

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 osta?
- 4 Mester Tomas: Mester Tomas ov vy.
- 5 Mestresik Marner: Pur dha. Dyskadores ov vy ha studhyer osta. 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: Pleth osta trigys, Estelle?
- 13 Estelle: Trigys ov vy yn Kernow, lemmyn.
- 14 Mestresik Marner: Ha fatell 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!

(kemmerys dhiworth 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 nd	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

stud h yer	stud h yores
dys k ador	dys k adores

Questions like osta 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'.

Osta 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 Pleth yw Estelle trigys?

5 Fatell yw an gewer hedhyw?

6 Yw an gewer drog?

7 Yw Mestresik Marner studhyores?

8 Yw Andi dyskador?

And answer these about yourself

9 Osta studhyer/studhyores?

10 Osta 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 woman²

5 Edward is a student

6 Faith is a student

7 George is a man¹

8 Benyn yw Helen

9 Flogh³ yw Isaac

10 Studhyoryon yw Jessica ha Keith*

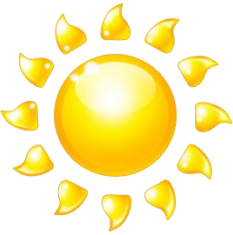
¹ Man gour – an gour ² Woman benyn – an venyn

³ flogh child

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

Part B

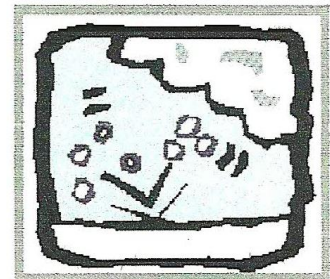
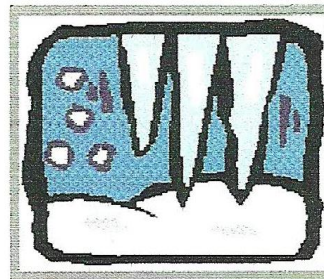
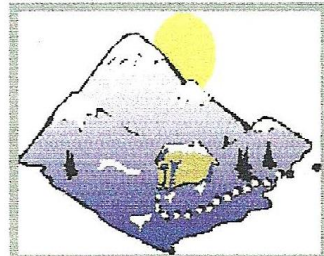
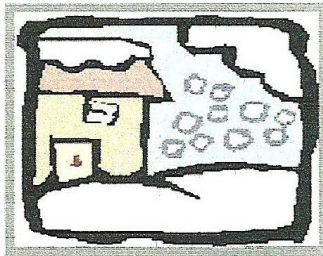
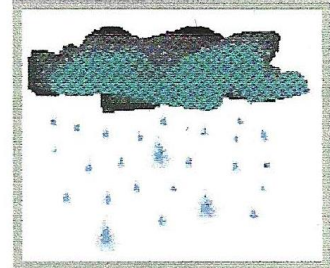
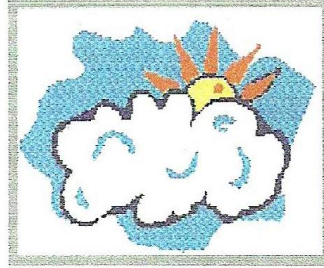
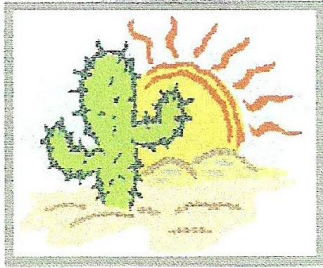
An Gewer

		
An howl the sun Howlyek yw. It's sunny Toemm yw. It's warm Sygh yw. It's dry	An glaw the rain Yeyn yw. It's cold Glyb yw. It's wet	An kkommol the clouds Kommolek yw. It's cloudy
		
An gwyns the wind Gwynsek yw. It's windy	An ergh the snow Erghek yw It's snowy Oer yw. It's bitterly cold	An tewedh the storm Hager awel yw. It's a gale Euthyk yw. It's horrible
		
An gammneves the rainbow Teg yw. It's pretty	An niwl the fog Niwlek yw. It's foggy	Ass yw toemm an gewer! How warm the weather is!

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

Exercise B3

Fatell 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	benynes	woman
maw	g	mebyon	boy
mowes	b	mowesi	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 (‘oer’), so that’s what we start with – ‘oer 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 oer’. To make the negative question we simply put a in front so ‘Isn’t it bitterly cold?’ is ‘A nyns yw oer?’

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

	dydh 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

	studhyer 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 vy
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

	studhyer 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*

	tomm 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