

Gemmilëh

lugkoghlebap unazinse, lygkëghlemë ybejcigijykijed. ëgëh puor, engõb ëgëh zumm.
piomukkul këghle. uhasbazan olottupiorogboh.
ol lëkkyëttygeirys, "konanne lokkuttuzehooruj, engõb
cuolacumogakopohumhasbazanerej. konbah uz korourilmonn? hë ëmëttypiijed,
engõb hë omottupiloku.

Two of these are non-native Gemmilëh names. Hasbazan [haz'baz,ŋ] and Unazinse [u'na,zŋ,sɛ].

[.lux'koh.ʔɛ.baɸp .u'na.zŋ,sɛ .lix'kəx.hɛ.mə .i'bɛc.hi.xe.çi.xi.jɛd]
[.ə'ʉə: .ɸpu'or .n'ʉab .ə'ʉa: 'zum:]
[.ɸpi'o.ŋu.kkɪ .kəx'ʔɛ]
[.u'ʔaz.βaʉ.ŋ .o'lo:su:βi.oɟ.xbo:]
[ol .lə'kki.ə:sɪ.ʉæ.i.rɪs .ko'na.n:ɛ .lo'kku:su.xɛ:p.o.rj .ɛ'ʉab]
[.çu'oɟ.a.ɟu.ŋo.xa.xo:βo:ŋ:ʉa.βa.ʉa.ɪɛ.rj]
[.kŋ'ba: 'uz .ko'ro.u.ɟɪɟ.mŋ: 'ha .ə'mə:sɪ:βi:jɛd .ɛ'ʉab 'ha .o'mo:su:βi.ɟo.ku]

bap – grandma – rounded
anne – tamed, enslaved, slave – unrounded
ijed – to hide – unrounded
orog – angry – rounded
puor – to live – rounded
zumm – to know – rounded
ezzeli – to cover – unrounded
engõb – and – unrounded
cigi – weight, fat – unrounded
lokku – good – rounded
lëkky – good – unrounded
geirys – to command – unrounded
zehõ – festival – unrounded
oruj – to come – rounded
acumog – alcohol – rounded
pohum – glassware – rounded
erej – to bring – unrounded
bah – mother – rounded
uz – clothing – rounded
urilmonn – to wear – rounded
loku – to kill – rounded
ak – corn – rounded

1: Phonology (not necessary but you might want to know)

onsets	L	A	P	V	G
nasal	m, m: <mm>	n n: <nn>	ɲ <ñ> ɲ: <ñn>		
stop	p: <p>	t t: <tt>		k k: <kk>	
	b	d			
fricative		s s: <ss>	ç <c> ç: <cc>		h
		z z: <zz>			
		ʃ <hl>			
sonorant		l r	j	ɰ <g>	

vowels	front	central	back rnd.	back unrd.
close	i	ɨ <y>	u	
mid	ɛ <e>	ə <ë>	o	ɔ <õ>
open				ɑ <a>

The character :

You may see : on prefixes and suffixes, this simply means that it mutates the sound there. This used to geminate the following sound, but many geminates have collapsed.

t	t:
k	k:
s	s:
ç	ç:
z	z:
m	m:
n	n:
ɲ	ɲ:
b	ɰ
d	z
ɰ	k

already geminated sounds and anything not on the above list don't shift

2: Basics

Gemmilëh straddles the line between agglutination and fusional, with roots and affixes influencing other affixes. It features vowel harmony, obviate vs. proximate alignment, and honorifics. It is mostly head-final. Questions are marked with rising tone on the verb, and are written with a ?.

2.1: Word Order/Affix Order

Proximate Obviate-Verb

In proximate: Possession-Article-Case-Plurality-Main.Noun

In obviate-verb: Possession-Article-Case-Plurality-Noun-Negation-Tense-Verb-Other
Half of Tense

2.2: Negation

Negation is the same on all parts of speech.

pi:-

3: Nouns

3.1: Plurals

Plurals are rather simple in Gemmilëh, with markings for plural and collective. The left is rounded and the right is unrounded. If there's only one, it is used on both roundings of words as it is a neutral affix.

Singular	plural	collective
Ø-	kon- kën- (final nasal assimilates to first consonant)	ogkon- ëgkën-

3.2: Cases (affixes only)

		suffix	
name	what it is	rounded	unrounded
nominative	as a subject	Ø-	
dative	indirect object	ro-	re-
accusative	direct object	u-	y-
locative	at/in	ttu-	tti-
instrumental	alongside the	okk-	ëkk-

3.3: Articles

Gemmilëh has four articles. These are used to show honorifics. There are no honorific pronouns:

honor. def. (the usual)	honor. indef.	definite	collective	indefinite
lugkoghle- lygkëghle-	luk- lyk-	obopy- ëböpy-	ogkon- ëgkën-	Ø-

3.4: Possession

Nouns can be linked together to show that they are possessed by the same thing.

Otherwise you use one of four suffixes on the possesee to show it is being possessed. There are stronger posesee suffixes that emphasize ownership. The possessor comes after the posesee.

word starts in	a/ε/o rounded	vowel unrounded	rounded	unrounded
...- on posesee	cuol-	bel-	cuoj-	bej-
...- to emphasize	boul-	böyj-	bouj-	böyg-
notes			mutates initial u to i	

3.5: Obviate Subjects

Even if the obviate noun is the subject, it is still merged with the verb. You use the ottu- or ëtty- suffix (derived from an old demonstrative).

3.6: Pronouns

Pronouns as suffixes are used for obviate contexts. Because of the suffixing, there are many forms. Pronouns are also the only things with a fully intact dual. Duals have been lost across the rest of the language except in some specialized words like pair of gloves (glove + dual).

proximate	1 st	2nd	3rd
singular	ol	ëm	hë
plural	obol	ëgem	ëgëh
dual	olol		ëh

obviate		1 st		2 nd		3 rd	
prefixes		rounded	unrounded	rounded	unrounded	rounded	unrounded
singular	C/e/i	-ol	-ël	-om	-ëm	-:ë	-:o
	e/i			-ym		-he	
	a/o/u						
plural	e/a	-bol	-gël	-bom	-gëm	-bëho	-këh
	C/i/o/u	-obol	-ëgël	-obom	-ëgëm	-obëho	-ëgëh
dual	e/i					-:oho	-:ëh

3.7: Adjectives

Adjectives come before nouns, and can be modified to become verbs

adjectives as verbs	plain	habitual
past	-gog -gëg	-koro -këre
present	-gizz	-kog -këg
future	-bog -bëg	
perfect	-rogob -rëg	

4.1: Verb Tenses

Verbs come in six tenses:

	plain	habitual/stative
past	ro-/rë-	kërõ-/koro-
present	ø-	kë-/ko-
future	pi-	
perfect	rogo-, rok- on words starting with voiceless obstruents	

4.2: Copulas

The copula is one of only a few unique verbs with these forms:

copula	plain	habitual
past	bëghle	kërëghle
present	bizzë	këghle
future	pëghle	
perfect	rogobizzo	

4.3: Verb Moods

So far, only one: imperative: juk- jyk-

4.4: To Make

To make is a unique verb with only three conjugations and is used to turn adjectives into verbs

	to make
past	ro-...-boh rō-...-bëh
present	-boh -bëh
future	pi-...-boh pi-...-bëh

Conjunctions behave similarly to English, coming between the two phrases.