An Idiot’s Guide to Drakanian

Introduction - Ínerihaj:

It has been bought to my attention that some members of this writing team are having a hard time reading Drakanian. Therefore I am writing this guide to try and help sort that out.

In theory, Drakanian is being developed as a simple and easy-to-learn language. In practice, this is a bit hard to achieve as not only have I neglected to provide this guide earlier (My bad, sorry), there are also some characters that aren’t in the English alphabet. The following guide will begin with the alphabet, covering how to pronounce each letter as well as the Drakanian diphthongs, or ‘vowel pairs’ in layman’s terms. I will then talk about grammar, which is a lot simpler than English grammar – well, it should be, anyway.

Alphabet – Skrít:

Ka: Pronounced ‘k’, as in English

Ga: Pronounced ‘g’, never pronounced ‘j’

Da: Pronounced ‘d’, as in English

Ta: Pronounced ‘t’, as in English

Sa: Pronounced ‘s’, never pronounced ‘z’ (Yes this happens in quite a few languages)

Za: Pronounced ‘z’, never pronounced ‘s’ (This also happens)

Ma: Pronounced ‘m’, as in English

Na: Pronounced ‘n’, as in English

La: Pronounced ‘l’, as in English

Fa: Pronounced ‘f’, as in English

Ra: Pronounced ‘r’, as in English. Rolled after ‘l’

Ha: Pronounced ‘h’, unless at the end of a word where it is pronounced ‘ch’, as in loch. ‘h’ or ‘ch’ when not at the end of a word is purely personal choice[[1]](#footnote-1).

Va: For simplicity, pronounced ‘v’. Actual pronunciation is somewhere between ‘v’ and ‘w’, leaning towards the former

Ah: Pronounced ‘a’, as in English

Eh: Pronounced ‘ai’, as in ‘pain’ (Noah should know what I mean)

Ih: Pronounced ‘I’, as in ‘pin’. Never ‘aye’ or ‘ee’

Íh: Pronounced ‘ee’ or ‘y’

Oh: Pronounced ‘o’, as in ‘bone’

Uh: Pronounced ‘oo’, as in ‘food’

Øh: Pronounced ‘ur’, as in ‘Purple’

Åh: Pronounced ‘or’, as in ‘form’

Z’gat (‘): Pronounced ‘uh’, as in ‘uh-oh’

Aí: Pronounced ‘aye’

Eí: Pronounced ‘ai’, as in ‘pain’

Ei: Pronounced ‘air’

(V)’: A vowel followed by ‘ is shortened (Try stopping half way through a vowel sound). This rule does not apply to i or í.

Ae: Pronounced ‘ai’, except for when it is used to denote a plural, then it is pronounced ‘aye’. The actual sound is very hard to pronounce. It’s somewhere between ‘aye’ and ‘ai’, but don’t worry if you can’t get it.

Final note on Pronunciation: Drakanian words are pronounced as you see them. Read new words slowly to try and get the sound right. And remember ‘Say What You See’.

Grammar – Langveta:

Drakanian uses a subject-verb-object structure, like English (Something did something to something).

**Pronouns:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Subject/Object | | Possessive | | Reflexive | |
| I | M’ken | My/Mine | M’entka | Myself | M’ril |
| You | Tau | Your/Yours | Tauentka | Yourself | Tauril |
| He/Him | K’t | His | K’tentka | Himself | K’til |
| She | Í’t | Her/Hers | Í’tentka | Herself | Í’til |
| It | Tz’r | Its | Tz’rentka | Itself | Tz’ril |
| They | T’k | Their/Theirs | T’kentka | Thereselves | T’kil |
| We | Nal | Our/ours | Nalentka | Ourselves | Nalil |

**Plurals and Articles:**

Plurals: add –ae suffix for words ending in consonants or –rae suffix for words ending in vowels.

Articles: The definite article, the, is ‘Lo’ in Drakanian. There is no indefinite article, a, in Drakanian, so a phrase like ‘He is a great Drakan’, would translate to ‘K’tehrta gaína Drakan’ (He is great Drakan).

**Possession:**

Possession is shown by the –entka suffix on the subject. For example ‘My sword’ would be ‘M’entka svípen’. Plural possession is shown by adding the –nka suffix. E.g. ‘The Drakans’ land’ is ‘Lo Drakanaenka tíh’.

**Tense:**

Words in drakanian don’t change according to tense. Instead the word is the prefix ‘Kilk’-’ for past and ‘Ralshí-’ for future.

**Is/Am/Are:**

There is only one word for Is/Am/Are. That is ehrta. It follows the tense rule, so ‘Were/was’ is ‘Kilk’ehrta’ and ‘will be’ is ‘Ralshíehrta’.

**Negation:**

To negate a phrase, add ‘gen’ into the sentence. It can go anywhere in the sentence as long as the meaning is clear.

**Foreign words:**

Foreign words have the suffix ‘-kezen’ added. Foreign phrases start with ‘Kothta’ and end in ‘kezen’.

**Adverbs:**

Adverbs are formed by adding the ‘jet-‘ prefix. E.g. K’t kilk’drak jetshnal (He flew slowly)

**Passive and Active verbs:**

Verbs in the passive voice, i.e. be/have eaten, walked, talked etc, have the suffix ‘-it’/’-nit’ added. Verbs in the active voice, i.e. words with the –ing suffix in English, have the ‘-en’/’-nen’ suffix added.

**Imperatives:**

The Drakanae only have one word for imperatives (Commanding words). That is híjav. E.g. Tau híjav sazr aus Mustar (You must go to Mustar/you have to go to Mustar/you will go to Mustar – Based on context)

**Basic Phrases and Vocabulary:**

Hello: Haílo

Good Day (Very formal): Masakna Díern

Good Morning: Huda Malrava

Good Afternoon: Huda Dohaja

Good Evening: Huda Efernen

Good Night: Huda Níksa

Day (daylight hours): Jødah

Today: Ausjødah/Bad’rdah (either is fine)

Tomorrow: Ralshíjødah/Odv’rdah (either is fine)

Yesterday: Kilk’jødah/ísterdah (either is fine)

Day (Period of planet’s rotation): Síklal

Tonight: Ausníksa

My name is: M’entka nomada ehrta

How are you?: Ga ehrta tau?

Good: Huda

Alright: Feltsar

Fine: Vrida

Not good: Genhuda

Bad: Malíe

See you later: Reg’r tau ralsh

Bye: Arakta

Farewell (Very formal): Masakna Tsvildeín

Please: Pleir

Thank you: Shkentera

Thanks: Shkení

Yes: Aíer

No: Neí

Maybe: Karjep

Conversation Example:

1. The pronunciation of ha when not at the end of words actually depends on the location. The ‘personal choice’ is the North Kaíotikan tradition. Radon, who is from the south of Kaíotika, always pronounces Ha as ‘ch’. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)