

Dyskans seytek warn ugens (37)

An seytegves dyskans warn ugens

Future, Interrogatives, prag y

****Y fydh** penn-bloodh Anna a-vorow. Deg bloodh ha tri ugens **a vydh hi**. Y fydh kevewi restrys gans hy theylu, mes ny wor Anna henna. Hy myrgh **a wra dos** dhyworth Dewnens gans hy gour ha'y thri flogh, an mab **a wra dos** dhyworth Loundres gans y wreg, y vab, y wohydh ha'y vyrgh wynn; mamm guv yw Anna. An kevewi **a vydh** marth bras dres eghen rag Anna. **Y fydh** an kynsa termyn rag Anna dhe weles hy myrgh wynn hynsa. Ynwedh kowetha **a wra dos** dhyworth an dreveglos; **i a wra mos** dhyworth an klass Kernewek ynwedh, **drefen bos** Anna dyskadores a'n yeth Kernewek ha dhyworth an Bosti Kov, **drefen bos** Anna ow kweres ena.

Gerva

Y fydh	<i>It will be</i>	<i>Note 1</i>
gohydh (b)	<i>daughter-in-law</i>	
mamm guv	<i>great grandmother</i>	
bras dres eghen	<i>exceedingly big</i>	<i>Note 2</i>
myrgh wynn hynsa	<i>great grand-daughter</i>	
drefen bos Anna	<i>because Anna is</i>	<i>Note 3</i>

Notennow

1 the future tense

(i) *this is often the present tense in a future context:*

my a dhe Druru a-vorow *I am going to Truro tomorrow*
 my a gerdh gans an ki diwettha *I'll walk the dog later*

(ii) *the verb gul is used as an auxiliary; the context will make it clear whether a future meaning is intended or an emphatic present*

my a wra skrifa lyther pub seythen *I do write a letter each week*
 my a wra skrifa lyther dy'Gwener *I shall write a letter on Friday*

(iii) *Very few verbs have a true future tense in Cornish. An exception is Bos to be*

bedhav	<i>I shall be</i>
bedhydh	<i>you will be</i>
bydh	<i>he will be</i>
bydh	<i>she will be</i>
bedhyn	<i>we shall be</i>
bedhowgh	<i>you will be</i>
bedhons	<i>they will be</i>

- the endings are the same as the standard present tense endings (for verbs other than *bos*!)
- there is no separate short or long form

When the *b* tenses of *bos* are preceded by the complement, the particle *a* is omitted, but second state mutation still takes place, just as if it were there.

Res vydh dhis mos dhe ves	You will have to go away.
Lowen vedhav	I shall be happy.

(iv) a few verbs are found in a nominal form

prena	my a brenvydh	I shall buy
gweles	ty a welvydh	you will see
kara	ni a garvydh	we will love

2 dres eghen

Unlike the intensifying adjectives *pur*, *mar* and *re* which come before the adjective, *dres eghen* comes after it

Fest da	very good (no mutation)
Pur dha	very good
Mar dha	so good
Re dha	too good
Da dres eghen	exceedingly good

3 prag y ...? – why...?

The answer to *why* questions is *because*; *rag*, *drefen* and *awos* are all used but their use is not the same as in English

Prag y fynnonn i mos dhe'n treth?	Why do they want to go to the beach?
I a vynn mos dhe'n treth drefen bos tomm an gewer.	

They want to go to the beach because the weather is hot.

Prag y fynnonn mos?	Why do they want to go?
Prag y hwre'ta hwerthin?	Why do you laugh?
Prag na vynnnonn mos?	Why don't they want to go?

Note Prag y⁵

b → f	d → t	g → h	gw → hw	m → f
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Prag na²

Drefen bos glyb an gewer	Because the weather is/was wet
Drefen bos karr y'n fordh	Because the car is/was in the road
Drefen bos diwedhes an tren	Because the train is/was late
Drefen bos ow threys yeyn.	Because my feet are/were cold

Note there is no indication of tense in the Cornish construction, this has to be deduced from the context.

If the subject of the subordinate clause is a noun it comes after bos, if the subject is a pronoun it comes before and the subject pronoun is the same as the possessive adjective

ow ³	dha ²	y ²	hy ³	agan	agas	aga ³
drefen bos glyb an gewer					drefen hy bos klav	
drefen bos karr y'n fordh					drefen y vos y'n fordh	
drefen bos diwedhes an tren					drefen y vos diwedhes	
drefen bos ow threys yeyn.					drefen aga bos yeyn	
drefen hy bos klav					<i>because she is/was ill</i>	
drefen ow bos skwith					<i>because I am/was tired</i>	
drefen agan bos diwedhes					<i>because we are/were late</i>	

This construction with drefen may only be used with the verb bos in the present and imperfect tenses.

The negative is drefen na (causing a 2nd mutation) but note that awos may not be used in the negative. The construction in the negative is different: drefen na is followed by a verbal clause.

Ev a vydh a-varr hedhyw drefen nag yw ev skwith

He will be early today because he is not tired

Exercise 1 Oberen 1

Translate the following sentences . Gwra treylia an lavarow a sew

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Trist vedhons | 6 Hir vydh an vowes |
| 2 An lyver a vydh kellys. | 7 Alyn a vydh koth |
| 3 An gewer a vydh tomm | 8 Nowydh vydh an chi |
| 4 My a vydh skwith | 9 Bryan a vydh a-varr |
| 5 An venyn a vydh lowen | 10 Y fydh Chesten diwedhes |

Exercise 2 Oberen 2

Translate the following sentences in three ways. Gwra treylia an lavarow a sew teyrgweyth dihaual.

e.g. r.e. The weather will be hot:

(i) Tomm vydh an gewer (ii) An gewer a vydh tomm (iii) Y fydh an gewer tomm

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Davydh will be happy | 6 Ezra will be in the house |
| 2 The boy will be sad | 7 The cat will be unlucky |
| 3 Frank will be busy | 8 The weather will be windy |
| 4 You will be tired | 9 We shall be late |
| 5 They will be dirty | 10 The sun will be shining. |

Exercise 3 Oberen 3

Translate the following sentences. Gwra treylya an lavarow a sew
e.g. r.e. *Because Alyn was tired he went to bed*

Drefen bos Alyn skwith ev eth dh'y weli.

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|--|---|
| 1 <i>because his father was ill</i> | 6 <i>because he is happy</i> |
| 2 <i>because her mother was in the kitchen</i> | 7 <i>because he is early</i> |
| 3 <i>because Bryan was not late</i> | 8 <i>because she is in</i>
<i>Cornwall</i> |
| 4 <i>because Chesten is in Cornwall</i> | 9 <i>because they are here</i> |
| 5 <i>because the house is not old</i> | 10 <i>because you are old</i> |

Exercise 4 Oberen 4

Write a conversation for the following scene Gwra skrifa keskows rag an wel a sew.

You want to go on holiday with your husband/wife. You need to book a room with a double bed for two weeks. Ask the receptionist whether the room has a private bathroom and whether there is a restaurant.

Exercise 5 Oberen 5

Read the following passage and answer, **in English**, the questions that follow.
Gwra redya an skrif a sew ha gorthebi an govynnnow **yn Sowsnek**

Gwikoryon frank a vri (*Famous Smugglers*)

Yth esa lies gwikor neb o tus pur dha. A-dhyworth an kovadhow gwithys gans Kunteller a Dollow yn Pennsans yn 1771, y redir bos "Richard Pentreath a Borthenys den onest yn y negys oll, kynth ova gwikor frank a vri." Heb dhout an gwikor frank an moyha onest oll o John Carter a Borth Legh¹. Ev o yn hwir den stroth. War y worhel yth o difennys drog-geryow ha keskows anwiw yn-dann wodros a gessydhyans. Ev o ynwedh den a'n eglos, ha koynt yw redya yn y dhydhlyver a'y brevyans kryjyk taklow kepar ha "my a brenas gorhel a 160 tonnas ha 19 gonn", po "yth esa marth genen pan dheuth er agan pynn diw skath 'man-o-war' ha ni ow tira."

Hemm yw hwedhel a dhiskwa ass o John Carter den da. Nebes gwara londys gans John Carter re bia dalghennys gans an Dolloryon ha gwithys yn-dann alhwedh yn gwithva dhe Bennsans. Unn nos, ev ha'y dus a dorras a-berth y'n withva dh'aga daskavos, ha ternos vyttin pan dheuth an dolloryon, i a leveris an eyl dh'y gila, "John Carter re dheuth omma, drefen na wrug kemeres tra vyth nag o dhodho y honan."

¹ Prussia Cove

- (i) *How is Richard Pentreath described?*
- (ii) *What was forbidden on John Carter's ship?*
- (iii) *Why was it odd to read that he had bought a ship with 19 guns?*
- (iv) *What and when was the involvement of the 'men-o-war'?*
- (v) *What had happened to some of the goods landed by John Carter?*
- (vi) *What did John Carter do next and how did the Customs men know that John Carter was the culprit?*