

Dyskans trydhek ha dew-ugens (53)

An trydhegves dyskans ha dew-ugens

Imperfect tense

** Tas Tewdar

Pur droblys o Tewdar. Y das-gwynn re vawrsa gans lavarow mar goynt war y anow. Yn le gelwel Hanow Jesu po Maria Wynn po onan a'n Sens, y das-gwynn re vawrsa ow kelwel neb myghtern po duw an dhrewydhyon. Y enev a wre mos dhe Ifarn a-dhesempis ha nyns esa maner vyth dh'y weres! Tewdar a wortas ryb y das-gwynn. Ny ylli gul travyth kyns y vamm ha'y das dhe dheweles. Ev a worras pallenn war y enep. Yth esa lies preder ow tremena der y vrys.

“Rag ow bos ow honan – Bran!” Y das-gwynn re lavarsa dhodho neppyth a'n tybyansow a'n dhrewydhyon yn oesow koth. Enev den a ylli mos yn korf mil, hag ena yn korf den arall. A ylli passya enev Bran dres an oesow dhe gorf y das-gwynn? Yth esa an howl ow sedhi, hag yth esa own dhe Dewdar hag ev y honan gans an korf, ha tybyansow dyowlek yn y vrys. Distowgh, yth esa tros war y lerg, ha'y das a dheuth a-ji. “Fatla gans dha das-gwynn? Ple'ma dha vamm?” yn-medh ev heb hedhi. Den bysi o tas Tewdar. Yth esa ganso bargin-tir byghan ha'n hwel yn-wedh a vos menowgh erbynn mer an dre yn kever negys ynter an Gernowyon ha'ga hentrevogyon sowsnek. Nyns esa termyn dhodho dhe skoellya. Wostalleth, ny ylli Tewdar leverel travyth. Ev a dhiskwedhas an korf kudhys dh'y das.

“Yw marow?” a besyas an tas heb hedhi, owth omsoena kepar ha pan wrella nebonan merwel pub dydh an seythun. Tewdar a omsoenas ynwedh yn skav. Prag na wrussa gul henna kyns? Arwoedh an Grows a wrussa pellhe y dybyansow dyowlek.

“Ple'ma dha vamm?” an tas a wovynnas arta.

“Mos dhe'n managhti a wrug hi rag kavoes pronter, mes lemmyn re dhiwedhes yw.”

“Ytho, res vydh dhis mos dhe ves rag hy havoës, ha mos dhe'n managhti dhe leverel dhe'n alusener an pyth re hwarva.” Hag ev ow leverel an geryow ma, yth igoras kist vras an tas-gwynn, ha kemmeres anedhi an gistenn hag ynni an Penn.

“Ha kemmer an gist goth ma ha'y gorra war an kals a skoellyon usi orth penn an stret!”

Gerva

o	<i>was</i>	<i>See note 1</i>
re vawrsa (merwel)	<i>had died</i>	
mar	<i>so</i>	<i>See note 2</i>
a wre mos	<i>was going</i>	<i>See note 1</i>
esa	<i>was</i>	<i>See note 1</i>
Maria Wynn	<i>Blessed Mary</i>	

drewydh +yon	<i>druid</i>	
ny ylli	<i>couldn't</i>	<i>See note 1</i>
re lavarsa	<i>had said</i>	
pan wrella	<i>when (someone) did</i>	
ny'n jevo	<i>did not have</i>	
nyns esa maner vyth	<i>there was no way</i>	
a'n jevo own	<i>was afraid</i>	<i>yth esa own dhodho</i>
re dhiwedhes	<i>too late</i>	<i>See note 2</i>
war y lerg	<i>behind him</i>	<i>See note 3</i>
kepar ha	<i>just like</i>	<i>See note 4</i>
re hwarva	<i>had happened</i>	

Notennow

1 Imperfect tense

This is another past tense and usually translates 'was' or 'used to'

Bos has a short and a long form; the short form is used for descriptions and the long form is used for position

An den o hir the man was tall

yth esa an den war an vre the man was on the hill

The long form is also used with the present participle to form the past continuous tense

Yth esa an den ow kerdhes the man was walking

Bos

short	en vy	es ta	o ev	o hi	en ni	ewgh hwi	ens i
long	esen vy	eses ta	esa ev	esa hi	esen ni	esewgh hwi	esens i
	<i>I was</i>	<i>you were</i>	<i>he was</i>	<i>she was</i>	<i>we were</i>	<i>you were</i>	<i>they were</i>

remember the imperfect of bos does not use the 'a' particle

lowen en vy my o lowen

I was happy

but yth en vy lowen

I was happy

yth esen vy y'n dre

I was in the town

Gul

gwren vy	gwres ta	gwre ev	gwre hi	gwren ni	gwrewgh hwi	gwrens i
<i>I did</i>	<i>you did</i>	<i>he did</i>	<i>she did</i>	<i>we did</i>	<i>you did</i>	<i>they did</i>

my a wre kerdhes pub dydh I used to walk every day

y hwren vy kerdhes pub dydh I used to walk every day

mynnes

mynnen vy	mynnes ta	mynna ev	mynna hi	mynnen ni	mynnewgh hwi	mynnens i
<i>I wanted</i>	<i>you wanted</i>	<i>he wanted</i>	<i>she wanted</i>	<i>we wanted</i>	<i>you wanted</i>	<i>they wanted</i>

the meaning is 'used to want' but English usually says 'wanted' these days

my a vynna lewya Porsche I used to want to drive a Porsche
y fynnen vy lewya Porsche I used to want to drive a Porsche

galloes

gyllyn vy	gyllys ta	gylli ev	gylli hi	gyllyn ni	gyllewgh hwi	gyllens i
<i>I could</i>	<i>you could</i>	<i>he could</i>	<i>she could</i>	<i>we could</i>	<i>you could</i>	<i>they could</i>

the meaning is 'used to be able to' but English usually says 'could'

my a ylli mos ena I used to be able to go there
y hyllyn vy mos ena I used to be able to go there

Other verbs

Most verbs in Cornish form the third person of the imperfect tense with the stem + a or + i

Kara my a gara korev I used to like beer

Verbs ending with -el, -es, -he, -i all have an i in the imperfect.

gweles my a weli an edhen I used to see the bird

glanhe my a lanhi an karr I used to clean the car

Irregular:

<i>doen</i>	<i>a dhegi</i>	<i>used to carry</i>
<i>mos</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>used to go</i>
<i>dos</i>	<i>a dho</i>	<i>used to come</i>
<i>godhvos</i>	<i>a wodhya</i>	<i>used to know</i>
<i>ri</i>	<i>a re</i>	<i>used to give</i>

The conjugated form of the imperfect has the following endings

<i>Most verbs</i>	<i>Verbs ending with -el, -es*, -he, -i</i>
<i>-en</i>	<i>-yn</i>
<i>-es</i>	<i>-ys</i>
<i>-a</i>	<i>-i</i>
<i>-en</i>	<i>-yn</i>
<i>-ewgh</i>	<i>-ewgh</i>
<i>-ens</i>	<i>-ens</i>

**but not mynnes nor
klewes*

2 Intensifying adjectives

pur pur dha *very good*
re re dha *too good*
mar mar dha *so good*
each of the above causes a 2nd mutation
da dres eghenn *exceedingly good*
fest da *really good*

3 war-lergh (*behind*) is one of the prepositions which are separable if used with a pronoun

war-lergh an den
war ow lerg'h war dha lerg'h war y lerg'h war hy lerg'h
war agan lerg'h war agas lerg'h war aga lerg'h

4 kepar ha *just like*, ogas ha *nearly*, an keth ha *the same as*, keffrys ha *as well as*, kettoeth ha *as soon as*
these all require the use of ha
note the idiom kettoeth ha'n ger immediately, straight away

Oberenn 1 Exercise 1

Treyll an lavarow a syw ow tevyndhya an amser anperfydh. *Translate the following into Cornish using the imperfect tense*

- 1 *They wanted to travel in the train.*
- 2 *We wanted to complain.*
- 3 *She used to want to rest all the time.*
- 4 *We used to buy fish in Falmouth.*
- 5 *She went to the church every Sunday.*
- 6 *He used to eat fish every Friday.*
- 7 *Anna used to come every week.*
- 9 *Brian used to drive a motor bike.*
- 10 *They saw their grandmother often.*
- 11 *Chesten was able to read the newspaper in peace.*
- 12 *I was able to see the ship for a long time.*
- 13 *Grandma used to redden the step every week.*
- 14 *Davydh liked to go to France every year for his holiday.*
- 15 *Elizabeth used to say thank you very prettily when she was younger.*

Oberenn 2 *Exercise 2*

Yma y'n skrif a syw pypm lavarenn Sowsnek **harth** hag *italek*. Treyl an lavarow ma dhe Gernewek. *There are five expressions in the following passage in bold, italic type. Give the Cornish for these English expressions.*

When he was just a young lad ev a gara kerdhes dhe'n treth ***which was no more than half a mile*** a-dhiworth y dre.

Ena da o ganso kuntell ***shells and stones*** hag a dhegi yn y sagh ha'ga diskwedhes a-wosa dh'y vamm.

Nyns o y vamm pes da ***and she would shout at him:*** 'Prag y fynnydh dri oll an atal ma a-berth y'gan chi?'

An mab a worthybi dhedhi: 'A Vamm, mes ass yns i teg! ***Don't you think so too?***

Oberenn 3 *Exercise 3*

Skrif 150 ger dhe'n lyha a-dro dhe'n destenn ma. *Write at least 150 words on the following topic.*

Keskows yn diwotti (*A conversation in a pub*)

Oberenn 4 *Exercise 4*

Skrif berrheans, (a-dro dhe 150 ger) yn Sowsnek, a'n hwedhel, gans Ray Edwards, bys dhe hemma. *Write a precis (about 150 words) of the story so far.*