

The passive

****Athelstan**

Pub dydh oll a'n seythun na, yth esa gwesyon an mer y'n dre ow klanhe an stretys kyns an myghtern dhe dhos. Leskys via an kals a skoellyon may fia gorhemmynnys dhe Dewdar gorra an Penn. Dy'Gwener y teuth kannas an myghtern dhe leverel dhe'n mer ha dhe'n abas an myghtern dhe dhos Dy'Sadorn gans bagas bras a bennsevigyon ha lies souder. Dhe wir, yth esa gans an myghtern lu ervys byghan.

Dy'Sadorn, y teuth an myghtern, ha'n dus eth yn-mes a'ga chioiw rag y weles, ha garma.

Dy'Sul yth esa keskerdh bras dre stretys an dre. An myghtern, noeth y benn, a gerdhas war-lergh managh esa ow toen Sin an Grows bras. War-lergh an myghtern, yth esa peswar managh ow toen bynk, ha warnedhi, an Krer Sans, yn kist rych ha splann.

Ena bush bras a bronteryon ha menegh a sywyas, rann anedha gans baneryow ow tiskwedhes Maria ha'n Syns erell. An abas ha'n epskop a'n sywyas. Wor'tiwedh, y teuth an dus lel war-lergh an keskerdh dhe'n Eglos Managhti.

Nyns esa chons dhe Dewdar a weles Æthelflæd. Yth esa hi gans hy thas y'n eglos. Du hy gon ha trist hy enep, hi a wre kewsel yn kortes gans nebes pennsevigyon yowynk, mes nyns esa spas y'n eglos dhe'n Gernowyon, ha Tewdar y'ga mysk.

Wosa an oferenn, an myghtern a ginyewis gans an abas ha'n epskop.

“Pur deg yw dha eglos managhti, Arloedh Abas,” yn-medh an myghtern.

“Ro Duw ha'n Arloedh Myghtern yw hy thekter,” a worthybis an abas, meur y skians yn kever pennsevigyon, mes an myghtern o pur skiansek ynwedh yn- kever tus a'n par na. Ny's kara. Athelstan a dreylyas war-tu ha'n epskop. Yn-medh ev,

“A Arloedh Epskop, an dus a'gas epskobeth y'n ranndir ma yw lel ha nerthek yn kryjyans agan Arloedh Yesu Krist ha'n Eglos Katholik Sans, dell grysav?

“Yns, a Vyghtern,” a worthybis an Epskop. “Pur lel yw an dus sowsnek dhe'n Eglos Katholik. An dus vrythonek yw Kristonyon dha ynwedh, mes perthi kov a wrons a'n hen Eglos Keltek. Byttegyns, ny skonyons a vos dhe'n Oferenn Dy'Sul.”

“Brythonyon?” yn-medh an myghtern, meur y varth. “Eus Brythonyon omma?”

Gerva

leskys via	<i>had been burnt</i>	Notenn 1
may fia gorhemmynnys dhe Dewdar	<i>where Tewdar was ordered</i>	Notenn 1, 2
leverel dhe'n mer	<i>to say to the mayor</i>	Notenn 2
dell grysav	<i>I believe</i>	Notenn 3
an hen Eglos Keltek	<i>the old Celtic church</i>	Notenn 4

Notennow

1 The passive

The passive voice in Cornish is formed with the appropriate tense of bos and the past participle

<i>Present</i>	An owravalow yw gwerthys gans Nell	<i>The oranges are sold by Nell</i>
<i>Preterite</i>	An owravalow a veu gwerthys gans Nell	<i>The oranges were sold by Nell</i>
<i>Perfect</i>	An owravalow re beu gwerthys gans Nell	<i>The oranges have been sold by Nell</i>
<i>Imperfect</i>	An owravalow a vedha gwerthys gans Nell	<i>The oranges used to be sold by Nell</i>
<i>Future</i>	An owravalow a vydh gwerthys gans Nell	<i>The oranges will be sold by Nell</i>
<i>Conditional</i>	An owravalow a via gwerthys gans Nell	<i>The oranges would be sold by Nell</i>
<i>Pluperfect</i>	An owravalow re bia gwerthys gans Nell	<i>The oranges had been sold by Nell</i>

You will see that the Past Participle generally ends in -ys. However verbs-nouns which end in -ya have an alternative form -yes. Here are more examples.

Y feuv gwelys. I was seen.

Y fons i goliys. They were wounded.

Yn termyn eus passyes. In the past, in a time (which is) past. (Once upon a time)

Y feu an lyther skrifys. The letter was written.

Skrifys veu an lyther. The letter was written.

Note that if the Past Participle comes before the verb bos, the particle a is omitted, but second state mutation takes place just as if it were there.

2 Verbs with dhe

amma (to kiss), gorhemmynn (to order), gul (to make), leverel (to tell) and a number of other verbs are followed by dhe before the object, though in English the object is direct.

Tewdar a ammas dhe Æthelflæd Tewdar kissed Æthelflæd.

Y das a worhemmynnas dhe Dewdar skoellya an Penn.

His father told Tewdar to get rid of the Head.

(Notice there is no word for “to” in front of any verb that follows the object, dhe is not needed before skoellya.)

Note also dhyski dhe to teach dyski gans to learn

3 dell

Dell is always followed by the verb. It often forms a parenthetical clause, and can be used instead of an Indirect Statement construction.

Æthelflæd yw lowen, dell grysav.

Æthelflæd is happy, (as) I believe. or I believe (that) Æthelflæd is happy.

Yma'n myghtern omma, dell wonn

The king is here (as) I know or I know (that) the king is here.

Ny wra hi glaw, dell hevel.

It won't rain, apparently (as it seems).

4 hen

Hen is one of a small group of adjectives which precede the noun, it has the meaning of ancient, former, long standing. It usually joins the following noun to make one word and causes a soft mutation.

hendas forefather hengov tradition

other such adjectives include lies many (no mutation)

Oberenn 1 Exercise 1.

Treyl an lavarow a syw dhe Gernewek. Translate the following sentences into Cornish.

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|----|------------------------------------|
| 1 | <i>He was seen.</i> | 6 | <i>The coat was lost.</i> |
| 2 | <i>I was wounded.</i> | 7 | <i>The box was damaged.</i> |
| 3 | <i>They were found .</i> | 8 | <i>The book was read.</i> |
| 4 | <i>The door was opened.</i> | 9 | <i>The car was driven.</i> |
| 5 | <i>The boy was given the toy.</i> | 10 | <i>You were seen in the garden</i> |

Oberenn 2 Exercise 2

Treyl an lavarow a syw dhe Gernewek, ow tevnydhya an ger 'dell'. Translate the following sentences into Cornish, making use of the word 'dell'.

- 1 Alyn will not come to London, he thinks.*
- 2 The book is a new one, apparently.*
- 3 I know Brian likes beer.*
- 4 It seems that Chesten has a new car.*
- 5 I believe you know the new teacher.*
- 6 I hope Cornish will live.*
- 7 The fisherman is angry, apparently.*
- 8 Davydh is a good man, as we know.*
- 9 He seems to like Cornish.*
- 10 The church is full, I see.*

Oberenn 3 Exercise 3

Red an skrif a syw. Na wra y dreylya mes treylya an govynnow a syw dhe **Gernewek** hag ena gorthybi pub govynn yn **Kernewek** yn lavar leun. *Read the following passage. Do not translate it but translate the questions which follow into **Cornish** and then answer each question in **Cornish** in a full sentence.*

Tony Snell yw skrifer meur y vri y'n yeth kernewek. Ev a dheuth ha bos bardh an Orsedh nans yw moy es hanterkans blydhen hag yma ev hwath owth oberi rag avonsya Kernewek.

Y'n dydhyow ma ev a skrif erthygel misyek gelwys 'Tros an Bys Bras' y'n lyver-termyn An Gannas.

Dell yllir dismygi a-dhiworth an hanow ma, testennow an erthyglow ma yw hwarvosow poesek dhe vos kevys y'n bys ledanna hedhyw.

Gans hemma yma ev owth avonsya testennow ha gerva an yeth kernewek. Rag ensampel y'n vlydhen usi passyes ni a redyas an geryow a syw a-ji dh'y skrifennow: 'dalghennas', 'arvreusi', 'ollvysek', 'treusvroyas' ha niver meur moy, ha prederi a wren – heb mires orth an Sowsnek po an gettestenn - pana styr a vydh gansa

- a) *When did Tony Snell become a bard?*
- b) *What is the name of his monthly article in An Gannas?*
- c) *What type of subjects do his articles discuss?*
- d) *How many new words are listed in the article above?*
- e) *Can you suggest a possible meaning for one of these words?*

Oberenn 4 Exercise 4

Skrif berrheans an hwedhel, gans Ray Edwards bys dhe omma, yn Kernewek (a-dro dhe 150 ger). *Write a precis of the Ray Edwards story, so far, in Cornish (about 150 words).*