prisoner
/ah/ < ah >	/apɛh/ < āpɛh >	country-dweller

<ü>-derived shifts

Singular	Plural	Meaning
/swi:w/ < swī >	/af:su:j/ < afsū >	tradition
/rwi:wɪx/ < rwīkh >	/avrui:jɪx/ < āfrūkh >	prophet
<i>short ü shift?</i>		

<ö>-derived shifts

Singular	Plural	Meaning
<i>long ö shift?</i>		

<i>short ö shift?</i>		
-----------------------	--	--

Due to the various different plural formations, the lexicon gives the plural form alongside the singular in cases where the initial phoneme is <th s ch> and in all cases with a stem shift.

### Possessive suffixes

Suffixes are added to nouns to express possession, agreeing with the possessor for person and number.

#### Possessive suffixes

	<b>Singular</b>	<b>Plural</b>
<b>First</b>	/i:w/ < ī >	/i:wk/ < īk >
<b>Second</b>	/ej:/ < eyo >	/ej:ək:/ < eyok >
<b>Third</b>	/ε:ɔ̃/ < ē >	/ε:ɔ̃k/ < ēk >

Example paradigm /ɑ:ām/ < ām >, 'sister'

	<b>Singular</b>	<b>Plural</b>
<b>First</b>	/ɑ:āmi:w/ < āmī >	/ɑ:āmi:wk/ < āmīk >
<b>Second</b>	/ɑ:āmej:/ < āmeyo >	/ɑ:āmej:ək:/ < āmeyok >
<b>Third</b>	/ɑ:āme:ɔ̃/ < āmē >	/ɑ:āme:ɔ̃k/ < āmēk >

The possessive suffixes can block shifts that otherwise occur to consonants in word final position. All final historical voiceless plosives became fricatives, which, in the case of historical /p/, became /w/ when between two voiced phones and merged with /h/ otherwise. In addition to these shifts, lengthening and two separate sets of palatalisation occurred as described in the orthography section. These suffixes are summarised below:

<b>Historical</b>	<b>Final</b>	<b>Internal</b>
/p/	/h h: w/ < h h w >	/p p:/ < p >
/t/	/θ θ:/ < th >	/t t̥ t: t̥:/ < t >
/tʃ/	/ʃ ʃ:/ < ch >	/tʃ t̥ t̥: t̥:/ < c >
/k/	/x x:/ < kh >	/k k:/ < k >
/b/	/p p:/ < p >	/b b:/ < b >
/d/	/t t:/ < t >	/d d̥ d: d̥:/ < d >
/dʒ/	/tʃ tʃ:/ < c >	/dʒ d̥ d̥: d̥:/ < j >
/g/	/k k:/ < k >	/g g:/ < g >
/f/	/f f:/ < f >	/f v f: vb/ < f f f fb >
/θ/	/θ θ:/ < th >	/θ ð θ: ðd/ < th th th thd >
/s/	/s s:/ < s >	/s ʃ z z̥ s: ʃ: zd z̥d̥/ < s s s s s sd sd >
/ʃ/	/ʃ ʃ ʃ: ʃ:/ < ch >	/ʃ z̥ z̥ ʃ: z̥d̥ z̥d̥:/ < ch ch ch ch chj chj >
/v/	/f f:/ < f >	/v vb/ < f fb >
/ð/	/θ θ:/ < th >	/ð ðd/ < th thd >

/z/	/s s:/ < s >	/z ẓ zḍ ẓḍ/ < s s sd sd >
/ʒ/	/ʃ ʃ:/ < ch >	/ẓ ẓḍẓ/ < ch chj >

Examples of consonant shifts with suffixes

Historical final	Non-possessed	First-person possessed	Third-person possessed	Meaning
/p/	/θɛzɛh/ < thĕchĕh >	/θɛzɛpi:w/ < thĕchĕpī >	/θɛzɛpɛ:ɔ/ < thĕchĕpĕ >	child
/t/	/mɛzɛhθ/ < mĕchĕhth >	/mɛzɛhtɕi:w/ < mĕchĕhtī >	/mɛzɛhtɕɛ:ɔ/ < mĕchĕhtĕ >	brother
/tʃ/	/ɔ:ɣbɛʃ/ < ōbĕch >	/ɔ:ɣbɛtʃi:w/ < ōbĕcī >	/ɔ:ɣbɛtʃɛ:ɔ/ < ōbĕcĕ >	throne
/k/	/iθx/ < iθkh >	/iθki:w/ < iθkī >	/iθkɛ:ɔ/ < iθkĕ >	lady
/dʒ/	/jɑ:ɑtʃ/ < yāc >	/jɑ:ɑdẓi:w/ < yājī >	/jɑ:ɑdẓɛ:ɔ/ < yājĕ >	prisoner
/v/	/if:/ < if >	/iv:i:w/ < ifī >	/iv:ɛ:ɔ/ < ifĕ >	man
/z/	/mɛzɛs/ < mĕchĕs >	/mɛzɛzi:w/ < mĕchĕsī >	/mɛzɛzɛ:ɔ/ < mĕchĕsĕ >	father

As these changes are not entirely predictable, where they occur the first-person singular possessed is given in the lexicon. Where the third-person singular possessed has a different stem again to the first-person singular possessed it also is given in the lexicon.

In addition to these relatively recent stem shifts, examples of older irregularities survive. Stems historically having a final, short /a/ lost this before suffixes. This survives in some cases only orthographically and in some cases is preserved in pronunciation. Also, stems historically ending in /i u/ shifted to final /j w/ before suffixes. These undergo various shifts. Sometimes they are preserved or with no more change than lengthening, /j j: w w:/. In some cases, however, historical /w/ may form a diphthong with the preceding vowel which subsequently monophthongises: /i:w i'w iw u:w u'w uw e:w o:w y:w/ > /u:/, /e:w o'w y'w/ > /u:/, /ew ow/ > /u/, /e:w ø:w/ > /o:/, /e'w ø'w/ > /o:/, /ew/ > /o/. These subsequently shift /u: o: u' o' u o/ > /ɔ: a: o' a' ɔ a/ before undergoing the expected shifts as described elsewhere. More significantly, the equivalent shift to the common /z/ < /j/ < Ø occurring between two front vowels, /y/ < /u/ < Ø occurred between two back vowels.

Examples of lost final /e/

Historical	Non-possessed	First person possessed
/θjiske/	/θjiskeɔ/ < thyiske >	/θjiski:w/ < thyiskī >
/ɛjɔ:ne/	/ɛj:ɔ:ɣn/ < eyōne >	/ɛj:ɔ:ɣni:w/ < eyōnī >

Examples of final vowel-approximant shifts

Historical	Non-possessed	First person possessed
/ɛzɛhɔ/	/ɛzɛh/ < ěchĕho >	/ɔ:ɣɣi:w/ < ōkhī >
/ʃɑ'ɣɛzɛ/	/ʃɑ'ɣɣɛẓ/ < chaggĕchĕ >	/ʃɑj:i:w/ < chayī >

Another old irregularity is the lengthening of short vowels before single consonants when suffixes are added. This has the expected outcomes based on sound changes previously described. Note particularly that a short /i/ remains /i/ whereas mid-length /i/ may result in /εzε/ via /i/ > /e/ and a long /i:/ may result in /u:j/ via /i:/.

As these changes are not predictable from the non-possessed form, when they occur the singular first-person singular possessed is given alongside the non-possessed singular in the lexicon.

### *Ergative enclitic*

The only marked case is the ergative, the unmarked being called the oblique; although historically the marker was a suffix, it has been reanalysed as a second position enclitic to the whole noun phrase. It takes the form /ɔrta/ <ort> when following a consonant and /r/ <'r> when following a vowel (including diphthongs).

/ɑpje:ɔtʃɔrta/ <āpyēc ort> 'prisoner (Ergative)'

/ɑ:ɑmi:wɾ/ <āmī 'r> 'my sister (Ergative)'

## **Adjective Declension**

### *Comparative and superlative*

The comparative and superlative forms of adjectives are formed by means of suffixes. The comparative is typically formed with /nezes/ <-něchēs> and the superlative with /jel:ta/ <-yelt>. Various irregularities are created by these or preserved from older forms. As in nouns, final /ε/ (/εɔ/) originally derived from Yād final /v/, may be lost before endings (whether or not it has also been lost word finally). Final fricatives become voiced word internally, and epenthetic consonants and vowels gained word finally were not gained word internally. The historical combinations /sj zj/ formed by the addition of the superlative suffix became /ç z/ but are still written <sy>.

Example of lost final /ε/

	Phonemic	Orthographic
<b>Historical</b>	bʉ:reʔ	
<b>Simple</b>	/bu:jreɔ/	<būre >
<b>Comparative</b>	/bu:jrnezes/	<būrněchēs >
<b>Superlative</b>	/bu:jrjel:ta/	<būryelt >

Examples of fricative voicing and superlative palatalisation

	Phonemic	Orthographic
<b>Historical</b>	θɔ:s	
<b>Simple</b>	/θɔ:ɛs/	<thōs >
<b>Comparative</b>	/θɔ:ɛznezes/	<thōsněchēs >
<b>Superlative</b>	/θɔ:ɛçel:ta/	<thōsyelt >

	Phonemic	Orthographic
<b>Historical</b>	giʔzɔs	
<b>Simple</b>	/gizdɔs/	<gisdōs >
<b>Comparative</b>	/gizdɔznezes/	<gisdōsněchēs >
<b>Superlative</b>	/gizdɔçel:ta/	<gisdōsyelt >

Example of fricative voicing and final epenthetic /a/

	Phonemic	Orthographic
<b>Historical</b>	gɛːrf	
<b>Simple</b>	/gɛrfa/	<gerf>
<b>Comparative</b>	/gɛrvnɛzɛs/	<gerfněchěs>
<b>Superlative</b>	/gɛrvjɛlːta/	<gerfyelt>

Most adjectives ending in an /n/ regularised their comparative suffix resulting in a double intervocalic /nn/ which fortified to /nd/. However, where this double /nn/ followed a mid length vowel the first lengthened resulting in /n:n/ which was *not* fortified. A few common adjectives ending in /n/, however, kept their original irregular suffix and thus have only short /n/.

#### *Adverbial form*

Adverbs are regularly formed from adjectives by the prefix kēd-. This suffix loses its final consonant before other initial consonants. Also, the vowel of the prefix is shortened preceding historically voiceless phonemes. This gives three forms for the adverbial prefix: /kɛ:ɔ̄d kɛ:ɔ̄ kɛ/. In addition to these, certain vowels may take a different form when no longer in the initial syllable, as described in the section on the formation of the plural. Also, initial voiceless fricatives will voice when preceded by the vowel of the adverbial prefix.

Examples of regular prefix

Historical	Adjectival	Adverbial	Meaning
ɑːγɛzɛk	/ɑːγɛzɛk/ <aggěchěk>	/kɛ:ɔ̄dɑːγɛzɛk/ <kēdaggěchěk>	black, secretly
bu:reː	/bu:jrɛɔ̄/ <būre>	/kɛ:ɔ̄bu:jrɛɔ̄/ <kēbūre>	brave, bravely

Example of shortened prefix

Historical	Adjectival	Adverbial	Meaning
hu:	/hu:j/ <hū>	/kɛfi:uj/ <kehū>	blue, weakly

Example of initial syllable vowel shifts

Historical	Adjectival	Adverbial	Meaning
rwīls	/rwi:wls/ <rwīls>	/kɛ:ɔ̄ru:jls/ <kērūls>	foreign, strangely

As the meanings of the derived adverbial forms of adjectives are not entirely predictable, all common derived adverbs have been listed in a separate section alongside their meaning in the lexicon.

### **Personal Pronouns**

The personal pronouns distinguish four cases to the single case of normal nouns. The basic form of each pronoun is the absolutive, which might be considered equivalent to the basic form of other nouns. The ergative form is then distinct (although if the pronoun is not the final word of its phrase then the ergative

enclitic is *also* found), as is the oblique form (that which follows prepositions). In the second person pronouns, the vocative is also still distinct.

Personal pronouns (phonemic)

	Singular			Plural		
	First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
<b>Absolutive</b>	jiw	θa <sub>̄</sub> a	iw	jik:	θak:	ik:
<b>Ergative</b>	ji:wr	θa:ar	i:wr	jik:rō <sub>̄</sub> ɣ	θak:rō <sub>̄</sub> ɣ	ik:rō <sub>̄</sub> ɣ
<b>Oblique</b>	jin:ta	θan:ta	in:ta	a <sub>̄</sub> ɣɣe <sub>̄</sub> zent	lak:ōn:ta	a:an
<b>Vocative</b>		θa:ā			θa:āk	

Personal pronouns (orthographic)

	Singular			Plural		
	First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
<b>Absolutive</b>	yi	tha	i	yik	thak	ik
<b>Ergative</b>	yīr	thār	īr	yikro	thakro	ikro
<b>Oblique</b>	yint	thant	int	aggěchěnt	lakont	ān
<b>Vocative</b>		thā			thāk	

**Numerals**

The numerals have survived comparatively unchanged from Yād: no regularisation has been seen. The cardinal numeral 1, <jěchě>, may also be used to indicate indefiniteness. In addition to the numerals found in the table below, the number for ‘a thousand’ is <swīn> /swi:wn/. Both this and the numeral <yih> are declined for plural as other nouns when plural.

Numerals (phonemic)

	Cardinal	Ordinal	x 10
1	d <sub>̄</sub> ɣe <sub>̄</sub> ɣ	l <sub>̄</sub> :ɣd <sub>̄</sub> ɣe <sub>̄</sub> ɣ	r <sub>̄</sub> o:ɣ
2	jiw	l <sub>̄</sub> :ɣjiw	jiro:ɣ
3	s <sub>̄</sub> o:ɣzo:ɣ	l <sub>̄</sub> :ɣzo:ɣ	s <sub>̄</sub> o:ɣzo:ɣro:ɣ
4	fiw	l <sub>̄</sub> :ɣviw	firo:ɣ
5	θo:ɣ	l <sub>̄</sub> ɸi:	θo:ɣro:ɣ
6	is	l <sub>̄</sub> :ɣyis	u:ɣro:ɣ
7	min:ta	l <sub>̄</sub> :ɣmin:ta	miro:ɣ
8	hwiθ:	l <sub>̄</sub> ɸi:wiθ:	hwiðdro:ɣ
9	n <sub>̄</sub> ji:l:ta	l <sub>̄</sub> :ɣndil:ta	n <sub>̄</sub> ja <sub>̄</sub> ɣɣe <sub>̄</sub> ɣe <sub>̄</sub> ro:ɣ
10	r <sub>̄</sub> o:ɣ	l <sub>̄</sub> :ɣro:ɣ	jiɸ:

Numbers (orthographic)

	Cardinal	Ordinal	x 10
1	jěchě	lōjěchě	rō



2	yi	lōyi	yirō
3	sōsō	lōsō	sōsōrō
4	fī	lōfī	fīrō
5	thō	loho	thōrō
6	īs	lōkhīs	ūrō
7	mint	lōmint	mirō
8	hwith	lohwith	hwithdrō
9	nyilt	lōndilt	nyaggēchērō
10	rō	lōrō	yih

Ordinal numbers higher than 10 are formed by the addition of the prefix <lō-> /lɔ:ɛ-/. In the case of thousands and hundreds, this is prefixed before the plural prefix (closer to the stem). Combination numbers are formed with the largest part first, the first two parts being joined by <ont> /ɔn:ta/ but others merely juxtaposed. In combination ordinals, only the first number takes the ordinal prefix. Examples are found below. Note that in higher numbers, which are rarely required in day-to-day life, considerable ambiguity occurs.

Examples of cardinals

**rō ont thō** /rɔ:ɛ ɔn:ta θɔ:ɛ/, ‘fifteen’

**sōsōrō ont yi** /sɔ:ɛzɔ:ɛrɔ:ɛ ɔn:ta jiw/, ‘thirty two’

**hwithdrō ont İs** /hwiðdrɔ:ɛ ɔn:ta is/, ‘eighty two’

**yih ont thōrō yi** /jih: ɔn:ta θɔ:ɛrɔ:ɛ jiw/, ‘one hundred and fifty two’

**āpyih mint ont firō nyilt** /apjih: min:ta ɔn:ta firɔ:ɛ njil:ta/, ‘seven hundred and forty nine’

**swīn ont yih rō jēchē** /swi:wn ɔn:ta jih: rɔ:ɛ dʒɛʒ/, ‘one thousand, one hundred and eleven’

**āfswīn nyaggēchērō ont yi** /afswi:wn njayɛɛzɔ:ɛ ɔn:ta jiw/, either ‘ninety-two thousand’ or ‘ninety thousand and two’

Examples of ordinals

**lōrō ont jēchē** /lɔ:ɛrɔ:ɛ ɔn:ta dʒɛʒ/, ‘eleventh’

**lōmirō ont nyilt** /lɔ:ɛmirɔ:ɛ ɔn:ta njil:ta/, ‘seventy-ninth’

**āflōyih sōsō ont ūrō** /avlɔ:ɛjih: sɔ:ɛzɔ:ɛ ɔn:ta u:jrɔ:ɛ/, ‘three-hundred and sixtieth’

## Verb Conjugation

### *Roots and stems*

All forms of verbs are formed by changes made to the verbal root. This root alone is found as the imperative form of verbs, and is the first form given in the lexicon. Different stems are then formed from the root to express mood and tense. Stems are formed for: the *past indicative*, *optative*, and *obligative*; the *present indicative*, *imperative*, *optative*, and *obligative*; and the *future*. There is also a verbal-noun stem and an infinitive stem. Non-indicative moods in the future are paraphrased with the future stem along with auxiliary particles. The future stem in Yēt is derived from a combination of the Yād verbal noun and present optative.

### Formation of the infinitive and verbal noun stems

The infinitive is generally either the root without any affixes or the stem with a suffix of <-e>/-εɔ/; this suffix may, of course, have been lost if it follows an open or open-mid vowel and single consonant: in these cases the infinitive is phonemically identical to the root but distinguished orthographically. Note that this suffix causes the voicing of a root-final fricative. More significantly, a final consonant lenited in coda position may not longer be in coda position in the infinitive form and therefore shifts to an older form; such shifts are the same as those described in the nominal morphology section on possessive suffixes, and also apply to all other verbal suffixes which put an otherwise coda consonant into the onset of a new final syllable. A few infinitive stems are formed by unpredictable shifts in the root.

#### Examples of <-e> infinitive

Root	Infinitive	Meaning
/id:εɔ/ <idēl>	/id:εɔ/ <idēle>	rape
/tɕi:wɸ/ <tif>	/tɕi:wvεɔ/ <tife>	sin
/ɔ:ɣlax:/ <ōlakh>	/ɔ:ɣlak:/ <ōlake>	forget

The verbal noun is formed through the suffixation of <-ěchěnt>. However, this caused palatalisation of the final consonants of certain stems at a point earlier than any discussed heretofore. This palatalisation typically involves the shift of a final alveolar stop to alveolar laminal affricate or alveolar apical fricative to alveolar laminal fricative. It also affects certain nasals and the lateral. In addition to this, if the final vowel of the root is long then in most cases it will be shortened in the verbal noun: this may actually involve the shortening of a following consonant, if the final root vowel was mid-long, or the lengthening of a consonant, if the final root vowel was long. Other shifts may also occur in the formation of the verbal noun stem which are less predictable.

#### Examples of regular verbal nouns

Root	Verbal noun	Meaning
/tɕi:wɸ/ <tif>	/tɕiv:εzent/ <tifěchěnt>	sin
/wi:wɸ/ <wīl>	/wiʌ:εzent/ <wilyěchěnt>	rise
/bis:/ <bis>	/biʒεzent/ <bīchěchěnt>	attack

#### Examples of irregular verbal nouns

Root	Verbal noun	Meaning
/εb:i:wn/ <ebīn>	/εɔbezendεzent/ <ēběchěnděchěnt>	cry
/dɕiw/ <di>	/dezent/ <děchěnt>	become
/dwɪ:w/ <dwī>	/dwezent/ <dwěchěnt>	drink
/hɔx:/ <hokh>	/hotʂεzent/ <hōčchěnt>	stroke

Both the infinitive stem and verbal noun stem are always given in the lexicon alongside the root form of the verb.

### Formation of the past stem

If the infinitive stem is formed with the addition of <-e> then the past stem is identical to it. If the infinitive stem is identical to the root or is irregularly formed and the root ends in a vowel then the past stem is identical to the root. If the infinitive stem is irregularly formed or identical to the root and the root ends in a consonant, then the past stem is generally formed with the addition of <-e>, like some infinitive stems. Occasionally, however, the past stem is identical to the root in such cases instead. On top of these variations, some past stems are irregularly formed.

#### Examples of (reasonably) regular past stems

Root	Infinitive	Past stem	Meaning
/mɔ:ɣk/ <mōk>	/mɔ:ɣg/ <mōge>	/mɔ:ɣge-/ <mōge->	protest
/mjizdɛ:ɔk/ <myisdēk>	/mjizdɛ:ɔk/ <myisdēk>	/mjizdɛ:ɔge-/ <myisdēge->	celebrate
/dzu:j/ <jū>	/dzu:j/ <jū>	/dzu:j-/ <jū->	pull

#### Examples of irregular past stems

Root	Infinitive	Past stem	Meaning
/u:jp/ <ūp>	/u:jp/ <ūp>	/u:jbeze-/ <ūbēchē->	freeze
/hɔ:h/ <hoh>	/hɔ:h/ <hoh>	/hɔp:εze-/ <hopēchē->	defeat
/nɔ:ɣn/ <nōn>	/nɔ:ɣn/ <nōne>	/nɔn:-/ <non->	go

The past stem, where it is different to the infinitive stem, is given in the lexicon.

### Formation of the present stem

The present stem is formed by the addition of <-ch> /-ɕ-/ to the root. This causes the devoicing of a final consonant, thereby also causing the shortening of the preceding vowel. This in turn may have effects on the length of that final consonant. The final consonant may, however, also have been devoiced in word final position in the root: this is particularly the case with historically voiced fricatives. In this case the change in quality of the vowel and length of the consonant are the remaining visible effects. If the suffix follows other consonants then a final epenthetic vowel may be inserted as in any other case.

If the final consonant is one of /t d/ then it will form an affricate with the suffix before being lenited as expected of affricates in final position. The effect of this is that a root ending in one of /t d/ will lose its final consonant before the addition of the present stem suffix.

If the root ends in a coronal fricative or affricate then the suffix is <-čh> /-ɕʰ/. This may have effects on the final consonant as it becomes intervocalic.

#### Examples of regular present stems

Root	Present stem	Meaning
/id:ɛ:ɔl/ <idēl>	/id:ɛ:ɔlɕ/ <idēlch>	rape
/bis/ <bis>	/bizdɛɕ/ <bisdēch>	attack

/ɔ:ɣlax:/ <ōlakh >	/ɔ:ɣlax:ʂa/ <ōlakhch >	forget
/sa:at/ <sāt >	/saʂ:/ <sach >	begin

Examples of irregular present stems

Root	Present stem	Meaning
/miʎ:ta/ <milyc >	/miʎ:ca/ <milych >	suck
/ta:alɛk:/ <tālek >	/ta:alʂ/ <tālch >	shine
/ga:ar/ <gār >	/ga:arʂa/ <gārchā >	befriend

The present stem, where its formation is more complex than the addition of <-ch > /-ʂ -ɕ/ or <-ěch > /-ɛʂ/, is given in the lexicon.

#### Formation of the optative stems

The optative stems are formed by the addition of a prefix to one of the tense stems: the present stem to form of the present optative, the past stem to form the past optative, or the verbal noun stem to form of the future indicative (which also carries optative meanings). The form of the prefix depends on the historical initial phoneme of the stem to which it is added. Prefixed to vowels or semi-vowels the form is <og-> /ɔg:-/; prefixed to voiceless stops and affricates, and historically voiceless fricatives other than /h/, the form is <ōh-> /ɔh-/; prefixed to /h/ the form is <ōkh-> /ɔx-/; and prefixed to historically voiced fricatives, nasals, and liquids other than semi-vowels the form is <ok-> /ɔk:-/. Where the initial fricative was historically voiced it retains its voicing in optative stems, despite following a voiceless phoneme.

Examples of regular optative stems

Root	Past optative stem	Present optative stem	Future indicative stem	Meaning
/ɛb:i:ws/ <ebīs >	/ɔg:ɛb:i:wzɛ/ <ogebīse >	/ɔg:ɛb:i:wzɛʂ/ <ogebīsěch >	/ɔg:ɛb:ɪdʒ:ɛzɛnt/ <ogebijěchěnt >	make
/wɔneh:/ <>wōneh >	/ɔg:wɔnep:ɛzɛ/ <ogwōnepěchě >	/ɔg:wɔneh:ʂa/ <ogwōnehch >	/ɔg:wɔnepɛzɛnt/ <ogwōněpěchěnt >	belittle
/tɕi:wf/ <tīf >	/ɔhtɕi:wvɛ/ <ōhtif >	/ɔhtɕi:fʂa/ <ōhtifch >	/ɔhtɕiv:ɛzɛnt/ <ōhtifěchěnt >	sin
/ɕih:/ <sih >	/ɔhɕip:ɛzɛ/ <ōhsipěchě >	/ɔhɕih:ʂa/ <ōhsihch >	/ɔhɕipezɛnt/ <ōhsipěchěnt >	give
/haθ:/ <hath >	/ɔxhat:ɛ/ <ōkh hate >	/ɔxhaʂ:/ <ōkh hach >	/ɔxhatʂɛzɛnt/ <ōkh hăcěchěnt >	marry
/riθ:/ <rith >	/ɔk:rit:ɛ/ <okrite >	/ɔk:riɕ:/ <okrich >	/ɔk:ritɕɛzɛnt/ <okričěchěnt >	hear
/fni:ws/ <fnīs >	/ɔk:vni:wzɛ/ <okfnise >	/ɔk:vni:wzɛʂ/ <okfnisěch >	/ɔk:vni:dʒ:ɛzɛnt/ <okfnichěchěnt >	pray

The optative prefix preceding voiced stops and affricates is the same as that preceding their voiceless equivalents, and causes devoicing of this initial consonant.

#### *Formation of the obligative stems*

The obligative stem is formed by the addition of the prefix /s-/ <s-> to the tense stem. This takes the form /sa-/ <să-> preceding voiceless fricatives and historical affricates, or /sa-/ <sa-> with lengthening of the following consonant where it precedes voiced fricatives and historical affricates. The /s/ prefix then become /ç/ preceding /i/. Just as the optative prefix, where this precedes voiced affricates and stops it devoices them.

#### Examples of obligative stems

Root	Past obligative stem	Present obligative stem	Meaning
/eb:i:wn/ <ebîn>	/se:ɔbeze/ <sēbēžě>	/seb:i:wɳ/ <sebīnch>	cry
/beb:i:ws/ <bebīs>	/speb:i:wze/ <spebīse>	/speb:i:wzeɳ/ <spebīsēch>	name
/tʃu:j/ <cū>	/satʃi:heze/ <săcīhēchě>	/satʃe:zeç/ <săcēchēch>	have sex
/ɖi:w/ <di>	/stçi/ <sti>	/stçiç/ <stīch>	become
/i:w/ <ī>	/çi:wbeze/ <sībēchě>	/çih:ʃa/ <sihch>	sit
/ga:ar/ <gār>	/ska:are/ <skāre>	/ska:arʃa/ <skārchă>	befriend
/dzu:j/ <jū>	/sadz:u:jge/ <sajūge>	/sadz:e:zeɳ/ <sajēchēkhch>	throw

#### *Number*

In the past and present, the verb stem is further inflected to agree in number with its subject: it takes the suffix <-f> /-f -fi/ in the singular and <-nt> /-nt -nta -n/. In each case the first allomorph follows a short vowel and the second follows a mid-length vowel; /-n/ follows a long vowel. If the stem form to which this suffix is added does not end in a vowel then <-ě-> is inserted in the plural. These suffixes have only recently been applied in the present, and so final epenthetic vowels are still present preceding the suffixes. However, the epenthetic vowel is still not written, leading to such unlikely looking forms as <hokhchnt>.

#### Examples of past number agreement

Past stem	Singular	Plural	Meaning
/dzu:j/ <jū>	/dzujf/ <jūf>	/dzu:jn/ <jūn>	pull
/u:jbeze/ <übēchě>	/u:jbezeɳf/ <übēchēɳf>	/u:jbezent/ <übēchēnt>	freeze
/mi:ε/ <milye>	/mi:εnta/ <milyent>	/mi:εfi/ <milyef>	suck

#### Examples of present number agreement

Present stem	Singular	Plural	Meaning
/ga:arʃa/ <gārchă>	/ga:arʃaf/ <gārchăf>	/ga:arʃant/ <gārchănt>	befriend
/hɔx:ʃa/ <hokhch>	/hɔx:ʃaf/ <hokhchf>	/hɔx:ʃant/ <hokhchnt>	masturbate
/haʃ:/ <hach>	/haʃ:f/ <hachf>	/haʃ:ent/ <hachēnt>	marry

/dʒɛʒɛxʂ/ <jěchěkhch>	/dʒɛʒɛxʂf/ <jěchěkhchf>	/dʒɛʒɛxʂɛnt/ <jěchěkhchěnt>	pull
-----------------------	-------------------------	-----------------------------	------

*Example conjugation*

Below is the full conjugation of the verb rōl, ‘love’. This has been chosen as an extremely regular verb.

<b>Stem</b>	<rōl> /rɔ:ɣl/
<b>Infinitive</b>	<rōle> /rɔ:ɣl/
<b>Verbal noun</b>	<rolyěchěnt> /rɔ:ɣɛʒɛnt/

	<b>Past</b>		<b>Present</b>		<b>Future</b>
	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>	
<b>Imperative</b>	<rōl> /rɔ:ɣl/				
<b>Indicative</b>	<rōlef> /rɔ:ɣɛɫf/	<rōlent> /rɔ:ɣɛɫn:ta/	<rōlchf> /rɔ:ɣɫʂf/	<rōlchěnt> /rɔ:ɣɫʂɛnt/	<okrolyěchěnt> /ɔk:rɔ:ɣɛʒɛnt/
<b>Optative</b>	<okrōlef> /ɔk:rɔ:ɣɛɫf/	<okrōlent> /ɔk:rɔ:ɣɛɫn:ta/	<okrōlchf> > /ɔk:rɔ:ɣɫʂf /	<okrōlchěnt> > /ɔk:rɔ:ɣɫʂɛnt /	
<b>Obligative</b>	<srōlef> /srɔ:ɣɛɫf/	<srōlent> /srɔ:ɣɛɫn:ta/	<srōlchf> /srɔ:ɣɫʂf/	<srōlchěnt> /srɔ:ɣɫʂɛnt/	

**Syntax**

**Basic Word-Order**

The basic word order of simple sentences is SVO. If the subject noun phrase is followed by a relative clause then the word order is changed to VOS. This change in word order can also be used to indicate a topicalisation of or emphasis on the subject. Adpositional phrases follow the object, coming in the order *manner – place – time*.

**Noun Phrases**

Noun phrases are made up of a noun which may be modified by adjectives, appositions, and genitives. The order is (*Determiner*) – (*Quantifier*) – *Noun* – (*Adjective(s)*) – (*Genitive(s)*) – (*Apposition(s)*) – (*Ergative enclitic*). Adjectives tend to be sorted according to how inherent they are as properties of the noun in question.

*Examples*

**chīm** /ʂi:wɪ/

*neighbour*

(a/the) neighbour

**sāk āfsūf** /sa:ək afsu:jf/

*these Pl-uncle*

these uncles

**shik nimp afgārī /ʃik: nim:pa av:ga:q̄ri:w/**

*those few Pl-friend-1st*

those few friends of mine

**sū sithenteyo gerf /su:j ʃiðen:tej: gerfa/**

*this pig-2nd old*

this old pig of yours

**dōsē fījīs myintī /dɔzɛ:q̄ fi:wɔ̄is mjint:i:w/**

*house-3rd cold mother-1st*

my mother's cold house

**sāk ēchēs āflūēk nimōs āpāmeyo būre, āpigertāik, ort**

**/sa:q̄k ezɛs avlu:je:q̄k nim:ɔ:ɛs apɑ:q̄amej: bu:jreq̄ api:wgertai:wk ɔrta/**

*these all Pl-bird-3rdpl brown Pl-sister-2nd brave, Pl-enemy-1stpl, ERG*

all of these brown birds of your brave sisters', our enemies (ergative)

### *Adjectives*

Adjectives typically only decline to show levels of comparison and to derive adverbs. They may, however, be declined for plurality and possession as nouns: in these cases they refer to typical nouns describable with the normal force of the adjective. For example, <āfhūgont> /afhu:jgɔn:ta/ (from <hūgont> /hu:jgɔn:ta/, 'hostile') is another common word to mean 'those hostile [to us], enemies'.

### **Verbs**

#### *Useage*

The past, present and future divide tense as expected. In some cases the present tense may be used to denote a past action when alongside other statements using the past tense: this is a device used especially in story-telling to make past events more immediate and dramatic; the present tense is also occasionally used to describe future events: this is a symptom of the comparatively recent derivation of the future tense, and again is often used to indicate more dramatic, immediate or relevant future events.

The moods are used as follows: the imperative is used for commands and requests; the indicative for reality; the optative for wishes and hopes in the present and future, and for unreal events in all three tenses; and the obligative for necessary or coerced events ('have to', 'had to', 'must').

#### *Relative clauses*

Relative clauses always follow the noun that they qualify, coming in the same position as adjectives. Word order within a relative clause the subject of which is the noun modified in the main clause may be either SRVO or RVOS (where R stands for the relative timeword), with the variation in word order following the same rules as in main clauses. In these cases the subject is marked with a normal absolutive or ergative pronoun. A relative clause that modifies a noun that is its object or oblique argument takes the

word order ORSV, ORVS, BRSVO, or BRVOS (where B stands for an oblique argument which is the modified noun): the first and second of these are used in relative clauses the object of which is the noun modified and the third and fourth are used in relative clauses an indirect object of which is the noun modified.

The timewords are <yū> /ju:j/ and <wūs> /wu:js/. The first is used in relative clauses contemporary to the main clause; the second for those prior to the main clause.

*Examples of relatives in which the modified noun is the relative subject*

**Yīr rōlch if i yū fnīsēch /ji:wr rō:ɣlʃ if: iw ju:j fni:wzɛʃ/**

*I-ERG love-PRE man he-ABS REL pray-PRE*

I love the man who is praying

**Yīr rōlch if ir wūs gāre yi /ji:wr rō:ɣlʃ if: i:wr wu:js gɑ:ɑr jiw/**

*I-ERG love-PRE man he-ERG REL befriend-PST me-ABS*

I love the man who befriended me

*Example of relative in which the modified noun is the relative direct object*

**Yīr rōlch if i wūs yīr gāre /ji:wr rō:ɣlʃ if: iw wu:js ji:wr gɑ:ɑr/**

*I-ERG love-PRE man he-ABS REL I-ERG befriend-PST*

I love the man whom I befriended

*Examples of relatives in which the modified noun is the relative indirect object*

**Yīr rōlch if of int yū simp'r tālch /ji:wr rō:ɣlʃ if: ɔf: in:ta ju:j ɕim:par ta:ɑlʃ/**

*I-ERG love-PRE man upon he-OBL REL sun=ERG shine-PRE*

I love the man upon whom the sun is shining

**Yīr rōlch if ɛchēlt int wūs thī'r sipēche tāl /ji:wr rō:ɣlʃ if: ɛʒelt in:ta wu:js θi:wr ɕip:ɛʒe ta:ɑl/**

*I-ERG love-PRE man to he-OBL REL goddess=ERG give-PST moon*

I love the man to whom the goddess gave the moon

*Passive*

The passive is formed by the verbal noun and the auxiliary *ī*. The agent is expressed by an ergative in final position.

*Examples*

**Yi ī bīchēchēnt /jiw i:w biʒɛʒɛnt/**

*I-ABS am attack-VN*

I am being attacked



**Yi i bīchēchēnt mēchēseyo‘r /jiw i:w biʒeʒent meʒeʒej:r/**

*I-ABS am attack-VN father-2nd=ERG*

I am being attacked by your father

**Lexicon**

Throughout the lexicon, words directly derived from Yād are given in black; words derived from compounds are given in green; recent compounds, derivations, back-formations and blends are given in blue; words derived from borrowings in the age of Yād are given in orange; and recent loanwords are given in red. It may be observed that to fill the statistical hole in the phoneme inventory, new words focus especially on the sound /u/; for this reason also, consonant clusters which would be unpronounceable in Yēt tend to be separated out using /u/.

**Verbs**

Throughout this section the following forms may be given: the stem (always); the infinitive and verbal noun stems (always); the past stem (where it differs from the infinitive stem); and the present stem (where its formation is more complex than the addition of <-ch> /-ʒ -ç/ or <-ēch> /-eʒ/). If the initial consonant of the stem was historically a voiced fricative, this is noted alongside the definition.

Yēt		Meaning
Phonemic and orthographic	Phonetic	
< bebīs bebīse bebichjēchēnt > /beb:i:ws beb:i:wzeʒ beb:i:ʒeʒent/	[beb:i:ws beb:i:wzeʒ beb:i:ʒeʒent]	name
< bēchēlīs bēchēlīse bēchēlichēchēnt > /beʒeli:ws beʒeli:wzeʒ beʒelizʒeʒent/	[beʒeli:ws beʒeli:wzeʒ beʒelizʒeʒent]	send
< bis bis bīchēchēnt bisdent bisdēch > /bis: bis: biʒeʒent bizden:ta bizdeʒ/	[bis: bis: biʒeʒent bizden:ta bizdeʒ]	attack
< cū cūhe cīhēchēnt cēchēch > /tʃu:j tʃu:jheʒ tʃifeʒent tʃeʒeʒ/	[tʃu:j tʃu:jheʒ tʃifeʒent tʃeʒeʒ]	have sex
< di di dēchēnt > /ɖi:w ɖi:w deʒent/	[ɖi:w ɖi:w deʒent]	become (supplies the verbal noun and future of ī)
< dwi dwi dwēchēnt dwich > /dwi:w dwi:w dweʒent dwiç:/	[dwi:w dwi:w dweʒent dwiç:]	drink
< ebīn ebīne ēbēchēndēchēnt > /eb:i:wn eb:i:wneʒ e:ʒbeʒendeʒent/	[eb:i:wn eb:i:wneʒ e:ʒbeʒendeʒent]	cry
< ebīs ebīse ebijēchēnt > /eb:i:ws eb:i:wzeʒ eb:i:ʒeʒent/	[eb:i:ws eb:i:wzeʒ eb:i:ʒeʒent]	make
< fnīs fnīse fnichēchēnt > /fni:ws fni:wzeʒ fni:ʒeʒent/	[fni:ws fni:wzeʒ fni:ʒeʒent]	pray (/v-/)
< gār gāre garēchēnt gāre > /ga:ʒ ga:ʒ gareʒent ga:ʒe/	[ga:ʒ ga:ʒ gareʒent ga:ʒe]	befriend

< hath hate häčëchënt hate hach > /haθ: hat: hatʃeʒent hat:ε haʃ:/	[haθ: hat: hatʃeʒent hat:ε haʃ:]	marry
< hibif hibife hibifëchënt hibifch > /hib:i:wf hib:i:wvεɔ hib:i:v:εʒent hib:i:f:ʃa/	[hib:i:wf hib:i:wvεɔ hib:i:v:εʒent hib:i:f:ʃa]	lift
< hif hife hifëchënt hifch > /hi:wf hi:wvεɔ hiv:εʒent hif:ʃa/	[hi:wf hi:wvεɔ hiv:εʒent hif:ʃa]	drink
< hoh hoh hõpëchënt hopëchë > /hɔh: hɔh: hɔpeʒent hɔp:εʒε/	[ɸɔɸ: ɸɔɸ: ɸɔpeʒent ɸɔp:εʒε]	defeat
< hokh hokh hõčëchënt hoke > /hɔx: hɔx: hɔʃeʒent hɔk:/	[ɸɔx: ɸɔx: ɸɔʃeʒent ɸɔk:]	masturbate
< i i > /i:w i:w/	[i:w i:w]	be (verbal noun and future supplied by <i>di</i> )
< idël idële idelyëchënt idële > /id:ε:ɔl id:ε:ɔl id:ε:εʒent id:ε:ɔle/	[id:ε:ɔl id:ε:ɔl id:ε:εʒent id:ε:ɔle]	rape
< insip insibe insibëchënt insihch > /in:zi:wp in:zi:wbeɔ in:zib:εʒent in:zih:ʃa/	[in:zi:wp in:zi:wbeɔ in:zib:εʒent in:zih:ʃa]	strike
< ip ip ibëchënt ibëchënt ich > /i:wp i:wp ib:εʒent i:wbeʒε ih:ʃa/	[i:wp i:wp ib:εʒent ih:ʃa]	sit
< jü jü jëchënt jëchëch > /dʒu:j dʒu:j dʒeʒent dʒeʒεç/	[dʒu:j dʒu:j dʒeʒent dʒeʒεç]	pull
< jük jüge jëchëjëchënt jëchëkhch > /dʒu:jk dʒu:jgeɔ dʒeʒεdʒeʒent dʒeʒεxʃ/	[dʒu:jk dʒu:jgeɔ dʒeʒεdʒeʒent dʒeʒεxʃ]	throw
<b>mih mïhe mïhëchënt</b> /mih mifεɔ mifεʒent/	[mih mifεɔ mifεʒent]	bake (back-formation from <i>mïhën</i> )
< milyc milye milyëchënt > /mi:ɫ:ɕa mi:ɫ:εɔ mi:ɫ:εʒent/	[mi:ɫ:ɕa mi:ɫ:εɔ mi:ɫ:εʒent]	suck
< mōk mōge mojëchënt mōge mokhch > /mɔ:ɛk mɔ:ɛg mɔdʒ:εʒent mɔ:ɛge mɔx:ʃa/	[mɔ:ɛk mɔ:ɛg mɔdʒ:εʒent mɔ:ɛge mɔx:ʃa]	protest
< mük müge mÿjëchënt > /muk mugeɔ mudʒeʒent/	[muk mugeɔ mudʒeʒent]	object to, reject (from Yhat <i>mük</i> )
< myisëk myisdëk myisdejëchënt myisdëge myisdekhch > /mjizde:ɔk mjizde:ɔk mjizdedʒ:εʒent mjizde:ɔge mjizdex:ʃa/	[mjizde:ɔk mjizde:ɔk mjizdedʒ:εʒent mjizde:ɔge mjizdex:ʃa]	celebrate
< nōn nōne nonnëchënt non > /nɔ:ɛn nɔ:ɛn nɔn:neʒent nɔn:/	[nɔ:ɛn nɔ:ɛn nɔn:neʒent nɔn:]	go
< nos nosde nõchëchënt > /nɔs: nɔzdeɔ nɔʒeʒent/	[nɔs: nɔzdeɔ nɔʒeʒent]	die
< nün nüne nünëchënt >	[nun nuneɔ nuneʒent]	leave, exit (from

/nun nuneɔ nunezent/		Yhat <i>nún</i> )
< òlakh òlake òlächèhènt òlake òlakhch > /ɔ:ɣlax: ɔ:ɣlak: ɔ:ɣlatʂezent ɔ:ɣlak:ɛ ɔ:ɣlax:ʂa/	[ɔ:ɣlax: ɔ:ɣlak: ɔ:ɣlatʂezent ɔ:ɣlak:ɛ ɔ:ɣlax:ʂa]	forget
< rith rith rìcèchènt rite rich > /riθ: riθ: ritʂezent rit:ɛ riç:/	[riθ: riθ: ritʂezent rit:ɛ riç:]	hear
< rōl rōle rolyèchènt rōle > /rɔ:ɣl rɔ:ɣl rɔ:l:ɛzent rɔ:ɣlɛ/	[rɔ:ɣl rɔ:ɣl rɔ:l:ɛzent rɔ:ɣlɛ]	love
< sāt sāt sājèchènt sādèchè sach > /sa:ɔt sa:ɔt sa:ɔdʂezent sa:ɔdeze sa:ʂ:/	[sa:ɔt sa:ɔt sa:ɔdʂezent sa:ɔdeze sa:ʂ:]	begin
< sih sih sipèchènt sipèchè > /çih: çih: çipezent çip:ɛze/	[çih: çih: çipezent çip:ɛze]	give
< tālek tālek taljèchènt tālge tālch > /ta:ɔlek: ta:ɔlek: tal:dʂezent ta:ɔlɣɛ ta:ɔlʂ:/	[ta:ɔlek: ta:ɔlek: tal:dʂezent ta:ɔlɣɛ ta:ɔlʂ:]	shine
< tīf tīfe tifèchè tifch > /tɕi:wf tɕi:wveɔ tɕiv:ɛzent tɕif:ʂa/	[tɕi:wf tɕi:wveɔ tɕiv:ɛzent tɕif:ʂa]	sin
< ūl ūle ūlyèchènt > /ul uleɔ ulɛzent/	[ul uleɔ ulɛzent]	improve, lift (from Yhat <i>úl</i> )
< ūp ūp èchèbèchènt ūbèchè èchèhch > /u:jp u:jp ɛʂɛbezent u:jbeze ɛʂɛhʂ:/	[u:jp u:jp ɛʂɛbezent u:jbeze ɛʂɛhʂ:]	freeze
< wīl wīle wīlyèchènt > /wi:wɪl wi:wleɔ wi:l:ɛzent/	[wi:wɪl wi:wleɔ wi:l:ɛzent]	rise
< wōneh wōnepe wōnèpèchènt wōnepèchè wōnehch > /wɔneh: wɔnep: wɔnepezent wɔnep:ɛze wɔneh:ʂa/	[wɔneh: wɔnep: wɔnepezent wɔnep:ɛze wɔneh:ʂa]	belittle

## Nominals

### Abstract nouns

Yèt		Meaning
Phonemic and orthographic	Phonetic	
fiporta /fip:ɔrta/	[fip:ɔrta]	strength
fiportū /fip:ɔrtu:j/	[fip:ɔrtu:j]	weakness
kūnū /ku:jnu:j/	[ku:jnu:j]	glint, glimmer

### Animals

Yèt		Meaning
Phonemic and orthographic	Phonetic	
aggèchè /aɣgeʂ/	[aɣgeʂ]	snake
byirtā /bjirta/	[bjirta]	goat
chaggèchè /ʂaɣgeʂ/	[ʂaɣgeʂ]	dog

ēbes /e:ɔbes:/	[e:ɔbes:]	fish
fwī /fwi:w/	[fwi:w]	ox
hār /ha:ar/	[ha:ar]	sheep
hěchěhhūs /hezɛfhfu:js/	[hezɛfhfu:js]	hare
hěchěho /hezɛfi/	[hezɛfi]	rabbit
hwī /hwi:w/	[ɸwi:w]	mouse
hwihūs /hwi:wfu:js/	[ɸwi:wfu:js]	rat
ikh /ix/	[ix]	cat
ikhhūs /ixhu:js/	[ixhu:js]	lion, tiger, leopard (predatory cat large enough to be a danger to humans)
jīc /dʒi:wtɕ/	[dʒi:wtɕ]	flea
jīchūs /dʒi:wtɕhu:js/	[dʒi:wtɕhu:js]	fly, flying insect
lū /lu:j/	[lu:j]	bird
maggěchě /maygɛzɸ/	[maygɛzɸ]	worm
maggěchū /maygɛzu:j/	[maygɛzu:j]	maggot
nidro /nidrɔɕ/	[nidrɔɕ]	horse
nīlēh /ni:wleh/	[ni:wleh]	domestic animal
nīlēhhūs /ni:wlehhu:js/	[ni:wlehhu:js]	beast of burden
rū /ru:j/	[ru:j]	fox
rūū /ru:ju:j/	[ru:ju:j]	fox cub; the young of dogs, cats, and various other mammalian species
sithent /ɕiðen:ta/	[ɕiðen:ta]	pig

*Parts of the body and human functions*

Yēt		Meanin g
Phonemic and orthographic	Phonetic	
dōn /dɔ:ɕn/	[dɔ:ɕn]	hand
ikū /iku:uj/	[iku:uj]	breath
itsent /it:zen:ta/	[it:zen:ta]	penis
mif /mif:/	[mif:]	mouth
olsěchě /ɔl:zezɸ/	[ɔl:zezɸ]	word
yīcent /jitɕen:ta/	[jitɕen:ta]	arm

*People, family, and society*

Yēt		Meaning
Phonemic and orthographic	Phonetic	
āfchīmhūs /afɕi:wmfu:js/	[afɕi:wmfu:js]	population (always plural)
afsātū /af:sa:ɕtu:j/	[af:sa:ɕtu:j]	meal (always plural)

aggëchyā /aʏgezja:ǰ/	[aʏgezja:ǰ]	rope, string
ah /ah:/	[ah:]	country-dweller
ām /a:ǰm/	[a:ǰm]	sister
āmū /a:ǰmu:j/	[a:ǰmu:j]	younger sister
ās /a:ǰs/	[a:ǰs]	city-dweller
bīr /bi:wr/	[bi:wr]	homosexual (from Zhaj <i>bijr</i> )
chīm /ʃi:wm/	[ʃi:wm]	neighbour
dōs /dɔs/	[dɔs]	house
dōsū /dɔsu:j/	[dɔsu:j]	shack, hut
dōsyā /dɔsja:ǰ/	[dɔsja:ǰ]	home
ëchëho /eʒeh/	[eʒeh]	nobleman
ëchëhū /eʒehu:j/	[eʒehu:j]	member of the <i>nouveau riche</i>
eyōne /ej:ɔ:ɣn/	[ej:ɔ:ɣn]	girl
eyōnū /ej:ɔ:ɣnu:j/	[ej:ɔ:ɣnu:j]	young girl
gār /gɑ:ǰr/	[gɑ:ǰr]	friend
gēls /ge:ɔls/	[ge:ɔls]	border
if /if:/	[if:]	man
ifū /ifu:j/	[ifu:j]	young man, male teenager
īgertā /i:wgerta/	[i:wgerta]	enemy
ithkh /iθx/	[iθx]	mistress, lady
jāc /ja:ǰtʃ/	[ja:ǰtʃ]	prisoner
jūl /dʒu:j/	[dʒu:j]	scribe
mā /ma:ǰ/	[ma:ǰ]	person
mëchëhth /mezehθ/	[mezehθ]	brother
mëchëhthū /mezehθu:j/	[mezehθu:j]	younger brother
mëchëhthyā /mezehθja:ǰ/	[mezehθja:ǰ]	friend, competitor
mëchës /mezəs/	[mezəs]	father
mīhēn /mihe:ɔn/	[mihe:ɔn]	baker
myint /mjintɑ/	[mjintɑ]	mother
nūr /nu:jr/	[nu:jr]	woman
nūrū /nu:jru:j/	[nu:jru:j]	young woman, female teenager
ōbëch /ɔ:ɣbeʃ/	[ɔ:ɣbeʃ]	throne
ōbëchū /ɔ:ɣbeʃu:j/	[ɔ:ɣbeʃu:j]	chair
sūf /su:jf/	[su:jf]	uncle (-f added by association with < if > to distinguish from determiner < sū > )
sūū /su:ju:j/	[su:ju:j]	spark, cinder
thëchëh /θeʒeh/	[θeʒeh]	child
thëchëhkēt /θeʒehke:ɔt/	[θeʒehke:ɔt]	carer for children
thyiske /θjiskeɔ/	[θjiskeɔ]	queen
thyiskelt /θjiskel:ta/	[θjiskel:ta]	kingdom
thyiskh /θjisx/	[θjisx]	king

thyŕskkhūs /θjɪsxhu:js/	[θjɪsxhu:js]	emperor, king of many lands
tūsŕsk /tuzɪsk/	[tuzɪsk]	conqueror, warlord (from Yhat <i>tsŕsk</i> )

### Religion

Yēt		Meaning
Phonemic and orthographic	Phonetic	
afsāt /afɪsɑ:ɑt/	[afɪsɑ:ɑt]	celebration, feast (always plural)
afsāthūs /afɪsɑ:ɑthu:js/	[afɪsɑ:ɑthu:js]	religious festival, religious feast
chĕchĕkorta /ʃɛzɛkɔrta/	[ʃɛzɛkɔrta]	worship
ibōn /ɪb:ɔ:ɛn/	[ɪb:ɔ:ɛn]	heretic
ibōnhūs /ɪb:ɔ:ɛnfu:js/	[ɪb:ɔ:ɛnfu:js]	demon
īgerthūs /i:wɛrthu:js/	[i:wɛrthu:js]	evil
ilūs /ɪlu:js/	[ɪlu:js]	temple
ilūsū /ɪlu:jsu:j/	[ɪlu:jsu:j]	shrine
lōsorta /lɔ:ɛzɔrta/	[lɔ:ɛzɔrta]	religion
nik /nik:/	[nik:]	god
rwīnk /rwi:wɪn/	[rwi:wɪn]	prophet
sĕkūr /sɛku:jr/	[sɛku:jr]	priest
sike /ɕik:ɛɔ/	[ɕik:ɛɔ]	priestess
swī /swi:w/	[swi:w]	tradition
thī /θi:w/	[θi:w]	goddess
tīfēn /tɕi:wfe:ɔn/	[tɕi:wfe:ɔn]	sinner

### Weather, the sky and landscapes

Yēt		Meaning
Phonemic and orthographic	Phonetic	
īflo /ivlɔɕ/	[ivlɔɕ]	rain
īflohūs /ivlɔɕfu:js/	[ivlɔɕfu:js]	rain storm
īflū /ivlu:j/	[ivlu:j]	spitting rain, showers
ik /ik:/	[ik:]	wind
ikhūs /ik:hu:js/	[ik:hu:js]	wind storm (tornado, storm without much rain)
kēt /ke:ɔt/	[ke:ɔt]	way, road, path
kūn /ku:jn/	[ku:jn]	star
līs /lis/	[lis]	land, earth
milent /mil:ɛn:ta/	[mil:ɛn:ta]	ice
olsōhūs /ɔl:zɔ:ɛfu:js/	[ɔl:zɔ:ɛfu:js]	winter
simp /ɕim:pa/	[ɕim:pa]	sun
sū /su:j/	[su:j]	star

tāl, äftäl /ta:al afte:ɔl/	[ta:al]	moon
üy /u:jɔ/	[u:jɔ]	snow
üyhüs /u:jɔfhu:js/	[u:jɔfhu:js]	snow storm

*Adjectives*

<b>Yēt</b>		<b>Meaning</b>
<b>Phonemic and orthographic</b>	<b>Phonetic</b>	
aggëchëk /aγgezëk/	[aγgezëk]	black
aggëchëkū /aγgezëku:j/	[aγgezëku:j]	grey
ahyā /ah:ja:a/	[ah:ja:a]	inexperienced, naïve
āsyā /a:ɔsja:a/	[a:ɔsja:a]	experienced, cynical
büre /bu:jreɔ/	[bu:jreɔ]	brave
chëchëkorkët /ʃezëkörtke:ɔt /	[ʃezëkörtke:ɔt]	religiously motivated
chïmkët /ʃi:wmke:ɔt/	[ʃi:wmke:ɔt]	generous, self-sacrificing
dōnyā /dɔ:ɛnja:a/	[dɔ:ɛnja:a]	dextrous, skilled
fijis /fi:wɔis/	[fi:wɔis]	chilly, cold
fijisū /fi:wɔisu:j/	[fi:wɔisu:j]	cool, slightly cold
fu /fuj/	[fuj]	fat (from Yhat <i>fū</i> )
gärkët /ga:ərke:ɔt/	[ga:ərke:ɔt]	generous
gerf /gerfa/	[gerfa]	old
gerfyā /gerfja:a/	[gerfja:a]	wise
gësün /gezun/	[gezun]	challenging, skilled (from Zhaj <i>gesun</i> )
gisdont /gizdɔn:ta/	[gizdɔn:ta]	powerful
gisdös /gizdɔs/	[gizdɔs]	nearby
hū /hu:j/	[hu:j]	blue
hūgont /hu:jgɔn:ta/	[hu:jgɔn:ta]	hostile
hūgontū /hu:jgɔn:tu:j/	[hu:jgɔn:tu:j]	annoyed
hühüs /hu:jfhu:js/	[hu:jfhu:js]	black, very dark blue, turquoise (use to describe the sea)
hüs /hu:js/	[hu:js]	great, large
hwiyā /hwi:wja:a/	[ɸwi:wja:a]	small
ibōnyā /ib:ɔ:ɛnja:a/	[ib:ɔ:ɛnja:a]	sinful, bad
īgertyā /i:wgerlja:a/	[i:wgerlja:a]	hostile, dangerous
itsentkët /it:zen:tke:ɔt/	[it:zen:tke:ɔt]	sexually motivated
jicyā /dʒi:wteja:a/	[dʒi:wteja:a]	annoying, irritating
jūlyā /dʒu:jlja:a/	[dʒu:jlja:a]	skilled, well-trained, intelligent
lōsortyā /lo:ɛzɔrtja:a/	[lo:ɛzɔrtja:a]	complex, bureaucratic
lūyā /lu:ja:a/	[lu:ja:a]	flying, able to fly
mif /mif:ke:ɔt/	[mif:ke:ɔt]	concerning food production

milentyā /mil:ɛntjɑ:ɑ/	[mil:ɛntjɑ:ɑ]	icy, slippery
milt /mil:ta/	[mil:ta]	shining, bright
milthūs /mil:thu:js/	[mil:thu:js]	blinding, very bright
nifent /niven:ta/	[niven:ta]	red
nifenthūs /niven:thu:js/	[niven:thu:js]	crimson, very bright red, blood red
nikyā /nikjɑ:ɑ/	[nikjɑ:ɑ]	divine, powerful
nilčhyā /ni:wlehjɑ:ɑ/	[ni:wlehjɑ:ɑ]	tame, domesticated
nimōs /nim:ɔ:ɛs/	[nim:ɔ:ɛs]	brown
nimōsū /nim:ɔ:ɛsu:j/	[nim:ɔ:ɛsu:j]	dirty, muddied
ōf /ɔ:ɛf/	[ɔ:ɛf]	happy
ōfhūs /ɔ:ɛfhu:js/	[ɔ:ɛfhu:js]	ecstatic, very happy
olsō /ɔ:l:zɔ:ɛ/	[ɔ:l:zɔ:ɛ]	cold
rwīls /rwi:wls/	[rwi:wls]	foreign
simpyā /ɕim:pjɑ:ɑ/	[ɕim:pjɑ:ɑ]	healthy, wholesome
sūdīn /sudin/	[sudin]	heathen, blasphemous (from <i>Zhaj zudin</i> )
sūs /sus/	[sus]	clean, perfect (from <i>Zhaj zuz</i> )
swīyā /swi:wjɑ:ɑ/	[swi:wjɑ:ɑ]	traditional
tālyā /ta:aljɑ:ɑ/	[ta:aljɑ:ɑ]	calm, serene
thēchēhyā /θe:zehjɑ:ɑ/	[θe:zehjɑ:ɑ]	playful, mischievous
thōdēchēnt /θɔ:ɛde:zɛnt/	[θɔ:ɛde:zɛnt]	holy
thōdēchēnthūs /θɔ:ɛde:zɛnthu:js/	[θɔ:ɛde:zɛnthu:js]	holy, sacred
thōdēchēntū /θɔ:ɛde:zɛntu:j/	[θɔ:ɛde:zɛntu:j]	good
thōs /θɔ:ɛs/	[θɔ:ɛs]	white
thyīskeltkēt /θjiskel:tke:ɔt/	[θjiskel:tke:ɔt]	patriotic, nationalist
thyīskēyā /θjiske:ɔjɑ:ɑ/	[θjiske:ɔjɑ:ɑ]	elegant, beautiful
wīm /wi:wɪm/	[wi:wɪm]	yellow
wīp /wi:wɪp/	[wi:wɪp]	green

## Determiners and Quantifiers

### Determiners

Yēt		Meaning
Phonemic and orthographic	Phonetic	
sū sāk /su:j sɑ:ɑk/	[su:j sɑ:ɑk]	this, these
shi shik /ʃiw ʃik:/	[ʃiw ʃik:]	that, those

### Quantifiers

Yēt		Meaning
Phonemic and orthographic	Phonetic	



nimp /nim:pa/	[nim:pa]	some, a few
ěchěs /ɛzɛs/	[ɛzɛs]	all
ortă /ɔrta/	[ɔrta]	every, each

### Adverbs

Yēt		Meaning
Phonemic and orthographic	Phonetic	
dōsyākēt /dɔsjɑ:kɛ:ɔt/	[dɔsjɑ:kɛ:ɔt]	homewards
gip /gip:/	[gip:]	last year
kēbūre /kɛ:ɔbu:jrɛɔ/	[kɛ:ɔbu:jrɛɔ]	bravely
kēdaggěchěk /kɛ:ɔdaygɛzɛk/	[kɛ:ɔdaygɛzɛk]	secretly
kēdōf /kɛ:ɔdɔ:ɛf/	[kɛ:ɔdɔ:ɛf]	happily
kēdolsō /kɛ:ɔdɔl:zɔ:ɛ/	[kɛ:ɔdɔl:zɔ:ɛ]	slowly, sluggishly
kēdūm /kɛ:ɔdu:jm/	[kɛ:ɔdu:jm]	ineptly, being hindered
kēdūp /kɛ:ɔdu:jp/	[kɛ:ɔdu:jp]	energetically, enthusiastically, healthily, with energy
kēfijis /kɛ:ɔvi:wɔzɪs/	[kɛ:ɔvi:wɔzɪs]	slightly slowly
kēgerfă /kɛ:ɔgerfa/	[kɛ:ɔgerfa]	finally, in the end
kēgisdont /kɛ:ɔgizdɔn:ta/	[kɛ:ɔgizdɔn:ta]	powerfully, with strength
kēgisōs /kɛ:ɔgizdɔs/	[kɛ:ɔgizdɔs]	nearby
kehū /kɛfi:uj/	[kɛfi:uj]	weakly
kehūgont /kɛfi:ujgɔn:ta/	[kɛfi:ujgɔn:ta]	hostilely, threateningly
kehūs /kɛfi:ujɪs/	[kɛfi:ujɪs]	a lot, completely, greatly
kēmilt /kɛ:ɔmil:ta/	[kɛ:ɔmil:ta]	obviously, evidently, well
kēnifent /kɛ:ɔniven:ta/	[kɛ:ɔniven:ta]	bloodily, violently
kēnimōs /kɛ:ɔnim:ɔ:ɛs/	[kɛ:ɔnim:ɔ:ɛs]	softly, gently
kērūls /kɛ:ɔru:jls/	[kɛ:ɔru:jls]	strangely, differently, unusually
kēthōdēchěnt /kɛ:ɔðɔ:ɛdɛzɛnt/	[kɛ:ɔðɔ:ɛdɛzɛnt]	morally, for the gods
kēthōs /kɛ:ɔðɔ:ɛs/	[kɛ:ɔðɔ:ɛs]	obviously, visibly
liskēt /liskɛ:ɔt/	[liskɛ:ɔt]	towards land
olsōkēt /ɔl:zɔ:ɛkɛ:ɔt/	[ɔl:zɔ:ɛkɛ:ɔt]	upwards, toward upland areas

### Conjunctions

Yēt		Meaning
Phonemic and orthographic	Phonetic	
chip /ʃip:/	[ʃip:]	thus
holt /hɔl:ta/	[hɔl:ta]	when
ont /ɔn:ta/	[ɔn:ta]	and
thilt /θil:ta/	[θil:ta]	but

### Interjections

Yēt		Meaning
Phonemic and orthographic	Phonetic	
ā /a:ā/	[a:ā]	oh! (expresses surprise, shock)
rǎ /ra/	[ra]	(expresses anger, exasperation)
ū /u:j/	[u:j]	ooh (expresses interest, surprise)

### Prepositions

Yēt		Meaning
Phonemic and orthographic	Phonetic	
ěchělno /ɛʒɛln/	[ɛʒɛln]	before, in front of
ěchělt /ɛʒɛlt/	[ɛʒɛlt]	to, toward
hi /hiw/	[hiw]	out of
ī /i:w/	[i:w]	of
īge /i:wgeǝ/	[i:wgeǝ]	against, to, at
ilt /il:ta/	[il:ta]	without
it /it:/	[it:]	with, using (< ĭth > /iθ/ before voiceless consonants)
nū /nu:j/	[nu:j]	in, inside
of /ɔf:/	[ɔf:]	on, upon (< ōf > /ɔf/ before voiceless consonants)
pěchěnt /peʒent/	[peʒent]	with (comitative)
wint /win:ta/	[win:ta]	made of
yū /ju:j/	[ju:j]	as, like, equally to