

Rann A. Yeth**Oberen A1.** *Exam Paper Question.*

Write a letter to a friend about a visit to the theatre. Include the following points:

- 1. The theatre was full but you had a good seat.*
- 2. The play was about a man who had lost his memory after an accident*
- 3. He refused at first to live with his family.*
- 4. He found and read an old diary in which he had written about a holiday with his wife.*
- 5. As a result, he began to recollect events and was re-united with his family.*

Begin and end your letter appropriately.

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Oberen A2. *The subjunctive.*

Study the article below. Do the exercise and check with your tutor if you have any questions.

The subjunctive is used to express doubts or wishes. There are two tenses, the present and the imperfect.

The verb endings are straightforward:

Present: -iv, -i, -o, -yn, -owgh, -ons

Imperfect: -en, -es, -a, -en, -ewgh, -ens

The stem of the verb undergoes consonant changes as follows:

b -> p, d -> t, g -> k, j -> ch

and consonants are mostly doubled:

p/b -> pp, t/d -> tt, k/g -> kk, ch/j -> cch, m -> mm, l -> ll etc.

(but some are not! ns -> ns, mpr -> mpr, and others)

Finally, the vowel in the stem of the verb often changes (see 'kara' and 'ygeri' below):

prena – has regular endings and doubled consonants:

prenniv, prenni, prenno, prennyn, prennowgh, prennons

prennen, prennens, preнна, prennen, prennewgh, prennens

kara – the first 'a' changes to 'y' in some cases:

kyrriv, kyrrri, karro, kyrryn kyrrowgh, karrons

karren, karres, karra, karren, karrewgh, karrens

ygeri – the ‘e’ changes to ‘o’ in some cases

ygerriv, ygerri, ygorro, ygerryn, ygerrowgh, ygorrons
ygorren, ygorres, ygorra, ygorren, ygorrewgh, ygorrens

verbs ending in –he have –hah- inserted:

berrhahiv, berrhahi, berrhaho, berrhahyn, berrhahowgh, berrhahons
berrhahen, berrhahes, berrhaha, berrhahen, berrhahewgh, berrhahens

bos - is only a little bit irregular (‘be’ instead of ‘ba’)

biv, bi, bo, byn, bowgh, bons
ben, bes, be, ben, bewgh, bens

gallos – is like ‘kara’ with ‘y’ in the stem:

gylliv, gylli, gallo, gyllyn, gyllowgh, gallons
gallen, galles, galla, gallen, gallewgh, gallens

mos – you just have to learn it

ylliv, ylli, ello, yllyn, yllowgh, ellons
ellen, elles, ella, ellen, ellewgh, ellens

gul – learn this one if you don’t learn any others!

gwrylliv, gwrylli, gwrello, gwryllyn, gwryllowgh, gwrellons
gwrellen, gwrelles, gwrella, gwrellen, gwrellewgh, gwrellens

Using the Subjunctive

1. Express a wish or hope re² + present tense, often translated with ‘may’:

- Re gaffo lowender! – May he find happiness!
- Re bi yn yeghes da! – May you be in good health.
(no mutation of ‘bos’ forms after re)

2. Express a purpose may⁵ + present or imperfect tense to express purpose, often translated with ‘may’ or ‘might’:

- Hi eth dhe Loundres may hwella an vyghternes.
She went to London in order that she might see the queen.
She went to London to see the queen.
- Skwyach an forn yn few may pareussiv an boos.
Turn on the oven so that I may prepare the food.

3. Express a supposition mar⁴ + imperfect tense (*NEVER present*) to express a supposition:

mar pen rych – if I were rich...
mar kemerres an kyttrin – if you were to take the bus...

These are usually followed by a ‘would’ clause, which is the conditional/pluperfect tense:

- Mar pen rych, my a brensa jynn ebron.
If I were rich, I would buy an aeroplane.
- Mar kemerres an kytrrin, ty a dhrehedhsa Pennsans a-varr.
If you were to take the bus you would reach Penzance early.

4. After an ‘a’ particle if it means **who / which / that** AND the subject of the sentence is *indefinite* (‘a man, men, people, anyone, a church’ etc.) as opposed to *definite* (‘the man, Morwenna, those people, the church’ etc.):

- den a welas ki y’n mor
a man saw a dog in the sea *NO subjunctive: doesn’t mean ‘who’*
- den a wella ki y’n mor...
a man who saw a dog in the sea... *Subjunctive*
- an den a welas ki y’n mor...
the man who saw a dog in the sea... *NO subjunctive: means ‘who’...
but subject (the man) is definite*
- eglos a’s teffo tour...
a church which has a tower... *Subjunctive*
- myns a gertho yn Kernow...
anyone who walks in Cornwall... *Subjunctive: ‘anyone’ is indefinite*

5. **Wanting or hoping:** We usually use the ‘*dhe*’ construction with these verbs, but **to emphasise any doubt**, a construction with ‘*may*’ + subjunctive can be used. If the first verb is present or perfect the subjunctive is present. If the first verb is imperfect or pluperfect the subjunctive is imperfect:

- my a vynn ev dhe vos *OR* my a vynn mayth ello
I want him to go ‘I want that he may go’ (but he might not)
- ev a wayt hi dhe gana *OR* ev a wayt may kanno hi
he hopes she will sing ‘He hopes that she may sing’ (but she might not)
- ni a vynna i dhe wortos *OR* ni a vynna may hwortens
we wanted them to stay ‘We wanted that they might stay’ (they might not)
- hwi re lavarsa ev dhe dhos *OR* hwi re lavarsa may teffa ev
You had said that he would come You had said that he might come

This 'may' + subjunctive (or 'na' in the negative) is also used with **other verbs expressing the will (ordering, forbidding, for example)**:

- i re erghis may prenni tokyn
they have ordered that you should buy a ticket
they have ordered/told you to buy a ticket
- my a dhifennas na vokkes y'n chi
lit. I forbade that you did not smoke in the house
I forbade you to smoke in the house (in Cornish you forbid not)

I told you not to smoke in the house

6. Prepositions other than mar⁴: kyn, dell, pan, a-ban, erna, kettel etc. can all be followed by the subjunctive **if there is any doubt or supposition implied**:

- Kyn⁵ fo ev rych...
Although he might be rich...
- Pan² dheffons tre...
When they (may) come home... (*they may not*)
- Dell² y'm kyrri...
As you may love me... (*another way of saying 'please'!*)
- Kettel² vi parys...
As soon as you might be ready... (*you may never be!*)

Exercise - Practising the Subjunctive

Translate the following into Cornish:

1. May the force be with you!
2. May you find happiness!
3. May they eat their words!
4. May he rot in hell!
5. And may all your Christmases be white.
6. She goes to Pennsans to sell her fish.
7. I have bought a ticket in order to catch the train.
8. Did you climb the hill to see the ruins?
9. We sold the house to buy a car.
10. Wella left his job to be a policeman.

11. If you saw a ghost you would run away.
12. If he ate the meat he would be ill.
13. I would sleep every day if I were a cat.
14. If we worked together we would finish the work tomorrow.
15. Morwenna would be happier if she went to the doctor.
16. Anyone who sleeps on the beach is stupid. (start with 'stupid is....')
17. I'm looking for a woman who plays the harp.
18. We want to buy a dog that likes young children.
19. I know a man that helps the Red Cross.
20. He found a house that has four bedrooms.
21. I wanted her to take the bus.
22. Although he may be (is) old, he is very rude.
23. When you are rich, send me the money.
24. Since you may be late, I will wait in the pub.
25. I hope that you like the new book.

Dhyworth Tony Hak, Klass Loundres

Rann B. Lien

Oberen B1. *Translation.*

Check the Set Texts for your year and find the passage for this lesson. Translate the passage.

Oberen B2. *Questions on the text.*

Answer the questions for the lesson.