

A Basic Guide to Kurdish Grammar

کتیبی ریزمانی کوردی

A self-study reference and practice book

Danielle H. Kim



A Basic Guide to Kurdish Grammar

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PREFACE

Kurdish belongs to the Western Iranian group of the Indo-Iranian branch of the Indo-European family. The two principal branches of modern literary Kurdish are (1) Kurmanji, the language of the vast majority of Kurds in Turkey, Syria, Armenia, and Azerbaijan with an estimated 15-17 million speakers, and (2) Sorani, the language of most Kurds in Iraq (5 million speakers) and Iran (5-6 million speakers).

Iraqi Kurdistan, essentially unrepresented and repressed by previous Iraqi governments, is emerging as a major force in post-Saddam Iraq. As the rest of Iraq has plunged into a downward spiral, Kurdistan has enjoyed relative political stability and suffered limited violence, in part owing to a sectarian and political homogeneity lacking elsewhere in the country. The Kurdish region has enjoyed de facto autonomy since 1991, when the American military established a no-flight zone there, a status formalized by the new Iraqi Constitution.

Sorani has been the second official language of Iraq since the creation of the country after World War I and has been the working language of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), schools and the media of Iraqi Kurdistan. Sorani is also the most studied and best-known Kurdish language among all its dialects.

The interest and demand for learning Sorani has never been so significant, as more international businessmen and workers come to this new world and find opportunities.

This book is written to help anyone who is interested in studying Sorani. No prior knowledge is necessary to start studying this book. While I tried to avoid exceedingly advanced grammar or too many details, I also tried to put together most fundamental grammar rules for devoted learners.

As a Sorani beginner, I struggled to find a well-explained grammar book when I first came to Hawler. The single biggest beneficiary of this book should be myself since I learned the most as I gathered information and wrote this book ☺, and I'd be just glad if this book can also help somebody out there, struggling to grasp the language.

Sorani is a beautiful language.

I hope all my readers enjoy studying Sorani as much as I did.

May 25, 2010

Danielle H. Kim

In Hawler, Iraqi Kurdistan

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Kurdish is a beautiful language.

1. KURDISH ALPHABET

THE ALPHABET

	Arabic Character	Shape Changes	Latin Equivalent	Phonetic Pronunciation	Examples
Consonants					
1	ء		N/A	'Hamze' is not treated as a separate letter of the alphabet. It always occurs in conjunction with a vowel.	ئۆوه, ئهوه, ئايا
2	ب	ببب	B	B as in Bed	با
3	پ	پپپ	P	P as in Pen	پیاو
4	ت	تتت	T	T as in Test	تال
5	ج	ججج	C	J as in James, Joe	جوان
6	چ	چچچ	Ç	CH as in Chair	چرا
7	ح	ححح	<u>H</u>	This consonant is pronounced with a strong expulsion of air from the chest. It is similar to the sound you make when you fog a mirror with your breath (hah). There is an increasing tendency in modern Kurdish to substitute ه(H) for ح(H). ¹⁾	حهوت حاجی حهسن
8	خ	خخخ	X	A voiceless velar fricative consonant ¹⁾ CH as in German Bach	خیرا
9	د	دهمدید	D	D as in Dad ²⁾	دار
10	ر	رابرر	R	R as in brain ³⁾	سه‌ر
11	ڕ	ڕپڕپ	<u>R</u>	Trilled R . ³⁾ No equivalent in English. Like rr in Spanish	ڕیگا
12	ز	زبزز	Z	Z as in Zero	زهنگ

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13	ژ	ژژژ	J	Equivalent to French J as in <i>plea<u>su</u>re</i> and <i>mea<u>su</u>re</i>	ژن
14	س	سسس	S	S as in Sea	سال
15	ش	ششش	Ş	SH as in Ship	شار
16	ع	ععع	<u>AH</u>	A voiced velar fricative No equivalent in English ¹⁾	عاره ق, عیسا
17	غ	غغغ	<u>GH</u>	A voiced velar fricative No equivalent in English ¹⁾	پیغه مبه ر
18	ف	ففف	F	F as in Feel	فروشتن
19	ڤ	ڤڤڤ	V	V as in Victory	ڤیان
20	ق	ققق	Q	Q as in <i>Iraq</i> ¹⁾ (local pronunciation) A voiceless uvular stop	قه لا
21	ك	ككك	K	K as in Key	كورد
22	گ	گگگ	G	G as in Girl, gas	گول
23	ل	للل	L	L as in Lot, Lost	لووت
24	ل	للل	Ł	Like the dull ' L ' of English as in <i>all, college</i>	دل
25	م	ممم	M	M as in Me	مال
26	ن	ننن	N	N as in Not	ناو
27	و	ووو	W	W as in Wear, tower ⁴⁾	ویستن
28	ه	ههه	H	H as in Hot, Handsome	هه رمی
29	ی	یییی	Y	Y as in Yard, play ⁴⁾	یه ک

※ Vowels are continued in the next page.

Simple Vowels					
0	N/A	N/A	I	UE as in dialogue ue , fatigue Also, consider the vowel sound made in "good", "fallen" or "handle" ⁵⁾	برنج [bi-rin-zi]
1	ا	ئا	A	A long vowel as in market, arm	ئاو ئاسمان
2	ه	ئه ه	E	A short vowel as in 1) hot (in most cases) 2) ugly, but (e.g. وهكو) 3) guess (e.g. گهنم) ⁶⁾	ئهو
3	و	ئورو	U	U as in Put, Pull	ئوتوو
4	وو	ئوبو	Ū	OO as in boot	بوون
5	ی	یی	Î	EE as in feet, tree	میوان ئینگلین
6	ی [˘]	ئی [˘] یی [˘]	Ê	E as in End, hen	بیت
7	ۆ	ئۆۆۆ	O	O as in poke, token	ئوتۆمبیل
Complex Vowels					
1	ئه ی		AY	AY as in May, Way	که ی
2	یو [˘]		YO	YO as in Yogurt	یوچه ننا
3	ئو		YU	YU as in You; UE as in que	یوسف
4	یه		YA / YE	1) if in ending or before vowel, YA as in Yahoo 2) if before consonant, YE as in Yes	هه یه یه ک
5	وا		WA	WA as in Washington	واپزانم
6	وه		WE	WA as in War, Wash	میوه
7	وی		WI	WI as in We, Wii	ده ویست
8	وی [˘]		WÊ	WE as in Weapon	ده مه وی [˘]

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Note:

- 1) "ح", "خ", "ق", "ع" and "غ" sounds don't exist in English.

Even peculiar Kurdish words don't include "ح", "ق", "ع" and "غ". However, since there are many Arabic words mixed in the everyday Kurdish language, these letters and sounds need to be familiarized.

- 2) In some parts of Kurdistan (e.g. Suli, Kirkuk) the letter D is often softened to the point of being inaudible. The most prominent example of this case is the present modal prefix "ده".

ده چم (Standard) = ئە چم (Sulemaniya Dialect)

له کوردستاندا (Standard) = له کوردستانا (Sulemaniya Dialect)

- 3) In Kurdish, no words begin with "ر", all initial **R**s are trilled "ڤ". Though the "v" sign (to signify trilled R) is rarely marked when "ڤ" comes as an initial letter, the initial **R**s always mean "ڤ".

روژ = ڤوژ | روڤنبیری = ڤوڤنبیری

- 4) In Kurdish, "و" (w & u) and "ی" (y & i) can be treated as either a noun or a vowel.

Vowel "و"	Consonant "و"	Vowel "ی"	Consonant "ی"
ئوتوو	ویستن	ئینگلیزی	یاسا
u-too	wi-steun	een-gee-zi	ya-sa
n. iron	v. to want	n. English	n. law

- 5) This is the only vowel not indicated in the Kurdish writing system.

- When there are two consecutive consonants, this vowel is used.
- When a consonant is alone or placed at the end without any adjacent vowel, this vowel is recognized.

Alone	پ	[pue]	With Vowel	پی	[pee]
Consonant Ending	گرنه	[geu-reun-gue]	Vowel Ending	گرنه	[geu-reun-ga]
Consecutive Consonants	برنج	[beu-reun-jue]	Mixed with Vowels	بازار	[ba-za-rrue]
Consonant Ending	فه رهنگ	[fe-reu-hen-gue]	Consonant Ending W/ Preceding Vowel	نینوک	[nee-nok]

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- 6) In general, Kurdish letters are pronounced as written. This "ه" vowel, however, can have different sounds in certain cases.

In general Short "a" sound	گه‌وره	[ge-u-re]
	ده‌رگا	[de-reu-ga]
"ə" sound	وه‌کو	[wə-ku]
"ê" sound	گه‌نم	[gê-neum]
	گه‌رم	[gê-reum]

- 7) When "ا", "ه", "و" and "ی" become the initial letter of a word, the *Hamze* "ء" is necessary.

	Beginning	Middle or End
ا	ئاو	دار, کرا
ه	هوان	وه‌ره, به
و	ووتیل	توپ
ی	ئیره	دیم, لی

When "و" and "ی" are the initial letter of a word as a vowel, they are also written with the *Hamze* "ء".

	As consonant	As vowel
و	وینه	ووتوو
ی	یاری	ئینگلیزی

READING EXERCISE

English Meaning	Kurdish	Pronunciation
eye	چاو	cha-.u
fruit	میوه	mee.we
carrot	گیّزه‌ر	gê.ze.reu
almond	باده‌م	ba-.dem
ear	گویّ	gyu.ê
health	ته‌ندروستی	ten.dru.stee
genius	بلیمه‌ت	bil.ee.met
comfortable	ئاسووده	a-.soo.de
doctor	پزیشک	pi.zee.shik
nice	خوش	xo.shı / kho.shı
dangerous	ترسناک	ti.ri.si.na-k
salty	سویره	su.ê.re
sleep	خه‌وتن	xe.u.tin / khe.u.tin
never	هه‌رگیز	he.ri.gee.zı
miracle	موعجیزه	mu.ahı.jee.ze
prophet	پیغه‌مبه‌ر	pe.ghem.be.ri

English Meaning	Kurdish	Pronunciation
an egg	هیلکه‌یه‌ک	hêl.ke.yêk
a book	کتیّبیک	kı.tê.bêk
the book	کتیّبه‌که	kı.tê.be.ke
the egg on the table	هیلکه‌که له‌سه‌ر میزه‌که	hêl.ke.ke le.se.ri.mê.ze.ke
a good day	روژیکی باش	ro.zhê.kee.ba-.shı
Tell me.	پیم بلی.	pêm.bi.lê
Listen to me.	گویم لی بگره.	gyu.êm.lê.bi.gı.re
I'm going to bazaar.	ده‌چم بو بازار.	de.chım.bo.ba-.za-.rı
When do you come back?	که‌ی ده‌گه‌رپیته‌وه؟	kay.de.ge.rê.ee.te.we?

2. GRAMMATICAL UNITS

THE PARTS OF SPEECH

Traditional grammar classifies words based on eight **parts of speech**: the **verb**(فرمان), the **noun**(ناو), the **pronoun**(جیناو), the **adjective**(ئاوه‌لناو), the **adverb**(ئاوه‌لفرمان), the **preposition**(زیده‌واژه‌کان), the **conjunction**(یه‌کی‌تی), and the **interjection** (قسه‌هه‌ل‌دان).

Verb (فرمان): Verbs express existence, action, or occurrence.

to climb سەر که‌وتن, to eat خواردن, to clean پاک کردنه‌وه, to be بوون

Noun (ناو): Nouns are words that name people, places or things.

hour کات, wife ژن, country وڵات, car ئۆتۆمبیل

Pronoun (جیناو): Pronouns substitute for nouns or noun phrases and designate persons or things asked for, previously specified, or understood from the context.

we ئێمه, you تۆ, myself خۆم

Adjective (ئاوه‌ل‌ناو): Adjectives modify nouns.

good باش, smart زیره‌ک, cold سارد, quick خێرا

Adverb (ئاوه‌لفرمان): Adverbs modify verb and adjectives.

quickly به‌خێرا, always هه‌میشه, approximately نزیکه‌یی

Preposition (زیده‌واژه‌کان): A word or phrase placed typically before a substantive and indicating the relation of that substantive to a verb, an adjective, or another substantive, as English *at*, *by*, *with*, *from*, and *in regard to*.

on له‌سەر, in/at له‌, by/with به‌, to بۆ

Determiner: The functional category that is most closely associated with nouns.

the هه‌که, a/an یه‌ک, some هه‌ندیک, forty-five چل و پینج

Conjunction (یه‌کی‌تی): Conjunction serves to connect words, phrases, clauses, or sentences.

therefore بۆیه, but به‌لام, and و

Interjection (قسه‌هه‌ل‌دان): Interjection usually expresses emotion and is capable of standing alone.

oh ئوی, really? به‌خوا, come on! یه‌للا

THE PARTS OF THE SENTENCE

The parts of the sentence are a set of terms for describing how people construct sentences from smaller pieces. There is not a direct correspondence between the **parts of the sentence** and the **parts of speech** – the subject of a sentence, for example, could be a noun, a pronoun, or even an entire phrase or clause.

SUBJECT(بکەر) AND PREDICATE(گۆزاره)

Every complete sentence contains two parts: a **subject**(بکەر) and a **predicate**(گۆزاره). The subject is what (or whom) the sentence is about, while the predicate (which always includes the verb) tells something about the subject. In the following sentences, the predicate is underlined, while the subject is highlighted.

Azad runs .	ئازاد را دهکا
Azad and his friends run at the park every day.	هه موو پوژیک ئازاد و هاوڕیکانی
	له پارکه که را دهکهن

OBJECTS(بهرکار) AND COMPLEMENTS(تهواوکه)

OBJECTS(بهرکار)

A verb may be accompanied by an **object** that completes the verb's meaning. Two kinds of objects may come with verbs: 1) direct objects and 2) indirect objects. To determine if a verb has a **direct object**, isolate the verb and make it into a question by placing "whom?" or "what?" after it. The answer, if there is one, is the direct object:

My mom cooked dolma .	دایکم دۆلمه‌ی دروست کرد
Sangar gave her the book .	سه‌نگهر کتێبه‌که‌ی پێی دا

In the first example, "dolma" is the direct object.

- ※ Dolma is a famous local Kurdish food (a stuffed vegetable, especially a grape leaf or cabbage leaf, onion, eggplants and zucchini cooked with a filling of ground meat, herbs, or rice.).

In the second example, "the book" is the direct object and "her" is the indirect object.

COMPLEMENTS (ته‌واوکه‌ر)

In addition to the transitive verb and the intransitive verb, there is a third kind of verb, called the linking verb. The word (or phrase) which comes together with a linking verb is not an object, but a **complement**. A subject complement can be a noun, an adjective, or a prepositional phrase. The most common linking verb is "بوون", which is equivalent to "to be" in English.

Hewa is a student.	هه‌وا قوتابیه
Hewa is a Kurdish.	هه‌وا کورده
Hewa is smart.	هه‌وا زیره‌که
Hewa is handsome.	هه‌وا جوانه
Hewa is here.	هه‌وا لێره‌یه
Hewa is in school.	هه‌وا له قوته‌بخانه‌یه

TRAITS OF KURDISH

ENDINGS

In Kurdish, both nouns and verbs are combined with various endings. Articles (e.g. *a, the*) and possessives (e.g. *my*) are added to the end of the noun as suffixes. The verb conjugations are complicated since they embrace not only tenses, but also subjective and objective pronouns as well.

ARTICLES/POSSESSIVES/DEMONSTRATIVES

book	کتیب	his book	کتیبه‌که‌ی
books	کتیبان	his books	کتیبه‌کانی
a book	کتیبیک	this book	ئه‌م کتیبه
the book	کتیبه‌که	that book	ئه‌و کتیبه
the books	کتیبه‌کان	these books	ئه‌م کتیبه‌انه

VERB CONJUGATIONS

See (infinitive)	بینین	I saw.	من بینم
I see.	من ده‌بینم	I saw you.	من تو‌م بینی
I see you.	من ده‌تبینم	I didn't see you.	من تو‌م نه‌بینی
I don't see.	من نابینم	I have seen.	من تو‌م بینوه
I don't see you.	من ناتبینم	I had seen.	من تو‌م بینیبوو

WORD ORDER

The general rule is **Subject – Object – Verb**. When the subject is a pronoun, however, it is often omitted (**Object – Verb**). In Kurdish, a verb alone can make a complete sentence as it is always combined with the subject pronominal enclitic (=bound pronoun). When the object is a pronoun, it can also be attached to the verb in the form of bound pronoun.

Subject – Object – Verb

The girl sees the boy.	کچه که کور هکه ده بینیت
She sees the boy.	ئهو کور هکه ده بینیت
She sees <u>him</u> .	(ئهو) ده بینیت
She sees <u>him</u> .	ده بینیت

INDEPENDENT PRONOUNS AND BOUND PRONOUNS

In Kurdish, there are two different types of personal pronouns:

- Independent (جیناوی که سیی سه ره خو)
- Bound (جیناوی که سیی لکاو)

Subjective Independent Pronoun is often omitted while **Subjective Bound Pronoun**(underlined) is always placed in a verb conjugation.

	With Independent Subject	Without Independent Subject
I understand	من تیده گهم.	تی ده گهم.
You understand	تو تیده گهیت.	تیده گهیت.
She understands	ئهو تیده گات.	تیده گات.
We understand	ئیمه تیده گهین.	تیده گهین.
They understand	ئهوان تیده گهن.	تیده گهن.

- ※ **Subjective Bound Pronoun(Subjective BP)** can be considered as a verb suffix that conjugates depending on the subject status.

PREPOSITIONS AND POSTPOSITIONS

In Kurdish, prepositions (له, به, له گه‌ل etc.) are often followed by their corresponding postpositions to envelop a word or a phrase. The preposition itself marks the beginning of the prepositional phrase, and the end of the complement is marked by a postpositional element.

Come <u>with</u> me.	وه‌ره‌ له‌ گه‌ لمدا.	He came <u>from</u> Hawler	ئه‌و له‌ هه‌ولیره‌وه‌ هاتووه‌.
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VERB TYPES

Kurdish verbs can be classified in different ways.

By necessity of the object

- Linking Verb بوون (equivalent to the "to be" verb in English)
- Intransitive: to go چون , to leave پو‌یشتن , to sleep نو‌ستن , to stay مانه‌وه‌
- Transitive: to eat خواردن , to see بینین , to sell فرو‌شتن , to study خو‌یندن

By number of meaningful words in a verb

- Simple: A verb with one meaningful word
 - o to go چون , to eat خواردن
- Complex: A verb with [a meaningful word] + [a meaningless prefix/suffix]
 - o to run را کردن , to elect به‌ژاردن
- Compound: A verb with more than two meaningful words.
 - o to listen گو‌ی لی گرتن , to start ده‌ست پی کردن

It is important to understand the verb types, since the verb conjugations are quite different in each case.

Even when you memorize vocabulary words, it is better to memorize intransitive verbs and transitive verbs separately until you become comfortable with their conjugations. More details will be covered in later chapters.

3. THE NOUN PHRASE

NOUN SUFFIXES

THE ABSOLUTE STATE (WITHOUT ANY SUFFIX)

A Kurdish noun in the absolute state (lexical form; without any ending of any kind) gives a generic sense of the noun.

Sky is blue. ئاسمان شینه.

CARDINAL NUMBERS

The cardinal numbers are as follows:

1	١	یهک	11	١١	یازده	21	٢١	بیست و یهک	0	٠	سفر
2	٢	دوو	12	١٢	دوازده	22	٢٢	بیست و دوو	200	٢٠٠	دوو سهد
3	٣	سی	13	١٣	سیزده	30	٣٠	سی	1,000	١,٠٠٠	ههزار
4	٤	چوار	14	١٤	چوارده	40	٤٠	چل	10,000	١٠٠٠٠	ده ههزار
5	٥	پینچ	15	١٥	پازده	50	٥٠	پهنا	1,000,000	١٠٠٠٠٠٠	ملیون
6	٦	شهش	16	١٦	شازده	60	٦٠	شهست	250	٢٥٠	دوو سهد و پهنا
7	٧	حهوت	17	١٧	حهقده	70	٧٠	حهفتا	500	٥٠٠	پینچ سهد
8	٨	ههشت	18	١٨	ههژده	80	٨٠	ههشتا	750	٧٥٠	حهوت سهد و پهنا
9	٩	نۆ	19	١٩	نۆزده	90	٩٠	نهوه	1,250	١,٢٥٠	ههزار و روبع
10	١٠	ده	20	٢٠	بیست	100	١٠٠	سهد	2,500	٢,٥٠٠	دوو ههزار و پینچ سهد

- All words having to do with time and instance follow the cardinal number immediately in the absolute state:

six <u>months</u>	شهش مانگ	four <u>days</u>	چوار رۆژ
-------------------	----------	------------------	----------

- The cardinal number can be followed by a classifier, which is also followed by the singular noun in the absolute state.

Common Classifiers		Examples	
For counting people	کهس, نافهر	ten people	ده کهس, ده نافهر
For counting animals	سهر	five sheep	پینچ سهر مهر
For counting things	دانه	three books	سی (دانه) کتیب

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- ※ For counting people or animals, classifiers are used in most cases.
- ※ For counting things the classifier is optional. It is okay to say without "دانه".

THE INDEFINITIVE STATE (یهک / یەک)

- The Indefinitive state of noun is equivalent to "a/an + noun" in English.
- -(y)ek (یک - after consonants & "و", "ی", "یهک" - after "ا", "ه", "و", "ی") is added to the end of the absolute singular noun.
- The Indefinitive plural is formed by adding -an(ان -) to the absolute noun.

Absolute State		Indefinitive Singular		Indefinitive Plural	
man	پیاو	a man	پیاویک	men	پیاوان
day	پوژ	a day	پوژیک	days	پوژان
door	دەرگا	a door	دەرگایهک	doors	دەرگیان
letter	نامه	a letter	نامهیهک	letters	نامان

- ※ Vowel "ی" is added where two vowels conflict.

دەرگیان	ان	دەرگا
درویان	ان	درو
دهیان	ان	ده

QUANTIFIERS FOR INDEFINITIVE NOUNS

In Kurdish, some quantifiers demand that the following noun be Indefinitive.

Indefinitive Quantifiers		Examples	
a few	چهند	a few men	چهند پیاویک
every / all	هه‌موو	every day	هه‌موو پوژیک
		all the time	هه‌موو جاریک
What?	چ	What page?	چ لاپه‌ره‌یهک
each	هه‌ر	each direction	هه‌ر لایه‌ک
		every person	هه‌ر که‌سێک

NUMBER + “ان”

Meaning	Combination	Suffix	Number
tens of	دهیان	ان	ده
thousands of	هزاران	ان	ههزار
hundreds of	سه‌دان	ان	سه‌د

DAY + “انه”

Meaning	Combination	Suffix	Number
daily/every day	پوژانه	انه	پوژ
weekly / every week	هه‌فتانه	انه	هه‌فته
monthly / every month	مانگانه	انه	مانگ

THE DEFINITIVE STATE (ه‌که)

- The definitive state of noun is equivalent to “the + a noun” in English.
- The definitive singular is made by adding – **aka** (ه‌که).
 - ه‌که – after consonants, “و” and “ی”
 - که – after “ا”, “ه”, “و” and “ی”
- The definitive plural is made by adding – **akan** (ه‌کان).

Absolute State		Definitive Singular		Definitive Plural	
man	پیاو	the man	پیاوه‌که	the men	پیاوه‌کان
American	ئه‌مه‌ریکی	the American	ئه‌مه‌ریکیه‌که	the Americans	ئه‌مه‌ریکیه‌کان
student	قوتابی	the student	قوتابییه‌که	the students	قوتابییه‌کان
girl	کچ	the girl	کچه‌که	the girls	کچه‌کان
door	ده‌رگا	the door	ده‌رگا‌که	the doors	ده‌رگا‌کان
window	په‌نجه‌ره	the window	په‌نجه‌ره‌که	the windows	په‌نجه‌ره‌کان
village	دی	the village	دیه‌که	the villages	دیه‌کان

DEMONSTRATIVES

In Kurdish demonstratives can be expressed in two different forms.

- standalone **pronoun**
- **adjective**, which breaks into two parts and *envelops* a noun by attaching the first part before the noun and the second part to the end of the noun.

	Pronoun Form		Adjective Form	
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
this / these	ئەمە	ئەمانە	ئەم____ه	ئەمانە
that / those	ئەو ه	ئەوانە	ئەو____ه	ئەوانە

Demonstrative **pronouns** take the place of nouns.

Give me the red pen .	قەڵەمە سوورە کەم بدەری
Give me this .	ئەمەم بدەری
Is that your son?	ئەو ه کوپتە
What are those ?	ئەوانە چین؟

Demonstrative **adjectives** modify a noun.

How much is this pen ?	ئەم قەڵەمە بە چەندە؟
How much is this red pen ?	ئەم قەڵەمە سوورە بە چەندە؟
How much is those pens ?	ئەم قەڵەمانە بە چەندن؟
Who is that boy ?	ئەو کورە کییە؟
This place is nice.	ئەمشوینە خوشە؟

PERSONAL PRONOUNS

In Kurdish, personal pronouns have two forms: 1) Independent & 2) Enclitic (Bound)

INDEPENDENT PRONOUN (جیناوی که سێی سه‌ربه‌خو)

	Singular		Plural	
1 st person	I:Me	من ئه‌من	We:Us	ئێمه ئه‌مه
2 nd person	You(sng):You(sng)	تو ئه‌تو ئه‌توو	You(pl):You(pl)	ئێوه ئه‌نگو
3 rd person	He/She/It:Him/Her/It	ئو	They:Them	ئه‌وان

※ The words in the gray box represent local dialects, mostly Hawleri style.

※ sng = singular, pl = plural

TRAITS OF INDEPENDENT PRONOUN

- Unlike English, subjective pronouns and objective pronouns are the same.

Subjective Pronouns		Objective Pronouns	
I am a student.	من قوتابیم.	Is this for them?	ئه‌مه بو ئه‌وانه؟
We are going to Bazaar.	ئێمه ده‌چین بو بازار.	He loves me.	ئو منی خوش ده‌وی.

- For subjective cases, these independent pronouns are often omitted. Especially when speaking, it is more common not to mention the personal pronoun subject, unless the subjective entity is to be emphasized.
- Even when there is no subject, the subjective suffix (=the bound pronoun) attached to the verb, will voice the subject of the sentence.
- Noun subject is never omitted. ☺

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BOUND PRONOUN (جێپێناوی کەسێی لکاو) FOR VERB CONJUGATION

Both subjective and objective bound pronouns may take one of these two forms:

Set I or **Set II**.

	Set I				Set II			
	Singular		Plural		Singular		Plural	
1st person	م	m	ین	een	م	m	مان	man
2nd person	یت	eet/ee	ن	n	ت	t	تان	tan
3rd person	یت	êt/ê	ن	n	ی	y	یان	Yan

- ※ The correct bound pronoun set (**Set I** or **Set II**) – for both the subject and the object - is decided according to the following conditions:
 - ※ The verb's type (transitive, intransitive or irregular)
 - ※ The verb's tense (present or past)
 - ※ The existence of independent object (noun or independent pronoun) or pre-verbal element.

SUBJECTIVE BOUND PRONOUN

In Kurdish the subject (regardless of being omitted or indicated) is always coupled with a pronominal enclitic (= **Subjective Bound Pronoun**) at some part of the verbal conglomerate (e.g. the verb, any preverbal prefixes, compounding agent).

The girl studies math.	کچە کە بیرکاری دەخوینیت.
She studies math.	(ئەو) بیرکاری دەخوینیت.
She studied math. (Past tense)	(ئەو) بیرکاریی خویند.
They ran. (Past tense)	(ئەوان) رایان کرد.

OBJECTIVE BOUND PRONOUN

Also, when the object is a pronoun, the sentence can be rewritten with its corresponding pronominal enclitic (= **objective bound pronoun**).

He sees **us**. (Present Tense)

	With Subject	Without Subject
Independent Pronoun Object	ئەو ئیمە دەبینیت.	ئیمە دەبینیت.
Bound Pronoun Object	ئەو دەمانبینیت.	دەمانبینیت.

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They see **you**. (Present Tense)

	With Subject	Without Subject
Independent Pronoun Object	ئەوان تو دەبینن.	تو دەبینن.
Bound Pronoun Object	ئەوان دەتبینن.	دەتبینن.

They saw **you**. (Simple Past Tense)

	With Subject	Without Subject
Independent Pronoun Object	ئەوان تو یان بینی.	تو یان بینی.
Bound Pronoun Object	ئەوان بینیتیان.	بینیتیان \ بینیتیان.

※ Details will be discussed thoroughly in later chapters.

IZAFE

GENERAL RULE

THE IZAFE(= LINKING VOWEL: ی) CONSTRUCTION

The *Izafe* links the two parts of a possessive construction and is equivalent to the English 'of.' The *Izafe* is written as "ی" and added directly to **the first part** of the construction.

the students of a school	قوتابیه‌کانی قوتابخانه
a door of the house	دەرگای خانووەکه
the lessons of this book	دەرسه‌کانی ئەم کتێبه

WITH ATTRIBUTIVE ADJECTIVES

The *Izafe* also links **adjectives** and **nouns**.

※ When noun-adjective constructions are enveloped by the **demonstratives** (e.g. ئەمانه on page 15) or modified by the **definitive suffix** (e.g. ه‌که on page 14), the linking vowel, *Izafe* changes from "ی" to "ه‌".

Examples are followed in the next page.

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a. Kurdish girl (in general, absolute form)	کچی کورد
b. Kurdish girl (in general, absolute form)	کچه کورد
c. A Kurdish girl (indefinitive) (common)	کچیکی کورد
d. A Kurdish girl (indefinitive) (rarely used)	کچه کوردیک
e. The Kurdish girl (definitive)	کچه کورده که
f. This Kurdish girl (demonstrative)	ئهم کچه کورده

※ Example a & b and c & d are interchangeable respectively.

a good hotel	هوتلیکی باش (correct)	a long letter	نامه یه کی درێژ (correct)
	هوتله باشیک (wrong)		نامه یه درێژیک (wrong)
easy lessons	دهرسه کانی ئاسان (wrong)	the big house	خانوو هه که یه گه وره (wrong)
	دهرسه ئاسانه کان (correct)		خانوو هه گه وره که (correct)
this easy lesson	ئهم دهرسه ئاسانه	these big houses	ئهم خانوو هه گه ورا نه

ORDINAL NUMBERS

The ordinal numbers are as follows:

1 st	یه که م	9 th	نۆیه م	17 th	هه قده یه م
2 nd	دوو ه م	10 th	ده یه م	18 th	هه ژده یه م
3 rd	سییه م	11 th	یازده یه م	19 th	نۆزده یه م
4 th	چوار ه م	12 th	دوازده یه م	20 th	بیسته م
5 th	پینجه م	13 th	سیازده یه م	100 th	سه ده مین
6 th	شه شه م	14 th	چوارده یه م	1000 th	هه زاره مین/هه زاره م
7 th	هه وته م	15 th	پازده یه م		
8 th	هه شته م	16 th	شانده یه م		

IZAFE WITH ORDINAL NUMBERS

The 2 nd <u>stage</u> (sophomore)	قوناخی دوو ه م
the 10 th <u>year</u>	سالی ده یه م

POSSESSIVES

POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS

The normal possessive pronouns are enclitics added to the noun.

They take the following forms:

	Singular		Plural	
1 st person	my	م	our	مان
2 nd person	your	ت	your	تان
3 rd person	his/her/its	ی	their	یان

GENERAL RULE

In general, the enclitic possessive pronouns are added to the **definitive form** of the noun, next to – **aka**(هكه) or **akan**(هكان) endings.

your book	کتیبه کهت	their pens	قه له مه کانیان
his students	قوتابییه کانی	our bag	جانتا که مان

EXCEPTIONS

Prominent exceptions to the general formation are names, parents, homes, and body parts. For these cases, the enclitics are added to the **absolute form** of the noun.

my hand	دهستم	your house	مالتان
your name	ناوت	my mother	دایکم
our house	مالمان	your father	باوکت

For kinship terms (besides mother and father), both **definitive** and **absolute forms** are possible.

	Definitive Form	Absolute Form
your sister	خوشکه کهت	خوشکت
my sons	کورپه کانم	کورپانم
your brother	براکه ت	برات

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If the 1st person possessive enclitic is attached to the definitive form of certain nouns, it often delivers rhetorical nuance.

Regular Use		Rhetorical Use	
my spirit	گیانم	sweetie, my dear	گیانهکم
my eye	چاوم	sweetie, my dear	چاوهکم
my breath	هه ناسه	sweetie, my dear	هه ناسهکم
my life	ژیانم	sweetie, my dear	ژیانهکم

- ※ The Kurdish language is very romantic. When you address a friend, a younger person, your student or someone close to you, it is preferred to use these expressions, rather than call someone by one's name.

THE **IZAFE** CONSTRUCTION

The possessive noun phrase can also be constructed using *Izafe*.

	With Possessive Enclitic	With Izafe
my book	کتیبهکم	کتیبی من
their answers	وه لآمه کانیا	وه لآمی ئه وان
your pen	قه له مه کهت	قه له می تو

- ※ The Izafe possessive construction is used to emphasize or clarify the ownership to whom it belongs. In general, for speaking purposes, shortened enclitic form is preferred.

ONE'S (هی)

	Singular		Plural	
1 st person	mine	هی من	ours	هی ئیمه
2 nd person	yours	هی تو	yours	هی ئیوه
3 rd person	his/hers/its	هی ئه و	theirs	هی ئه وان

Is this yours?	ئه مه هی تو یه؟
This book is mine.	ئه م کتیبه هی منه.
The pens are theirs.	قه له مه کان هی ئه وان.

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REFLEXIVE PRONOUNS (خۆ)

	Singular		Plural	
1 st person	myself	خۆم	ourselves	خۆمان
2 nd person	yourself	خۆت	yourselves	خۆتان
3 rd person	himself/herself	خۆی	themselves	خۆیان

I'll take a shower (I wash myself)	من خۆم دەشۆم.
You know it (by yourself), don't you?	تو خۆت دەزانى، وانیه؟
Write your name (= the name of yourself) here!	ناوی خۆت لێره بنووسه!

ENCLITIC – *ISH* (یش \ ش)

The enclitic particle – *ish* (یش \ ش) have the English meanings of **too / also / even**.

It is added to nouns, noun-adjective phrases and pronouns.

When added to words ending in vowels, – *ish* yields its own vowel in favor of the preceding vowel, becoming – *sh*.

- Add **یش** to a noun or a pronoun that ends in a consonant.
- Add **ش** to a noun or a pronoun that ends in a vowel.

me	من	me too	منیش
this book	ئەم کتیبە	this book too	ئەم کتیبەش

When added to words that have a possessive pronoun enclitic, – *ish* intervenes in between the noun and the possessive enclitic.

your father	باوکت	your father too	باوکیش
my friends	هاوڕێکەم	even my friends	هاوڕێکەشم

※ Note that possessive enclitics are always added at the end of the noun phrase.

4. LINKING VERBS

MOSTLY EQUIVALENT TO 'TO BE' IN ENGLISH

The linking verbs (or the present tense copulas: 'am, is, are') consist of the following enclitics:

	Singular		Plural	
1 st person	(I) am	م	(We) are	ین
2 nd person	(You) are	یت ¹⁾	(You) are	ن
3 rd person	(He) is	ه ²⁾ یه	(They) are	ن

- 1) The inherent (ت) shown for the 2nd person singular is characteristic of literary Kurdish, and seldom appears in the informal spoken language.

You are smart. (زیرهک)	(تو) زیرهکیت. = (تو) زیرهکی.
Where are you? (له کوێ)	(تو) له کوێیت؟ = (تو) له کوێی؟

- 2) The 3rd person singular linking verb is "ه". However, if the complement or adverbial phrase has a vowel ending, such as "ه", "ا" or "و" at the end, y[ee] (ی) sound is inserted to induce an easier pronunciation.

This is big. (گهواره)	ئهمه گهوارهیه.
She is a teacher. (ماموستا)	ئهو ماموستایه.

- 3) When the 3rd person singular possessive enclitic(ی) is followed by the 3rd person singular ending "ه", a special form, "یهتی" is used.

This is her book. (کتیبهکی)	ئهمه کتیبهکیهتی.
This is her son. (کوڕ)	ئهمه کوڕهکیهتی.

For other cases of "یهتی", see the **3rd person singular Subjective BP** of the **Present Perfect** tense on page 59 and **Irregular Verbs** on page 61.

He had eaten.	(ئهو) خواردوویهتی.
The child is hungry.	منداڵه که برسپیهتی.

NEGATIVE STATEMENTS

To negate a linking verb statement, add (نی) to the linking verb.

They are not smart. (زیرهک)	(ئهوان) زیرهک نی + ن ← زیرهکین.
He is not here. (لیره)	(ئهو) لیره نی + ه ← لیره نیه.

SENTENCES WITH LINKING VERBS

The linking verb can be combined with 1) an adjective phrase or 2) a noun phrase complement or 3) an adverbial phrase.

COMPLEMENT + LINKING VERB

A complement relates to the subject: it describes the subject or identifies it (says who or what it is).

COMPLEMENT WITH ADJECTIVE PHRASE

She (ئهو) is (ه) pretty (جوان).	(ئهو) جوان + ه ← جوانه.
She (ئهو) is (ه) not pretty (جوان).	(ئهو) جوان + نی + ه ← جوان نیه.
You (تو) are (یت) brave (ئازا).	(تو) ئازا + یت ← ئازایت.
They (ئهوان) are (ن) sick (نهخۆش).	(ئهوان) نهخۆش + ن ← نهخۆشن.

COMPLEMENT WITH NOUN PHRASE

We are (ین) teachers (مامۆستا).	(ئیمه) مامۆستا + ین ← مامۆستاین.
We are (ین) not teachers (مامۆستا).	(ئیمه) مامۆستا + نی + ین ← مامۆستا نیین.
She is (ه) my wife (ژن).	(ئهو) ژنم + ه ← ژنمه.

ADVERBIAL + LINKING VERB

I am (م) at school (له قوتابخانه).	(من) له قوتابخانه + م ← له قوتابخانهم.
I am (م) not at school (له قوتابخانه).	(من) له قوتابخانه + نی + م ← له قوتابخانه نیم.
My pen is (ه) on the red table (میز).	قهلهمه کهم له سهڕ میزه سووره کهیه.

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SUMMARY

This child is my son.	ئەم منداڵە کۆرپمە.
The red apple is yours.	سپۆه سوورە که هی توێه.
Baktiyar and I are at the bazaar.	بەختیار و من لە بازارین.

※ When one's nationality is the subject matter, it is also acceptable to add "ە" to the ending of the **Linking Verb**. (Especially for speaking, this way is more preferred. ☺)

I am Korean.	کۆریمە = کۆریم.	I am not Chinese.	چینی نیمە = چینی نیم.
They are Japanese.	یابانینە = یابانین.	We are not Kurdish.	کوردی نیینە = کوردی نیین.

EXERCISES

Red dress is pretty. (in general)	جلی سوور جوانە.
The red dress is pretty. (definitive)	جلە سوورە که جوانە.
The red dresses are pretty. (definitive plural)	جلە سوورەکان جوانن.
This red dress is pretty. (demonstrative)	ئەم جلە سوورە جوانە.
Your red dress is pretty. (possessive)	جلە سوورە کهت جوانە.
Red Kurdish dress is pretty. (in general)	جلی کوردی سوور جوانە.
The red Kurdish dress is pretty. (definitive)	جلی کوردیە سوورە که جوانە.
This red Kurdish dress is pretty. (demonstrative)	ئەم جلە کوردیە سوورە جوانە.
Your red Kurdish dress is pretty. (possessive)	جلە سوورە کوردیە کهت جوانە.
This is his daughter.	ئەمە کچی ئەو/ئەو کچیەتی.
This is my friend's daughter.	ئەمە کچی هاوری منە.
This is my father's friend's daughter.	ئەمە کچی هاوری باوکمە.
This pen is yours.	ئەم قەڵەمە هی توێه.
The black, cool, fantastic pants are my sister's.	ئەم پانتۆلە ڕەش و باش و جوانە هی خوشکمە.
We are Juniors(3 rd stage students) at Salahaddin University.	ئێمە قوناخی سییەمی زانکۆی سەلاحەدینین.
Sangar and Hasan are my friends.	سەنگەر و حەسەن برادەری منن.
You are not visible. (I haven't seen you for a long time)	دیار نییت.

5. QUESTIONS

YES/NO QUESTIONS

To make a statement into a “formal” question, simply add “ئایا” at the beginning of the question. ئایا is usually used in written language, while in informal speech, raising the voice tone at the end is enough to make the statement a question without any change to the sentence structure.

	With ئایا (formal, written)	Without ئایا (spoken)
Is this yours?	ئایا ئەمە هی تووێه؟	ئەمە هی تووێه؟
Are you an English teacher?	ئایا توو ماموۆستای ئینگلیزیت؟	توو ماموۆستای ئینگلیزیت؟
Are these flowers roses?	ئایا ئەم گولانە گولێ سوورن؟	ئەم گولانە گولێ سوورن؟

USING QUESTION WORDS

Who	کێ	How	چۆن
Where	(له, بو) کوی	How many / old / What time (num)	چەند
What	چ, چی	How much (price)	بە چەند
Why	بو چی	Which one of them	کامیان
When	کە	Which (relative pronoun)	کە

In Kurdish, question words don't change the word order of the sentence. The general rule (subject – object/complement – verb) is applied in both questions and statements.

Sample questions:

Who is this boy?	ئەم کوڕە کییه؟	Where are you from?	توو خەلکی کویت؟
How are you?	توو چۆنی؟	Where is a pen?	کوا قەڵەم؟
How old is he?	ئەمەنی چەندە؟	Where are you going?	توو بو کوی دەرویت؟
How much are those?	ئەوانە بە چەندن؟	Where is the hospital?	نەخۆشخانە کە لە کوێیه؟
How far is it from here?	چەند دورە لە ئێره؟	What time is it?	ساعات چەندە؟
Which one is better?	کامیان باشترە؟	What is your telephone number?	ژمارە ی تەلەفۆنە کەت چەندە؟

6. ADJECTIVES

COMPARATIVE AND SUPERLATIVE ADJECTIVES

SUFFIXES "ترین" & "تر"

The comparative & the superlative degree of the adjective are formed by suffixing "تر" and "ترین" respectively.

	Comparative	Superlative
Smart	smarter	Smartest
زیرهک	زیرهکتر	زیرهکترین
Beautiful	more beautiful	most beautiful
جوان	جوانتر	جوانترین
Easy	easier	Easiest
ئاسان	ئاسانتر	ئاسانترین

THAN

The preposition of comparison is "له", as in the following examples.

Today is colder than yesterday.	ئەمڕۆ لە دوینی ساردتره.
This is better than that.	ئەمە لە ئەو بەشتەر.
This is better than that.	ئەمە لە ئەو بەشتەر.

SUPERLATIVE "هه‌ره"

Adding "هه‌ره" before an adjective is another way of making superlative expressions.

هه‌ره ئازا | the bravest | هه‌ره چالاك | the most active | هه‌ره زیرهك | the smartest

Dastan is the smartest among the 1st graders. داستان قوتابی هه‌ره زیرهكه له قوناغی یه‌كه‌م.

※ "ترین" and "هه‌ره" can be used together to emphasize the superlative.

Smartest	هه‌ره زیرهكترین	هه‌ره زیرهك	زیره‌كترین
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SUPERLATIVE ADJECTIVES COME BEFORE THE NOUN

Superlative adjectives precede the nouns they modify, as in

<u>the most beautiful</u> child	جوانترین مندال	<u>the coldest</u> day	ساردترین رۆژ
<u>the smartest</u> person	هه‌ره‌ زیره‌کترین که‌س	<u>the best</u> things	چاکترین شته‌کان
Shaqlawā is <u>the nicest</u> place.	شه‌قلاوه‌ خوشترین شوینه‌.	<u>the coolest</u> thing	باشترین شته‌که‌

FORMATION OF NOUN, ADJECTIVE AND ADVERB

ADJECTIVE → NOUN

Adding "ی" at the end of the adjective makes a noun.

Adjective	Noun
beautiful جوان	beauty جوانی
intelligent زیره‌ک	intelligence زیره‌کی
wise ژر	wisdom ژیری
true راست	truth راستی
polite به‌ئه‌ده‌به‌وه‌	politeness ئه‌ده‌ب
sick نه‌خوش	sickness نه‌خوشی
healthy ته‌ندروست	health ته‌ندروستی
sour ترش	pickle ترشی
free ئازاد	freedom ئازادی
nice/good/cool خوش	happiness خوشی

It's not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. (Matthew 9:12)

مروقی له‌ش ساغ پيوستی به‌ پزیشک نییه‌، به‌لکو نه‌خوش (مه‌تا 9 : 12)

"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

(John 14:6)

من ڕیگا و ڕاستی و ژیانم. که‌س نایه‌ت بو‌ لای باوک به‌هوی منه‌وه‌ نه‌بی

(یوحنا 14: 6)

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NOUN → ADJECTIVE

Adding the preposition, “به” (with, by) at the beginning of the noun makes an adjective.

Noun	Adjective
doubt گومان	doubtful/suspicious به گومان
liver(organ) جەرگ	brave به جەرگ
power هیز	strong به هیز
religion ئایین \ دین	religious به دین / دیندار
fear ترس	fearful به ترس
taste تام	tasty به تام
mercy به زهیی	merciful به به زهیی
glory شکو	glorious شکو مه ند = به شکو
respect پز	dear به پز

Dolma is so delicious (tasty)!
 دولمه زور به تامه!

ADJECTIVE → ADVERB

GENERAL RULE

Adding the preposition, “به” (with, by) or “بی” (without) at the beginning of the adjective and “ی” at the end makes a noun.

به \ بی + adjective + ی

Adjective	Adverb
sure دَلنیا	surely به دَلنیا
suspicious به گومان	of course بی گومان
fast (e.g. this is fast) خیرا	fast (e.g. runs fast) به خیرایی
hesitant دوودل	without hesitation بی دوودلی
slow هیواش	slowly به هیواشی

WORD ORDER

ADJECTIVE AS A COMPLEMENT

1) Subject – 2) Complement – 3) Linking Verb (Present Copula)

The mountain is high.	شەخەکە بەرزە.
The film is very interesting.	فلیمەکە زۆر خوشە.
The downstairs room is dark.	ژووری خواری تاریکە.

ADJECTIVE AS A MODIFIER

1) The modified noun precedes, 3) the modifying adjective follows and 2) the noun and adjective are connected by the *Izafe* "ی".

a high mountain	شەخیکی بەرز
* a <u>very</u> interesting film	فلیمیکی زۆر خوش
delicious meal	خواردنی بەلەز

※ The adverb, that modifies the adjective, comes before the adjective. (See page 32.)

7. PREPOSITIONS - PART I

INTRODUCTION TO PREPOSITIONS

WHAT IS A PREPOSITION?

A preposition is a word like *in*, *to*, *for* and *out of* in English.

Here are some of their Kurdish counterparts.

English Preposition	Kurdish prepositions	Examples	
with/by (a method/way)	به	(I travel) by car	به سه یاره
to (a person)	به	(Talk) to me	به من
without (something)	بی	without money	بی پاره
to/toward (a place)	بو	(I went) to Bazaar	بو بازار
for (a reason/person)	بو	For what?, for you	بو چی؟ بو تو
in/at (a place)	له	at home, in here	له مال، لیڤه

HOW TO USE A PREPOSITION

A preposition usually comes before a noun phrase.

for two years	بو دوو سال
with you	له گه‌ل تو
to his friend's house	بو مالی هاوړیکه‌م
by my dad's car	به سه یاره‌ی باوکم

A prepositional phrase can be an object or an adverbial.

I studied Kurdish.	کور دیم خویند.	I studied Kurdish <u>for 2 years</u> .	بو دوو سال کور دیم خویند.
Come!	وه‌ره!	Come <u>with me</u> !	له گه‌ل من وه‌ره!
I give (it).	ده‌ده‌م.	I give it <u>to you</u> .	پیت ده‌ده‌م.
Listen!	گوی بگره	Listen <u>to this song</u> !	گوی له‌م گورانییه بگره

PREPOSITION & POSTPOSITION

Certain prepositions (especially, له) are coupled with a postposition to *envelop* the complement together. The preposition itself marks the beginning of the prepositional phrase, and the end of the complement is marked by a postpositional element.

	Coupling Postposition	Preposition	Examples	
in, at (a place)	دا	له	in Kurdistan	له کوردستاندا
			in America	له ئەمەریکادا
			finally	له کۆتاییدا
in front of	دا	لهبەر		لهبەر....دا
from (a place)	دووه	له	from afar	له دوور دوه
because of	دوه	لهبەر	because of that	لهبەر ئەوه
for the sake of		لهبەر خاتری	for you	لهبەر خاتری تو

ADVERBIAL PHRASES

In Kurdish, most adverbs and adverbial phrases are added after the subject.

Subject – **Adverb** – Verb

Subject – **Adverb** – Object/Complement – Verb

※ Notable exceptions are the adverbs of direction (to/for/towards somewhere), which usually come after the verb.

ADVERB OF TIME/FREQUENCY

I'll come.	دیم.	I'll come <u>tomorrow</u> .	من به یانی دەرۆم.
I'll leave.	دەرۆم.	I'll leave <u>at 3 o'clock</u> .	من سعات سی دەرۆم.

More examples:

in the afternoon	پاش نیوه پۆ	at night	شهو	late	درهنگ
evening	ئێواره	early	زوو	yesterday	دوینی
next year	سالیکی دیکه	last year	پار	two yrs ago	پێرار

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ADVERB OF MANNER

Go!	برۆ!	Go <u>fast</u> !	به خیرایی برۆ!
Speak!	بلی!	Speak <u>slowly</u> !	به هیواشی پیم بلی!

More examples:

slowly	به هیواشی	quickly/fast	به خیرایی	with them	له گهل ئه وان
by foot	به پی	** nicely	باش	with them	له گهل یان
by car	به سه یاره	at once	به یه ک جار	** in a pretty way	جوان

** Some adjectives behave like adverbs as well.

ADVERB OF PLACE

I'm going.	ده چم	I'm going <u>to Halabja</u> .	من ده چم بو هه له بجه.
I came back.	گه رامه وه	I came back <u>from school</u> .	گه رامه وه له قوتابخانه.
I came.	هاتم	I came <u>from afar</u> .	من له دور ه وه هاتم.

More examples:

on (a thing)	له سه ر... دا	from behind	له پشت... ه وه	to (a place)	بو ...
under	له ژیر... دا	behind	له پشت... دا	in (a place)	له ...
besides	له پال... دا	below	خواره وه	from (a place)	له ... ه وه

Common expressions and Kurdish idioms with preposition will be covered in **Chapter 12. Preposition – Part II.**

8. VERB TYPES

INTRANSITIVE & TRANSITIVE

INTRANSITIVE کاری تیڤنه په

An intransitive verb is a verb that cannot take an object, although it may have an adverbial/prepositional phrase along with it.

I understand very well.	(من) زور باش تی ده گهم.
I'll come back early tomorrow.	(من) بهیانی زوو ده گه پیمه وه.
I live in Hawler.	(من) له ههولیر ده ژیم.

TRANSITIVE کاری تیپه

A transitive verb is a verb that takes an object.

I study Kurdish.	(من) کوردی ده خوینم.
I don't have(eat) dinner.	(من) نانی ئیواره ناخوم.
He sees you.	(ئهو) تو ده بینیت.

SIMPLE, COMPLEX, COMPOUND

Both intransitive and transitive verbs can be grouped under one of the following:

- 1) simple 2) complex 3) compound

Here, the number of meaningful words in a verb decides its classification.

SIMPLE VERBS کاری ساده

A simple verb is a one-word verb.

Intransitive	Transitive
to arrive <small>گه‌یشتن</small>	to do <small>کردن</small>
to go, to leave <small>پو‌یشتن</small>	to wash <small>شوشتن</small>
to come <small>هاتن</small>	to take, to hold <small>بردن</small>
to die <small>مردن</small>	to eat <small>خواردن</small>

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COMPLEX VERBS کاری دارژاو

A complex verb takes two forms:

- A prefix (no-meaning) + a simple verb.
- A simple verb + a suffix (دهوه)

Intransitive			
Suffix	Simple verb	Prefix	Complex Verb
-	گه‌یشتن to arrive	تی	تی گه‌یشتن to understand
دهوه again	گه‌ران to explore, to search	-	گه‌رانه‌وه to return
-	سان to obtain	هه‌ل	هه‌لسان to get up, wake up

Transitive			
Suffix	Simple verb	Prefix	Complex Verb
-	خستن to drop	دا	دا خستن to close
دهوه again	بردن to take	-	بردنه‌وه to win, overcome
-	بژاردن to compensate	هه‌ل	هه‌لبژاردن to elect, choose

COMPOUND VERB کاری لیکدراو

Compound verb is a verb with more than two meaningful words.

Intransitive			
Suffix	Simple verb	Pre-Word	Compound Verb
-	بوون to be, become	برسی a. hungry	برسی بوون to become hungry
-	هاتن to come	خه‌و n. sleep	خه‌و هاتن to become sleepy

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Transitive			
Suffix	Simple verb	Pre-Word	Compound Verb
هوه again	کردن to do, make	پاک a. clean	پاک کردنهوه v. clean
-	دان to give	دهست n. hand	دهست لی دان v. touch

SUMMARY

	Intransitive	Transitive
Simple	بوون : to become چوون : to go رووشتن : to leave خهوتن : to sleep ههستان : to wake up هاتن : to come مردن : to die	کردن : to do, work خواردن : to eat شوشتن : to wash بردن : to take بینین : to see زانین : to know هینان : to bring
Complex	گهراڤهوه : to return مانهوه : to stay دا نیشتن : to sit راوهستان : to stand تی گهیشتن : to understand	کردنهوه : to open دا خستن : to close هه ل گرتن : to hold ده ر خستن : to reveal
Compound	تینوو بوون : to become thirsty برسی بوون : to become hungry سه رما بوون : to feel cold	پرسپار کردن : to ask فیر بوون : to learn بیر خستنهوه : to remind

9. TENSES

FINDING STEM & ROOT FOR VERB CONJUGATION

All Kurdish verbs end with "ن".

- **Past root**, which is the base for past tense conjugation, is formed by dropping the "ن".
- **Present stem**, which is the base for present tense conjugation, is normally formed by dropping the "ن" and the second last letter of the verb. However, there are many irregular cases as well.

	vt. = transitive verb vi. = intransitive verb	Verb (Infinitive)	Past Stem	Present Stem
By the rule		to see (vt) بینن	بینی	بین
		to fall (vi) کهوتن	کهوت	کهو
		to pull (vt) ږا کیشان	ږا کیشا	ږا کیش
		to grab, hold (vt) گرتن	گرت	گر
		to wake up (vi) هه‌لستان	هه‌ل ستا	هه‌ل ست
		to laugh (vi) پى که‌نین	پى که‌نى	پى که‌ن
		to die (vi) مردن	مرد	مر
		to buy (vt) کړین	کړى	کړ
		to sell (vt) فروشتن	فروشت	فروش
[a] stem		to do (vt) کردن	کرد	که
		to drop (vt) خستن	خست	خه
		vi. to reach گه‌یشتن	گه‌یشت	گه
		to buy (vt) دان	دا	ده
		to sell (vt) بردن	برد	به
[o] stem		to wash (vt) شوشتن	شوشت	شو
		to eat (vt) خواردن	خوارد	خو
		to go, leave (vi) ږو‌یشتن	ږو‌یشت	ږو
[e] stem		to send (vt) ناردن	نارد	نیر
		to know (vt) ناساندن	ناساند	ناسین
		to stay (vi) مانه‌وه	ما-ه‌وه	مین-ه‌وه
		burn (vi) سووتان	سووتا	سووتی
		to return (vi) گه‌رانه‌وه	گه‌ر-ه‌وه	گه‌رپى-ه‌وه
Irregular		to come (vi) هاتن	هات	ى
		to say (vt) گوتن	گوت	لى

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to go (vi)	چوون	چوو	چ
to be, become (vi)	بوون	بوو	ب
to kill (vt)	کوشتن	کوشت	کوژ
to rely on (vt)	پشت پێ بهستن	پشت پێ بهست	پشت پێ بهست

PRESENT & FUTURE

USE OF PRESENT TENSE

In Kurdish, the simple present (e.g. I go), the present continuous (e.g. I'm going) and the future (e.g. I will go) tense are all expressed in the same manner.

Normally, the future sense is gained from context or by time expressions.

I leave <u>now</u> .	(من) ئیستا ده پووم.
I'll leave <u>tomorrow</u> .	(من) سه یینی ده پووم.

FORMATION OF PRESENT TENSE

SIMPLE VERBS

The present tense of the simple verb is formed from the present stem with a prefixed modal marker (ده), and the following suffixed subjective endings (bound pronouns).

* All formation rules should be read from right to left.

Formation Rule	[Subjective BP][Present Stem] ده
to eat (خواردن)	(ئهو) ده + خو + ات ; (He eats)

※ The modal prefix, ده dá- is used in most Kurdish dialects and is also the standard.

However, the modal prefix in Sulemani dialect is ئه á-.

Are you leaving? (Standard & Hawleri)	تو ده پوویت؟
Are you leaving? (Sulemani)	تو ئه پوویت؟

Today, I'm going to bazaar.	ئه مپو، (من) ده چم بو بازار.
Are you going to wash your hands, now?	ئیستا، (تو) ده ست ده شویت؟
We'll come back.	(ئیمه) ده گه ریینه وه.

SUBJECTIVE BOUND PRONOUNS FOR PRESENT TENSE

In the present tense, the **Bound Pronouns Set I** (page 17) is used for both intransitive and transitive verb conjugations.

	Intransitive Verb		Transitive Verb	
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
1 st person	م	ین	م	ین
2 nd person	ی\یت	ن	ی\یت	ن
3 rd person	ی\یت	ن	ی\یت	ن

※ Note that the inherent (ت:ت) shown for 2nd- and 3rd-person singular is characteristic of literary Kurdish and seldom appears in the informal spoken language. The (ت) is recovered, however, when any enclitic or suffix(e.g. "ده") is added to the verb.

		When written	When spoken (informal)
Intransitive	You go / You'll go.	دهچیت.	دهچی.
Transitive	He writes / He'll write.	دهنووسیت.	دهنووسی.
With Suffix	He rewrites / He'll rewrite.	دهنووسیتیه.	

Please note, for verbs with stems ending in a vowel[-ه, -و, -ی], the 3rd person singular bound pronouns slightly change.

A-STEM (-ه)

Common **A-Stem Verbs**:

پێ دان (ده)	خستن (خه)	بردن (به)	گه‌یشتن (گه)	کردن (که)
to give	to drop, throw	to take	to reach, arrive	to do, work

Infinitive Form	کردن		خستن		پێ دان	
Present Stem	که		خه		پێ ده	
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
1 st person	دهکه‌م	دهکه‌ین	دهخه‌م	دهخه‌ین	پێ ده‌ده‌م	پێ ده‌ده‌ین
2 nd person	دهکه‌ی(ت)	دهکه‌ن	دهخه‌ی(ت)	دهخه‌ن	پێ ده‌ده‌ی(ت)	پێ ده‌ده‌ن
3 rd person	دهکا(ت)	دهکه‌ن	دهخا(ت)	دهخه‌ن	پێ ده‌دا(ت)	پێ ده‌ده‌ن

※ Any complex or compound verbs with **A-Stem** verbs also behave as above.

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O-STEM (ـو)

Common **O-Stem Verbs**:

خواردن (خو)	شوشتن (شو)	پوښتن (پو)
to eat	to wash	to leave

Infinitive Form	پوښتن		شوشتن		خواردن	
Present Stem	پو		شو		خو	
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
1 st person	دهپوم	دهپوین	دهشوم	دهشوین	دهخوم	دهخوین
2 nd person	دهپوی(ت)	دهپوین	دهشووی(ت)	دهشوین	دهخوی(ت)	دهخوین
3 rd person	دهپوا(ت)	دهپوین	دهشوا(ت)	دهشوین	دهخوا(ت)	دهخوین

Ali is going to wash his face.

علی دەم وچاوی دهشوات.

Danielle eats yogurt everyday.

دانیاڵ هه‌موو پوژیک ماست دهخوات.

E-STEM (ـی)

Common **E-Stem Verbs**: Verbs with "ان" ending often have **E-Stems**.

سووتان	گه‌ران	مانه‌وه	شکاندن	چیشته‌لی نان
(سووتی)	(گه‌ری)	(مین...ه‌وه)	(شکین)	(چیشته‌لی نی)
to burn	to travel	to stay	to break	to cook

Infinitive Form	گه‌ران		مانه‌وه		چیشته‌لی نان	
Present Stem	گه‌ری		مین...ه‌وه		چیشته‌لی نی	
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
1 st person	ده‌گه‌ریم	ده‌گه‌رین	ده‌مین‌ه‌وه	ده‌مین‌ه‌وه	چیشته‌لی ده‌نیم	چیشته‌لی ده‌نین
2 nd person	ده‌گه‌ری(ت)	ده‌گه‌رین	ده‌مین‌ه‌وه	ده‌مین‌ه‌وه	چیشته‌لی ده‌نی(ت)	چیشته‌لی ده‌نین
3 rd person	ده‌گه‌ری(ت)	ده‌گه‌رین	ده‌مین‌ه‌وه	ده‌مین‌ه‌وه	چیشته‌لی ده‌نیت	چیشته‌لی ده‌نین

When is Hewa coming back from Malaysia?

ه‌یوا که‌ی ده‌گه‌ریته‌وه له مالیزیسیا؟

Rezan doesn't cook on Friday.

رێزان هه‌ینی چیشته‌لی نانیت.

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IRREGULAR VERBS

The following are prominent irregular verbs.

Infinitive Form	هاتن (to come)		گوتن (to say)		کوشتن (to kill)	
Present Stem	ی		لی		کوژ	
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
1 st person	دیم	دیین	دهلیم	دهلین	دهکوژم	دهکوژین
2 nd person	دی(ت)	دین	دهلی(ت)	دهلین	دهکوژی(ت)	دهکوژن
3 rd person	دی(ت)	دین	دهلی(ت)	دهلین	دهکوژی(ت)	دهکوژن

COMPLEX VERB & COMPOUND VERBS

For complex or compound verbs:

- 1) The first part of the verb (either **prefix** or **pre-word**) gets separated from the rest of the verb.
- 2) The modal marker (ده) is attached before the second part of the present stem.
- 3) The subjective bound pronoun goes to the end of the present stem.

Formation Rule	[Subjective BP][Present Stem] ده [Prefix/Pre-Word]
to run (پا کردن)	پا ده + که + م ; (I run, I'm running)

※ Formation rules should be read from right to left.

If the complex or compound verb has the - *awa* (هوه) suffix, the *awa* (هوه) is affixed behind the personal endings.

Formation Rule	هوه + [Subjective BP][Present Stem] ده [Prefix/Pre-Word]
v. to remember (بیر کهوتنهوه)	بیر ده + کهو + م + هوه ; (I remember)

※ Formation rules should be read from right to left.

NEGATIVE STATEMENTS

To negate a present tense statement, change the modal prefix (ده) to (نا).

	Infinitive	Affirmative	Negative
Intransitive	چوون (to go)	من ده چم	من ناچم
Transitive	نووسین (to write)	ئهو ده نووسی	ئهو نا نووسی

SUMMARY

Simple Verbs (خواردن , چوون):

Intransitive	I'll go (to school).	(من) ده چم (بو قوتابخانه).
Transitive	We are eating (breakfast).	(ئيمه) (ناني به ياني) ده خوین؟

Complex or Compound Verbs (پاک کردن , دهست پی کردن , دا نیشن):

Intransitive	I'll sit (here).	(من) (لیره) دا دهنیشم.
Transitive	I'll start it (tomorrow).	(من) (به يانی) دهست پی ده که م.
With ده Suffix	I clean (the room).	(من) (ژوور که) پاک ده که مه وه.

TRANSITIVE VERB WITH OBJECT

NOUN OBJECT

NO PREPOSITION

In Kurdish the word order is Subject – Object – Verb. Following the rule, the noun object comes after the subject (if exists) and before the verb.

I see (ینین) <u>Ashty</u> .	(من) <u>ئاشتی</u> ده بینم.
He makes (دروست کردن) <u>a nice desk</u> .	(ئهو) <u>میزیکی باش</u> دروست ده کا.
Danielle studies (خویندن) <u>Kurdish</u> .	دانیال <u>کوردي</u> ده خوینی.

WITH PREPOSITION

If the verb conglomerate includes a preposition, the noun object comes after the preposition.

I listen to (گوی لی گرتن) <u>music</u> .	(من) گوی له <u>موسیکا</u> ده گرم.
She start with (دهست پی کردن) <u>the work</u> .	(ئهو) دهست به <u>کاره که</u> ده کا.

PRONOUN OBJECT

NO PREPOSITION

The pronoun object can be indicated in two different forms:

- 1) The Independent Pronoun form (e.g. تۆ, من, ئیمه)
- 2) The Bound Pronoun form (e.g. مان, م, ت).

1) The Independent Pronoun Object behaves the same as the noun object.

Formation Rule	[Subjective BP][Present Stem] ده <u>Independent Object</u>
to see (بینین)	ئاشتی ئهوان ده + بین + یت (Ashty sees them)

2) The Bound Pronoun Object is inserted in between the modal prefix(ده) and the present stem of the verb.

※ In the present tense, **Bound Pronouns Set II** (page 17; same as the possessive pronouns) is used for their objective suffixes.

	Objective Bound Pronoun	
	Singular	Plural
1 st person	م	مان
2 nd person	ت	تان
3 rd person	ی	یان

Formation Rule	[Subjective BP][Present Stem][<u>BP Object</u>] ده
v. to see (بینین)	ئاشتی ده یان + بین + یت (Ashty sees them)

SUMMARY

Noun Object	I see (بینین) <u>Ashty</u> .	(من) ئاشتی ده بینم.
Independent Pronoun Object	I see (بینین) <u>her</u> .	(من) ئه ده بینم.
Bound Pronoun Object	I see (بینین) <u>her</u> .	(من) ده ی بینم.

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بینینه وه v. see again				
	Independent Pronoun Object		Bound Pronoun Object	
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
1 st person	من ده بینینه وه You'll see me again.	ئیمه ده بینینه وه You'll see us again.	تو ده مبینینه وه You'll see me again.	تو ده مانبینینه وه You'll see us again.
2 nd person	تو ده بینمه وه I'll see you again.	ئیه ده بینمه وه I'll see you again.	من ده تبینمه وه I'll see you again.	ده تانبینمه وه I'll see you again.
3 rd person	ئهو ده بینمه وه I'll see him again.	ئهوان ده بینمه وه I'll see them again.	ده یبینمه وه I'll see him again.	ده یانبینمه وه I'll see them again.

WITH PREPOSITION

When the object is a pronoun, the **preposition + pronoun combination** can be written and said in two different ways as shown below:

	Prep. + Independent Pronoun		Prep. + Bound Pronoun	
	به ئه و		پی	
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
1 st person	به من	به ئیمه	پیم	پیما
2 nd person	به تو	به ئیه	پیت	پیتان
3 rd person	به ئه و	به ئه وان	پی	پیان

	Prep. + Independent Pronoun		Prep. + Bound Pronoun	
	له ئه و		لی	
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
1 st person	له من	له ئیمه	لیم	لیمان
2 nd person	له تو	له ئیه	لیت	لیتان
3 rd person	له ئه و	له ئه وان	لی	لیان

When prepositions are combined with **bound pronouns**, they change their forms:

- به (**ba**) becomes لی (**pe**)
- ده (**da**) becomes تی (**te**)
- له (**la**) becomes لی (**le**)

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The bound pronouns may either be 1) pre-posed, i.e. added to the word preceding the preposition if there is any such word, or 2) postposed, i.e. added to the preposition itself if there is no preceding word.

※ Subjective Bound Pronoun = Subjective BP, Objective Pronoun = Objective BP

I listen to (گۆی لێ گرتن) them.	(من) گۆییان لێ دهگرم.
You start with (دهست پێ کردن) them.	(ئهو) دهستیان پێ دهکات.
I tell (پێ گوتن) you.	(من) پیت دهلیم.

ONLY ONE PRONOUN OBJECT FOR SIMPLE VERB

A. Independent Pronoun Object (IP Object)

[**Subjective BP**][Present Stem] ده [IP Object]+[Prep.]

B. Bound Pronoun Object (BP Object)

[**Subjective BP**][Present Stem] ده [**BP Object**]+[Prep.]

I say (به ... گوتن) to you (تو).	(من) به تو دهلیم.
I say (پێ گوتن) to you (ت).	(من) پیت دهلیم.

ONLY ONE PRONOUN OBJECT FOR COMPLEX/COMPOUND VERB

C. Independent Pronoun Object (IP Object)

[**Subjective BP**][Present Stem] ده IP Object+[Prep]. [Compounding Agent]

D. Bound Pronoun Object (BP Object)

[**Subjective BP**][Present Stem] ده [Prep.] [**BP**][Compounding Agent]

I listen (گۆی له ... گرتن) to you (تو).	(من) گۆی له تو دهگرم.
I listen (گۆی لێ گرتن) to you (ت).	(من) گۆیت لێ دهگرم.

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THERE ARE TWO OBJECTS: DIRECT OBJECTS & INDIRECT OBJECTS

E. independent pronoun indirect object (IP Object)

[**Subjective BP**][Present Stem] ده [IP Object]+[Prep.] (Compounding Agent) [Direct Object]

F. bound pronoun indirect object (BP Object)

[**Subjective BP**][Present Stem] ده [Prep.] (Compounding Agent) [**BP**][Direct Object]

I give (تو) the books to you (به... دان).	(من) کتیبه کان به تو ده ده م.
I give (ت) the books to you (پێ دان).	(من) کتیبه کانت پێ ده ده م.
I bring (تو) water (هینان).	(من) ئاو بو تو ده هینم.
I bring (ت) water (هینان).	(من) ئاو ت بو ده هینم.

SUMMARY

- The subjective bound pronoun is fixed at the end of the verb stem.
- Only the objective bound pronoun changes its position depending on the form of the verb conglomerate.
 - If there is a **direct object** of the noun or independent pronoun, the **2nd pronominal object** (in this case, it is always the indirect object) goes right behind the Direct Object in a bound pronoun form.

With Direct Object	With Objective BP	Without Objective BP
Simple Verb I give (پێ دان) you the flower.	گولە که ت پێ ددهم.	گولە که به تو ددهم.
Complex Verb I choose (ههڵ بژاردن) the book for you.	کتیبه که ت بو ههڵ ده بژیرم.	کتیبه که بو تو ههڵ ده بژیرم.
Compound Verb I clean (پاک کردنه وه) the house for them.	خانوه که یان بو پاک ده که مه وه.	خانوه که بو ئه وان پاک ده که مه وه.

- If there is no direct object of the noun or independent pronoun, but the verb conglomerate includes **preverbal prefixes** or **compounding agents**, the pre-word behaves like the **direct object of the verb** and the **objective bound pronoun** goes behind the pre-word.

Without Direct Object	With Objective BP	Without Objective BP
Simple Verb I say (پێ گوتن) to you.	پیت ده لیم.	به تو ده لیم.
Complex Verb I stop (را گرتن) them.	رایان ده گرم.	ئه وان را ده گرم.
Compound Verb I walk (پیاسه کردی) with you.	پیاسه ت له گه ل ده که م.	له گه ل تو پیاسه ده که م.

- If there is no direct object and no preposition, no preverbal prefix or compounding agent whatsoever, **the objective bound pronoun** goes in between the present modal prefix (ده نا، ده) and the verb stem.

Without Direct Object	With Objective BP	Without Objective BP
Simple Verb I see (بینین) them.	ده یان بینم.	ئه وان ده بینم.
Complex Verb I don't know (ناسین) him.	نا یناسم.	ئه و نا ناسم.

PRESENT TENSE REVIEW USING DAILY ROUTINE EXPRESSIONS

He wakes up.	ئەو لە خەو هەڵدەستی.
He gets out of his bed.	ئەو لە جیگەیی نووستنەکەیی دێتە دەرەوە.
He goes downstairs.	ئەو دەپواتە قاتی (نهم) خوارەوە.
He goes jogging.	ئەو دەچیت بو هەروەڵە کردن.
He comes back from jogging.	ئەو لە هەروەڵە کردن دەگەریتەوە.
He picks up the mail.	ئەو نامەکەیی هەڵدەگریتەوە.
He takes a shower.	ئەو خۆی دەشوات.
He gets dressed.	ئەو خۆی دەگۆریت.
He has breakfast.	ئەو نانی بهیانی دەخوات.
He leaves home.	ئەو لە مال دەر دەچیت.
He buys a newspaper.	ئەو روژنامەیەک دەکڕیت.
He listens to music.	ئەو گۆی لە موسیقا دەگریت.
He catches the train.	ئەو دەگاتە شەمەندەفەرکە.
He reads the newspaper.	ئەو روژنامە دەخوینیتەوە.
He starts work.	ئەو دەست بە کار دەکات.
He drinks some coffee.	ئەو قاوە دەخواتەوە.
He has lunch.	ئەو نانی نیوەڕۆ دەخوات.
He finishes work.	ئەو لە کار تەواو دەبیت.
He meets his friends.	ئەو چاری بە هاوڕێکانی دەکەویت.
He plays squash.	ئەو یاری سکواش دەکات.
He has dinner.	ئەو نانی ئیوارە دەخوات.
He watches television.	ئەو سەیری تەلەفزیۆن دەکات.
He goes to bed.	ئەو دەچیتە سەر جیگا.

IMPERATIVES (COMMANDS)

FORMATION OF IMPERATIVES

The subject of an imperative sentence is always "تو" or "ئێوه" because it's a command. This is usually not explicitly stated.

(You) Come!	(تو) وەرە!
(You guys) Eat!	(ئێوه) بخۆن!

WITHOUT OBJECT

The imperative is formed from the present stem with the prefix (ب), and with a suffixed subjective ending, "ە" or "ن".

- If the imperative's subject is singular (تو), add "ە" at the end.
- If the imperative's subject is plural (ئێوه), add "ن" at the end.

Singular Subject (تو)	ە+[Present Stem]+ب
Plural Subject (ئێوه)	ن+[Present Stem]+ب

	Regular	A-STEM	O-STEM	E-STEM	Irregular
Infinitive Form	گرتن to catch	کردن to do, work	خواردن to eat	گه‌پان to travel	هاتن to come
Present Stem	گر	که	خو	گه‌پی	ی
Singular Subject (تو)	بگره (You) hold!	بکه (You) do!	بخو (You) eat!	بگه‌پی (You) travel!	وه‌ره (You) come!
Note	By the rule	ه is dropped!	ه is dropped!	ه is dropped!	No rule!
Plural Subject (ئێوه)	بگرن	بکه‌ن	بخۆن	بگه‌پین	وه‌رن

TRANSITIVE VERBS WITH OBJECT

All the object position rules are the same as the present verb case.

Independent Object	ە\ن+[Present Stem]ب [Object]
With Pre-Word & Objective Bound Pronoun (Preposition, Compounding Agents, etc.)	ە\ن+[Present Stem]ب [BP][Pre-Word]
No Pre-Word & Objective Bound Pronoun	ە\ن+[Present Stem][BP]ب

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Eat (خواردن)	خو	Study (خویندن)	خوین
(You) eat!	بخو	(You) study!	بخوینه
(You) eat Dolma!	دولمه بخو	(You) study Kurdish!	کوردي بخوینه
(You) eat it!	ئهو بخو	(You) study it!	ئهو بخوینه
Say (گوتن)	لی	Listen (گویی گرتن)	گویی گر
(You) say!	بلی	(You) listen!	گویی بگره
(You) say to me!	پیم بلی	(You) listen to me!	گویی له من بگره
(You) say it to me	ئهوهم پی بلی	(You) listen to me!	گویی لی بگره

NEGATIVE IMPERATIVE

To negate the imperative command:

- Drop (ب) from the imperative.
- Add (مه) to the present stem.

Don't eat Dolma!	دولمه مه خو!
Don't speak to me!	قسهم له گهل مه که!
Don't come tomorrow!	به یانی مه یه!
Don't be angry!	تووره مه به!

PAST TENSE

USE OF PAST TENSE

Four different kinds of Past Tense exist in the Kurdish Language.

- **Simple Past** (e.g. 'I came.', 'I ate dinner.', 'I studied Kurdish.' etc.)
- **Past Continuous/Habitual** (e.g. 'I was eating dinner.', 'I was studying.' etc.)
 - In Kurdish, certain verbs indicating someone's likeness or hope are commonly expressed with the Past Continuous tense, rather than the Simple Past tense. (See "*How to use the subjunctive*" on page 80.)
- **Present Perfect** (e.g. I have come.)
 - For general purposes, the Present Perfect tense of Kurdish is equivalent to the English Present Perfect.
 - When an event started in the past and is still active:
 - ئێمه لیڤه دا نیشتهوین (We have been seated here.)
 - When we talk about something that happened in the past, but we don't specify precisely *when* it happened (perhaps we don't know, or it is not important to say when it happened):
 - نانت خواردوه؟ (Have you eaten?)
 - ئەو هاتوه (He has come.)
- **Past Perfect** (e.g. I had come.)
 - The Past Perfect tense of Kurdish is equivalent to the English Past Perfect and mostly used for subjunctive expressions.
 - من پوڤشتبووم کاتی دایکم هات (I have left when mom came.)

FORMATION OF SIMPLE PAST

LINKING VERBS

The simple past tense of linking verbs is formed by adding the **Subjective Bound Pronoun** (modified SET I on page 17) to "بوو".

	Singular		Plural	
1 st person	(I) was	بووم	(We) were	بووین
2 nd person	(You) were	بووی\بوویت	(You) were	بوون
3 rd person	(He) was	بوو	(They) were	بوون

※ Note that there is no subjective bound pronoun for the 3rd person singular subject.

HOW TO USE

[Subjective BP] بوو [Complement]

ADJECTIVE PHRASE COMPLEMENT

She was (بوو) pretty.

ئەو جوان + بوو ← ئەو جوان بوو

NOUN PHRASE COMPLEMENT

We were (بووین) teachers.

ئێمە مامۆستا + بووین ← مامۆستا بووین

ADVERBIAL + LINKING VERB

I was (بووم) at school.

من لە قوتابخانە + بووم ← لە قوتابخانە بووم

INTRANSITIVE VERBS

The simple past tense of intransitive verbs is formed by adding subjective bound pronoun suffixes to the past stem of the verb.

[Subjective BP][Past Root]

SUBJECTIVE BOUND PRONOUNS

In the case of intransitive verbs, the **Bound Pronoun Set I** variation (page 17) is used for the appropriate subjective suffixes.

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Subjective Bound Pronouns For Intransitive Verbs		
	Singular	Plural
1 st person	م	ین
2 nd person	یت/ی	ن
3 rd person	None	ن

- ※ Note that there is no subjective bound pronoun for the 3rd person singular subject, while other subjective bound pronouns remain the same as in the present tense.

You left early.	زوو رووشتیت.
I sat there.	من لهووی دا نیشتم.
We understood.	ئیمه تی گهیشین.

- ※ The verb "to understand" is transitive in English, but in Kurdish, it means "to reach to", which gives a sense of "to be understood", and functions as an intransitive. ☺

TRANSITIVE VERBS

SUBJECTIVE BOUND PRONOUNS AND OBJECTIVE BOUND PRONOUNS

In the past tense,

- The **Bound Pronoun Set II** (page 17) is used for their subjective suffixes.
- The **Bound Pronoun Set I** (page 17) is used for their objective suffixes.

	Subjective BP For Transitive Verbs		Objective BP For Transitive Verbs	
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
1 st person	م	مان	م	ین
2 nd person	ت	تان	یت	ن
3 rd person	ی	یان	None	ن

- ※ Bound Pronouns (both subjective and objective) are emphasized with bold below.

NO OBJECT

The simple past tense of transitive verbs is also formed by adding subjective bound pronoun suffixes to the past stem of the verb.

[**Subjective BP**][Past Root]

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NO OBJECT, BUT WITH PREPOSITION

[Past Root] [Subjective BP][Preposition]

COMPLEX OR COMPOUND VERBS

- 1) Without Objective Bound Pronoun

[Past Root] [Prep.] [Subjective BP][Pre-Word]

- 2) With Objective Bound Pronoun

[Objective BP][Past Root] [Prep.] [Subjective BP][Pre-Word]

WITH INDEPENDENT OBJECT (NOUN OR INDEPENDENT PRONOUN)

- 1) Without Objective Bound Pronoun

[Past Root] [Pre-Word] [Prep.] [Subjective BP][Object]

- 2) Without Objective Bound Pronoun

[Objective BP][Past Root] [Pre-Word] [Prep.] [Subjective BP][Object]

Examples:

	With Objective BP	Without Objective BP
I ate <u>those</u> .	(من) خواردمن.	ئهوانم خوارد.
I saw <u>you</u> .	(من) بینیت.	تۆم بین.
I told <u>you</u> .	(من) بێم گوتیت.	به تۆم گوت.
He gave <u>you</u> the book.	کتیبه که ی پێ دایت.	کتیبه که ی به تو دا.
They bought the flower <u>for you</u> .	گوله که یان بو هینایت.	گوله که یان بو تو هینا.
I missed <u>them</u> .	بیرم کردن.	بیری ئهوانم کرد.
She cooked dolma <u>for them</u> .	دولمه ی بو دروست کردن.	دولمه ی بو ئهوان دروست کرد.

FORMATION OF SIMPLE PAST NEGATIVE

To negate a past simple sentence, add the past negative prefix "نه" to the verb ending.

※ Note that the present negative prefix is "نا".

LINKING VERBS

Change the past ending (بوو) to (نه بوو).

She wasn't (نه بوو) pretty.	(ئەو) جوان نه بوو.
We weren't (نه بووین) teachers.	(ئێمه) مامۆستا نه بووین.
I wasn't (نه بووم) at school.	(من) له قوتابخانه نه بووم.

INTRANSITIVE VERBS

1) Simple Verb

[Subjective BP][Past Root] نه

2) Complex/Compound Verb

[Subjective BP][Past Root] نه	[Pre-Word]
-------------------------------	------------

You didn't leave early.	زوو نه پرویشتیت
I didn't sit there.	من له وی دا نه نیشتیم
We didn't understand.	ئێمه تی نه گه یشتین

TRANSITIVE VERBS

The Subjective Bound Pronoun moves from the end of the verb to behind the negative prefix (نه). If there is any preceding word besides the verb itself, the subjective suffix (Subjective BP) goes behind the preceding word (e.g. object, preposition, etc.).

1) Simple Verb

A. No Object

[Past Root][Subjective BP] نه

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B. No Object, With Preposition

[Past Root] نه [Subjective BP][Preposition]

C. With Noun Object

[Past Root] نه [(Prep.)] [Subjective BP][Object]

2) Complex/Compound Verb

A. No Object

[Past Root] نه [Subjective BP][Pre-Word/Preposition]

B. With Noun Object

[Past Root] نه [Pre-Word/Preposition] [Subjective BP][Object]

	With Objective BP	Without Objective BP
I didn't eat <u>those</u> .	(من) نه م خواردن.	ئه وانه م نه خوارد.
I didn't see <u>you</u> .	(من) نه مبینیت.	تۆم نه بین.
I didn't tell <u>you</u> .	(من) پیم نه گوتیت.	به تۆم نه گوت.
He didn't give <u>you</u> the book.	کتیبه که ی پێ نه دایت.	کتیبه که ی به تۆ نه دا.
They didn't bring the flower <u>for you</u> .	گوله که یان یۆ نه هینایت.	گوله که یان یۆ تو نه هینا.
I didn't miss <u>them</u> .	بیرم نه کردن.	بیری ئه وان م نه کرد.
She didn't cook dolma <u>for them</u> .	دۆلمه ی بۆ لی نه نان.	دۆلمه ی بۆ ئه وان لی نه نا.

FORMATION OF PAST CONTINUOUS/HABITUAL

Add the present modal prefix "ده" to the simple past form.

- ※ Note that the past continuous tense is similar to the negative simple past form, except that the verb prefix is not "نه" but "ده".

INTRANSITIVE VERBS

You were leaving early.

زوو ده‌رو‌یشتیت

I was sitting there.

من له‌وی دا‌ده‌نیستم

TRANSITIVE VERBS

	With Objective BP	Without Objective BP
I was eating <u>those</u> .	(من) ده‌م خواردن.	ئه‌وانم ده‌خوارد.
I was seeing <u>you</u> .	(من) ده‌مبینیت.	تۆم ده‌بینی.
I was telling <u>you</u> .	(من) پیم ده‌گوتیت.	به‌تۆم ده‌گوت.
I was missing <u>them</u> .	بیرم ده‌کردن.	بیری ئه‌وانم ده‌کرد.

PAST CONTINUOUS - NEGATIVE

To negate the past continuous statement, add "نه" in front of the past continuous.

INTRANSITIVE VERBS

You weren't leaving early.

زوو نه‌ده‌رو‌یشتیت

I wasn't sitting there.

من نه‌ده‌نیستم

TRANSITIVE VERBS

If there is no object or any kind of pre-verb precedents, the subjective bound pronoun comes after "نه".

	With Objective BP	Without Objective BP
I wasn't eating <u>those</u> .	(من) نه‌مده‌خواردن.	ئه‌وانم نه‌ده‌خوارد.
I wasn't seeing <u>you</u> .	(من) نه‌مده‌بینیت.	تۆم نه‌ده‌بینی.
I wasn't telling <u>you</u> .	(من) پیم نه‌ده‌گوتیت.	به‌تۆم نه‌ده‌گوت.
I wasn't missing <u>them</u> .	بیرم نه‌ده‌کردن.	بیری ئه‌وانم نه‌ده‌کرد.

FORMATION OF PRESENT PERFECT

The present perfect tense is used for an action that started in the past and continues to the present time.

How to make the **Present Perfect Root**:

- Add "و" to the Past Root of the verb.
 - a. If the Past root ends in a consonant, add "و".
 - b. If the past root ends in a vowel, add "و".
 - c. If the past root ends in و, don't add anything.

LINKING VERBS

[Complement] بوو [Present Copula]+(ه)

※ For Present Coupula, see page 17 (Chapter 4. The Linking Verb).

You have become pretty.	(تو) جوان بووێته.
I have been sick.	(من) نهخۆش بوومه.
He has been grown (been big).	(ئهو) گهواره بووه.
They haven't been in Hawler.	ئهووان له ههولێر نهبوونه.

※ In the Present Perfect tense of the **linking verb** and **intransitive verbs**, the additional "ه" after the Present Copula doesn't appear all the time.

INTRANSITIVE VERBS

The Present Perfect tense of intransitive verbs is formed from the the Present Perfect Root plus the Present Copulas.

Simple Verb	(ه)+ [Present Copula][Present Perfect Root]
Complex/Compound Verb	(ه)+ [Present Copula][Present Perfect Root] [Pre-Word]

You have left early.	زوو پوڤیشتوویت(ه).
I have seated here.	من لێره دا نیشتووم(ه).
They haven't understood.	ئهووان تی نهگهیشتون(ه).
She has come.	ئهو هاتووه.
¹⁾ We have been stayed in Hawler.	ئیمه له ههولێر ماوینهوه.
²⁾ He has been stayed.	ئهو ماوهتهوه.

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- 1) "ه" suffix always comes at the last position of the verb.
- 2) "ت" is inserted where two "ه" vowels conflict.

※ Some actions continuing in the present time also use the present perfect tense.

He is sitting.	ئەو دا نیشوو.ه	He is lying down.	ئەو پال کەتوو.ه
He is standing.	ئەو وەستاوو.ه	He is sleeping.	ئەو خەوتوو.ه

TRANSITIVE VERBS

1) Simple Verb

- a. No Object, No Preposition

ه+[Past Tense **Subjective BP**][Present Perfect Root]

- b. No Object, With Preposition

ه+[Present Perfect Root] [Past Tense **Subjective BP**][Prep.]

- c. With Noun Object

ه+[Present Perfect Root] [Prep.] [**Subjective BP**][Object]

2) Complex/Compound Verb

- a. No Object

ه+[Present Perfect Root] [**Subjective BP**][Pre-Word]

- b. With Object

ه+[Present Perfect Root] [Pre-Word] [**Subjective BP**][Object]

	With Objective BP	Without Objective BP
I have eaten (it).	(من) خواردوو.ه	نانم خواردوو.ه
* He has eaten (it).	(ئەو) خواردوو.ه	نانی خواردوو.ه
I haven't seen <u>you</u> .	(من) نەبینیویت.ه	تۆم نەبینیوو.ه
I have told <u>you</u> .	(من) پێم گوتویت.ه	بە تۆم گوتوو.ه
He hasn't opened the door <u>for you</u> .	دەرگاکی بۆ نەکردوو.ه	دەرگاکی بۆتۆ نەکردوو.ه
He hasn't miss <u>them</u> .	بیری نەکردوو.ه	بیری ئەوانی نەکردوو.ه

※ The **Subjective BP** of ئەو for the transitive verbs in the Present Perfect is "یەتی".

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FORMATION OF PAST PERFECT

The Past Perfect tense is used for an action that started and finished in the past.

In general, the Past Perfect tense is used for complex sentences, that consist of two different past tenses, or for the subjunctive past tense:

To form the past perfect tense of a verb:

- Add "بو" to the past root of the verb to make the **past perfect root**.

INTRANSITIVE VERBS

Simple Verb	[Subjective BP][Past Perfect Root]
Complex/Compound Verb	[Subjective BP][Past Perfect Root] [Pre-Word]

You had left early.	زوو رویشتبوویت.
I had seated here.	من لیره دا نیشتبووم.
They hadn't understood.	ئەوان تێ نهگەیشتبوون.
¹⁾ She had come.	ئەو هاتبوو.
²⁾ We had been stayed.	ئێمه مابووینهوه.
³⁾ He had been stayed.	ئەو مابووێهوه.

- There is no subjective bound pronoun for the 3rd person singular subject (e.g. ئەو) in this case.
- "هوه" suffix always comes at the last position of the verb.
- "ی" is inserted where two vowels("و" & "ه") conflict.

TRANSITIVE VERBS

	With Objective BP	Without Objective BP
I had eaten (it).	(من) خواردبووم.	نانم خواردبوو.
He had eaten (it).	(ئەو) خواردبوو.	نانی خواردبوو.
I hadn't seen <u>you</u> .	(من) نه مبینیبوویت.	تۆم نه بینیبوو.
I had told <u>you</u> .	(من) بێم گوتبوویت.	به تۆم گوتبوو.
He hadn't opened the door <u>for you</u> .	دەرگاکی بۆ نه کردبوویت هوه.	دەرگاکی بۆ تۆ نه کردبووهوه.
He hadn't miss <u>them</u> .	بیری نه کردبوون.	بیری ئەوانی نه کردبوو.

10. IRREGULAR VERBS

There are several irregular verbs in Kurdish, whose conjugations follow neither the intransitive rules nor the transitive rules.

هه‌بوون

There is no verb in Kurdish equivalent to the English verb 'to have.' Kurdish expresses possession through the following formula:

Present Tense

Without Object, Affirmative	هه‌ + [Possessive Pronoun]
Without Object, Negative	نە + [Possessive Pronoun]
With Object, Affirmative	هه‌یه [Possessive Pronoun][Object]
With Object, Negative	نیه [Possessive Pronoun][Object]

Past Tense

Without Object, Affirmative	هه‌ + [Possessive Pronoun] + بوو
Without Object, Negative	نە + [Possessive Pronoun] + بوو
With Object, Affirmative	هه‌بوو [Possessive Pronoun][Object]
With Object, Negative	نەبوو [Possessive Pronoun][Object]

هه‌بوون

			I	We	He
No Object	Present	affirm.	هه‌مه	I have (it)	هه‌یه‌تی
		neg.	نیه‌مه	I don't have (it)	نیه‌تی
	Past	affirm.	هه‌م بوو	I had (it)	هه‌ی بوو
		neg.	نەم بوو	I didn't have (it)	هه‌ی نەبوو
With Object	Present	affirm.	کاتم هه‌یه	I have time	کاتی هه‌یه
		neg.	کاتم نیه	I don't have time	کاتی نیه
	Past	affirm.	کاتم هه‌بوو	I had time	کاتی هه‌بوو
		neg.	کاتم نەبوو	I didn't have time	کاتی نەبوو

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Other irregular verbs whose conjugations are similar to "هه‌بوون":

"له‌بیر بوون", "تینوو بوون", "برسی بوون", "ساردما بوون", "گهرما بوون", etc.

※ Mostly, these verbs are related with one's feeling or possession.

گهرما بوون

Pres.	گهرمامه	I feel hot	گهرمامانه	We feel hot	گهرمایه‌تی	He feels hot
	گهرمام نیه	I don't feel hot	گهرمامان نیه	We don't feel hot	گهرمای نییه	He doesn't feel hot
Past	گهرمامبوو	I felt hot	گهرمامان بوو	We felt hot	گهرمای بوو	He felt hot
	گهرمام نه‌بوو	I didn't feel hot	گهرمامان نه‌بوو	We didn't feel hot	گهرمای نه‌بوو	He didn't feel hot

سهرما بوون

Pres	سهرمامه	I'm cold	سهرمامانه	We are cold	سهرمایه‌تی	He is cold
	سهرمام نیه	I'm not cold	سهرمامان نیه	We aren't cold	سهرمای نییه	He isn't cold
Past	سهرمام بوو	I was cold	سهرمامان بوو	We were cold	سهرمای بوو	He was cold
	سهرمام نه‌بوو	I wasn't cold	سهرمامان نه‌بوو	We weren't cold	سهرمای نه‌بوو	He wasn't cold

برسی بوون

Pres	برسیمه	I'm hungry	برسیمانه	We are hungry	برسییه‌تی	He is hungry
	برسیم نیه	I'm not hungry	برسیمان نیه	We aren't hungry	برسی نییه	He isn't hungry
Past	برسیم بوو	I was hungry	برسیمان بوو	We were hungry	برسی بوو	He was hungry
	برسیم نه‌بوو	I wasn't hungry	برسیمان نه‌بوو	We weren't hungry	برسی نه‌بوو	He wasn't hungry

تینوو بوون

Pres	تینومه	I'm thirsty	تینومانه	We are thirsty	تینویه‌تی	He is thirsty
	تینوم نیه	I'm not thirsty	تینومان نیه	We aren't thirsty	تینوی نییه	He isn't thirsty
Past	تینوم بوو	I was thirsty	تینومان بوو	We were thirsty	تینوی بوو	He was thirsty
	تینوم نه‌بوو	I wasn't thirsty	تینومان نه‌بوو	We weren't thirsty	تینوی نه‌بوو	He wasn't thirsty

له‌بیر بوون

Present	له‌بیرمه	I remember (it)	له‌بیرمانه	We	له‌بیرییه	He
	له‌بیرم نیه	I don't remember (it)	له‌بیرمان نیه	We	له‌بیری نیه	He
Past	له‌بیرم بوو	I remembered (it)	له‌بیرمان بوو	We	له‌بیری بوو	He
	له‌بیرم نه‌بوو	I didn't remember (it)	له‌بیرمان نه‌بوو	We	له‌بیری نه‌بوو	He
Present With Object	ئه‌وه‌م له‌بیره	I remember that	ئه‌وه‌مان له‌بیره	We	ئه‌وه‌ی له‌بیره	He
	ئه‌وه‌م له‌بیر نیه	I don't remember that	ئه‌وه‌مان له‌بیر نیه	We	ئه‌وه‌ی له‌بیر نیه	He
Past No Object	ئه‌وه‌م له‌بیر بوو	I remembered that	ئه‌وه‌مان له‌بیر بوو	We	ئه‌وه‌ی له‌بیر بوو	He
	ئه‌وه‌م له‌بیر نه‌بوو	I didn't remember that	ئه‌وه‌مان له‌بیر نه‌بوو	We	ئه‌وه‌ی له‌بیر نه‌بوو	He

لهبیر چوون

Present	لهبیرم ده چی	I forget (it)	لهبیرمان ده چی	We	لهبیری ده چی	He
	لهبیرم ناچی	I don't forget (it)	لهبیرمان ناچی	We	لهبیری ناچی	He
Past	لهبیرم چوو	I forgot (it)	لهبیرمان چوو	We	لهبیری چوو	He
	لهبیرم نه چوو	I didn't forget (it)	لهبیرمان نه چوو	We	لهبیری نه چوو	He
Present With Object	ئهوه م لهبیر ده چی	I forget that	ئهوه مان لهبیر ده چی	We	ئهوه ی لهبیر ده چی	He
	ئهوه م لهبیر ناچی	I don't forget that	ئهوه مان لهبیر ناچی	We	ئهوه ی لهبیر ناچی	He
Past No Object	ئهوه م لهبیر چوو	I forgot that	ئهوه مان لهبیر چوو	We	ئهوه ی لهبیر چوو	He
	ئهوه م لهبیر نه چوو	I didn't forget that	ئهوه مان لهبیر نه چوو	We	ئهوه ی لهبیر نه چوو	He

(LIKE) پێ خوش بوون, (THINK) پێ وا بوون, (BE HAPPY) دل خوش بوون

Present	پێم خوشه	I like (it)	پێمان وایه	We	پێی خوشه	He
	پێم خوش نیه	I don't like (it)	پێمان وانیه	We	پێی خوش نیه	He
Past	پێم خوش بوو	I liked (it)	پێمان وا بوو	We	پێی خوش بوو	He
	پێم خوش نه بوو	I didn't like (it)	پێمان وا نه بوو	We	پێی خوش نه بوو	He
Present	دلم پێخوشه	I'm happy	دلمان پێخوشه	We	دلی پێخوشه	He
	دلم پێخوش نیه	I'm not happy	دلمان پێخوش نیه	We	دلی پێخوش نیه	He
Past	دلم پێخوش بوو	I was happy	دلمان پێخوش بوو	We	دلی پێخوش بوو	He
	دلم پێخوش نه بوو	I wasn't happy	دلمان پێخوش نه بوو	We	دلی پێخوش نه بوو	He

(LIKE) ههز لێ بوون

Present	ههزم لێیه	I like (it)	ههزمان لێیه	We	ههزی لێ یه	He
	ههزم لێ نیه	I don't like (it)	ههزمان لێ نیه	We	ههزی لێ نیه	He
Past	ههزم لێ بوو	I liked (it)	ههزمان لێ بوو	We	ههزی لێ بوو	He
	ههزم لێ نه بوو	I didn't like (it)	ههزمان لێ نه بوو	We	ههزی لێ نه بوو	He
Present	ههزم لهسیوه	I like apple	ههزمان لهبرنجه	We	ههزی لهکتیبه	He
	ههزم لهسیو نیه	I don't like "	ههزمان لهبرنچ نیه	We	ههزی لهکتیبه نیه	He
Past	ههزم لهسیو بوو	I liked apple	ههزمان لهبرنچ بوو	We	ههزی لهکتیبه بوو	He
	ههزم لهسیو نه بوو	I didn't like "	ههزمان لهبرنچ نه بوو	We	ههزی لهکتیبه نه بوو	He

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(WANT) ویستن

Present	دهمهوی	I want (it)	دهمانهوی	We	دهیهوی	He
	نامهوی	I don't want (it)	نامانهوی	We	نایهوی	He
Past	دهمویست	I wanted (it)	دهمانویست	We	دهیویست	He
	نهمویست	I didn't want (it)	نهمانویست	We	نهیویست	He
Present	تۆم دهوی	I want you	تۆمان دهوی	We	تۆی دهوی	He
	تۆم ناوی	I don't want you	تۆمان ناوی	We	تۆی ناوی	He
Past	تۆم دهویست	I wanted you	تۆمان دهویست	We	تۆی دهویست	He
	تۆم نهویست	I didn't want you	تۆمان نهویست	We	تۆی نهویست	He

(LOVE) خوش ویستن

Present	خوشم دهوی	I love (it)	خوшمان دهوی	We	خوشی دهوی	He
	خوشم ناوی	I don't love (it)	خوшمان ناوی	We	خوشی ناوی	He
Past	خوشم دهویست	I loved (it)	خوшمان دهویست	We	خوشی دهویست	He
	خوشم نهویست	I didn't love (it)	خوшمان ناویست	We	خوشی نهویست	He
Present	ئهوم خوش دهوی	I love him	ئهومان خوش دهوی	We	منی خوش دهوی	He
	ئهوم خوش ناوی	I don't love him	ئهومان خوش ناوی	We	منی خوش ناوی	He
Past	ئهوم خوش دهویست	I loved him	ئهومان خوش دهویست	We	منی خوش دهویست	He
	ئهوم خوش ناویست	I didn't love him	ئهومان خوش نهویست	We	منی خوش نهویست	He

(NEED) پی ویستن

Present	پیویستمه\هیه	I need (it)	پیویستمانه	We	پیویستییه تی	He
	پیویستم نیه	I don't need	پیویستمان پیی نیه	We	پیویستی پیی نیه	He
Past	پیویستم بوو	I needed	پیویستمان بوو	We	پیویستی بوو	He
	پیویستم پیی هه بوو	I didn't need	له بیرمان نه بوو	We	پیویستی نه بوو	He
Present	پیویستم به تویه	I need you	پیویستمان به تویه	We	پیویستی به تویه	He
	پیویستم به تو نیه	I don't need	پیویستمان به تو نیه	We	پیویستی به تو نیه	He
Past	پیویستم به تو بوو	I needed you	پیویستمان به تو بوو	We	پیویستی به تو بوو	He
	پیویستم به تو نه بوو	I didn't need	پیویستمان به تو نه بوو	We	پیویستی به تو نه بوو	He

SPECIAL COMPOUND VERBS

There are some compound verbs which can embed their **objects** in their verb conglomerate using the *Izafe*(linking vowel), "ی".

a. You('ll) learn <u>Kurdish</u> .	تو کوردی فیڕ ده بیت.
b. You('ll) learn <u>Kurdish</u> .	تو فیڕی کوردی ده بیت.
c. I('ll) teach you <u>English</u> .	من ئینگلیزی فیڕت ده که م.
d. I('ll) teach you <u>English</u> .	تو فیڕی ئینگلیزیت ده که م.
e. I watch <u>TV</u> .	ته ماشای ته له فزیۆن ده که م.
f. I visit <u>my relative</u> .	سهردانی خزم ده که م.

- ※ a & b have the same meaning.
- ※ c & d have the same meaning.
- ※ The object of the verbs, "ته ماشا کردن"(to watch) and "سهردان کردن"(to visit) is **always** linked by "ی".

11. PASSIVES

When an action is completed by someone or something other than the subject of the sentence, the sentence is considered “passive.”

Active statement He bought the book	ئەو کتێبه‌که‌ی کڕی
Passive statement The book was bought	کتێبه‌که‌ کرا

※ Note that the passive statement cannot take an object and the passive verb's conjugation always follows the **intransitive rules**.

FORMATION

The present passive stem is constructed from the **Present Stem** of transitive verb + “ری”.

[Subjective BP] + [Present Stem] + ری

The past passive stem is constructed from **Present Stem** of transitive verb + “را”.

[Subjective BP] + [Present Stem] + را

	ناردن to send	هێنان to bring	بینین to see
Present & Future	تۆ ده‌نێریت	گۆله‌که‌ ده‌هێنرێ	ئێوه‌ ده‌بینرێ
	You'll be sent	The flower('ll be) is brought	You'll be seen
	ئهمه‌ نانا‌نێرێ	ئەوان ده‌هێنرێ	ئێمه‌ ده‌بینرێ
	This'll not be sent	They are going to be brought	We'll be seen
Past Simple	کتێبه‌که‌ نێرا	کتێبه‌که‌ هێنا	کتێبه‌که‌ بینرا
	The book was sent	The book was brought	The book was seen
	من نێرام	ئەوان هێنان	من بینام
	I was sent	They were brought	I was seen
Present Perfect	تۆ نێراویت	تۆ هێناویت	تۆ بیناویت
	You have been sent	You have been brought	You have been seen
Past Perfect	ئێمه‌ نێرا بووین	من هێنا بووم	ئەو بینرا بوو
	We had been sent	I had been brought	He had been seen

IRREGULAR PASSIVES

VERBS WITH “دن” ENDING

As observed above (page 66), both the Present Passive and the Past Passive are normally constructed from the **Present Stem** of the verb, but it is acceptable to use the **Past Root** instead of the present stem.

Sometimes, the **Past Root** is even preferred to the present stem, especially when the verb base (of the infinitive form) ends with “دن”.

Both present and past passive statements can be constructed from the **Past Root**.

	خویندن (to study)		هه‌ڵبژاردن (to choose, elect)	
	Using Present Stem	Using Past Root	Using Present Stem	Using Past Root
Present Tense	کوردي ده‌خوینري	کوردي ده‌خویندري	ئه‌و هه‌ڵده‌بژیرري	ئه‌و هه‌ڵده‌بژاردري
	Kurdish is studied	Kurdish is studied	He is elected	He is elected
Past Tense	کوردي خوینرا	کوردي خویندرا	ئه‌و هه‌ڵبژیررا	ئه‌و هه‌ڵبژاردرا
	Kurdish was studied	Kurdish was studied	He was elected	He was elected

Also, if the verb's Present Stem ends with the letter “ن”, an extra “د” consonant is added to the present stem to induce a more comfortable pronunciation.

Present		Past	
تو ده‌بینريیت	تو ده‌بیندريیت	تو بینرايت	تو بیندرايت
You('ll) be seen	You('ll) be seen	You were seen	You were seen

COMMON IRREGULARS

Although the passive voice is regularly and predictably formed from the vast majority of verbs, these common verbs have irregularly formed passives:

A-STEM VERBS

		Present Passive		Past Passive	
to do	کردن	It is done	ده‌کري	They were done	کران
to reach	گه‌يشتن	It is reached	ده‌گري	They were reached	گران
to give	دان	It is given	ده‌دري	They were given	دران
to drop	خستن	It is dropped	ده‌خري	They were dropped	خران
to take	بردن	It is taken	ده‌بري	They were taken	بران

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O-STEM VERBS

		Present Passive	Past Passive
to wash	شۆشتن	It is washed ده شۆرێ	They were washed شۆران
to eat	خواردن	It is eaten ده خۆرێ	They were eaten خۆران

OTHER IRREGULARS

		Present Passive	Past Passive
to hold, to seize	گرتن	It is held ده گیرێ	They were held گیران
to say	گوتن	It is said ده گوترێ	They were said گوتران

These stories will be printed .	ئەم چیرۆکانە چاپ دەکری.
This story was written 2 yrs ago.	ئەم چیرۆکە 2 سال پێش ئێستا نووسرا.
The car will be washed .	سەیارەکە دەشۆرێ.
The key is stolen .	کلێلەکە دەدزری.
The book was read .	کتێبەکە خویندرایەو.

FACTITIVE VERBS

The factitive infinitive is formed from the **present stem** of an intransitive verb + "اندن".

The present stem of all such verbs ends with "ین".

Intransitive Verb	Present Stem	Factitive Verb	Present Stem
پوختن to be destroyed	پوخی	پوختاندن to destroy	پوختین
مردن to die	مر	مراندن to make someone die, kill	مرین
گه‌یشتن to reach	گه‌	گه‌یانندن to make reach, deliver	گه‌یین
تی‌گه‌یشتن to understand	تی‌گه‌	تی‌گه‌یانندن to make someone understand	تی‌گه‌یین

I could **make him understand** somehow.

دەتوانی بە جووریک تیی بگه‌یینم که کهس لیمان تینه‌گا.

I'm going to **demolish** the house and build a new one.

خانووێکه‌ ده‌پوختینم و یه‌کیکی نوێ دروست ده‌که‌م.

12 PREPOSITIONS – PART II

Note that in most cases the preposition, "له" is coupled with its corresponding ("دا", "هه", etc) postposition.

Time	کات
At 4 o'clock	له سعات چوار دا
At 4:35	له سعات چوار و چل و پینچ دهقیقه دا
At midnight	له نیوه شهو دا
At lunchtime	له کاتی نان خواردنی نیوه‌پو دا
At the same time	له هه‌مان کات دا
On April 21 st	له 21 ی نیسان دا
On Monday	له پوژی دووشه‌مه دا
On Nawroz Day	له پوژی نه‌روژ دا
On Friday afternoon	له ئیواره‌ی پوژی هه‌ینی دا
In 2010	له سالی 2010 دا
In summer	له هاوین دا
In the 17 th Century	له سه‌ده‌ی هه‌قده‌م دا
In the Middle Ages	له سه‌ده‌کانی ناوه‌راست دا
In the morning	له کاتی به‌یانی دا
In the evening	له کاتی شهو دا
It's quarter to ten	سه‌عات چاره‌کی ده‌وی یو 10
I'll see you next Monday .	من پوژی دووشه‌مه‌ی داهاتوو ده‌تبینم
They traveled last March .	ئه‌وان له مانگی ئاداری رابردوو سه‌فه‌ریان کرد
People go for picnics during spring	له ماوه‌ی به‌هاردا خه‌لکی ده‌چن بو سه‌یران
During the 1980's	له ماوه‌ی ساله‌کانی هه‌شتا دا
Also traveled twice during this week	له ماوه‌ی ئهم هه‌فته‌یه دا ئاسو دوو جار سه‌فه‌ری کرد
We lived in NY from 2003 to 2007	ئیمه له سالی 2003 وه تا 2007 له شاری نیویورک ژیاپین
Wait until tomorrow	تا سه‌به‌نی چاوه‌پوان به
Nothing happened until 4 o'clock	تا سه‌عات 4 هیچ رووی نه‌دا
Don't open this box until I come back	ئه‌و صندوقه مه‌که‌ره‌وه تا‌کو من ده‌گه‌ریمه‌وه

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Place	شوین
At the airport	له فروگه خانه دا
At the end of the street	له کو تایی شه قامه که دا
At home	له ماله وه
At the hospital	له نه خوشخانه دا
At a conference	له کونفرانسیک دا
On the wall	له سهر دیواره که دا
On the floor	له سهر زهوی ژووره که دا
In a room	له ناو ژووریک دا
In London	له ناو شاری له ندهن دا
In a garden	له ناو باخچه یه که دا
In a town	له ناو شارو چکه یه که دا
In a park	له ناو پارکیک دا
In a street	له ناو شه قامیک دا
In a photo	له ناو وینه یه که دا
In a mirror	له ناو ئاوینه دا
In the water	له ناو ئاو دا
In the sea	له ناو ده ریا دا
In the sky	له ئاسمان دا
In the newspaper	له ناو پوژنامه دا
In the mountains	له ناو چیاکان دا
In my mouth	له ناو ده می من دا
Between Ashty and Huda	له نیوان ئاشتی و هودا دا
Between winter and spring	له نیوان وهرزی زستان و وهرزی هاوین دا
Among the trees	ئه م خانووه له نیوان دره خته کان دا یه
Among the chairs	میزه که له نیوان کورسیه کاندایه
He traveled from Hawler to Suli .	ئه و له هه ولیره وه سه فهری کرد بو سلیمانی
I'm from Kurdistan	من له کوردستانه وه هاتووم (من خه لکی کوردستانم)
He goes to school	ئه و ده چیت بو قوتابخانه
Turn to the left please	تکایه بسوریه بو لای چه پ
The house by the river	خانووه که ی نزیک پووباره که

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Way, Method	به هوی, به
It's a letter from my friend	ئهوه نامهیه که له برادره که مهوه
I borrowed a book from the library	من کتیبیکم له کتیبخانه که خواست
An increase of 10%	زیادهیه که به له سه دا 10
5 km east from(of) Hawler	5 کیلومه تر له پوژه لاتی ههولیرهوه
He came by car	ئهو به ئوتومبیل هات
A poem by Hemin, the poet	ههلبهستیک له نویسنی هیمنی شاعیر
We see through the glass	ئیمه له ناو شوشه دا شت دهبینین
The train is going through the tunnel	شه مه نده فهره که به ناو تونیله که دا دهروات
The water flows into the tank through this pipe	ئاوه که به ناو ئهم بوریه وه ده رژێته ناو تانکیکه وه

POSITION PREPOSITIONS

She is looking out of the window.	ئهو له په نجه ره که وه سهیر دهکات.
She is walking across the courtyard.	ئهو به درێژایی ههوشه که پیاسه دهکات.
He is throwing some paper into the trash can.	ئهو هه ندی کاغه ز فری ده داته ناو ته نه که ی خوله که وه.
He is throwing some paper onto the ground.	ئهو هه ندی کاغه ز فری ده داته سه ر زهویه که.
She is going to the library.	ئهو ده چیت بو کتیبخانه که.
He is coming back from the library.	ئهو له کتیبخانه که ده گه رپته وه.
The paper is falling off the table.	کاغه زه که له سه ر میزه که ده که وپته خواره وه.
She is walking away from the notice board.	ئهو به پیاسه له نیشانه که دوور ده که وپته وه.
She is walking towards the notice board.	ئهو به ره و لای نیشانه که دهروات.
She is walking up the stairs.	ئهو به قادرمه کاندای سه ر ده که ویت.
The flowers are growing along the wall.	گوله کان به دیژایی دیواره که گه شه دهکن.
He is walking down the steps.	ئهو به قادرمه کاندای ته خواره وه.
He is looking over the balcony.	ئهو به سه ر بالکونه که وه دهروانیت.
Th bush is outside the window.	ده وه نه که له ده ره وه ی په نجه ره که دایه.
The ribbon is around the basket.	قردیله که به ده وری سه به ته که دایه.
The cassettes are inside the drawer.	کاسیته کان له ناو چه که مه چه که دان.
He stands against the table.	کتیبه که به ته نیش میزه که وه یه.
The mug cup is underneath the table.	کوپه که له ژیر میزه که دایه.
The table is near the fireplace.	میزه که له نزیک ئاگردانه که دان.

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The dried flowers are in the room.	گۆلە وشکەکان لە ناو ژوورەکان دان.
The clock is between the desks.	سەعاتەکە لە نێوان میزەکاندا یە.
The candle is on the desk.	مۆمەکان لە سەر میزەکان یە.
The picture is over the desk.	وێنەکە لە سەر ووی میزەکان یە.
The plant is on the top of the bookcase.	پۆهەکە لە سەر دۆلابەکان یە.
The plate is in the middle of the bookcase.	قاپەکان لە ناوەراستی دۆلابەکان یە.
The books are at the bottom of the bookcase.	کتێبەکان لە خوارەوی دۆلابەکان دان.
The plates are above the books.	قاپەکان بە سەر ووی کتێبەکان وەن.
The cups are below the teapot.	کۆپەکان لە ژێر قورێهەکان دان.
The teapot is beside/next to the plate.	قورێهەکان لە تەنێشت قاپەکان یە.
The magazines are in front of the television.	گۆڤارەکان لە بەردەم تەلەڤزیۆنەکان دان.
The magazines are behind the television.	گۆڤارەکان لە پشتەوی تەلەڤزیۆنەکان دان.

More Idioms:

Danielle is afraid of dogs.	دانیال لە سەگ دەترسی.
I don't agree with you.	لە گەڵ تۆ هاوڕا نیم.
Azad was angry with Jwan.	ئازاد لە جوان توپە بوو.
I feel anxious about this journey.	نێگەرانی لە ئەم گەشتە.
Azad apologizes to Jwan.	ئازاد داوای لی بوردن لە جوان دەکات.
She applied for the job.	داواکاریهکی پیشکەش کرد بۆ ئێشەکان.
He is ashamed of himself.	ئەو لە خۆی شەرەمەزارە.
You asked for help.	داوای یارمەتیت کرد.
I 'm busy with studying.	من خەریکی بە خویندنم.
I bought the book for \$10.	من کتێبەکم بە \$10 کڕی.
We are close to winning.	ئێمە نزیکین لە سەرکەوتن.
He compares this with that.	ئەو بەراوردی ئەمە دەکات لە گەڵ ئەو.
A competes with B	مەملانی دەکات لە گەڵ
Jwan complains about ..	جوان گەژەندە دەکات لە ...
Azad congratulates for ..	ئازاد پێروزیایی دەکات بەبۆنەی ...
This house consists of 5 rooms.	ئەم خانوو لە پێنج ژوور پێک دێت.
This market is crowded with people.	ئەم دوکانە قەرەبالغە بە زۆر خەلک.

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She <u>cuts</u> the tomato <u>with</u> the knife.	ئەو کچه بە چەقۆ تەماتە دەبری.
He <u>died of</u> diabetes.	بە هوێ شەکرەوه دەمری.
This is <u>different from</u> mine.	ئەمە جیاوازه له هی من.
She <u>has doubts about</u> the project.	ئەو کچه بە کومانە له پرۆژەکه.
He <u>dreams of</u> his mom.	ئەو کۆرە خەو بە دایکی دەبینی.
She <u>wears</u> (dresses <u>in</u>) Kurdish costume.	ئەو کچه جلی کوردی لەبەر دەکات.
This room <u>is enough for</u> us.	ئەم ژوورە بەسە بۆ ئێمە.
My house <u>is full of</u> guests.	خانووەکەم پڕە لە میوان.
We <u>hope for</u> a good life.	ئێمە هیوای ژیاڵی باش دەخوازین.
Karwan <u>is very kind to</u> Ashty.	کاروان دلی زور باشە لەگەڵ ئاشتی.
Ashty <u>is good at</u> mathematics.	ئاشتی باشە لە بیرکاری.
She <u>is jealous of</u> her friend's dress.	ئەو کچه بەغیلی بە جلی هاوریکی دەبات.
We <u>are grateful for</u> your serving.	ئێمە مەمنوونین لە خزمەتی تو.
<u>Wait for</u> them.	چاوەرونی ئەوان بکە.
We <u>are surprised at</u> the news.	ئێمە سەرسورماوین لە هەوالەکه.
He <u>is tired of</u> his job.	ئەو کۆرە بێزارە لە ئێشەکهی خۆی.

OTHER POSTFIXES

DIRECTIONAL NOUNS IN “ی” OR “ه”

Certain nouns become quasi-adverbial directional with the addition of “ی” or “ه”.

* “ی” is more common in Hawler and “ه” is more common in Sulemaniya.

* If the noun ends in a vowel, no “ی” or “ه” is followed.

Noun		Adverb		
home	مال	home(ward)	مالی	مالهوه
room	ژوور	into room	ژووری	ژوورهوه
out	دەر	outward	دەری	دەرهوه
market	بازار	to market	بازاری	له بازارهوه
school	قوتابخانه	to school	قوتابخانه	

POSTPOSED VERBAL COMPLEMENTS

For **motion verbs**(e.g. to go, to come, to leave), verbal complements can come after the verbs and are linked by the linking vowel, "یه\ه".

	Using بو	Using linking vowel ه
I'm going home	دهچم بو مالهوه	دهچمه مالى دهچمه مالهوه
I'm going to school	دهچم بو قوتابخانه	دهچمه قوتابخانه

- ※ The linking vowel occurs for all persons in all tenses.
- ※ The "ت" inherent in the 2nd or 3rd person singular is always recovered before the "یه\ه".

	Present		Past
I'm going home.	دهچمه مالى.	I came out.	هاتمه دهرهوه.
You're going home.	دهچيته مالى.	You came out.	هاتيته دهرهوه.
He's going home.	دهچيته مالى.	He came out.	هاته دهرهوه.
We're going home.	دهچينه مالى.	We came out.	هاتينه دهرهوه.
They're going home.	دهچنه مالى.	They came out.	هاتنه دهرهوه.

"دوه"- Verbs:

I regained(هاتنهوه) consciousness. هاتمهوه هوش خوم.

- ※ For "دوه" ending verbs, the directional vowel "یه\ه" is omitted.

Irregular Verbs:

He went to (the) market. چوته بازار.

- ※ If the past verb conjugation of a motion verb ends in "وو" as shown above, a "ت" may be infixed between the verb and the linking vowel, "یه\ه".

EXPRESSIONS OF TEMPORAL DURATION

PRESENT

[Statement] + [duration of the temporal event (for how long)]

With Simple Present Tense

He's been here for 4 years.	چار ساله لیرهیه.
It's been raining for several days.	چهند رۆژیکه باران دهباری.
I've know it for a long time.	زۆر له میژه دهزانم.

With Present Perfect Tense

I've been sitting here for several hours.	چهند سهعاتیکه لیره دانیشتممه.
It hasn't rained for several days.	چهند رۆژیکه باران نهباریوه.
Mom's been cooking for 3 hours.	سێ سهعاته دایکم چیشتی دروست کردوه.
We haven't seen them for 2 years.	دوو ساله نهماندیتوونه.

PAST

Affirmative

[Past Continuous] + (ده)بوو + [duration of the temporal event (Time Expression)]

Negative

[Past Perfect] + نهبوو + [duration of the temporal event (Time Expression)]

Examples:

It had been raining for several days.	چهند رۆژیک بوو باران دهباری.
It hadn't rained for several days.	چهند رۆژیک بوو باران نهباریبوو.
I hadn't seen him for almost 3 months.	نزیکهی سێ مانگ دهبوو نهمدیتبوو.
I had known for a long time that.	زۆر له میژ بوو دهمزانی.

13. SUBJUNCTIVES

THE PRESENT SUBJUNCTIVE

FORMATION RULES

The present subjunctive is formed from the present stem of the verb and the personal suffixes. The modal marker for the subjunctive is “ب” (same as in the imperative form).

Affirmative: [Subjective BP][Present stem]ب

Negative: [Subjective BP][Present stem]نه

In complex or compound verbs, the “ب” prefix is optional, and when it is omitted the lack of a modal prefix identifies the verb as subjunctive.

چوون	بوون	کردنه‌وه	بانگ کردن	وه‌ر گرتن
to go	to be	to open	to call	to receive
من بچم	من بيم	من بکه‌مه‌وه	من بانگ بکه‌م	من وه‌ر گرم
تو بچیت	تو ببیت	تو بکه‌یت‌وه	تو بانگ بکه‌یت	تو وه‌ر گریت
ئه‌و بچیت	ئه‌و ببیت	ئه‌و بکه‌اته‌وه	ئه‌و بانگ بکات	ئه‌و وه‌ر گریت
ئیمه‌ بچین	ئیمه‌ ببین	ئیمه‌ بکه‌ینه‌وه	ئیمه‌ بانگ بکه‌ین	ئیمه‌ وه‌ر گرین
ئه‌وان بچن	ئه‌وان بین	ئه‌وان بکه‌نه‌وه	ئه‌وان بانگ بکه‌ن	ئه‌وان وه‌ر گرن

USAGES

The present subjunctive is used in the following instances:

INDEPENDENTLY

It is not dependent upon a preceding construction, as a deliberative (English ‘should’).

Should I come tomorrow? (Subjunctive, not sure)	(من) سبه‌ینی بيم؟
I will come tomorrow. (Simple Present, Definitely coming)	(من) سبه‌ینی ديم.
Should we open the door? (Subjunctive)	(ئیمه‌) ده‌رگا‌که بکه‌ینه‌وه؟
We will open the door. (Simple Present)	(ئیمه‌) ده‌رگا‌که ده‌که‌ینه‌وه.

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In literary style, the question maker, "ئایا" often introduces the construction.

Should he go to Sulemaniya? ئایا بچی بو سلیمانی؟

LET ME, LET US

The present subjunctive is used in the 1st persons cohortative sentences ('let me, let's'). It is often preceded by "بـ", "یالا" or "وهره" (Come on).

Come on, let's go! یالا, با بروین!

Come on, let's study! وهره, بخوینین!

LET HIM, MAY IT BE

The present subjunctive is also used in the 3rd persons hortative sentences (let him, may it be, etc.).

Let them sit back! با دا بنیشهوه!

Oh, God, may it rain! یا خوا, باران بباری!

Happy New Year! سالی نویت پیروز بیت!

May it be good for your health! انشاءالله, تهنه دروستیت چاک ده بیت!

For your health! عافیتت بیت!

AS COMPLEMENT TO ALL VERBS

All verbal complements of "ویستن" (want), "ههز کردن" (would like to), "پێویست بوون" (need), "توانین" (can), "دهبیت" (must) are in the subjunctive.

I want to go home. دهههوی بچمه مالی

I'd like to go home. ههز دهکههه بچمه مالی

I need to go home. پێویسته بچمه مالی

I can go home. دهتوانم بچمه مالی

I must go home. دهبیت بچمه مالی

It is not necessary that you say. پێویست ناکا بیلێیت.

She can see you. دهتوانی بتبینی.

Do you want to open it? ئایا دهتهوی بیکههتهوه؟

We don't want to write a letter. نامانهوی نامهیههک بنووسین.

AFTER “BEFORE” OR “ WITHOUT”

The present subjunctive is used after a number of conjunctions like “بەرله‌وه‌ی”(before), “ به بی‌ئوه‌ی”(without), etc.

Before he goes/went	بەرله‌وه‌ی بچى..
Before you sit/sat down	بەرله‌وه‌ی ئیوه‌ دا بنیشن..
Without speaking, she left.	به‌بى‌ئوه‌ی قسه‌ بکا, رویشته.
Without his/her seeing you	به‌بى‌ئوه‌ی بتبینى..

* “بەرله‌وه‌ی”(before) is always followed by the present subjunctive; the proper tense for English translation is gained from context.

AFTER “IF”

The present subjunctive is used in the protasis of a **possible conditional**:

If you want to, you can.	ئه‌گه‌ر بته‌وى, ده‌توانى.
If he comes, we'll eat with him.	ئه‌گه‌ر بێت, ده‌خوین له‌گه‌لیدا.
If you study, you'll pass.	ئه‌گه‌ر بخوینیت, ده‌ر ده‌چیت.
As long as I breathe, I'll serve my country.	هه‌تا هه‌ناسه‌ بده‌م, خزمه‌تى ولاتى خۆم ده‌که‌م.

THE PAST SUBJUNCTIVE

FORMATION RULES

The past subjunctive is formed like the past perfect, but instead of the past tense of “بوون”, the present subjunctive of “بوون” is added.

INTRANSITIVE

	هاتن				چوون	
	Affirmative		Negative		Affirmative	
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
1 st person	هاتبم	هاتبین	نه‌هاتبم	نه‌هاتبین	چووبم	چووبین
2 nd person	هاتبیت	هاتبن	نه‌هاتبیت	نه‌هاتبن	چووبیت	چووبن
3 rd person	هاتبیّت	هاتبن	نه‌هاتبیّت	نه‌هاتبن	چووبیّت	چووبن

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TRANSITIVE

	Without Preverbal Agent دیتن		With Preverbal Agent دیتن		Negative دیتن	
	Singular	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	Plural
1 st person	دیتبیتم	دیتبیتمان	م- دیتبیت	مان- دیتبیت	نەمدیتبیت	نەماندیتبیت
2 nd person	دیتبیتت	دیتبیتتان	ت- دیتبیت	تان- دیتبیت	نەتدیتبیت	نەتاندیتبیت
3 rd person	دیتبیتی	دیتبیتیان	ی- دیتبیت	یان- دیتبیت	نەیدیتبیت	نەیاندیتبیت

	Without Preverbal Agent کردنەو		With Preverbal Agent کردنەو		Negative کردنەو	
	Singular	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	Plural
1 st person	کردبیتەو	کردبیتمانەو	م- کردبیتەو	مان- کردبیتەو	نەمکردبیتەو	نەمانکردبیتەو
2 nd person	کردبیتەتەو	کردبیتتانەو	ت- کردبیتەو	تان- کردبیتەو	نەتکردبیتەو	نەتانکردبیتەو
3 rd person	کردبیتەو	کردبیتیانەو	ی- کردبیتەو	یان- کردبیتەو	نەیکردبیتەو	نەیانکردبیتەو

USAGES

The past subjunctive is used in the following instances:

- 1) After all constructions that take subjunctive complements when the complement is in the past

The men must have gone.	پیاوێکان دەبێ پوڤشتبن.
You must have seen those things.	دەبێ ئەو شتانه ت دیتبیت.
It's not necessary for me to have seen it.	مەرچ نیه که من دیتبیتم.

※ The conjunction "که" is optional.

It's possible that it will rain. (the present subjunctive)	رەنگە باران بباریت.
It's possible that it (has) rained. (the past subjunctive)	رەنگە باران باریبیت.

- 2) in past clauses after superlatives (note that a relative-clause antecedent modified by a superlative is in the Indefinite state, ... یهک)

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In this type of clause the subject of the relative clause must be the same as the noun modified by the superlative. If the subjects of the main clause and of the relative clause are different, the relative clause is not subjunctive.

He is the first person who has attempted it.

یه که مین که سیکه که هه ولێ دابی.

He's the first person I've seen in Hawler.

یه که مین که سیکه که له هه ولێر دیتوو مه
له هه ولێر.

- 3) In past relative clauses after negatives (e.g. there isn't anyone who has...) or expressions with an essentially negative sense (e.g. there are few who have..)

کهس نیه که ئەم کتیبە ی نه خویندبیتەوه.

There isn't anyone who hasn't read the book.

کهم کهس ههیه چیرۆکه کۆن و له میژینهکانی کوردی له داپیره ی خوێ نه بیستبیت.

There are not many people who have not heard old Kurdish stories from grandma.

- 4) After "و هک" (as though) in the past for hypothetical situation

وهکو شتیکیان بیر کهوتبیتەوه.

As though they remembered something.

- 5) In the past protasis of a **possible conditional**

ئهگەر ژیا نی خوّم ته رخانکردبی له پیناوی کورده کهمدا، ئەوا هه ر ده بی خویندن ته واو بکا.

If I had sacrificed my life for my son, he would finish his study.

HOW TO USE THE SUBJUNCTIVE

SIMPLE SENTENCE

	Present	Past
He makes me laugh./made me laugh.	وا لیم ده کات پی بکه نم.	وا ی لیم کرد پی بکه نم.
He made me laugh./didn't make..	وام لی ناکات پی بکه نم.	وا ی لی نه کردم پی بکه نم.
I want to go./wanted to go.	ده مه وی بروم.	ده مویست بروم.
I don't want to go./didn't want to go.	نامه وی بروم.	نه مویست بروم.
We like to study./liked to study.	حه ز ده کهم بخوینم.	حه زم ده کرد بخوینم.
We don't like to study./didn't like..	حه ز ناکه م بخوینم.	حه زم نه کرد بخوینم.
He needs to eat./needed to eat.	پیویستی پییه بخوات. پیویسته بخوات.	پیویستی بوو بخوات.

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He doesn't need to eat./He didn't..	پێویستی پێ نیه بخوات.	پێویستی پێ نهبوو بخوات.
I can teach you./was able to teach..	دهتوانم فیڕت بکههه.	دهمتوانی تو فیڕ بکههه.
I can't teach you./I couldn't teach..	نازانم فیڕت بکههه.	نهمتوانی فیڕت بکههه.

- ※ Note that subjunctive complements remain the same while the main verb tenses change.
- ※ The past tense of the verbs such as, "ویستن"(want), "ههز کردن"(like), takes the past continuous form.

THE IRREALIS MOOD

The irrealis mood, which expresses an unfulfilled or unfulfillable contrafactual(contrary to fact) statement, usually dependent upon an unrealized conditional, is identical to the **past continuous tense**.

I couldn't have done anything else. (even if I had wanted to)	نه مهتوانی ههچی تر بکههه.
Anybody would have known.	ههه کهسی وای دهزانی.
You could have come.	تو دهتوانی بیی.
I could have helped you.	من دهمتوانی یارمهتیت بدهه.

CONDITIONAL SENTENCE - TYPE I

It is **possible** to **fulfill** a condition which is given in the if-clause.

[Main Clause in Present](2), [Present Subjunctive]+(if)ئه گهر
[Present Subjunctive]+(if)ئه گهر (1)[Main Clause in Present]

If you don't eat, you'll get hungry.	ئه گهر نه خویت, برسی ده بیت.
If you study, you'll succeed.	ئه گهر بخوینیت, سهه ده که ویت.
What will you do, if you pass the exam?	چی ده که ویت ئه گهر له تا قی کردنه وه که دا دهه چیت؟
If I you need my help, I will help you.	یارمهتیت ده دههه گهر پێویستیت به یارمهتیم ههیه.
If it rains, we can't go.	ئه گهر باران بهاری, ئیمه ناچین.
If you wake up early, you won't be late.	ئه گهر زوو له خه وه له (ب)سی, دوا نا که ویت.
If I see them, I'll greet him.	ئه گهر ببینم, سلّوی لی ده کههه.

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Until you don't leave, I don't leave.	ههتا نهرویت، نارۆم.
When you bring the tree, I'll cut it.	کهی داره که بهینیت، دهیبرمه وه.
It's possible that it will rain.	رهنگه که باران بباریت.
I hope(wish) to be like you.	خوزگه وهکو تۆم لی بی.

When you come (I'm sure you're coming), bring the books with you.	که هاتیت، کتیبه کان له گهل خوت بیته.
When young people work, country will be developed.	کهی گهنجان کاریان کرد، ولات پیش دهکهوی.
If young people work, country will be developed.	ئه گهر گهنجان کار بکهن، ولات پیش دهکهوی.

※ Note that when the protasis is lead by "که" or "کهی", the verb of the protasis takes past simple tense.

CONDITIONAL SENTENCE - TYPE II

It is **theoretically possible** to **fulfill** a condition which is given in the if-clause.

[Main Clause in Present](2), [Past Subjunctive]+(if) ئه گهر
[Past Subjunctive]+(if) ئه گهر(2) + [Main Clause in Present](1)

If he had money, he would buy the car. (At the moment he has no money, but still has a chance)	ئه گهر پارهی هه بیت، سه یاره که دهکری.
If he ate, he would come soon. (I'm not sure if he ate or not)	ئه گهر نانی خوارد بیت، زوو دیت.
If he studied hard, he would pass. (I'm not sure if he studied though)	ئه گهر زوری خویند بیت، سهر دهکهویت.
If he came here, I would ask him. (but he's not here yet)	ئه گهر بیته ئیره، پرسپاری لی دهکه م.

CONDITIONAL SENTENCE – TYPE III

It is **impossible** to **fulfill** a condition which is given in the if-clause.

There are two ways to form this type of conditional sentence.

Method I	ب \ نه + Subjective BP + Past root + ایه
Method II	ب \ نه + Past root + با + Subjective BP

** In the second case (Method II) the "ب" prefix is optional.

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INTRANSITIVE

METHOD I

	هاتن			
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
1 st person	بهاتمايه	بهاتينايه	نه هاتمايه	بهاتينايه
2 nd person	بهاتيتايه	بهاتنايه	نه هاتيتايه	بهاتنايه
3 rd person	بهاتايه	بهاتنايه	نه هاتايه	بهاتنايه

METHOD II

	هاتن			
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
1 st person	(ب)هاتبام	(ب)هاتباین	نه هاتبام	نه هاتباین
2 nd person	(ب)هاتبایت	(ب)هاتبان	نه هاتبایت	نه هاتبان
3 rd person	(ب)هاتبایه	(ب)هاتبان	نه هاتبایه	نه هاتبان

TRANSITIVE

METHOD I

	With Preverbal Matter نووسین		Negative نووسین	
	Plural	Singular	Plural	Plural
1 st person	م بنووسیایه	مان بنووسیایه	م نه نووسیایه	مان نه نووسیایه
2 nd person	ت بنووسیایه	تان بنووسیایه	ت نه نووسیایه	تان نه نووسیایه
3 rd person	ی بنووسیایه	یان بنووسیایه	ی نه نووسیایه	یان نه نووسیایه

METHOD II

	With Preverbal Matter نووسین		Negative نووسین	
	Plural	Singular	Plural	Plural
1 st person	م (ب)نووسیبا	مان (ب)نووسیبا	م نه نووسیبا	مان نه نووسیبا
2 nd person	ت (ب)نووسیبا	تان (ب)نووسیبا	ت نه نووسیبا	تان نه نووسیبا
3 rd person	ی (ب)نووسیبا	یان (ب)نووسیبا	ی نه نووسیبا	یان نه نووسیبا

USAGE

In contrafactual (contrary to fact) conditional sentences, the protasis (the 'if' clause) contains a verb in the **past conditional mood** (conditional-type III), and in the apodosis (the result clause or the main clause). The verb is in **the irrealis** (past continuous).

If you had waken up early, you wouldn't have been late. (You woke up late and was late to work.)	ئەگەر زوو لەخەو هەلسابایت، دوا نەدەکەوتیت.
If I had studied the lesson, I would have. passed (I didn't pass.)	ئەگەر دەرسم بخویندایه، دەر دەچووم.
If he had come yesterday, he would have seen Azad.	ئەگەر دوینی بهاتبای، ئازاد دەدیت.
If you had sent the letter, it would have arrived.	ئەگەر نامەکەت ناردبا، دەگەشت.
If I had seen him, I'd have greeted him. (I didn't greet him.)	ئەگەر بینی بام، سلاوم لێی دەکرد.
If he had come, we'd have eaten together. (we didn't eat with him.)	ئەگەر هاتبای، بەیهکەوێ نانمان دەخوارد.
If I had come to Kurdistan, I'd have learned Kurdish. (I didn't learn Kurdish.)	ئەگەر بهاتمایه کوردستان، کوردی فێر دەبووم.

COMMON MODAL VERBS & ADJECTIVES

SHOULD: دەبوو

PRESENT

	Affirmative	Negative
I should go.	من دەبوو بڕۆم.	من نەدەبوو بچم\بڕۆم.
He should go.	ئەو دەبوو بڕوات.	ئەو نەدەبوو بچیت\بڕوات.
They should make dolma.	ئەوان دەبوو دولمه دروست بکەن.	ئەوان نەدەبوو دولمه دروست بکەن.

Note:

I shouldn't go.	من نەدەبوو بڕۆم.
I shouldn't have gone.	من نەدەبووایه بڕویشتمایه. من نەدەبووایه (ب)ڕویشتبام.
I don't have to go.	من پێویست ناکات بڕۆم.

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PAST (IRREALIS: WISHFUL THINKING FOR THE PAST)

	Affirmative	Negative
I should have come early.	من ده‌بووایه زوو بهاتبام.	من نه‌ده‌بووایه زوو بهاتبام.
He should have left.	ئهو ده‌بووایه برۆیشتایه.	ئهو نه‌ده‌بووایه برۆیشتایه.
They should have known it.	ئهووان ده‌بووایه بیانزانیايه. ئهووان نه‌ده‌بووایه بیانزانیا.	ئهووان نه‌ده‌بووایه بیانزانیايه. ئهووان نه‌ده‌بووایه بیانزانیا.
You should have washed.	تو ده‌بووایه خوٚ بشوشتایه. تو نه‌ده‌بووایه خوٚ (ب)شوشتبا.	تو نه‌ده‌بووایه خوٚ بشوشتایه. تو نه‌ده‌بووایه خوٚ بشوشتبا.
You shouldn't have said that.	تو ده‌بووایه ئهو وشه‌یه‌ت بگوتبا.	تو نه‌ده‌بووایه ئهو وشه‌یه‌ت بگوتبا.

خۆزگه , هیوادار , ئاوات , ئاره‌زو کردن , حه‌ز کردن : WISH & HOPE

FUTURE

I hope to be a teacher.	خۆزگه\ئاواتم\ئاره‌زو ده‌که‌م که بيم به مامۆستا.
I hope I can go.	خۆزگه ده‌متوانی برۆم.
I hope I can see you.	خۆزگه ده‌متوانی بتبینم.
I wish I had a car.	هیوادارم که سه‌یاره‌یه‌کم هه‌بیت.
I'd like to drink water. (I'm looking for water now.)	حەز ده‌که‌م که ئاو بخۆمه‌وه.

PRESENT

I wish I could fly.	خۆزگه (که) ده‌متوانی بفرم.
I wish I could go.	خۆزگه ده‌متوانی برۆم.
You wish you could see him.	خۆزگه‌ت ده‌خواست ببینی.
I wish I had a car.	هیوادارم که سه‌یاره‌یه‌کم هه‌بیت.
I wish I drank water. (There is no water now.)	خۆزگه ئاو ده‌که‌م ده‌خواردوه.
It's possible that it (has) rained.	ره‌نگه که باران باریبیت.
I wish I were you.	خۆزگه وه‌کو تۆم لی ده‌هات. خۆزگه وه‌کو تۆم جه‌بووم.
You wish you did the work.	بریا ئیشه‌که‌ت بکردبا.
She wishes he studied the lesson. (He didn't study and she feels sorry.)	ئهو حه‌ز ده‌کا که دهرسه‌که‌ی خۆیندبیت.

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I wish my mom came. (but she's not here.)	خۆزگه دهخوایم (کهوا) دایکم بێت.
They wish school was closed.	ئەوان ئارەزو دەکەن که قوتابخانه داخرا بێت.

I wish I had finished the work.	من خۆزگه دهخوایم که ئێشهکهه تهواو بکردایه.
I wish I could have helped you.	خۆزگه بمتوانیبا یارمهتیت بدهم.
I wish I could have helped you.	خۆزگه (ب)توانیبا یارمهتیت بدهم.
I wish I had married him.	خۆزگه میردم پی بکردایه.
I wish he hadn't done that.	بریا ئەو کاره‌ی نه‌کردبایه.

MUST: ده‌بێت

PRESENT

I must go now.	ئێستا ده‌بێت برۆم.
We must not burn the food.	نابێت چێشتهکه بسوتین.
We must eat the food.	ده‌بێت نانهکه بخۆین.

PAST

There must have been some food.	ده‌بووایه خواردنیان هه‌ر هه‌بی.
I must have visited him.	ده‌بووایه هه‌ر سه‌ردانم بکردبایه.

PERHAPS: ره‌نگه‌, له‌وانه‌یه

PRESENT

Perhaps he will come back tomorrow.	ره‌نگه‌ ئەم‌ڕۆ بگه‌ڕێته‌وه‌.
Maybe we will travel to America.	له‌وانه‌یه گه‌شت بکه‌ین بو‌ ئەمه‌ریکا.
Maybe I will finish my work today.	له‌وانه‌یه ئەم‌ڕۆ ئێشه‌کهه ته‌واو بکه‌م.

PAST

Maybe he went to school.	له‌وانه‌یه هاتبێته قوتابخانه.
Maybe they didn't like the food.	ره‌نگه‌ خواردنه‌که‌یان به‌دل نه‌بووبی.

14. CONJUNCTIONS

Conjunctions are joining words and are sometimes called connectives.

A conjunction may join words, phrases or clauses.

CO-ORDINATE CONJUNCTIONS

Co-ordinate conjunctions join words that are the same part of speech: a noun with a noun; an adjective with an adjective; and so on.

And	و	But	به لām, که چی	Or	یان
-----	---	-----	---------------	----	-----

Examples:

Azad, Nawzad, and Sirwan came.	ئازاد و نه‌زاد و سیروان هاتن.
Danielle came to Kurdistan two years ago and learned Kurdish.	دانیاڵ به‌رله دوو سال هات بو کوردستان و فیڕی زمانی کوردی بوو.
Study or sleep.	یان وانه که بخوینه یان بنوو.
In philosophy two things that are completely equal or completely different cannot be compared.	له فه‌له‌سه‌فه‌دا دووشت به‌راورد ناکرین ئه‌گه‌ر ته‌واو وه‌کویه‌ک بن یان ته‌واو له‌یه‌ک جیاواز بن.
I asked her a lot, but she didn't answer me.	زۆر پرسیارم لێی کرد, که چی وه‌لامی نه‌دامه‌وه.
I explained all the questions for him, but he still doesn't understand.	هه‌موو پرسیاره‌کانم بو‌ ڕوون کرده‌وه, که چی هه‌یشتا لیم تی ناگا.

CONJUNCTIVE ADVERBS

Conjunctive adverbs are used to join two complete sentences that are very closely related in meaning.

therefore, thus, as a result, hence	بویه
later, after	له‌پاشان, دواتر
finally	له‌دوااییدا, له‌کو‌تاییدا
however, nevertheless	هه‌رچۆنیک / هه‌رچۆنیک بی
otherwise	ئه‌گه‌ر نا/ئه‌گه‌ر نه‌
besides	له‌پال ئه‌وه / له‌گه‌ل ئه‌وه
anyway, anyhow	هه‌رچۆنیک

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My mom is sick, so I couldn't come to the party.	دایکم نه خۆشه، بۆیه نه متوانی بچم بۆ ئاههنگه که.
Anyway, I want to study Kurdish next year.	هه رچۆنیک بێ سالی داهاتوو دهمهوی کوردی بخوینم.
I woke up, after that washed my face, after that changed my clothes, and lastly went to college.	له خه وهه ستم، له پاشان دهست و چاوم شوشت، دواتر جله کانم گوپی، له دوایدا چووم بۆ کۆلیژ.
We didn't go, so she didn't come either.	ئیمه نه چووین، بۆیه ئه ویش نه هات.
Study, otherwise you'll fail.	بخوینه، ئه گهرنا ده رناچی.
Besides Kurdish, I want to learn Farsi and Arabic.	له پال کوردی دهمهوی فیری فارسی و عهره بی بيم.

RELATIVE PRONOUN

Relative clauses in Kurdish are often, but not necessarily, introduced by the relative pronoun “که” (who, which, that). Generally speaking, the relative pronoun **ka** may be omitted, particularly when it functions as the object of the verb in the relative clause. The relative pronoun is rarely omitted when it functions as the subject of the verb in the relative clause.

When I went to the market, I saw Dawt.	کاتی (که) چووم بۆ بازار داوتم بینی.
Those books I bought yesterday are nice.	ئهو کتیبانهی که من دوینی کریم خوشن.
When I came, you weren't at home.	که هاتم، تو له مال نه بووی.
This is the flower he gave me.	ئهو که کوله کهیه که ئهو پیی دام.
When did you find out that she's married?	کهی تیگه یشتی که ئهو خیزانداره؟

SUBORDINATE CONJUNCTIONS

Subordinate conjunctions are used to join two ideas which otherwise would require two separate sentences.

Subordinating conjunctions are generally formed as below:

preposition + ئه وهی + (که)

* The relative pronoun “که” is optional.

COMMON SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS

Provided that, on condition that (+ subjunctive)	به و مهرجه ی (که)
Without (+ present subjunctive)	به بی ئه و ه ی (که)
Before	به ر له و ه ی (که)
Before (+ present subjunctive)	پیش ئه و ه ی (که)
After	پاش ئه و ه ی (که)
In order that (+ present subjunctive)	بو ئه و ه ی (که)
Because, Since	چونکه, له به ر ئه و ه ی
Because of	به هو ی .. ه وه
Until	هه تا
When	که, که ی, کاتی, کاتی ک
Although, Even if	له گه لئه وه شدا, هه رچه ند

Examples:

I had slept until my mom came back.	من نووستبووم هه تا دایکم هاته وه.
Even though I was tired, I helped him.	له گه لئه وه شدا (که) ماندوو بووم, به لام هه ر یارمه تیم دا.
Even though he studied hard, he didn't pass.	هه رچه ند ه ئه و زۆری خویندبوو, که چی ده ر نه چوو.
In order that people like you, you have to respect them.	بو ئه و ه ی خه لکی خویشیان بوی پیویسته ریزیان لی بگری.
Ahmad has become very rich because he won a lottery.	ئه حمه د زۆر ده وله و ه ند بوو به هو ی بردنه و ه ی یانسیبه که وه.