

Dyskans dew-ugens (40)

An dhew-ugensves dyskans

Pluperfect

****Read the following.** Gwra redya a sew, dhiworth Erghwynn, Hwedhlow Nowydh ha Koth gans John Page

Gwav a bassyas hag Erghwynn **re devsa** meur. Pan eth ha bos glas an budhynnyow, toemmes gans howl an Gwenton, yth o hi mar vras avel moren a dhewdhek bloedh. Dres Gwav Erghwynn **re bia** pup-prys lowen, mes pan dheuth an tekka awel hi eth ha bos pur drist. An vamm Maria a verkyas hy thristans hag yn-medh hi: "Pandr'a hwer dhis, a flogh? Osta klav?"

"Nag ov, a vammik," a worthybis an voren. "Nyns ov vy klav." Mes hi a wre gortos yn chi yn kosel.

Unn jydh teg ha toemm an gewer, morenyon a'n dre a dheuth dhe'n chi ha leverel: "A Erghwynn! Deus genen ni. Ni a wra mos dhe'n koes rag kuntell bleujyow."

"Henn yw tybyans da," yn-medh Maria. "Ke gansa ha bydh lowen. "

An fleghes eth dhe'n koes hag ena i a wrug kuntell bleujyow ha gul kurunyow ha toes anedha. Devedhys an gorthugher, tan meur a wrussons i.

"Lemmyn, a Erghwynn," yn-medhons i, "mir yn ta ha gwra kepar dell wren nyi." Hag i a dhallathas donsya ha lemmel a-dreus an tansys.

A-dhesempis i a glewas lev trist ow karma ha distowgh i a verkyas nag esa Erghwynn y'ga mysk namoy. "A Erghwynn!" y hwruessons i kria. " Dhe ble osta gyllys?" I a wrug hwilas war bub tu mes ny gavsons aga hares teg. Yowann ha Maria a dheuth ynwedh, mes ny gavsons i aga myrgh gerra. Toemnder an tansys **re wrussa teudhi** an bluv ergh medhel ha hy gul yskynna avel eth dhe'n ebron dewl.

Gerva

re devsa	<i>From tevi (to grow)</i>	Note 1
pan eth ha bos	<i>When ... became</i>	Note 2 note 3
Mar vras avel	<i>as big as</i>	Note 4
Re bia	<i>From bos</i>	Note 1
An tekka awel	<i>the nicer weather</i>	
Pandr'a hwer dhis?	<i>What's the matter with you?</i>	
Deus genen ni	<i>Come with us</i>	
Ke gansa	<i>Go with them</i>	
Devedhys an gorthugher	<i>From dos</i>	Note 5
Kepar dell wren	<i>Just as we do</i>	
Re wrussa teudhi	<i>From gul teudhi (to melt)</i>	Note 1
gerys-da	<i>famous</i>	

Notennow

1 the pluperfect

The verbs in the passage in blue, bold font are in the pluperfect tense. As with the perfect tense (dyskans 30) the *re* particle is (usually) used in affirmative statements. The negative uses the usual *ny* particle so the tense must be understood from the context.

Gul		Bos	
gwrusssen	<i>I had done</i>	bien	<i>I had been</i>
gwrusse	<i>you had done</i>	bies	<i>you had been</i>
gwrusa	<i>s/he had done</i>	bia	<i>s/he had been</i>
gwrusssen	<i>we had done</i>	bien	<i>we had been</i>
gwrussewgh	<i>you had done</i>	biewgh	<i>you had been</i>
gwrusse	<i>they had done</i>	biens	<i>they had been</i>

My *re* wrussa prena *I had bought*

An gewer *re* bia toemm *the weather had been warm*

Ny via an gewer toemm *the weather had not been warm*

My *re* bia ow prenassa *I had been shopping*

Ev *re* bia ow koslowes *He had been listening*

Ev *re* wrussa goslowes *He had listened*

Be careful with the difference between the last two examples: had been doing something and had done something

The endings of the verb in the pluperfect are generally regular:

-sen -ses sa -sen -sewgh -sens

(note: they are the same as the imperfect with the addition of the s)

*Don't forget the *re* particle causes a 2nd mutation except with bos*

2 pan

This subordinating conjunction must be followed by the conjugated verb

3 ... ha bos

mos ha bos *to become, only the verb mos is conjugated* – an gwerthji eth ha bos chi *the shop became a house*

dos ha bos *to happen to be, again only dos is conjugated and other verbs may be substituted for bos* – my a dheuth ha prena an lyver *I happened to buy the book*

4 as ... as

Mar vras avel *as big as*

Mar wynn avel ergh *as white as snow* (see dyskans 34 for other examples)

Remember mar causes a 2nd mutation

5 devedhys

This is the irregular past participle of dos. Devedhys an gorthugher = came the evening or more poetically 'and when the evening had come'

Exercise 1 Oberenn 1

Translate these sentences. Treyl an lavarow ma

- 1 *I had been in Falmouth*
- 2 *They had been in Truro*
- 3 *He had not been talking*
- 4 *The man had been working for a long time*
- 5 *Alyn had been ill*
- 6 *He had been sitting in the dark*
- 7 *Brenda had written three letters*
- 8 *Charles had walked in the garden*
- 9 *The woman had lived in Penzance*
- 10 *They had eaten the cake*

Exercise 2 Oberenn 2

Gwrewgh skrifa keskows rag an gwari ma. Write a conversation for this play.

You are in the library to choose some books..

- *You ask if there are any Harry Potter books for your child.
The librarian will tell you they are on the shelf by the door*
- *Then you ask if they have a book about St Ives.
The librarian will tell you about one, it's by Jori Angwynn, the oldest man in St Ives*
- *You ask to take both books.
The librarian will say you may keep them for three weeks*
- *Thank him/her.*

Exercise 3 Oberenn 3

You have received this letter from a friend who is on holiday. Read the letter, translate it and answer the questions which follow. Ty re dhegmmas an lyther ma dhiworth koweth usi yn dy'goel. Gwra redya an lyther, gwra y dreylia ha gorthybi an govynnaw a syw.

Gorhemynadow a Syllan. Ow gour ha my a drig yn ostel vyghan hag usi war an brassa ynys. An ostel yw glan ha pur attes hag yma gwel splann dres eghenn dre fenester an chambour. Nyns eus karr genen, ytho res yw dhyn kerdhes oll a-dro, mes a-vorow ni a wra gobrena diwros. Agan mab re wortas tre gans an ki; hemm yw an kynsa termyn ow gour ha my dhe spena an dy'goelyow agan honan. Dy' Lun a dheu y fydh an diwettha dydh ha ni a wra dehweles tre dy' Meurth. Kyns henna y fynnyn godriga war onan a'n ynysow erell. Yma hwans dhyn a weles an lowarthow gerys-da a'n Enys Skaw (Tresco).

- a) *Where is the holiday being spent and who is on holiday?*
- b) *Where are they staying?*
- c) *How is the hotel described?*
- d) *What can be seen through the bedroom window?*
- e) *How have they been getting about so far?*
- f) *What are their intentions for the next day?*
- g) *What is their son doing?*
- h) *Do they always holiday alone?*
- i) *When do they return home?*
- j) *What do they want to do before they return home?*

Exercise 4 Oberenn 4

*Write Gwra skrifa
'Keskows y'n kyttrin.'* (A conversation on the bus.)