

## Dyskans Onan (1)

## An Kynsa Dyskans

### Part A

**\*\*Reading** Dynnargh dhe'n klass Kernewek

- 1 Mestresik Marner: Dydh da.
- 2 An klass: Dydh da.
- 3 Mestresik Marner: Mestresik Marner ov. Piw os ta?
- 4 Mester Tomas: Mester Tomas ov vy.
- 5 Mestresik Marner: Pur dha. Dyskadores ov vy ha studhyer os ta. Pyth owgh hwi?
- 6 Andi: Studhyer ov vy.
- 7 Estelle: Studhyores ov vy.
- 8 Mestresik Marner: Ha Stefano hag Andi, pyth owgh hwi?
- 9 Stefano + Andi: Studhyoryon on ni.
- 10 Mestresik Marner: Pur dha. Ha py klass yw hemma, mar pleg?
- 11 Mestresik Choak: An klass Kernewek yw hemma.
- 12 Mestresik Marner: Ple'th os ta trigys, Estelle?
- 13 Estelle: Trigys ov vy yn Kernow, lemmyn.
- 14 Mestresik Marner: Ha fatel yw an gewer hedhyw?
- 15 Syvi: Nyns yw da an gewer hedhyw! Drog yw hi.
- 16 Mestresik Marner: Ha fatla genowgh hwi?
- 17 Mestres Pengelli: Yn poynt da, meurastajy.
- 18 Stefano: Ha my ynwedh, yn poynt da.
- 19 Andi: Skwith ov vy!

(kemerys dhyworth Bora Brav gans Polin Prys)

*A full translation is given below*

- 1 Miss Marner: Hello
- 2 The class: Hello
- 3 Miss Marner: I am Miss Marner. Who are you?
- 4 Mr Tomas: I am Mr Tomas.
- 5 Miss Marner: Very good. I am a teacher and you are a student. What are you?
- 6 Andi: I am a student.
- 7 Estelle: I am a student.
- 8 Miss Marner: And Stephano and Andi, what are you?
- 9 Estelle: We are students.
- 10 Miss Marner: Very good. And what class is this, please?
- 11 Miss Choak: This is the Cornish class.
- 12 Miss Marner: Where do you live, Estelle?
- 13 Estelle: I live in Cornwall, now.
- 14 Miss Marner: And what's the weather like today?
- 15 Syvi: The weather is not good today! It's bad.
- 16 Miss Marner: And how are you?
- 17 Mrs Pengelli: Well, thank you.
- 18 Stefano: And me also, well.
- 19 Andi: I'm tired!

## Grammar Notes

### Greetings

Lines 1 and 2

Dydh da *literally means good day but is usually used in a more general way to mean 'hello'*

|                |                                                   |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Myttin da      | <i>good morning</i>                               |
| Dohajydh da    | <i>good afternoon</i>                             |
| Gorthugher da  | <i>good evening</i>                               |
| Nos dha/nos da | <i>good night (you will hear both being used)</i> |
| Duw genes      | <i>good bye (to one person)</i>                   |
| Duw genowgh    | <i>good bye (to more than one person)</i>         |

The verb to be Bos

Lines 3 – 15, 19

| Positive statement |                   | Negative statement |                       | interrogative  |                     |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| .. ov (vy)         | <i>I am ..</i>    | Nyns ov (vy)..     | <i>I am not ..</i>    | Ov (vy)...?    | <i>Am I ...?</i>    |
| .. os (ta)         | <i>You are ..</i> | Nyns os (ta)..     | <i>You are not..</i>  | Os (ta)...?    | <i>Are you ...?</i> |
| .. yw (ev)         | <i>He is ..</i>   | Nyns yw ev..       | <i>He isn't ..</i>    | Yw ev ..?      | <i>Is he ..?</i>    |
| .. yw (hi)         | <i>She is ..</i>  | Nyns yw hi..       | <i>She isn't ..</i>   | Yw hi ..?      | <i>Is she ..?</i>   |
| .. on (ni)         | <i>We are ..</i>  | Nyns on (ni)..     | <i>We aren't ..</i>   | On (ni) ..?    | <i>Are we ..?</i>   |
| .. owgh (hwi)      | <i>You are ..</i> | Nyns owgh (hwi)..  | <i>You aren't ..</i>  | Owgh (hwi) ..? | <i>Are you ...?</i> |
| .. yns (i)         | <i>They are .</i> | Nyns yns (i)..     | <i>They aren't ..</i> | Yns (i) ..?    | <i>Are they ..?</i> |

The pronouns in brackets may be omitted, but ev and hi are usually used to avoid confusion.

### Mutations

Some words change the first letter after certain words in some circumstances!

The unchanged state is found in the dictionary

The soft or second state is given in the table

|                 |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |     |   |   |   |   |
|-----------------|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|---|---|---|---|
|                 | b | ch | d  | ga | ge | gi | gl | gr | gw | gy | go | gu | gro | gru | k | m | p | t |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | v | j  | dh | a  | e  | i  | l  | r  | w  | y  | wo | wu | wro | wru | g | v | b | d |

The first line shows that words beginning with 'd', like 'da' (good) are found in the dictionary under the letter 'd', but sometimes they change the 'd' to 'dh' as shown in the second line. Or that, for example, words beginning with 'm' sometimes change the 'm' to a 'v'. This is called 'mutation'.

Line 5, 10    good    da                      very good    pur dha

The word pur (very) causes the next word to mutate as above

Line 14, 15 weather      kewer      the weather      an gewer

*The word an (the) causes a following feminine singular noun to mutate as above. So because 'kewer' is feminine when we put 'an' (the) before it the 'k' changes to a 'g'. This does not happen to 'klass' which is masculine, so 'an klass' (the class).*

*Gender*

*Many masculine nouns make the feminine by adding '-es', there is sometimes a vowel change and the stress changes; most words in Cornish have the stress on the penultimate syllable*

studhyer                  studhyores

dyskador                dyskadores

*Questions like Os ta studhyer? Require yes or no answers*

*In Cornish we have to repeat the verb, as there are no words for yes and no, and say 'I am' or 'she is not', for example. But remember, that's only the literal meaning – you should think of them as meaning 'yes' and 'no'.*

|                 |                               |                       |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Os ta studhyer? | Ov, studhyer ov (vy)          | Yes, I am a student   |
|                 | Nag ov, nyns ov (vy) studhyer | No, I'm not a student |

|                 |                             |                         |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Yw ev dyskador? | Yw, dyskador yw ev.         | Yes, he is a teacher.   |
|                 | Nag yw, nyns yw ev dyskador | No, he isn't a teacher. |

*Ha (and) becomes hag when followed by a vowel*

*Nag (no) is usually na except when followed by a vowel (in the verb bos)*

*Nyns (not) is usually ny except when followed by a vowel (in the verb bos)*

*You will have noticed that dyskadores has been translated as 'a teacher' and studhyer has been translated as 'a student' this is because Cornish has no word for the English indefinite article 'a' or 'an' so dyskadores may be translated as 'teacher' or 'a teacher' depending on context.*

**Exercise A1** Questions on the conversation.

1 Mestresik Marner says to Tomas 'Piw os ta?' What does he reply?

2 Py klass yw hemma?

3 Yw hemma an klass Kernewek?

4 Ple'th yw Estelle trigys?

5 Fatel yw an gewer hedhyw?

6 Yw an gewer drog?

7 Yw Mestresik Marner studhyores?

8 Yw Andi dyskador?

*And answer these about yourself*

9 Os ta studhyer/studhyores?

10 Os ta dyskador/dyskadores?

## Exercise A2

Translate the following (example: Lowena is a student Studhyores yw Lowena)

1 Ann is a teacher

2 Brian is a teacher

3 Charles is a student

4 Dianne is a woman<sup>2</sup>

5 Edward is a student

6 Faith is a student

7 George is a man<sup>1</sup>

8 Benyn yw Helen

9 Flogh<sup>3</sup> yw Isaac

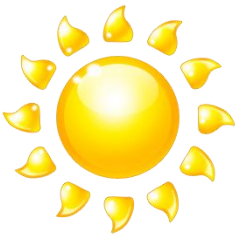
10 Studhyoryon yw Jessica ha Keith\*

<sup>1</sup> Man gour – an gour    <sup>2</sup> Woman benyn – an venyn

<sup>3</sup> flogh child

\* this is good Cornish! (the reason for it will be explained later)

## Part B An Gewer

|                                                                                      |                                                                                     |                                                                                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|     |    |    |
| An howl the sun<br>Howlyek yw. It's sunny<br>Tomm yw. It's warm<br>Sygh yw. It's dry | An glaw the rain<br>Yeyn yw. It's cold<br>Glyb yw. It's wet                         | An kommel the clouds<br>Komolek yw. It's cloudy                                       |
|   |  |  |
| An gwyns the wind<br>Gwynsek yw. It's windy                                          | An ergh the snow<br>Erghek yw It's snowy<br>Oor yw. It's bitterly cold              | An tewedh the storm<br>Hager-awel yw. It's a gale<br>Euthyk yw. It's horrible         |
|   |  |  |
| An gammneves the rainbow<br>Teg yw. It's pretty                                      | An niwl the fog<br>Niwlek yw. It's foggy                                            | Ass yw tomm an gewer!<br>How warm the weather is!                                     |

To ask *what the weather is like* we use the word 'fatel', which means 'how'. So 'fatel yw an gewer?' is 'how is the weather?' or 'what is the weather like?'

### **Exercise B3**

Fatel yw an gewer omma? *What is the weather like, here?*



*(PS The weather in the centre looks very mixed. You can decide if it's cold, warm, pretty, horrible or whatever you think!)*

## **Gerva (Vocabulary)**

| <i>noun</i> | <i>gender</i> | <i>plural</i> | <i>meaning</i>   |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| dyskador    | g             | dyskatoryon   | (male) teacher   |
| dyskadores  | b             | dyskadoresow  | (female) teacher |
| studhyer    | g             | studhyoryon   | (male) student   |
| studhyores  | b             | studhyoresow  | (female) student |
| klass       | g             | klassow       | class            |
| kewer       | b             |               | weather          |
| gour        | g             | gwer          | man              |
| benyn       | b             | benenes       | woman            |
| maw         | g             | mebyon        | boy              |
| mowes       | b             | mowysi        | girl             |
| flogh       | g             | fleghes       | child            |
| chi         | g             | chiow         | house            |

g = gorow (masculine)

b = benow (feminine)

### **Exercise B4**

*In English we might say ‘the house is bitterly cold’, but in Cornish we usually start with what it is we want to say about something. Here what we want to say about the house (‘an chi’) is that it is bitterly cold (‘oor’), so that’s what we start with – ‘oor yw an chi’.*

*Translate*

- |                                |                                  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 The (male) teacher is wet    | 6 The weather is hot             |
| 2 The student (male) is cold   | 7 The house is bitterly cold     |
| 3 We are warm                  | 8 I live in a house in Cornwall. |
| 4 The (female) teacher is good | 9 The class is good              |
| 5 They are bad                 | 10 You are a student.            |

### **Part C**      *Negatives*

*When we make a negative statement ‘it isn’t’ or ‘I’m not’, for example, we always start with the negative word ‘nyns’ and then the verb. So ‘it isn’t bitterly cold’ is ‘nyns yw oor’. To make the negative question we simply put a in front so ‘Isn’t it bitterly cold?’ is ‘A nyns yw oor?’*

### **Exercise C5**

- |                              |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 We aren’t good             | 6 I am happy       |
| 2 He isn’t bad               | 7 She is happy.    |
| 3 Are you cold?              | 8 She isn’t happy  |
| 4 Aren’t they warm?          | 9 Isn’t she happy? |
| 5 They aren’t happy (lowen). | 10 We aren’t bad!  |

## **Praktis Keskows Conversation Practice**

*These practice sheets are to help you speak Cornish naturally. Cover up the right hand column and reply (out loud, if you can) before checking the written answer. Practise the examples until you can answer them fluently.*

### **Part A**

**Praktis A1** Substitute the **cued word**, making the necessary changes

|            |                        |
|------------|------------------------|
|            | <b>dydh</b> da!        |
| myttin     | myttin da!             |
| nos        | nos da (dha)!          |
| dohajydh   | dohajydh da!           |
| gorthugher | gorthugher da!         |
| dydh       | dydh da!               |
| chons      | chons da! (good luck!) |

**Praktis A2** Substitute the **cued word**, making the necessary changes

|                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
|                  | <b>studhyer</b> ov vy  |
| dyskador         | dyskador ov vy         |
| gour             | gour ov vy             |
| benyn            | benyn ov vy            |
| flogh            | flogh ov vy            |
| Estelle          | Estelle ov vy          |
| trigys yn Kernow | trigys yn Kernow ov vy |

**Praktis A3** Substitute the **cued word**, making the necessary changes

|     |                       |
|-----|-----------------------|
|     | studhyer ov <b>vy</b> |
| ti  | studhyer(-ores) os ta |
| hi  | studhyores yw hi      |
| ni  | studhyoryon on ni     |
| ev  | studhyer yw ev        |
| i   | studhyoryon yns i     |
| hwi | studhyoryon owgh hwi  |

**Praktis A4** Substitute the **cued word**, making the necessary changes

|             |                          |
|-------------|--------------------------|
|             | <b>studhyer</b> da yw ev |
| benyn       | benyn dha yw hi          |
| dyskador    | dyskador da yw ev        |
| dyskadores  | dyskadores dha yw hi     |
| kewer       | kewer dha yw hi          |
| klass       | klass da yw ev           |
| studhyoryon | studhyoryon da yns i     |

**Praktis A5** *Change the statements to a question*

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| studhyer yw Ann   | yw Ann studhyer?   |
| dyskador yw Brian | yw Brian dyskador? |
| benyn yw Diane    | yw Diane benyn?    |
| gour yw George    | yw George gour?    |
| flogh yw Isaac    | yw Isaac flogh?    |
| studhyoryon yns i | yns i studhyoryon? |

**Praktis A6** *Answer the question with 'yes, ...'*

|                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| os ta studhyer?              | ov, studhyer ov vy         |
| yw ev gour?                  | yw, gour yw ev             |
| yns i dyskatoryon?           | yns, yns i dyskatoryon     |
| ov vy dyskador?              | os, dyskador os ta         |
| yw Estelle trigys yn Kernow? | yw, trigys yn Kernow yw hi |
| on ni studhyoryon?           | on, on ni studhyoryon      |

**Praktis A7** *Answer the question with 'no, ...'*

|                        |                                 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| os ta studhyer?        | nag ov, nyns ov vy studhyer     |
| ov vy dyskador?        | nag os, nyns os ta dyskador     |
| yw ev gour?            | nag yw, nyns yw ev gour         |
| yns i dyskatoryon?     | nag yns, nyns yns i dyskatoryon |
| on ni studhyoryon?     | nag on, nyns on ni studhyoryon  |
| yw Estelle studhyores? | nag yw, nyns yw hi studhyores   |

**Part B**

**Praktis B1** *Substitute the **cued word**, making the necessary changes*

|         |                                |
|---------|--------------------------------|
|         | <b>tomm</b> yw an gewer hedhyw |
| glyb    | glyb yw an gewer hedhyw        |
| gwynsek | gwynsek yw an gewer hedhyw     |
| erghek  | erghek yw an gewer hedhyw      |
| niwlek  | niwlek yw an gewer hedhyw      |
| komolek | komolek yw an gewer hedhyw     |
| drog    | drog yw an gewer hedhyw        |

**Praktis B2** *Answer the question with 'yes, ...'*

|                            |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| yw an flogh yeyn?          | yw, yeyn yw an flogh          |
| yw an gewer tomm?          | yw, tomm yw an gewer          |
| yw an klass da?            | yw, da yw an klass            |
| yw an dyskador glyb?       | yw, glyb yw an dyskador       |
| yw an chi yeyn?            | yw, yeyn yw an chi            |
| yw Mestresik Marner lowen? | yw, lowen yw Mestresik Marner |

## **Part C**

**Praktis C1** *Answer the question with 'no, ...'*

|                   |                            |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| on ni da?         | nag on, nyns on ni da      |
| os ta yeyn?       | nag ov, nyns ov vy yeyn    |
| yns i tomm?       | nag yns, nyns yns i tomm   |
| ov vy lowen       | nag os, nyns os ta lowen   |
| yw ev drog?       | nag yw, nyns yw ev drog    |
| owgh hwi fleghes? | nag on, nyns on ni fleghes |