The Basics of Journalist

*NOTE: From this point on, the terms **Adinjo** and **Journalist** will be used interchangeably.*

I don't expect you to read the whole book in one sitting, so this chapter will provide a simple outline of the most essential elements of Adinjo: Sentence structure, glossing conventions, roman orthography, and key concepts for all students.

Romanization & Pronunciation

This book does not use Adin script or fonts, so everything is presented in *romanized* form, using the simplest Latin script possible. This most complicated linguistic documentation for this book is how to read and pronounce Adinjo, which we are presenting in a simple table.

Romanization	IPA	Pronunciation		Romanization	IPA	Pronunciation
a	a	*father*		**á**	æ	*fat*
b	b	*bath*		**c**	ts͡	*rats*
ch, ç	t͡ʃ	*cheese*		**d**	d	*dog*
dh	ð	*then*		**e**	ɛ	*end*
é	e	*name*		**f**	f	*fade*
g	g	*big*		**h**	h	*hotel, a-ha*
i	ɪ	*hill*		**í**	i	*heat*
j	ʒ	*measure*		**dj**	d͡ʒ	*jewel*
k	k	*kiss*		**l**	l	*lift, mole*
m	m	*middle*		**n**	n	*north*
o	o	*code*		**ó**	ø	*adieu*
p	p	*pencil*		**q**	kʷ	*quest*
r	ɾ	*rent*		**s**	s	*sun*
sh	ʃ	*shine*		**t**	t	*tide*
th	θ	*thick*		**u**	u	*rude*
ú	ʊ	*put*		**v**	v	*seven*
w	w	*will*		**x**	x	*loch*
y	j	*yell*		**z**	z	*haze*

In the table, each letter (or letter combination), is presented on the left, with a word reflecting that sound on the right. The underlined portion of the word is the sound produced by the letter. While no guarantee is made that all dialects of English pronounce

these words the same, a so-called General American dialect is the model used to define how these words are pronounced.

As you are likely to be writing Adinjo more often than speaking it, this guide will not look more closely at pronunciation at this time.

Diphthongs

Most diphthongs, or two-vowel combinations, in Adinjo are pronounced in a straightforward manner, combining the two vowel sounds with a glide rather than a break, but for accurate pronunciation, the following table may be helpful.

NOTE: The presence of a diphthong on the table below is no guarantee that this is in any way a common sound in the language, or even that it is found in any existing text.

Romanization	Pronunciation		Romanization	Pronunciation
ae	(rare) as *áy*		ai	b*i*de
ao	l*aw*		au	h*ow*
ea	as *éa*		ei	as *éy*
eo	b*oo*k		eu	l*e*ft, s*e*ven
ia	*ea*r		ie	*ye*s
io	*y*oke		iu	c*u*te
oa	l*aw*		oe	c*oa*l
oi	b*oy*		ou	l*ow*er
ua	q*ua*d		ue	*wei*ght
ui	q*uee*n		uo	q*uo*te

Sentences

Sentences in Adinjo are broadly straightforward, flowing from the Subject, to the Object or Objects, to the Verb, or SOV order.

(Sug) xáron (dan) kieretax faileton.

sug	xáron	dan	kiere-tax	faile-ton
DEF	mage	INDEF	woodwork-tradesman	love-PRES
The	mage	a	woodworker	loves.

"The mage loves a woodworker."

The *articles* in Adinjo are the definite *sug* (the) and the indefinite *dan* (a, an). They are optional, but can be helpful to distinguish between the noun phrases in a sentence, especially as you are learning the language.

Glossing

In addition, our glossing conventions are as follows:

1. The first line of each gloss is **an example presented in strong, bold text.** This line presents the text using the romanization guidelines already established, with no indications of how words are constructed.
2. The second line begins the gloss, and uses *emphatic, italic text with the following conventions:*
   - Two elements connected with a **hyphen** <-> are separate morphemes, usually referring to *gender-marking* or used in *compound words.*
   - Two elements separated by a **period** <.> are derivational elements such as clitics or affixes. Most sentences will contain this in their verb at the least.
3. The third line is the **gloss**, which breaks down the meaning of the sentence. This includes glossing terms and shorthands such as 1S for "first-person singular" or DEF for "definite article." On this line, anything written in CAPS or using NUMERALS (0-9) is a glossing value, while anything written in lowercase is the gloss, or translated choice, for a word. The glossing convention of 2 above also apply to compound elements.
   1. On this line, Vocatives are written with First-Letter Capitalization, rather than in all-caps as they would be on other lines
4. The fourth line is an English Gloss, which preserves the word order of Adinjo but uses English words to translate any element that can be translated.
5. The last line, *"Quoted in emphasis or italic style,"* is a free translation, or how an English speaker might choose to represent the sample in a normal English format.

Common Glossing Terms

NOTE: For simplicity, some common glossing terms are provided here in tables for reference. This is only the most common terms, a more detailed list of terms can be found in the Advanced Grammar.

ABBREVIATION	Meaning	Rough Translation		ABBREVIATION	Meaning	Rough Translation
1	first person	I, me, my; we, us		2	second person	you, your, yours; you all
3	third person	it, they		4	fourth person	one*, you*, we*
DEF	definite article	the, this, that		INDEF	indefinite article	a, an, one, some
F	feminine gender	she, her; -ess, -ix		I	indeterminate gender	it
N	neutral gender	they, them		M	masculine gender	he, him
GER	gerund	x-ing		INF	infinitive	to x

ABBRE VIATION	Meaning	Rough Translation		ABBRE VIATION	Meaning	Rough Translation
PRES	present tense	-s, is (doing) x		FUT	future tense	will x, shall x
PAST	past tense	-ed, did x		PASS	passive voice	*changes the role of Subject and Object*
SG	singular number			PL	plural (number)	-s
UNIV	universal (number)	all, all of		DUAL	dual (number)	pair

Nouns

Case

Adinjo only has three cases: the **nominative, genitive,** and **vocative.** All nouns are listed in their nominative form, and the genitive is always marked by the prefixed clitic *<ku->* or *<k->.*

The genitive is used to indicate ownership or superior role between two members of the same noun phrase.

> **Kuhiro dantax sug kontagro hemlétot.**
>
> | *ku.hiro* | *dan.tax* | *sug* | *kontagro* | *hemle.tot* |
> |---|---|---|---|---|
> | GEN.king | serve.worker | DEF | marketplace | move.towards.PAST |
> | king's | servant | the | market | went |
>
> *"The king's servant went to the market."*

Here we see the superior role being indicated -- the king is superior to the servant, though the servant remains the subject of the sentence. It's worth noting that because of how the genitive works, *kuhiro* could be placed either before *or* after *dantax* without changing the meaning of the sentence.

> **Kuyi lirja ci-hemlé lum gìlden lukartot.**
>
> | *ku.yi* | *lirja* | *ci-hemlé* | *lum* | *gìlden* | *lukar.tot* |
> |---|---|---|---|---|---|
> | GEN.yi | lirja | 2S-towards | six | gìlden | offer.PRES |
> | My | message | you-to | six | gilden | offers. |
>
> *"My message offers you six gilden (gold coins)."*

This example demonstrates the ownership reading of the genitive. In the case of ownership, it is strongly preferred to place the genitive before the owned portion of a phrase, even though the superior role may be freely placed before or after the primary noun of the phrase.

The vocative is only represented in writing, not speech, and is indicated by writing a word in all-capital letters. It is normally used for names or other proper nouns.

SUG ODÌSSÍ HOMERma qontot.

"SUG	*ODÌSSÍ"*	*"HOMER".ma*	*qon.tot*
DEF	Odyssey	Homer.attrib	write.PAST
The	Odyssey	Homer.by	wrote

""The Odyssey" was written by Homer."

Gender

Adinjo Journalist is not a gendered language, though it does have a way to indicate the gender of a noun. Because gender is not grammatical, but only **semantic,** this means that these gender suffixes are often used to makes gendered words, like *kitaiti* (female dog) or *somen* (male master).

Gender	Suffix (Sing.)	Suffix (Plural)
Masculine	*-èn*	*-ènu*
Feminine	*-(d)aití*	*-(d)aitínu*
Dual	*-lai*	*-lainu*
Neuter	*-ent*	*-entu*
Genderless	*-on*	*-onu*

These words are marked, and not every noun ending with one of these suffixes is necessarily gendered.

Pluralization

In Adinjo, nouns may be singular or plural, however if an explicit number is present, the plural form is optional. Some words (sometimes called *uncountables*) take the same form whether they are singular or plural. In the case of most nouns, the plural is indicated by the clitic suffix <nu> or <u>. There are some exceptions to this rule (notably, *<dyn>* becomes *<din>*), but those will be addressed as you learn them.

Simple Plural Form

Yi dan kosij gìlden airentot.

yi	*dan*	*kosij*	*gìlden*	*airen.tot*
1S	INDEF	eight	gold.coin	find.PAST
I	an	eight	gold.coin	found

"I found eight gìlden."

Here we see that the explicit number, **eight,** is accompanied by the singular *gìlden*. While precise numbers may seem an obvious case for this, even vague numbers like *tomonu* (dozens) allow for this manner of unmarked pluralization. You may opt use the explicit plural with a number, but you are not required to.

LUKA cori gìldenu enmitot.

LUKA	*cori*	*gìlden.u*	*enmi.tot*
Luka	some	gold.coin.PL	lose.PAST
Luka	some	gold.coins	lost

"Luka lost some gold coins."

And here we see the implicit number *cori* (some) pairs with the explicit plural *gìldenu*. When a number is implicit, like *cori*, or absent, it is important to make sure to use the explicit plural.

Countable vs. Uncountable

Adinjo Journalist does have a distinction between countable and uncountable nouns, similar to English. For example, *rash* "sand" is an uncountable noun in normal use, you cannot explicitly number it by saying something like *jon rash* "three sands" -- you must instead say *jon irenu rashi* "three grains of sand" or *jon rashinu* "three bits of sand" to pluralize *rashi*.

Universal Form

In addition to pluralization, the prefix <a-> may be used to create the **universal**, which may be singular or plural itself.

Yi ba twa ni azekenal qontot.

yi	*ba*	*twa*	*ni*	*a-zekenal*	*qon.tot*
1S	PROX	book	in	UNIV.note	write.PAST
I	this	book	in	all.note	wrote

"I wrote all the notes in this book."

The universal refers to a large group of something, and is similar to the way English speakers might refer to groups by simply using their name. For example *AFRANSDIN* would be the equivalent of "the French" or "French people," with the implication of a stereotype, or other broad or universal statement about that group.

Ki adin banu xaflanu gelmau ijinton...

ki	*a.din*	*ba.nu*	*lan.xaf.u*	*gelm.au*	*ijin.ton*
1PL	UNIV.people	this.PL	REFL.truth.PL	confidence.DESC	know.PRES
We	people	these	self-truths	confidently	know...

"We, the people, know these truths of themselves with confidence..."

In this sample, we have another form of explicit pluralization, in *ki adin* ("we, the people") where the plural pronoun *ki* and the referent *adin* agree ()

NOTE: In words beginning with <a>, the universal prefix becomes <á> replacing the original <a>. If the word begins with <á>, it becomes <ay> without replacing the original <á>.

Pronouns

A pronoun stands in for a noun or noun phrase. They can largely be divided into two categories in Adinjo: personal pronouns and referential pronouns.

Personal Pronouns

Yi GRUT ic.

yi	GRUT	ic
1S	Grut	be.PRES
I	Groot	am

"I am Groot."

A simple statement using the first person singular, this is a common and casual introduction (unless you happen to be Groot).

Ci kuLANA failedyn ic.

ci	ku.LANA	faile-dyn	ic
2S	GEN.Lana	love-person	be.PRES
You	Lana's	lover	are.

"You are Lana's lover."

This demonstrates the second person singular. A simple statement of (presumed) fact.

JULZ hi kushi habijadu corinanfailia ic.

JULZ	hu	ku-shi	habijad.u	corinan.failia	ic.
Julz	and	GEN.3SN	partner.PL	some.lovestyle	ic.
Jules	and	their	partners	polyamorous	are.

"Jules and their partners are polyamorous."

Using the properly gendered pronoun is not only polite, it's a common courtesy in Adinjo. If you don't know the pronouns an individual uses, *shi* is the most preferred term (neutral rather than unknown).

Personal Pronouns by Person and Number

	Singular	Plural
1st Person	*yi* "I, me"	*ki* "we, us"

2nd Person	*ci* "you"	*cinu* "you all"
Singular		**Plural**
3rd Person, Masculine	*ji* "he, him"	*jinu* "those guys"
3rd Person, Feminine	*fi* "she, her"	*finu* "those gals"
3rd Person, Neutral	*shi* "they, them"	*shinu* "that group"

While there are further pronouns, these ten are the most important. The dual and genderless pronouns are considerably less common in modern usage than these.

Ton Verbs

Verbs are the most important part of a formal sentence -- they communicate what is happening. Adinjo Journalist has two types of verbs, Ton Verbs and Kun Verbs, with ton verbs generally being the more regular form. For example:

Yi con kruçiton.

yi	*con*	*kruçi.ton*
1SG	pig	eat.PRES
I	pork	am eating

"I am eating pork."

The Adin do not generally distinguish between the animal and the name of its meat. Also, the present tense fills the roles of the progressive and the stative gerund.

Kérincoci ki fainutota sayurín.

kérin-coci	*ki*	*fainu-tot-a*	*sayurin*
before-night	1PL	sleep-PAST-NEG	well
last night	we	did not sleep	well

"Last night we did not sleep well."

In Adinjo Journalist, verbs inflect for their negative form, rather than using auxiliary or helper verbs like the English "do not." This is as easy as adding an *-a* suffix to the end of a Ton verb.