

כַּיְחֵשׁ דְּכֹם עֲשֵׁינֵי חֲנִיחַ

Eser: Savel Gan Desa

Backstory

[illegible]

Eser is the living story of a unity of the four souls: Sil, Gour, Ampon and Zel. To end an era of disorder, the central soul, Seredon, broke its decree of isolation by facilitating the first reformation of souls. The four broken souls were resuscitated by the waters of Lenakosu, the sacred lake, flowing up from the seas. Through the waters, the souls were given new wisdom in the form of Marotai and a new tongue in the form of Eser. Eser is the fusion of the four languages of Ampönset, Siliminkaut, Zelon, and Ivenai. Eser represents the blood of the new unitary soul of Edon. With each thought uttered in Eser, the direction of the flow of water changes, resonating with the spirits of those who speak upon the wise waters.

[illegible]

Following the resolution, the soul of Seredon reinstated its decree of isolation. Only time may tell if the waters of Lenakosu will continue flowing through the veins of Edon.

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1 Phonology

Here is an overview of the sounds in Eser. For more specific information on dialects and/or prosody, please refer to chapters 8-10.

1.1 Consonants

Consonants							
	Labial	Dental	Alveolar	Postalv	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
Plosive	p b		t d			k g	
Nasal	m		n			ŋ	
Fricative	f v	ð	s z	ʃ ʒ	ç	x	h
Rhotic			r/ɾ				
Approx	w		l		j		

1.2 Vowels

Vowels			
	Front	Central	Back
Close	i		u
Mid	e	e	o
Open		a	

Diphthongs: /ei/ /ie/ /ai/ /ia/ /ou/ /au/

1.3 Allophones

/an/ -> [ã] /d/ -> [ð] __front vowel /r/ -> [r] __ʒ
 /ɔn/ -> [õ] /n/ -> [ŋ] __i
 /oŋ/ -> [õ] /r/ -> [x] __e
 /en/ -> [ɔn] /d/ -> [dʒ] __ʒ

1.4 Phonotactics

Syllable Structure: (C)(r/l/w/j/v)V(C)

1.5 Romanization

Romanization			
	IPA	Tovrei	Shofanei
a	/a/	ᐃ	ᐅ
b	/b/	ᐆ	ᐇ
c	/ʃ/	ᐈ	ᐉ
d	/d/, /ð/	ᐊ	ᐋ
e	/e/	ᐌ	ᐍ
f	/f/	ᐎ	ᐏ
g	/g/	ᐐ	ᐑ
h	/h/	ᐒ	ᐓ
i	/i/	ᐔ	ᐕ
j	/y/	ᐖ	ᐗ
k	/k/	ᐘ	ᐙ
l	/l/	ᐚ	ᐛ
m	/m/	ᐜ	ᐝ
n	/n/	ᐞ	ᐟ
o	/o/	ᐠ	ᐡ
p	/p/	ᐢ	ᐣ
r	/r/, /ɾ/	ᐤ	ᐥ
s	/s/, /ɕ/	ᐧ	ᐨ
t	/t/	ᐪ	ᐫ
u	/u/	ᐬ	ᐭ
v	/v/	ᐮ	ᐯ
w	/w/	ᐰ	ᐱ
x	/x/	ᐳ	ᐴ
y	/j/	ᐵ	ᐶ
z	/z/	ᐷ	ᐸ
-*	/ə/	ᐩ	ᐪ

* for any appearance of the schwa, the dash is used instead. This is very commonly seen for transcriptions of particles or related grammar words in Eser.

The ordering of letters seen here for Tovrei is not the common letter ordering for Tovrei. For more specifics about Eser's scripts, alphabet order, and other information, refer to the orthography section 9.

2 Nouns

2.1 General Particles

Particles provide context its noun and its role in relation to the main verb. Particles generally precede the noun. Particles give Eser a freer word order which allows many different ways of representing a single thought. Note that particles don't have a "direct translation" in English, so please use the given examples to gain a more intuitive understanding of the particles.

Precedent Particles

Particles				
	Form	Tovrei	Rough Translation	Case Equivalent**
Subject	l-	ל	main subject	Nominative
Object	n-	נ	direct object	Accusative
Recipient	d-	ד	"to/for", ind. object	Dative
Reflexivity	su-	שׁוּ	"it to itself"	Reflexive
Instrument	m-	מ	"by, using"	Instrumental
Community	wu-	וּ	"with, accompanied by"	Comitative
Attention	(ar)ya	יָאָרְיָא	"Hey _____!"	Vocative
Possession	+ei / iv	עִי / עִי	"s, of"	Genitive
Location	e-	ע	"in/at/on"	Locative
Origin	w-	ו	"from"	Ablative
Goal	v-	וּ	"towards, to"	Allative
Purpose	b-	ב	"for"	Purposive
Agent	mo-	מֹ	"by", in passive voice	Agentive
Information	f-	פ	provides extra information	Appositive

Particles are almost always required except for certain simple sentences with less than two subjects. An exception to this is the main subject, marked using the Nominative case particle, which can sometimes be omitted completely if the sentence is "clear enough" without the marker. In casual speech, some particles are also omitted if there is enough context, but this does make the sentence sound much less formal.

*alternate forms or common pronunciation forms of each particle. In writing, the form using the schwa /-/ is always written over pronounced forms.

**case equivalence is not definitive and for a more detailed use refer to examples below

2.1.1 Subject Particle (NOM)

The subject particle 'l-' introduces the subject of a sentence. It is essentially the nominative case marker.

(1) שׁוּכְּזֵעַ לֵּי יֹעֵצִי

tavya **l-** moloc
eat.PST NOM cow
“The cow ate.”

2.1.2 Object Particle (ACC)

The object particle ‘**n-**’ introduces the direct object of a sentence with a transitive verb. It is similar to the accusative case particle.

- (2) **טאָוּר אַ מולעך אַן אַלעס**
tavya **l-** moloc **n-** ouviro
eat.PST NOM cow ACC leaf.PL
“The cow ate at leaves.”

2.1.3 Recipient Particle (DAT)

The recipient particle ‘**d-**’ introduces the indirect object OR the recipient of an action, very similar to “to” in the sentence “I gave a drink to Bob” or “for” in “I made this for you”

- (3) **מאַרעא דא מיט אן איינעם און אונז**
marya do **d-** mic n- mon tof
give.PST 1PL.INCL.NOM DAT dog ACC some food.
“We gave the dog some food.”

The food is the direct object because the food is what we “give”, and the dog is the indirect object as it is the indirect recipient (the receiver) of the action “to give”.

2.1.4 Reflexive Particle (REFL)

The reflexive particle ‘**su-**’ is used to indicate that the action and recipient of the action are the same.

- (4) **מאַרעא און איינעם**
marya **su-** mico
give.PST REFL dog.PL
“The dogs gave themselves some food.”

2.1.5 Instrumental Particle (INST)

The instrumental particle ‘**m-**’ is used to introduce a noun that is the ‘instrument’ or ‘means by’ with which the subject accomplishes the action. Very similar to ‘by’ or ‘using’ in English.

- (5) **אונז אן אַלעס מיט אַן אַלעס**
sup a n- ouviro **m-** kavdi
cut 1SG.NOM ACC leaf.PL INST scissor
“I cut leaves with/using scissors.”

2.1.6 Comitative Particle (COM)

The comitative particle ‘**wu-**’ is used to describe those that accompany you during/with an action. It is similar to “with”, “accompanied by”, “together with”.

- (6) דכ וטש סה [וח] עסדכס
an **wu-** jo (e-) kanoi
1SG.be COM 3PL (LOC) right now
“I’m with them right now.”

2.1.7 Attention Particle (VOC)

The attention particle ‘**(ar)ya**’ is used to highlight or “call out” the noun. It can be used on its own as “hey!” or before a noun for a similar exclamatory purpose “Hey _____!”

- (7) עס עסדכס! ועסדכס!
ya defi! weco!
VOC everyone come.IMP
“Everyone! Come!”

2.1.8 Possession Particle (GEN)

The possession particles ‘**+ei**’ and ‘**iv**’ are used both to indicate a relationship between a possessor and the possessed attributes/things. ‘**+ei**’ is similar in usage to ‘s in English and ‘**vi**’ is more similar to ‘of’. ‘**+ei**’ implies that the possessor is the noun that it is attached to. ‘**vi**’ implies that the possessor is the noun that comes after.

- (8) עס מיסעס טאס עס נא סס
l- mice**i** tai es bo
NOM dog.GEN power be great
“The dog’s power is great.”
- (9) עס טאס עס מיסעס נא סס
l- tai **iv** mic es bo
NOM power GEN dog be great
“The power of the dog is great.”

2.1.9 Location Particle (LOC)

The location particle ‘**e-**’, pronounced just ‘e’, is used to describe the location in which an action takes place.

- (10) כ טאס עס וס טאס
a juya **e-** thaju
1SG.NOM swim.PST LOC lake
“I swam in the lake.”

2.1.10 Origin Particle (ABL)

The origin particle ‘***w-***’ is used to describe the origin or place in which something or an action originates in.

- (11) כ וַיָּבֹאוּ מֵהַיָּם
a wai w- thaju
1SG.NOM come.PST ABL lake
‘I came from the lake.’

2.1.11 Motion Particle (LAT)

The motion particle ‘ \mathbf{v} -’ is used to describe the end goal or location in which an action is motivated towards. It is the location in which an action is moving towards.

- (12) **אי וואס איז דאס פאר א פאס**
v- thaju a pam
 LAT lake 1SG.NOM walk
 “I walk to the lake.”

2.1.12 Purpose Particle (PRP)

The purpose particle ‘***b-***’ is used to describe the reason or purpose for an action, or a noun (as described in 2.4.3, goal particles).

- (13) אָנאָן האָט געקײט פֿאַר אײך
 a sauya b- va
 1SG.NOM cry.PST PRP 2SG.ACC
 ‘‘I cried for you.’’

2.1.13 Agent Particle (AGT)

The agentive particle ‘**mo-**’ is solely used in passive voice configurations to describe who is the agent of the action. Very similar to ‘by’ in English in a passive voice sentence.

- (14) ሂህቡኤ ፤ ሀደረዐ ሰዐ ገ ሰ ሰ ደጅፔር
 supeto l- ouviro **mo-** na m- kavdi
 cut.PASS NOM leaf.PL AGT 1SG INST scissor
 ‘The leaves are cut by me using scissors.’

Below are a couple more examples using the agentive particle and also the aforementioned particles to give a better understanding of how they work. The first example is in the active voice and the following examples are in the active voice.

- (15) **marya azar n- bel**
 give.PST 1SG-3SG.dat ACC book
 “I gave him the book.”

- (16) **יִמְרָאֵי זֶה הָיָה לִי מִיָּד**
 maryato za n- bel **mo-** na
 give.PST.PASS 3SG ACC book AGT 1SG
 “He was given the book (by me).”

- (17) **יִמְרָאֵי הָיָה לִי מִיָּד**
 maryato l- bel zar **mo-** na
 give.PST.PASS NOM book 3SG.dat AGT 1SG
 “The book was given to him (by me).”

2.1.14 Information Particle (APP)

The appositive particle ‘**f-**’ specifies that the next noun describes or adds further context to the noun before it.

- (18) **לֵנָקוֹסוּ, הִי מִיָּד הָיָה, הִי מִיָּד הָיָה**
 Lenakosu, **f-** kosu zier, es faruera
 Lenakosu, APP lake sacred, be ethereal
 “Lake Lenakosu, the sacred lake, is ethereal.”

2.2 Pronouns

2.2.1 Personal Pronouns

Singular					
	NOM	ACC	DAT	Reflexive	GEN
1SG	a	na	(e)ra	swa	ai
2SG	va	(n-) va	v(e)ra	sueva	vei
3SG	za	(n-) za	zar	sueza	zei
3SG inani	sa	(n-) sa	sar	suesa	sei
Plural					
1PL.EXCL	do	(n-) do	dor	suedo	doi
1PL.INCL	dov	(n-) dov	dovor	suedov	dovei
2PL	vo	(n-) vo	vor	suevo	voi
3PL	jo	(n-) jo	jor	suezo	joi
3PL inani	so	(n-) so	sor	sueso	soi

Since Eser can be VSO order, when the Subject and Object are directly paired together (SO) and both are personal pronouns, the nominative form of both pronoun can simply be used together, combining the two pronouns into one. If the object is dative, then the dative is used for the second pronoun. If the second pronoun is 1SG.NOM or 1SG.ACC, use ‘na’ instead.

a + n- va = **ava**, a + vra = **avra**, va + n- sa = **vasa**, va + sera = **vasera**, za + a = **zana**

- (19) **כַּדְוֹסִי אֶתְּךָ**
kando **ava**
love 1SG.NOM-2SG.ACC
“I love you.”

- (20) **הֲיָתָתְּ לְךָ מֵהַיָּדָאֵלֶּה?**
ju marya **vasajor**?
give.PST INT 2SG.NOM-3SG.ACC-3PL.DAT
“Did you give it to them?”

Furthermore, contractions can drop vowels in the secondary pronoun in speech:

ava → “av”

vasajor → “vasjor” → “vacor”/vaʃor/

* this contraction is only realized in speech. In writing, the full form “vasajor” is used.

2.2.2 Interrogative Pronouns

Interrogative Pronouns	
Who.S	je
Who.PL	jec
Whose	jei
What	jio
Where	jem
When	jai
How	jue
Why	bej

2.2.3 Relative Pronouns

Relative Pronouns	
That	j- Describes
Where	mer- nouns further
When	k-
How	ma- “way in which”

- (21) **יִמֹר אֶחָד מֵהַמָּקוֹמִים שֶׁהַיְּלִידִים יִדְּנֻם**
 mor a man **mer-** tarej el- lion
 love 1SG place where.R dance NOM.R person.PL
 “I love places where people dance.”
- (22) **יִמֹר אֶחָד מֵהַמָּקוֹמִים שֶׁהַיְּלִידִים יִדְּנֻם**
 mor a **ma-** san el- lion bo
 1SG love how.R 3PL.inanim-be NOM.R people many
 “I love [the way / how] there’s lots of people here”
- (23) **אֶדְבַּר שֶׁאַתָּה גָּדוֹל**
 a dar **j-** van vas.
 1SG think that.R you-be great
 “I think (that) you’re great.”

2.3 Relative Particles

Relative particles are a unique aspect of formal written (and formal speech) modern Eser. It is mainly taught in schools towards the end of Elementary School to introduce more complex sentences where there may be multiple references to different particles that may be rather confusing. They are **ONLY** used in relative clauses, this means the clause following a relative pronoun (that, where, when, etc).

Relative Particles	
NOM.R	el-
ACC.R	en-
DAT.R	ed-

2.3.1 Relative Subject Particle (NOM.R)

The relative subject particle ‘*el-*’ introduces the subject of the action in the relative clause. Usually, the recipient of the action is the noun that precedes the relative clause marker. See below an example for a clearer example:

- (24) סדיא ל- מולק י- טאבאטו **mo-** קוי.
 die.PST NOM cow that.R eat.PST.PASS AGT boy
 “The cow that was eaten by the boy died.”

Notice here that the “boy” is the subject of the relative clause as he performs the action of “eating”. In the main clause, the cow is the subject, but in the relative clause, it becomes the object! This is made clear through the usage of the nominative relative particle, designating the boy as the new subject in the relative frame. Another way to think about ‘*el-*’ in the example sentence is “by”, to mean “eaten by the boy”.

2.3.2 Relative Object Particle (ACC.R)

The relative object particle ‘*en-*’ introduces the direct object of the relative clause. The subject of the action in the relative clause is presumed to be the noun that precedes the relative clause marker, unless there exists a relative subject particle or for other contextual reasons. See below a clearer example:

- (25) סדיא ל- מולק י- טאבא **en-** קוי.
 die.PST NOM cow that.R eat.PST ACC.R boy
 “The cow that ate the boy died.”

Notice the only difference between this sentence and the previous one is the particle used, but the meaning is very different. In this example, the boy is the object of the action “to eat” and the cow is the subject. So the cow is the one that ate the boy!

2.3.3 Relative Recipient Particle (DAT.R)

The relative recipient particle ‘*ed-*’ introduces the indirect object of the relative clause.

- (26) סדיא ל- מולק י- מאריא **ed-** קוי **en-** דוראט.
 die.PST NOM cow that.R give.PST DAT.R boy ACC.R frog
 “The cow that gave the boy a frog died.”

2.3.4 Anaphoricity Through Reflexivity

To anaphorically refer back to something without repeating the whole noun, the reflexive form of the noun’s anaphoric form can be used. For example, the anaphoric form of “the cow” would just be “it”, so you would use “itself”. The anaphoric form of “the people” would be “them”, so you would use “themselves”.

Below is an example that **does not** use reflexivity:

- (27) **סדיא ל- מולק י- מריא (ענ-) זא עד- קוי.**
sadya l- moloc j- marya (en-) za ed- koi.
die.PST NOM cow that.R give.PST (ACC.R) 3SG.INAN.ACC DAT.R boy.
“The cow that gave it* to the boy died.”

* Notice how here, the “it” does not refer to the cow, it refers to some other contextual “it”. To properly refer back to the cow itself, one can use the reflexive form:

- (28) **סדיא ל- מולק י- מריא ענ- סועזא עד- קוי.**
sadya l- moloc j- marya en- **sueza** ed- koi.
die.PST NOM cow that.R give.PST (ACC.R) 3SG.INAN.REFL DAT.R boy.
“The cow that gave itself to the boy died.”

In this example, it is clear that the object in the relative clause is the cow itself. In general, whenever the relative clause wants to mention a noun that is outside the clause, the reflexive form should be used.

2.3.5 Particles and Free Word Order

Now that we’ve amassed quite a set of useful particles, various complex sentences are now possible! Due to the usage of particles to structure sentences, any word order is technically possible. This is because the particles remove contextual nuance and help make it clear as to what each noun has in relation to the full sentence. Below is a complex sentence that is very hard to follow in English. It is still hard to follow in Eser, but by following the particles it may be easier:

- (29) **סטעליא ל- אלו י- פאצא על- קוי י- קיערו על- מיכ ד- קוי נ- פערן.**
stelya l- olu j- pacya **el-** koi j- kieryo **el-** mic **d-** koi **n-** ferun.
tell.PST NOM man that.R kick.PST NOM.R boy that.R bite.PST NOM.R
dog DAT boy ACC story
“The man that the boy that the dog bit kicked told the boy a story.”

2.4 Miscellaneous Particles Usages

2.4.1 Location

Location Noun Form				Location Descriptive Form			
near	hider	outside	along	near from	hiderei	outside of	alonei
far	ader	inside	veng	far from	aderei	inside of	veneï
between	hui	back	vur	between	hui	back of	vurei
across	vau	in front	gur	across of	vei	in front of	gurei
north	faj	left	hid	north of	fajei	left of	hidei
east	mol	right	dar	east of	molei	right of	darei
south	daven	above	tan	south of	davenei	above	tanei
west	om	below	derve	west of	omei	below	dervei
around	tei	towards	noi	around	tei	towards	noi
very far	ojorhwe	away	uewe	very far	ojorhwei	away from	uewei

Location, origin, or motion particle + location word = specified location

(30) **וּסְכַבְתִּי מִן הַבַּיְתָה (לִפְנֵי) הַבַּיְתָה (לִפְנֵי) הַבַּיְתָה.**

a pamya (v-) **vei** patis (j-s) e- davenei maju.

1SG.NOM walk.PST (LAT) across bridge (that.R-be) LOC south.of bay

“I walked across the bridge (that’s) on the south of the bay.”

In this example, the “location” is the bay, but the goal of the action is “across the bridge”, therefore, both v- and e- are used in this sentence. Note that technically in speech, the allative particle can be dropped as sufficient context often makes it unnecessary, but in written form and in more complex sentences it is necessary. The relative particle is also an option to make the sentence more clear, but it is also optional.

(31) **אֲנִי מִן הַצֵּד הַצֵּד.**

an w- faj

1SG.NOM-be ABL north

“I’m from the north.”

2.4.2 Time

(32) **לֵאס מִינֵי (ע-) וְעֵי לֹמ.**

las miwe (e-) **vuei** lom.

PROP leave (LOC) before night

“Let’s leave before night.”

You can also use the three particles, location, origin, and motion to describe time, but the usage is a bit different:

(33) **עֹסֶנָה, אֲתָבָה וְעֵי דִבְרֵי מִן הַבַּיְתָה.**

e- fosona, a tavya w- kan v- doc.

on Wednesday, 1SG.NOM eat.PST from 2 till 2-o’clock

“On Wednesday, I ate from 1 to 2.”

Time Descriptors	
during	ukai
around	tei
before	vuei
after	guei
between	hui
until	kuwai

Time Particles	
During	e- “at _____”
From	w- “from _____ (and on)”
Before	v- “till _____”

2.4.3 Goals

For goals, the purpose particle ‘**b-**’ can be used to provide more context as to the motivations, reasons, and overarching goals of an action.

Goals	
for	b-
because of	b- bes
regarding, about	b- sau
thanks to	b- cier
despite	b- never
except	b- ne
excluding	b- nemei

- (34) **סו סו דכז נאז שנגנד סנז עזחוד וס ככז חסס**
 jie asa **b- never** vai narat **b-s** san oo bo
 like 1SG.3SG PRP despite 2SG.GEN opinion PRP.because 3SG-be very good
 “I like it despite your opinion because it’s so good.”

Below are two sentences that mean the same thing on a surface level:

- (35) **כה וס סו ד ככז דא**
 dya a n- oi **b-** za
 buy.PST 1SG.NOM ACC this PRP 3SG.anim
 “I bought this for him.”

- (36) **כה וס וס ד ככז דא**
 dya a n- oi **d-** za
 buy.PST 1SG.NOM ACC this DAT 3SG.anim
 “I bought this for him.”

The difference lies in that the first sentence uses the purposive case, and conveys a deeper meaning of “I bought this and you were the reason I bought it” vs the second sentence which uses the dative case “I bought this to give to you”. The first example emphasizes the *purpose* and the second sentence emphasizes the *action*.

2.5 Demonstratives

Demonstratives						
	Particle		Noun		Direction	
Near Speaker	(y)oi	“this”	nai	“here”	arvel	“this way”
Near Target	vvoi	“that”	vai	“there”	varvel	“that way”
Far From Both	zyoi	“that”	zai	“over there”	zarvel	“that way”
Question	jyoi	“which”	jem	“where”	jvel	“which way”

Quick note on pronunciation: the /oi/ and /ai/ parts are not diphthongs, and you must put a quick pause in between the /a/ and /i/ in ‘zai’, for example. The first vowel can also just be lengthened.

(37) סכא דכא? וזחא דכא.

san jem? san **zai**.

3SG.inanim-be where? 3SG.inanim-be over.there

“Where is it? It’s over there.”

(38) וסא עא כא כשא! סא עא!

oi es ai ita davo!

this.near.me be my song favorite

“This is my favorite song!”

3 Verbs

In Eser, there are two types of verbs: Je and Se verbs, which describe change and state, respectively. Following these paradigms, Je-Verbs pretty much include all such called "action verbs", most transitive verbs, and any verbs that clearly imply some kind of change or action. Se-Verbs, on the other hand, are a closed set of verbs that include some stative verbs and some intransitive verbs as well as all copula verbs "to be", some auxillary verbs "will" and "to have".

Se-Verbs are a *closed set*, meaning that there is a limited number of them, in fact, only TEN Se-Verbs are commonly recognized and used in Eser. *All* other verbs are Je-Verbs. Why the distinction? There are various cultural reasons that will explained later, but they also provide some differences in structure; for example, Se-Verbs tend to follow a SVO word order in structure and they also tend to allow the omission of general particles. Je-Verbs instead uses a VSO order and tends to be stricter about the requirement of particles.

3.1 The Se-Verbs

There are ten Se-Verbs, with two of them having completely abnormal tense-aspect derivations. The eight rest of them have different forms of general past, present, and future tenses, but follow the same *verb suffix conjugations* (3.2) for the other tense-aspects as Je-Verbs do, which will be introduced in the following section.

"To exist / To be" - es				
	Simple	Perfect	Progressive	Perfect Progressive
Past	ya nya "was"	vya nevy a	yas nas "was being"	vyas neviyas "had been being"
Present	(-)es nes "am / is"*	vre nev re "have been"	es nes "am being"	vyes neviyas "has been being"
Future	yo nyo "will be"	vyo nev yo "will have been"	yos ney os "will be being"	vyos nev yo "will have been being"

"To have" - vau				
	Simple	Perfect	Progressive	Perfect Progressive
Past	vria "had"	veria "had had"	vaj "was having"	veraj "had been having"
Present	vau "am / is"*	vien "have had"	vej "am having"	viej "has been being"
Future	vyo "will have"	veryo "will have had"	voj "will be having"	veroj "will've been having"

“Hope, dream”		“Know”		“Think”		“Want”	
Pst	mora	Pst	tra	Pst	dya	Pst	ja
	mor		tar		dar		jo
Fut	moryo	Fut	taryo	Fut	dyo	Fut	joi
“Need”		“Believe”		“Feel”		“Can / Able”	
Pst	mai	Pst	swa	Pst	dai	Pst	sya
	mer		swo		der		se
Fut	myo	Fut	swoyo	Fut	doi	Fut	syo

3.2 Verb Tense-Aspect Suffix Conjugations

The verb suffix conjugations add tense and aspect to verbs. It is used as a suffix to the 8 Se-Verbs above as well as all Je-Verbs, except for the 5 exceptions below. Note that the Se-Verbs already have irregular fixed forms for the simple aspect.

Verb Tense-Aspect Suffixes					
	Simple	Perfect	Progressive	Perfect	Progressive
Past	+ya	+(i)vya	+aj		+(e)vria
Present	mod infinitive*	+(i)vyen	+yej		+(e)vyej
Future	+yo	+(i)vyo	+oj		+(e)vyoj

* modified infinitive means to get rid of the infinitive suffix ‘+ej’ or ‘+j’ (and rarely ‘+(e)z’) from the end of the verb. For example, pamej is the infinitive form of the verb “to walk”, so the modified infinitive form of “to walk” is “pam”. The vowels in the parenthesis are added when the modified infinitive form of the verb ends with a consonant. For example:

ᠫᠠᠮᠢᠪᠢᠶᠣ

pamivyo

will have walked

ᠫᠠᠮᠡᠪᠢᠷᠢᠠ

pamevria

had been walking

These suffixes are added to the simple present form of the verbs! Below are some conjugation examples:

ᠮᠡᠷᠢᠶᠣᠵᠢ

mervyoj

will have been needing

ᠳᠡᠷᠡᠵᠢ

derej

am feeling

𐌿𐌔𐌚𐌚𐌚𐌚𐌚𐌚

swovyo
will have believed

𐌿𐌔𐌚𐌚𐌚𐌚𐌚𐌚𐌚

travyen
had known

3.3 The Je-Verbs

Although many Je-Verbs are consistent and simply follow the suffix conjugations above, there are five exceptions, with unique forms that must be memorized.

“To do” - loj				
	Simple	Perfect	Progressive	Perfect Progressive
Past	lai	lavya	laj	vilai
Present	lou	ler	lej	vilou
Future	loi	lovyo	loj	viloi

“To become, to change, to turn (into)” - verj				
	Simple	Perfect	Progressive	Perfect Progressive
Past	vrai	vervya	vaj	vivrai
Present	ver	vervyen	vej	viver
Future	vroi	vervyo	voj	vivroi

“To make, to create” - liej				
	Simple	Perfect	Progressive	Perfect Progressive
Past	lia	livya	liaj	vilia
Present	li	lien	liej	vilei
Future	lio	livyo	lioj	vilio

“To go” - miej				
	Simple	Perfect	Progressive	Perfect Progressive
Past	mai	mivya	maj	vimai
Present	mi	mien	mej	vimei
Future	moi	mivyo	moj	vimoi

“To come” - wej				
	Simple	Perfect	Progressive	Perfect Progressive
Past	wai	wevyā	waj	viwai
Present	we	wen	wej	viwei
Future	wo	wevyo	woj	viwo

All other Je-Verbs can be conjugated using its modified infinitive form. Nearly every Je-Verb ends with the “+ej” or “+j” suffix. To turn these verbs into the modified infinitive form, simply get rid of this suffix. For example, “to die” is “sadej”, and the modified infinitive form is “sad”. The modified infinitive form is also used as the simple present tense!

3.4 Verb Moods

Verb moods provide further information about the way in which a verb is presented. There are specific, nuanced usages, which will be explained throughout various examples. There is a general and a formal form of verb moods in Eser, with the latter form being used in a more respectful manner. The general form is not necessarily impolite, but using the formal form in certain situations may be more proper given the context.

Verb Moods				
	General		Formal	
Imperative	(+e)co(n)	“Do ____!”	(+e)siaud*	“I suggest you ____”
Optative	(+e)cei	“Should ____”	(+e)saud	“Could you ____”
Interrogative	j+	“____?”	ju	“Could you ____”
Propositive	las(ej)	”Let’s (be) ____”	dalas(ej)	“Shall we (be) ____”
Desiderative	jau	“Want ____”	jaud	“Would like ____”

3.4.1 Imperative Mood (IMP)

The imperative mood is conveyed through the suffixes or particle forms “(+e)co(n)” and “(+e)siaud”. They create suggestions, with the general form being conveyed as more “forceful” while the formal form is more “suggestive”. There are two uses.

As a suffix, you can add it to the end of the modified infinitive form of a verb, with “-e” if the verb was consonant final.

As a particle, it can be used before a descriptor*, you can simply say the descriptor and then add the imperative particle “siaud” without the “+e” in front. For negation, with verbs, negate the verb as usual, and for descriptors, add the negative particle “ne” before the descriptor. For the general form, include the “n” in (+e)con. In non-negative sentences, the “n” is omitted.

* note that descriptors include both adjectives and adverbs, a part of speech used to describe nouns or verbs further. These will be introduced in the section after verbs (4.2).

(39) תנחנחנחנחנח!

netavecon!
 NEG.eat.IMP
 “Don’t eat!”

- (40) נטארה זאוד
 ne tahara **siaud**
 NEG careless IMP.FRM
 “You must not be careless.”

3.4.2 Optative Mood (OPT)

The optative mood “(+e)sei” and “(+e)saud”. They are used to express desires, wishes, and hopes for an action. The difference between the general and formal forms are similar to the difference in usage between “can” and “could/may” in English. Similar to imperative, for descriptors, simply add it as a particle after the descriptor dropping the “-e”.

- (41) נאף זאעי?
 nuf xacei?
 fuck stop.OPT?
 “Can you fucking stop?”

- (42) דיזאוד (ב-) סאוי?
 diesaud (b-) sau oi?
 help.OPT regarding this?
 “Could you help me with this?”

- (43) בויס זאד?
 bo hara **cei**?
 more careful OPT
 “Can you be more careful?”

3.4.3 Interrogative Mood (INT)

The interrogative mood “j+” or “jū” can be used to convey a sense of questioning. It can sometimes be used to convey a rhetorical tone, especially as the “ū” in “jū” becomes increasingly lengthened. “jū” can appear anywhere in the sentence, though usually at the beginning or end. “j+” often directly precedes a verb. The interrogative mood can also be conveyed simply through the tone of speech, for example, by raising the end of the verb (or entire sentence) in pitch. In such cases, the mood particle is optional. To convey this more clearly in writing, however, “j+” or “jū” are typically added.

- (44) ז[ו] איז?
 j(ū) mic?
 INT dog
 “The dog?”

- (45) זאמ ווא?
 jpam va?
 INT walk you
 “You walk?”

3.4.4 Propagative Mood (PROP)

The propagative mood “**las(ej)**” or “**dalas(ej)**” conveys a sense of suggestion that usually includes the speaker (or someone else fitting within the context). The “ej” part can be added before a descriptor to suggest the idea of “shall we *be*?”. When the “ej” is added, the “s” is commonly pronounced as a “z” as “lazej”, but it is still written with an “s”.

(46) **לס מי!**

las mi!

PROP go

“Let’s go!”

(47) **לסעי מו.**

lasej mu.

PROP.be quiet

“Let’s be quiet.”

3.4.5 Desiderative Mood (DES)

The desiderative mood “**jau**” or “**jaud**” is pretty much the same as the verb “to want”, from which it is derived from, but it is used in specific circumstances over the standard “jo” which means “to want”. This mood is often used when requesting a desire, for example, at a restaurant, or when you request something, or when given choices and you would like to “choose” one of the options. Either way, “**jau**” and “**jaud**” can be treated just like a Se-Verb in the usual SVO order. *It is seldom conjugated into other tenses*, in such cases the verb “jo” is used instead. The difference between the two is similar to “want” vs “would like” in English.

(48) **יונא יאוד נ- יוטה מאטויע.**

jon a **jaud** n- yota matuje.

please 1SG DES.FRM ACC cake carrot

“I would like the carrot cake, please.”

(49) **א יאוי.**

a **jau** oi.

1SG DES this

“I’ll have this one (right here).”

3.5 Auxillary Verbs

Apart from the mood markers, certain verbs can be used together to convey one whole idea or action. Auxillary actually precede the main verb in the infinitive form. The main verb is the verb that is not the auxillary verb that conveys the specific action. Common auxillary verbs are just the basic simple present tense verb forms (drop the infinitive if exists). Common verbs that are used as auxillaries are “to go”, “to want”, “to know”, “to feel”, “to need”, and “can”, but others can be used as well if appropriate. Any tenses or moods are applied to the **first** auxillary verb!

(50) **א מריבא טאבוע.**

a **merivya tavej**

1SG need.PST.PFV eat

“I need to have eaten.”

- (51) סחאסש יז סכז כ
 a **mai mi tozej**
 1SG need.FUT go run
 “I will need to go run.”
- (52) כדכש נחט כ
 a **ses*** tana
 1SG can-be nice
 “I can be nice.”
 *a contraction of *se* and *es*
- (53) סכס [וד] סחשש יז כ
 a **mor tavej** (n-) paso
 1SG like eating (ACC) potatoes
 “I like eating potatoes.”

3.5.1 Auxillary Contractions

Above we saw a contraction between “can” *se* and “be” *es*, which became *ses*. Other auxillary verbs and main verbs, often in the present simple or present progressive tense, can also form contractions. Contractions are not possible if there are any mood or special aspect suffixes. In contractions, the +ej in the main verb is usually dropped for brevity. Below are the same examples above (3.5) but using contractions (note the tense-aspect is different).

- (54) סכשחז כ
 a **mertav**
 1SG need-eat
 “I need to eat.”
- (55) סחשש יז סחס כ
 a **mermitoz**
 1SG need-go-run
 “I need to go run.”
- (56) סכס יז סכשחז כ
 a **mortav** paso
 1SG like-eating potatoes
 “I like eating potatoes.”

3.6 Passive Marker

Most verbs facilitate active voice by default, but the passive voice suffix “+to” can be added at the end of the verb to mark the clause in passive voice. This suffix is added **after** the tense and aspect suffixes, but added **before** any moods. Refer to the examples in 2.1.13 for examples of passive sentences with the *agentive particle*.

- (57) סכס יז סכס כ
 maryo asa
 give.FUT 1SG.3SG
 “I will give it.”

- (58) **כַּעַר מַרְיוֹטוֹ יִשָּׁלַח לִי**
 sa maryoto era
 3SG give.FUT.PASS 1SG.DAT
 “It will be given to me.”
- (59) **כַּעַר מַרְיוֹטוֹ יִשָּׁלַח**
 maryoto nasa
 give.FUT.PASS 1SG.3SG
 “I will be given it.”
- (60) **כַּעַר מַרְיוֹטוֹ יִשָּׁלַח**
 a maryoto sa
 1SG give.FUT.PASS INST.3SG
 “I will be given it.”
- (61) **כַּעַר מַרְיוֹטוֹ יִשָּׁלַח לִי דָּוָר דָּוָר**
 a maryoto sa mo- mico
 1SG give.FUT.PASS 3SG AGT dog.PL
 “I will be given it by the dogs.”

4 Morphology

4.1 Descriptors

Descriptors include adverbs, adjectives, comparators, etc, pretty much anything that is used to provide more context about a noun, verb, or even a descriptor itself. Unlike particles, descriptors usually come after the noun. However, for verbs, descriptors can come before the verb.

Most descriptors can be used for either verbs or nouns, with the meaning changing a little bit but the general idea staying the same as it describes an action (verb), a thing/concept (noun), or the degree or state of another descriptor. There are a couple descriptors that are solely used for verbs, nouns, or other descriptors, but the majority of them can be used for any type of word. There are also various descriptor derivational affixes to create new descriptors from verbs and nouns (4.2).

Many descriptors end in a “-(e)r”. Even descriptors that don’t generally have an “-(e)r” can add this suffix to emphasize its state as a descriptor.

TUE
nul
“weak”

TUEŋ
nuler
“weak”

Both mean the same thing and have the same usage.

If a particle directly precedes a descriptor, the descriptor can be treated as a noun, regardless of whether it is actually in a recognized noun format (i.e. through derivational affixes).

(62) **EI TUE**
l- nul
NOM weak
“the weak / weak things (in general) / that of a weak quality”

4.1.1 Describing Descriptors

To describe descriptors, the linking particle “y-” can come between each descriptor. There are also some descriptors that are only used to describe other descriptors, for which the linking particle is not necessary.

(63) **EI 2J2CŲ E0ŲŲŊ EI 20ŋ TEJ IUC Eŋŋ.**
l- rapit **lotte y- roz** nya **mui vez.**
NOM apple crazy.red NEG.be.PST very green.
“The insanely red apple was not very green.”

Notice that the descriptor for “crazy” modifies the adjective red to convey “crazily/insanely red”. Also notice that the descriptor “very” is used to describe “green”, yet there is no linking particle. This is because “mui” is one of the descriptors that can be used to describe other descriptors. Below is a (non-exhaustive) list of a few of these descriptors. These descriptors are **not** limited to usage for descriptors and they can also be used to describe nouns and verbs. But when describing a descriptor, the linking particle is not necessary.

Descriptor Descriptors			
very	mui / bo	also	hou
a bit	epi	not	neng
quite	dru	often	bosa
really	hee	usually	fesa
so	sang	rarely	sasa
a lot of	bovi	soon	wekai
not a lot of	nevi	later	ader

4.1.2 Describing Verbs

Descriptors can precede a verb to act like an “adverb”.

- (64) טַחֶזֶכְשׁ טַס טַס כּ
a **bo** jo tavej
1SG really want eat
“I really want to eat.”

4.2 Derivational Affixes

A derivational affix is some kind of modification suffix/prefix/particle that can change the part of speech of a word. There are derivational affixes between Nouns, Verbs, and Descriptors in all directions. Below is a table of some of the basic derivational affixes with a “gist” of the usage.

Verb → Descriptor		
“desire ____”	+mor	zemor “sleepy” from zej “to sleep”
“able to ____”	+(i)ser	pamiser “walkable” from pamej “to walk”
Verb → Noun		
“person who ____”	+(e)f	caf “writer” from caj “to write”
“general V → N”	+(e)v	pamev “a walk” from pamej “to walk”
Verb → Verb		
“do ____ again”	da+	daliej “recreate” from liej “to create”

Noun → Descriptor		
“with / full of ____”	+(vi)er	utavier “useful” from uta “use, purpose”
“the feeling of ____”	+(i)dai	zandai “sad” from zan “sadness”
“like a ____”	+ter	ikuter “childish, youthful” from iku “child”
Noun → Verb		
“to make/turn ____”	+(li)ej	pavuliej “desertify” from pavu “desert”
Noun → Noun		
“academic of ____”	+lisef	jelisef “chemist” from jelis “chemistry”

Descriptor → Verb		
“to make/turn ____”	+(li)ej	nuliej “to weaken” from nul “weak”
“to become ____”	+(e)vej	bo nulevej “to get weaker” from nul “weak”
Descriptor → Noun		
“state of being ____”	+(e)v	mouev “slowness” from mou “slow”
“person who is ____”	+ef	aref “good person” from aru “good”
Descriptor → Descriptor		
“a bit of ____”	+(e)dim	rozedim “reddish” from roz “red”

4.3 Comparators

Comparators are used to provide comparisons and relationships between things and actions.

Comparators			
Comparative	+evo	“-er, more ____”	boevo “greater” from bo “more”
Superlative	+vai	“-est, most ____”	bovai “greatest”
Neg Comp	+(e)ng	“less ____”	engeng “lesser” from eng “less”
Neg Super	(e)ngai	“least ____”	engai “least”
More ... than	bo ____ da	“more ____ than”	
Less ... than	nye ____ da	“less ____” than	
Same ... as	ter ____ da	“same ____ as”	

(65) כָּא כַּסּוּ זָחַשׁ דָּכּ

an ter bo da va

1SG.be as big as 2SG

“I’m as big as you.”

4.4 Selectors

Selectors describe the “amount” or a “subset” of something. It’s similar to the “every” in “everything” or “any” in “anyone”. Selectors **always** precede the noun, but come after any particles! **All numbers are selectors**, meaning they precede the noun!

Selectors		
Every	te+	tefi “everyone” tesi “everything (phys)” tefer “everything (abs)” tekai “everytime, always”
No / None	an+*	anfi “nobody” anci “nothing (phys)” anfer “nothing (abs)” ankai “at no time, never”
Some	mon	monfi “someone” monci “something (phys)” monfer “something (abs)” monkai “sometime”
Any	par	parfi “anyone” parci “anything (phys)” parfer “sometime (abs)” parkai “anytime”
Each	ete+	
All (of)	ca (vi)	
With	wu	
Without	tie	
Only	jas	
Any Number	(any number)	kanfi “one person”

* the “an” part is always pronounced as a nasal /ã/

4.5 Reduplication

Reduplication is when an entire word, or part of the word, is duplicated/repeated to convey some new, but related, meaning. For example, “of course” is *mata*, which can be reduplicated multiple times *matamatamata* to convey an even greater degree of guarantee or personal truthfulness “yes yes yes!” The word disagreement *ei* can also be reduplicated as *eiieiiei* and so on to really emphasize the disagreement or negative response to something.

Interestingly, negation also works to convey the opposite meaning! The negative form of *mata*, *nemata*, which means “absolutely not at all” can be duplicated to *nematamata* and so on to convey a even greater sense of falsehood “absolutely not at all!” Same for *ei*, which can be reduplicated as *neineineineinei* or *neieiieiiei* where only the beginning is negated, to convey agreement, similar to “yes yes yes!” This is often accompanied by the nodding of the head or some other social gesture.

Most descriptors can also be reduplicated for a similar effect, to emphasize the meaning, negated or not. Note that the initial vowel tends to be lengthened following reduplication. For example:

(66) **𐌸𐌹𐌺𐌹 𐌱𐌴𐌹 𐌱𐌴**
san bō bo

3SG.inanim-be big.big
“It’s huge!”

Here, the word for big, *bo*, is reduplicated to convey the meaning of “huge”, which more duplications of the descriptor will further convey *bobobo* “grand”, *bobobobo* “massive”, *bobobobobobo* or *booooooooooooo* “colossal”, etc. Note that the first /o/ is lengthened /o:/ as a result of reduplication in speech.

4.6 Compounding

There are a number of nouns formed by compounding, with a lot of them having religious ties to nearby languages and common religions such as Marotai and derived words from the language Seregano. These will be further discussed later in the culture sections (8), but elemental words such as *roj* “fire” and *von* “life” can be combined as *voroj* to mean “passion”.

4.7 Adopting Words

Adopting words from other languages is quite a controversial topic in Eser to maintain the purity of the language following the merge between Sergan, Seregano, and Ampönse-Siliminkaut’s derivatives. Either way, some words just have to be translated, such as words like “English” or “China”. When it comes to such proper names and words, Eser is very strict about respecting the source culture/language. For example, “Korea” in Eser is “Hangu”, the first part “Hangu” deriving from the word for “Korea” in Korean. The German language in Eser is “Doicgan”, with “Doic” being derived from “Deutsch”, which is “the German language” in German.

5 Syntax

With all this knowledge about “smaller” parts of words under our belt, it is now time to discuss syntax, word order, and overall sentence structure in Eser!

5.1 Se-Verbs Sentence Structures

It was briefly mentioned before that Se-Verbs tend to be used in SVO-order sentences. The subject that occurs before the verb, can omit the subject particle “l-”, although it can still be included for the sake of specificity.

- (67) [l-] miao tra va.
(NOM) cat know va
“The cat knows you.”

Note that the Se-Verb *mor* has two different meanings depending on word order. It can be used as a Je-Verb in the VSO order, conveying the meaning of “to love”. Otherwise, as a Se-Verb in SVO order, it means “to hope”.

- (68) mor ajo.
love 1SG-3PL.ACC
“I love them.”

- (69) a mor (j-) va lou* mar
1SG hope (that.R)-2SG.ACC.R do well
“I hope (that) you do well.”
*note that lou is a Je-Verb, but uses SV word order for an intransitive sentence

5.1.1 “To Have” vs “To Be”

Both verbs can sometimes have similar meanings. Generally, “to have” or *vau* denotes possession of a noun, while “to be” or *es* describes the noun.

Remember: *vau* + noun, *es* + descriptor!

For example, names are seen as a descriptor! So you would say “I am _____.”

What about when a word is both a noun and a descriptor? In such cases, use “to be” if you want to describe yourself as that descriptor, and use “to have” if you want to describe your possession of it as a noun.

5.1.2 Copular Contractions & Forms

Copular sentences are formed using the copular verb “to be”, *es*, or any form of its tense derivatives. Copular sentences almost always follow an SVO structure, with the nominative particle at the beginning of the sentence being entirely optional, and quite often dropped altogether.

(70) [ׁׁ] * ׁׁׁ ׁׁׁ ׁׁׁ ׁׁׁ ׁׁׁ.

(1-)* mic **nya** hee dru zan.

(NOM) dog NEG.be really quite sad

“The dog wasn’t really quite sad.”

Below is a list of pronoun contractions for the simple and progressive present tense.

Singular		
	+ simple	+ progressive
1SG	an “I’m”	ann “I’m being”
2SG	van “you’re”	ven “you’re being”
3SG	zan “he/she/it’s”	zen “he/she/it’s being”
3SG inani	san “it’s”	zen “it’s being”
Plural		
1PL.EXCL	don “we’re”	dozn “we’re being”
1PL.INCL	dovan “we’re”	dovn “we’re being”
2PL	von “y’all’re”	vozn “y’all’re being”
3PL	jon “they’re”	jozn “they’re being”
3PL inani	son “they’re”	sozn “they’re being”

Note that certain personal pronouns and the copular verb have unique forms.

(71) ׁׁׁׁ ׁׁׁׁ.

ann lot.*

1SG-be.PRG crazy

“I’m being crazy.”

*pronounced /anən lot/

If the aspect is not present simple or present progressive, most pronouns still allow for a sort of “contraction” through the attachment of the appropriate “-es” conjugation:

(72) ׁׁׁׁ ׁׁׁׁ.

saya kuv.

3SG-be.PST hungry

“It was hungry.”

5.2 Je-Verbs Sentence Structures

Je-Verbs generally follow a VSO order, the order we have often seen in many of the example sentences in earlier sections. However, there are a few exceptions where Je-Verbs are not typically used in VSO order.

5.2.1 Intransitive Sentences

In intransitive sentences that lack an object, instead of VSO word order, SV is used instead, with a dropping of the Nominative particle if desired. This is often seen in relative clauses as well!

(73) **אני אכלתי היטב.**

a **tavya** mar.

1SG eat.PST well

“I ate well.”

(74) **אני אוהב את חסתי כי אתה נאה.**

a **jie j-** van tana

1SG like that.R you-be nice

“I like that you are nice.”

In the sentence above, there are two intransitive verb usages, “to like” and “to be”. Note that “you are” uses the contraction *ves* described earlier (5.1.2).

5.3 Conjunctions

Conjunctions are used in Eser to combine words, clauses, and sentences. Note that there are many more sentence structures and conjunctions. Below is just a non-exhaustive list of some common conjunctions.

Conjunctions		
	Standard Form	Clause Form
and	a-	ay-
or	i-	iy-
nor	ni-	
but	p-	
so	h-	y-
like, as	t-	
if ... then	ec- ... c-	
because	b- bes / b-s	

(75) **אם תאכל היטב ותעשה דברים טובים, תהיה בריא.**

ec- va tav mar **ay-** lou n- fer aru, **c-** vayo hozer.

if 2SG eat well and do ACC things good, then 2SG-be.FUT healthy

“If you eat well and do good things, then you’ll be healthy.”

- (76) **ec- luo va n- fer aru iy- tav mar, c- (va) ses hozer.**
 if do 2SG.NOM ACC things good or eat well, then (2SG.NOM) can-be healthy
 “If you do good things or eat well, then you can be healthy.”

5.4 Movement & Fronting

5.4.1 Topicalization

Because of the nature of particles and their use in providing specificity to sentences, certain nouns in a sentence can be *emphasized* by moving them to the beginning of the sentence.

- (77) **IO2 TI ꞖEOC J!**
 mor **n- zyoi** a!
 really love ACC that 1SG.NOM
 “I really love that!”
- (78) **TI ꞖEOC IO2 J!**
n- zyoi mor a!
 ACC that love 1SG.NOM
 “That, I really love!”
- (79) **BO IO2 J TI ꞖEOC!**
 bo mor a **n- zyoi!**
 really love 1SG.NOM ACC that
 “I really love that!”

The first example follows a VOS order and the second follows a OSV order. In both cases, the object precedes the subject. This is why the descriptor for “really” is not necessary. The “love” of the object is emphasized by the choice of moving it before the subject. In such cases, the object particle *n-* is typically not optional as it is important for understanding the roles of the words. Notice the third example follows a standard VSO order. Because the object is not emphasized in this instance, the descriptor “bo” is added before the verb.

- (80) **J J!**
 es a!
 be 1SG.NOM
 “I really am!”
- (81) **J J!**
 an-!*
- 1SG.NOM-be
 “I am!”
- *for more information about the “-”, see *modality* in section 6.6

Although *es* is a Se-Verb and normally follows the subject, it can be moved to the beginning of the sentence to really emphasize the fact of “to be”. This is why the descriptor “really” is also not necessary here. The first sentence is much “stronger sounding” than the second sentence.

5.4.2 Wh-Movement

Wh-Movement is possible in Eser for questions. This is when the accusative form of the interrogative pronoun is moved before the nominative subject. For example, “That is when?” can become “When is that?” The copular verb *-es* is also technically optional in simple sentences.

(82) **ᐱᐱᐱ[ᐱ] ᐱᐅᐱ?**

jai(s) zyoi?

when-(be) that

“When is that?”

(compare to *zyoi es jai?*)

(83) **ᐱᐱᐱ[ᐱ] ᐱᐅᐱ?**

jio(s) zyoi?

what-(be) that

“What is that?”

(compare to *zyoi es jio?*)

6 Pragmatics & Phraseology

Given the unique blend of cultures and languages that Eser was reformed and inspired by, there are various interesting pragmatics & phraseology that brings colloquial and spoken Eser to life.

6.1 Positivity / Negativity

Below are some words of positivity and negativity that are used in speech.

Positivity / Negativity			
Negators	n- / ne- / ni-	Not really	ner
No	nei, n, en	No	reduplicate eiei+
Yes, Yup	dar, fen	Sure	dar, siei
Mhm, Yeah	ng, m	Of course	reduplicate mata
Never	sin	Not at all	saniara
Absolutely	uvrei	Okay	her

6.2 Greetings

Greetings		
Hi	wei	
Hello	uman	azarwei
Hey	salu	
Good Morning	samai	
Good Afternoon	samalu	
Good Evening	sagwar	
How are you?	(e)jueva	jue
How's things?	parfinej	parfi
What's up?	vajuelou	juelo
Hey	tai / tei	oi / ar / ya
Bye (to stayer)	(ava)doe	
Bye (to leaver)	(ava)dowe	

6.3 Conversations

Conversations			
	Formal	Casual	Derivations
Thank you	avranasier	sier	I + you + thanks
Thank you	ansausava	sava	I + about + it you
No problem	enferede	(se) fre	
I know	atravid		
Obviously	lised		
Need anything?	parcinevau		

6.4 Requests

Requests	
Could I have ____	a sie ____?
I would like ____	a jau ____
Could you ____	(va) ciaud ____?
Come here	mitai

6.5 Pragmatic Markers

Pragmatic markers are added to the end of a sentence, or uttered on their own, to offer extra context and attitude about the latest sentence or topic.

Pragmatic Markers	
It seems so, I suppose	ne
I think so? Not 100% sure	s-
Wouldn't it?	dava
You know?	tava

- (84) **ᲗᲉᲠᲟᲥ ᲡᲤ ᲗᲡᲥ Ფ**
 zyoi es zei **s-**
 that is his [possibly?]
 “That’s his, I think but not 100% sure”

- (85) **ᲗᲉᲠᲟᲥ ᲡᲤ ᲗᲡᲥ ᲧᲡ**
 zyoi es zei **ne**
 that is his [it seems]
 “That seems to be his”

(86) **העוס על הנה דאבא?**
 zyoï es zei **dava**?
 that is his [wouldn't it]
 "That would be his right?"

(87) **העוס על הנה תאבא?**
 zyoï es zei **tava**?
 that is his [y'know]
 "That's his, y'know?"

6.6 Evidentiality

Evidentiality is a very important aspect of Eser to help make clear in a sentence/conversation from where the information or topic is sourced. The evidentiality markers can go anywhere in the sentence, although usually in the beginning or somewhere near the beginning of the conversation. It can be used in between clauses to reiterate purpose or give a small break before continuing a sentence.

Evidentiality		
Own Experience	aera	"Saw, heard, or experienced firsthand"
Common Sense	tatrao	"General knowledge / common sense that"
Heard	zarien	"Secondary / tertiary source"
Inferential	draeya	"Infer / assume that"
Skeptical	anparse	"Skeptical, rumor, gossip"
Quotative	za ____ ber	"To quote ____ directly"
Strong Belief	amatamata	"Core belief, put all faith into"
Scientific	iminalis	"Researched, attested, scientific"

(88) **[אצאצא] יוזא זי יוסאצא יד אוועקא [אצאצא].**
(tatrao) mor l- molosho n- ouviro *(tatrao)*.
 CS.EVID love NOM cow.PL ACC leaf.PL
 "It's common sense that cows love leaves."

6.7 Modality

There is a common style of speech which involves the addition of "-" or the schwa /ə/ at the end of a sentence. Including the "-" at the end conveys a sense of confidence and certainty about the statement that was made. Often when saying general statements or describing things about oneself or a state, the "-" is added. But omitting it also does not necessarily have a large impact.

(89) **אני פאס**
 an pos-
 1SG-be happy
 "I'm happy."

If added to the end of a question, it can turn a question into a rhetorical one. It can also be used to convey sarcasm. In such cases, the interrogative mood particle is included at the end of the sentence plus the “-”.

(90) **וְאַתָּה יָכֹחַ? (ה)**

(j)va se j-?

(INT)-can you INT

“You sure you can? (slightly demeaning)”

7 Semantics

8 Orthography

9 Culture

9.1 Love

We've already seen two types of love so far, *kando* and *mor* (as a Je-Verb). In Eser, there are many different types of love. For example, *kando* means “one in two”, which describes a sense of love where the idea of self is dissolved, where two become one. It is one of the strongest forms of love in Eser. *Mor* carries more of a middleground between like and love in English. It implies a deep sense of caring for something or someone, but not as deep as *kando*.

There are various types of love:

Love	
Intimate Love	kando
Respectful Love	mor

10 Examples

הם שוכנים במבנה חדשני ומודרני, המציע חווית מגורים ייחודית. המבנה בנוי מחומרים איכותיים, המבטיחים חוסן וביטחון. המבנה ממוקם באזור מיושב, המציע חווית מגורים נעימה ופנאי.

Ca lion es delmoya fer a- haur wu- ipose a- lueser. Maryato jo n- bas a- swalu ay- losei su- lion m- raj iv morev.

All person.PL be born.PST free and equal with dignity and rights. give.PST.PASS
3PL.NOM ACC reason and conscience ACC 3PL and do.OPT REFL.people.PL INST
spirit of love

“All human beings are born free and equal with dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.”

[illegible][illegible]

Conversation between a professor and student:

הנהגה: או, דא, סאמאלו. ב- גיו וא מור קווע?

דא: הנהגה גוט-אחערנון. פרא וואס 2SG וואלט געוואלט רעדן?

הנהגה: זי, נאכט, פארהאנדענע, ערסטע פארהאנדענע, 1SG דאנקט 3SG וואס איז געווען פאר פלאנצן?

דא: נאכט, ער, וואס 1SG וואלט געוואלט רעדן.

הנהגה: זי, נאכט, פארהאנדענע, אויב ער וואלט געוואלט רעדן וואס ער וואלט געוואלט רעדן.

Evelis: Oi, Jan, samalu. B- jio va mor cwe?

hey Jan good-afternoon. PRP what 2SG want talk

"Hey Jan, good afternoon. What did you want to talk about?"

Jan: Evelis azarwei. A jovria cwe b- jio j- va cuvya e- daran sau liefv iv litov finvai, a dar sa ya sau vino?

professor hello. 1SG want.PST.PRF.PRG talk PRP what that.R 2SG say.PST.PRF LOC class regarding material GEN lecture newest, 1SG think 3SG was about plant.PL

"Hello professor, I wanted to talk about what you said in class regarding the newest lecture material, I think it was about plants?"

Evelis: Ar, mata, siei, vvoi es n- havas fin h- sa ses epi maler. Ju va vau par vet kaner j- va ja kiej wu?

oh of-course, sure, that is ACC topic new so 3SG can-be bit confusing. INT 2SG have any question specific that.R want.PST start with

"Oh, of course, yes, that is a brand new topic so it might be a bit confusing. Do you have any specific questions you wanted to start with?"

Jan: Dar, y- a moraj sau jue kiya suelies.

yes, so 1SG wonder.PST.PRG about how begin.PST evolution

"Yes, so I was wondering how evolution began."

Evelis: Aa, her, siei, oi es feran umbo b- poj kan kis p- las ki w- kif.

wow, okay, sure, this is concept difficult PRP learn time first but PROP start ABL beginning

"Wow, okay, sure, this is a difficult concept to learn for the first time but let's start from the beginning."

Following the resolution, the soul of Seredon reinstated its decree of isolation. Only time may tell if the waters of Lenakosu will continue flowing through the veins of Edon.

[illegible]

w- guei shawer, dakiej l- solu vi seredon n- sei hora vi kanfes. jas kai se tar ec- le nyu vi lenakosu mosej nyuyej v- veng meluf vi edon.

from after unity, restart NOM soul of seredon ACC 3SG.GEN decree of isolation. only

time can know if continue flow through vein of edon.