

Dyskans trydhek warn ugens (33)

An trydhegves dyskans warn ugens

Comparative and Superlative

***The following conversation is taken from 'Keskowsow Istorek ha Keskowsow' by John Parker. An keskows a syw yw kemmerys dhiworth 'Keskowsow Istorek ha Keskowsow' by John Parker*

- Perghen: Myttin da, syrra.
 Den: Myttin da.
 Perghen: A allav vy gweres dhis?
 Den: Gyllydh. Yma hwans dhymm a brena krys T.
 Perghen: Da lowr. Py par braster a vynn'ta y gavoës?
 Den: Py par braster eus genes?
 Perghen: Yma krysyow T munys, byghan, savonek, bras, brassa, bras dres eghenn, hag oli.
 Den: Dar! Oli? Pyth yw "oli"?
 Perghen: A, henn yw berrheans an ger "olifans", kehalval orth an Sowsnek "jumbo", del grysav.
 Den: Aha, my a wel. Wel, my a vynn assaya krambla yn krys T "brassa".
 Perghen: Da lowr, syrra. Py liw a bleg dhis?
 Den: Gwynn ha du, heb mar.
 Perghen: Ottomma. Hag ottena an stevell wiska yn-hons. (Wosa powes berr)
 Ogh, syrra, fatell yw? Yw ev bras lowr?
 Den: Nag yw, nyns yw bras lowr. Stroth yw yn-dann ow diwgasel. Res yw dhymm assaya onan brassa hwath.
 Perghen: "Bras dres eghenn", syrra. Ottomma. (Powes arall) Aha, syrra. Yw an huni na bras lowr?
 Den: Yw. My a vynn prena an huni ma.
 Perghen: Da lowr, syrra. Meur ras.

Gerva

Yma hwans dhymm	<i>I want</i>	<i>Note 2</i>
savonek	<i>standard</i>	
bras, brassa	<i>big, bigger</i>	<i>Note 1</i>
dres eghenn	<i>exceedingly</i>	
berrheans	<i>abbreviation</i>	<i>Note 3</i>
diwgasel	<i>armpits</i>	<i>Note 4</i>
an huni na	<i>that one</i>	<i>Note 5</i>

Notennow

1 comparative and superlative adjectives

bras *big*, brassa *bigger*. Brassa is the comparative form of bras. The general rule is to double the last consonant and add –a. to form the superlative put an in front of the comparative an brassa the *biggest*.

If the end of the adjective has two consonants there is no doubling: yowynk, yowynka. Some consonants change teg, tekka

teg	tekka	an tekka	<i>pretty, prettier, the prettiest</i>
hweg	hwekka	an hwekka	<i>sweet, sweeter, the sweetest</i>
bras	brassa	an brassa	<i>big, bigger, the biggest</i>
pell	pella	an pella	<i>far, further, the furthest</i>
koth	kottha ¹	an kottha	<i>old, older, the oldest</i>
kogh	koggha ¹	an koggha	<i>red, redder, the reddest</i>
byghan	byghanna	an byghanna	<i>small, smaller, the smallest</i>
byghan	le	an lyha	<i>little, less, the least</i>
meur	moy	an moyha	<i>much, more, the most</i>
da	gwell	an gwella	<i>good, better, the best</i>
drog	gweh	an gwettha	<i>bad, worse, the worst</i>
ogas	nes	an nessa	<i>near, hearer, the nearest</i>
boghosek ²	moy boghosek	an moyha boghosek	<i>poor, poorer, the poorest</i>

¹ the letters ‘th’ and ‘gh’ are considered as single in Cornish but the awkward doubling to thth and ghgh has been avoided by using ‘tth’ and ‘ggh’
The pronunciation will be “koth-tha” and “kogh-gha,” and the vowel before the double consonant will be short.

² adjectives of more than one syllable form the comparative and superlative with moy and an moyha

The tall boy an maw hir

The taller boy an maw hirra

The tallest boy an hirra maw or an maw an hirra:

The pretty girl an voves teg

The prettier girl an voves tekka

The prettiest girl an tekka mowes or an voves an tekka

The poor man an den boghosek

The poorer man an den moy boghosek

The poorest man an den an moyha boghosek

2 yma hwans dhymm there are several ways to say I want in Cornish:

My a vynn *I want*

my a vynnnsa *I should like*

yma hwans dhymm a *I have a desire for*

yma hireth dhymm a *I have a longing for*

3 By adding the suffix *-he* to an adjective Cornish makes a verb

By adding the suffix *-ans* to the verb Cornish makes a noun

berr	<i>short</i>	berrhe	<i>to shorten</i>	berrheans	<i>abbreviation</i>
trist	<i>sad</i>	tristhe	<i>to sadden</i>	tristheans	<i>sadness</i>
gwell	<i>better</i>	gwellhe	<i>to improve</i>	gwellheans	<i>improvement</i>
rudh	<i>red</i>	rudhhe	<i>to redden</i>	rudhheans	<i>redness</i>

4 dewlagas. Do you remember the ‘duals’? Parts of the body which occur in pairs have a special form of the plural when referring to parts of the body of one ‘person’, and another plural when generalising.

lagas	<i>eye</i>	lagasow	dewlagas
troes	<i>foot</i>	treys	dewdroes
frig	<i>nostril</i>	frigow	dewfrik
ufern	<i>ankle</i>	ufernnyow	dewufern h.e.
skoedh	<i>shoulder</i>	skoedhow	diwskoedh
kasel	<i>armpit</i>	kaselyow	diwgasel

5 more on this and that (demonstratives)

You will remember an gath ma *this cat*; an gath na *that cat*;
 an kathes ma *these cats*; an kathes na *those cats*
 In addition we have an huni ma *this one*; an huni na *that one*
 an re ma *these*; an re na *those*

Exercise 1 Oberenn 1



Use the diagrams to make sentences using the comparative form of the adjective

Ensampl: an hanaf ma yw toemm mes an hanaf na yw toemma

Hanaf—poeth
 Hanaf—yeyn
 Botell—sygh
 Botell—hweg
 Kig yar—tew
 Kig-yar—moen
 Pasti—hweg
 Pasti—hwerow
 Seth—leun
 Seth—gwag

Exercise 2 Oberenn 2 Translate the following into Cornish. Gwra treylya an lavarow dhe Gernewek

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Yowann is bigger than (es) Wella. | 6 Exeter is bigger than Truro. |
| 2 Peder is the biggest. | 7 London is farther than Exeter. |
| 3 That girl is prettier than Tamsin. | 8 King Arthur is older than King Harold |
| 4 Truro is nearer than Exeter. | 9 Brian ran faster than Charles. |
| 5 The woman is younger than Alan's mother. | 10 Exeter is smaller than London. |
| 11 Today is windier than yesterday. | 12 It is the sunniest day of the year. |

Exercise 3 Oberenn 3 Translate into Cornish. Gwra treylya dhe Gernewek

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1 London is the biggest city. | 6 Mars (Meurth) is the reddest planet |
| 2 The oldest man is the grandfather. | 7 This is the worst lesson. |
| 3 The youngest man is Davydh. | 8 That is the better way. |
| 4 The best land is Cornwall. | 9 Edith was the oldest daughter. |
| 5 England is smaller than France. | 10 Cornwall isn't the smallest Celtic country |

Exercise 4 Oberenn 4

You have received this tape from some friends.

Dydh da dhywgh hwi oll. Fatla genowgh? Splann yw genen lemmyn omma yn Statys Unys. Yth esa oberyans yn klavji gans ow gour mis-Hwevrer usi passys mes da lowr yth a pup-tra ganso lemmyn.

Mis-Me ni eth dhe Gylgh Arktek yn gorhel – splann ha marthys dres eghenn o henna, ni a welas Golowys an Kledh hag an menydhadow rew.

Mis-Est ni a wrug nowydhhe stevell-dhybri agan chi. My a brenas moes ha peder kador nowydh ha ni a liwas an fosow, melyn, ha war-barth gans an kroglennow owr nowydh an stevell ma yw pur vryntin.

Ty a borth kov a Dhavydh neb a studhya doronieth, sur ov. Ev a dheuth gans y wreg nowydh, hi yw niver tri, Sukie hy hanow. Hi yw benyn pur deg ha yowynk. I a spenas unn seythun genen hag o onan splann. Ni eth oll a-dro Kaliforni gansa; henn o an kynsa termyn ragdha yn Statys Unys hag a-wosa i eth dhe vysytya Las Vegas.

Mis-Hedra ni eth dhe Yorkshire yn Pow Sows dhe weles ow broder ha'y deylu. Ni a wra dos dhe Vreten Veur arta wosa diw vlydhen, nessa blydhen ow broder a wra dos omma, ha nessa termyn ervirys ov dhe dhos dhe Gernow rag dha weles arta.

Answer in **English**. Gwra gorthybi yn Sowsnek

1 *Where does the speaker live?*

2 *What happened to her husband in February?*

3 *Where did the speaker and her husband go in May?*

4 *Name one thing they saw there?*

5 *Which room did they renovate in August?*

6 *Describe what they did to renovate the room*

7 *Who is Sukie?*

8 *What is the speaker determined to do the next time she comes to Britain?*