

**Part A** Imperfect of Bos (long and short) etc, etc

You can talk and write about what is happening now in the present so it is time to learn how to talk about what happened in the past.

**\*\*Reading.** The passage is taken from Holyewgh an Lergh 1 gans Graham Sandercock §44

**Yma** Jori y'n lowarth. **Yma** ev ow redya lyver nowydh. Lyver da **yw** ha pes da **yw** Jori. Teg **yw** an gewer; hag **yma'n** howl ow splanna y'n ebron. **Yma** tas Jori y'n lowarth ynwedh. **Yma** ev owth eva korev. Leun **yw** an wedrenn vras ha yeyn **yw** an korev. Lowen **yw** tas ynwedh. Piw **eus** ow tos lemmyn? **Yma** Jenifer ow tos. **Yw** Jenifer lowen hedhyw? Nag **yw**, nyns **yw** hi lowen. Drog pes **yw** hi. Yn-medh hi: "Ass owgh hwi diek! Yma'n lestri plos ow kortos y'n gegin!"

Here is the same passage in the past (imperfect) tense

**Yth esa** Jori y'n lowarth. **Yth esa** ev ow redya lyver nowydh. Lyver da **o** ha pes da **o** Jori. Teg **o** an gewer; hag **yth esa** an howl ow splanna y'n ebron. **Yth esa** tas Jori y'n lowarth ynwedh. **Yth esa** ev owth eva korev. Leun **o** an wedrenn vras ha yeyn **o** an korev. Lowen **o** tas ynwedh. Piw **esa** ow tos lemmyn? **Yth esa** Jenifer ow tos. **O** Jenifer lowen de? Nag **o**, nyns **o** hi lowen. Drog pes **o** hi. Yn-medh hi: "Ass owgh hwi diek! Yma'n lestri plos ow kortos y'n gegin!"

*Note*

hedhyw (today) has changed to de (yesterday)

conversation remains in the present tense

lowarth (g)	lowarthyow	garden
lyver (g)	lyvrow	book
ebron (b)		sky
gwedrenn (b)	gwedrennow	glass
lestri		dishes
kegin (b)	keginow	kitchen

redya	to read	ow redya	reading
splanna	to shine	ow splanna	shining
eva	to drink	owth eva	drinking
dos	to come	ow tos	coming
gortos	to wait	ow kortos	waiting

## Notennow

*Just as bos has a long and a short form in the present tense so it does in the imperfect tense*

<i>present</i>		<i>imperfect</i>	
<i>short</i>	<i>long</i>	<i>short</i>	<i>long</i>
...ov vy	...esov vy	...en vy	...esen vy
...osta	...esosta	...esta	...esesta
<b>...yw ev</b>	<b>...yma ev</b>	<b>...o ev</b>	<b>...esa ev</b>
<b>...yw hi</b>	<b>...yma hi</b>	<b>...o hi</b>	<b>...esa hi</b>
...on ni	...eson ni	...en ni	...esen ni
...owgh hwi	...esowgh hwi	...ewgh hwi	...esewgh hwi
...yns i	...ymons i	...ens i	...esens i

- *The rules for using the long and short forms in the imperfect are the same as for the present tense*
- *There is no equivalent to eus/usi or esons*
- *No other tenses of bos have both a long and a short form*
- *No other verb has long and short forms*

*Wherever there was yw in the present tense this is replaced by o*

My yw lowen      *I am happy*

My o lowen      *I was happy*

*Where there was an yma in the present tense this is replaced by yth esa*

Yma eglos y'n dre.      *There is a church in the town.*

Yth esa eglos y'n dre.      *There was a church in the town.*

*Usi and eus are both replaced by esa*

Eus eglos y'n dre?      Eus, yma eglos y'n dre.      Nag eus, nyns eus eglos y'n dre.

Esa eglos y'n dre?      Esa, yth esa eglos y'n dre.      Nag esa, nyns esa eglos y'n dre.

Usi ev omma?      Usi, yma ev omma.      Nag usi, nyns usi ev omma

Esa ev omma?      Esa, yth esa ev omma.      Nag esa, nyns esa ev omma

### **Exercise A1**      *Answer the questions*

- 1 Piw esa y'n lowarth?
- 2 Pyth esa Jori ow kul?
- 3 Fatell o an gewer?
- 4 O Jori lowen?
- 5 O tas Jori lowen?
- 6 Pyth esa tas Jori ow kul?
- 7 O Jenifer lowen?
- 8 Pyth esa ow kortos y'n gegin?

## Part B

Do you remember the idiomatic way Cornish has to say I have and I must, these also are used in the past (imperfect tense).

English present	Cornish present	English past	Cornish past
<i>I have a dog(with me)</i>	Yma ki genev	<i>I had* a dog (with me)</i>	Yth esa ki genev
<i>I have (own) a dog</i>	Yma ki dhymm	<i>I had* (owned) a dog</i>	Yth esa ki dhymm
<i>I must go</i>	Res yw dhymm mos	<i>I had* to go</i>	Res o dhymm mos

*\*This English 'had' has the sense 'used to have'*

### Exercise B1 translate

- |                               |                                      |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 Yma ki dhedhi.              | 6 Peter has (owns) a dog.            |
| 2 Yma chi dhyn                | 7 We have (with us) a computer       |
| 3 Yma flogh genev             | 8 They have (own) a swimming pool    |
| 4 Yma skath dhe Jowan         | 9 You (sing.) have (with you) a book |
| 5 Res yw dhodho skrifa lyther | 10 She must read the story.          |

### Exercise B2 translate

- |                                  |                                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Yth esen vy y'n gegin          | 6 I was in the garden             |
| 2 Yth esewgh hwi ow kana         | 7 We were learning Cornish        |
| 3 Yth esens i ow skrifa lytherow | 8 Alyn was working in the garden. |
| 4 Yth esa Brenda owth eva        | 9 We were watching the television |
| 5 Yth esen ni ow prena karr      | 10 You were singing in the bath   |

### Exercise B3

Write 50 – 100 words describing a house you knew