

Ďraħýl Rásevek Ďraħyn-Nýrlí Rase  
*Ďraħýl Rase, the language of Ďraħyn-Nýr*

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Nahywtsek-sydasaŋ  
*A complete grammar*

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## A The Ďrahýl Rase lexicon

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## 0.1 | Introduction

## 0.1.1 | Synopsis

Ďrahýl Rase is a highly agglutinative language featuring some fusional elements, with an ergative-secundative alignment. In particular, *coaspects* and *aspects* can be stacked on nouns and verbs, respectively. The language employs dependent-marking dominantly, although some head-marking is present.

Ďrahýl Rase lacks adjectives and adpositions, and has only a few adverbs; in addition, some concepts common in English, such as *to be* or *good* are absent in the language. It also uses relational nouns extensively.

This combination of features allows sentences in Ďrahýl Rase to be concise (unlike in English) while still being understandable (unlike in Ithkuil).

## 0.1.2 | External history

As a constructed language, Ďrahýl Rase is developed synchronically. It was first conceived in the December of 2016, although it wasn't until February 2017 that verbs were added.

Until 23 April 2017, Ďrahýl Rase left the ergative case unmarked and the absolutive case marked. Since marked-absolutive languages are nouns that start with <h><sup>1</sup>, the alignment was changed to a prototypical ergative-absolutive system.

Starting in 19 June 2017, the ÆX version of the Ďrahýl Rase grammar was developed. This update added considerable changes to the language:

- /h/ was written as <ĥ> before the standardisation. This was changed to <h>.
- Well-defined rules for when to use zero-marked genitives were added.
- Formerly, only the human non-elite first and second pronouns were present. The standardisation added the other pronouns that we enjoy today.
- Aspects gained formal names, and some aspects, such as the evident or analogous aspects, were also added.
- The pre-standardisation grammar had sensory affixes for verbs. These were removed because they proved to be redundant.
- Comparatives and superlatives received well-defined rules, and the subject of comparison is no longer forced to be the absolutive argument of a sentence without an ergative argument.
- N-verbs were defined, breaking the complete regularity of the morphosyntactic alignment.

<sup>1</sup><https://isoraqathedh.tumblr.com/image/156426855271>

- Quotatives received more precise rules.
- There is a new chapter on semantics.
- Due to uncanny font magic, *Nesál Tēkel Piva*, the script of Ďraḥýl Rase is also covered.





# 1 | Phonology and orthography

## 1.1 | Consonants and vowels

Ďraħýl Rase uses the following phonemes:

Table 1.1: The consonants of Ďraħýl Rase.

	Bilabial / Labiodental	Alveolar	Retroflex	Velar	Pharyngeal	Glottal
Nasal	m	n		ɳ /ŋ/		
Plosive	p b	t d	ʈ /ɖ /ɟ/	k g		
Fricative	f v	s z		ħ /x/ ǧ /ɣ/	ħ	h
Lateral Fricative		ʂ /ʣ/ ʐ /ʑ/				
Approximant		r /ɻ/				
Lateral Approximant		l				

Table 1.2: The vowels of Ďraħýl Rase.

Short	Long	Semivowel
a	â /ä:/	
e	ê /ɛ:/	
i	î /i:/	j
o /ʌ ~ ɤ/	ô /o:/	
u /u ~ i/	û /u:/	w
y /i/	ÿ /y:/	ÿ /y/

Voiceless plosives can also be geminated after a short vowel.

### 1.1.1 | Diphthongs

A diphthong consists of a vowel and a semivowel, in either order, excluding \*⟨ij⟩, \*⟨ji⟩, \*⟨uw⟩, \*⟨wu⟩, \*⟨yÿ⟩ and \*⟨ÿy⟩, which decay into their respective long vowels. The “dominant” vowel is pronounced as its long form; e. g. ⟨ej⟩ is pronounced [ej].

## 1.2 | Phonotactics

A syllable is allowed to consist of:

- an onset, from one of:
  - a single consonant
  - a plosive or fricative plus <r>, <l> or (depending on voicing) <š> or <ž>
  - a nasal plus <r>
  - at the beginning of a word, an empty onset is allowed.
- a rime, from one of:
  - a short vowel plus a voiceless obstruent or a continuant
  - a long vowel plus a voiceless obstruent that does not geminate the onset of the following syllable
  - a long vowel plus any voiced obstruent
  - a long vowel plus a continuant
  - a diphthong (with no coda)

## 1.3 | Allophony

The following allophonic rules are listed:

Table 1.3: The allophonic rules of Ďrahyľ Rase. See table 1.4 for the legend.

Input	Output	Context
Ob1<+v>	Ob1<-v>	Ob2<-v> ♦
Ob1<-v>	Ob1<-v +a>	Ob2<-v> ♦
Ob1<-v>	Ob1<+v>	Ob2<+v> ♦
V1<+l> Ob1<-v> Ob1<+v>	V1<-l> Ob1<-v +gem>	
V1<+l> C1<+nas>	V1<+l +nas>	
Ob1<+v>	∅	V1<+l> ♦
/t̚.l/	[t̚:]	
/t̚.s/	[t̚:]	
/s.t̚/	[t̚:]	
/t̚/	[t̚]	
/d̚k̚/	[d̚k̚]	
/d̚/	[n]	

Note that /n/ does *not* assimilate to [ŋ] before a velar consonant.

Table 1.4: Legend for table 1.3.

Symbol	Meaning
C	consonant
V	vowel
Ob	obstruent
v	voicing
l	long
nas	nasal consonant or vowel
gem	gemination
+	feature present
-	feature absent
∅	nothing
◆	location of input relative to other elements in context

## 1.4 | Pitch accent

A word has one high syllable (and the rest are low). The natural location of the high syllable is determined by the following rules:

- If there is a long vowel or a diphthong in the last three syllables, then the pitch accent falls on one of them, in the order 2nd-to-last → 3rd-to-last → last.
- Otherwise, the pitch accent falls on the second-to-last syllable.

Pitch accent will be indicated in this grammar. If it falls on its natural location, then it is not marked. Otherwise, long syllables that are forced unstressed will be written with macra, and short syllables that are forced stressed will be written with acutes.

If there is no other way to use diacritics to indicate that a diphthong is unstressed (i. e. the stressed syllable is a long vowel), then a dot can be placed above the dominant vowel of the diphthong to force it to be unstressed, giving the letters <à é ì ó ù ý>.

Hyphens may separate parts of words. In that case, only the last part will be counted.

See table 1.5 for examples.

Some affixes might cause a stress to shift. Such affixes are marked with one of the symbols on Table 1.6.

## 1.5 | Vowel raising

Vowel raising is an important part of Ďraħýl Rase's grammar.

Vowels are split into two groups: *front* and *back*.

- Front vowels are <a>, <e> and <i>.
- Back vowels are <o>, <u> and <y> (which, funnily enough, is actually front!).

Table 1.5: Examples of stress locations.

Orthography	Location of stress (# from last)
resa	2
nâki	2
zanál	1
nâkil	1
panā	2
munuma	2
tôrenu	3
kejhátu	2
nekēkemew	1
panâ-kay	1
renekjûkâl	1

Table 1.6: Symbols used to show pitch accent shifting.

Symbol	Meaning
≥	Shift pitch accent one syllable forward
▷	Shift pitch accent to second-to-last syllable
►	Shift pitch accent to last syllable
±	Keep pitch accent on same syllable

These vowels redirect as such:

Table 1.7: Vowel raising rules.

Old	New
a	e
e	i
i	i
o	u
u	y
y	y

Long vowels are raised similarly. In diphthongs, only the dominant vowel is raised. This might cause the diphthong to decay to a long vowel.

## 1.6 | Notes about appending

Sometimes, appending two strings together will result in edge cases. Suppose we want to append X and Y (e. g. because either one of them is an affix or X-Y will be a zero-marked genitive construction).

- If Y has no initial consonant, then X-Y will result in a non-initial syllable without any onset. To resolve this, Y is given an onset of ⟨h⟩: ⟨vil⟩ + ⟨atu⟩ = ⟨vilhatu⟩.
- If X ends with a consonant and Y begins with the same consonant, then X-Y will have two of the same consonant in a row.
  - If this consonant is a voiceless plosive, then this sequence is treated as a geminate: ⟨atek⟩ + ⟨▷-kane⟩ = ⟨atekkane⟩.
  - If this consonant is ⟨s⟩, then the double consonant is changed to ⟨st⟩: ⟨itos⟩ + ⟨saj⟩ = ⟨itostaj⟩.
  - Otherwise, the sequence becomes a single consonant: ⟨bakar⟩ + ⟨≥-rul⟩ = ⟨bakarul⟩.
  - Note that ⟨t⟩ and ⟨i⟩ are considered distinct, as are ⟨d⟩ and ⟨n⟩: ⟨lakan⟩ + ⟨≥-do⟩ = ⟨lakando⟩ [la'kan:ɬ], not \*⟨lakano⟩ or \*⟨lakado⟩.

## 1.7 | Nesál Tēkel Piva

Ďrahýl Rase is written in *Nesál Tēkel Piva* (lit. New Sun Glyphs), a native script that uses dedicated glyphs for consonants and long vowels, plus diacritics for short vowels. It does not mark pitch accent.

Table 1.8: Consonant and long vowels in NTP.

NTP	Rom	Name	NTP	Rom	Name
ε	p	mon-pama-vunu	ω	ñ	genu-hjula
↳	t	meša-pama-vunu	ρ	d	medro
↳	k	kolo-pama-vunu	η	b	heke
φ	s	lakan-pama-kêš	↳	z	vane-nâhe
è	f	lakan-nimur-kêš	y	z	kêš-dunew
↳	n	sunuh-pama-kêš	↳	g	hrênu
ε	m	sunuh-nimur-kêš	β	d	kekên
c	h	pelu-pulu	ð	t	kasu
ε	h	genu-pulu			
o	h	runa	↳	â	â
6	r	matuk	↳	ê	ê
↳	š	pelu-halde	↳	î	î
↳	l	genu-halde	↳	ô	ô
↳	v	mako	↳	û	û
ρ	g	pelu-hjula	↳	ÿ	ÿ

The short vowels ⟨a e i⟩ are expressed with their own diacritics. ⟨o u y⟩ use the same main diacritics as ⟨a e i⟩, respectively, but add a *kisyltew* (backing mark). ⟨è 6 ρ ↳ β ð⟩ receive the main diacritic below the consonant glyph (and the *kisyltew* above). Other consonants and all long vowels receive the main diacritic above (and the *kisyltew* below).



## 2 | Syntax

---

In this chapter, we look at the structure of the whole sentence.

### 2.1 | Basic word order

Đraħýl Rase requires the verb to come at the end of a sentence; hence, they are called <hrînu> (knots; sg. <hrênu>).

There is a subtle difference in which argument of the verb comes first. Both of the following sentences have the same meaning, but differ in which argument they emphasise:

Tôkus hânu ponelke.

cat-ERG dog bite-3ANM-PROG

*The cat is biting the dog.* (focuses on the cat, who is doing the biting)

Hânu tôkus ponelke.

dog cat-ERG bite-3ANM-PROG

*The dog is being bitten by the cat.* (focuses on the dog, to whom the biting is done)

In addition to syntactic emphasis, arguments of a verb may receive morphological emphasis, which is even stronger.

### 2.2 | Descriptors

Descriptors consist of genitives, numbers and relative clauses. They come *before* the noun they modify.

### 2.3 | Adverbials

Adverbs and adverbials of nouns can occur anywhere before the verb they modify.

## 2.4 | Locatives and directionals

Locatives and directionals that modify nouns occur before the nouns they modify. Those that modify verbs can occur anywhere before the verb they modify. However, they most often occur immediately before the verb and, if present, its negation particle.

## 2.5 | Appositives

The noun being clarified comes first, followed by the clarification.

## 2.6 | Interjections and vocatives

Interjections and vocatives occur at the very beginning of a sentence.



## 3 | Nouns

Nouns (<hivu>; sg. <hevu>; lit. *ropes*) are declined for case and number.

### 3.1 | Number

The main distinction lies between singular and plural. The singular form is unmarked. The plural form of a noun is created from the singular form by raising the high vowel.

In the absolutive case, a distinction is also made between dual and plural. The dual form of a noun is created by appending <-t> to the singular (decaying a final diphthong into a long vowel if necessary). If the singular form already ends with a consonant, <≥-te> is appended instead.

Table 3.1: Some nouns and their dual and plural forms.

Singular	Dual	Plural	Gloss
rase	raset	rese	language
plety	pletyt	plity	parent
itos	itoste	itos	riding animal
kolo	kolot	kulo	ground, place, floor
nupo	nupot	nypo	boat
tynda	tyndat	tynda	squirrel
tôrenu	tôrenut	tûrenu	palace
sydasaj	sydasât	sydasej	book
ej	êt	î	I (non-elite)

### 3.2 | Case

There are eleven cases in Ďrahýl Rase:

#### 3.2.1 | Absolutive

The absolutive form of a noun is the unmarked form of a noun. Nouns with this case can function as the subject of an intransitive verb, the direct object of a transitive

verb or the recipient of a ditransitive verb.

### 3.2.2 | Ergative

Nouns in the ergative form can function as the subject of a transitive or ditransitive verb. The ergative form is derived from the absolutive form by:

- appending <-s> after a short vowel
- appending <-z> after a long vowel
- appending <-z> after a diphthong and decaying it to a long vowel
- appending <-ti> after <-s>
- appending <-di> after <-z>
- appending <-si> after any other voiceless consonant
- appending <-zi> after any other voiced consonant

### 3.2.3 | Accusative

Nouns in the accusative form can function as the direct object of an antipassive transitive verb, or as direct objects in certain verbs. The accusative form is derived from the absolutive form by:

- appending <-n> after a vowel
- appending <-n> after a diphthong and decaying it to a long vowel
- appending <-en> after a consonant

### 3.2.4 | Genitive

Nouns in the genitive case can modify other nouns to indicate possession or description. It is formed from the absolutive by:

- replacing the rime of the final syllable with <►-êl> if it is any of <-ew>, <-ej>, <-ey> or <-ê>
- but the genitive of <ej> (I, non-elite) is <ejlí>
- otherwise:
  - appending <≥-l> after a vowel if the pitch accent is not on the final syllable
  - appending <≥-li> after a consonant, or if the pitch accent is on the final syllable

Sometimes, a genitive might syntactically modify a verb with a causative. In that case, it semantically modifies the dislocated patient of the causative:

Atúl fetatosorakamadutro!  
 person-GEN sing-1-2SG-story-CAUS-IMP  
 Make me sing the person's story!

### 3.2.5 | Adverbial

Nouns in the adverbial case can modify verbs to act as adverbs. It is formed like the genitive, but using <r> instead of <l>. In other words, it is formed by:

- replacing the rime of the final syllable with <►-êr> if it is any of <-ew>, <-ej>, <-eý> or <-ê>
- but the adverbial of <ej> (I, non-elite) is <ejrí>
- otherwise:
  - appending <≥-r> after a vowel if the pitch accent is not on the final syllable
  - appending <≥-ri> after a consonant, or if the pitch accent is on the final syllable

### 3.2.6 | Locative

Nouns in the locative signify the location or time of an object or action. The locative case, when used on the name of a language, means “in a language”. They are formed from the absolutive with the suffix <≥-ma>.

Some nouns can be in the locative implicitly (without any marking). These include <šuna> (time, occurrence), <sepu> (occurrence) and <kôlo> (here).

### 3.2.7 | Directional

Nouns in the directional case indicate that an (object moved / action happened) (toward a place / until some time), and they are formed with the suffix <≥-me>.

### 3.2.8 | Causal

Nouns in the causal case indicate that an action happened because of something, and they are formed with the suffix <▷-kane>.

Final causal case (e. g. *went for the book; broken into pieces*) can be disambiguated by the particle <ta> after the noun.

### 3.2.9 | Benefactive

This case indicates an action done on behalf of something. It is formed from the suffix <▷-sane>.

### 3.2.10 | Comitative

This case indicates an action done in company with something or someone. It is formed from the suffix <▷-nylu>.

### 3.2.11 | Instrumental

This case indicates an action done with something (as a tool). It can also indicate the theme of a ditransitive verb. It is formed from the suffix <≥-rul>.

## 3.3 | Zero-marked genitive

An alternative construction for the genitive exists. If X and Y are both nouns, then X-Y is equivalent to X-GEN Y. However, this zero-marking construction is more limited compared to the full genitive; outside of literary uses, it is limited to the cases when:

- X is a quantifier such as <heli> (all), <mej> (what, which?), <kolo> (ground, many, much, this) or <manu> (part, some)
- X is an ordinal – e. g. <troma-nehatu> (first boy)
- Y is a relational noun
- Y is <kay> (group, collection) – e. g. <nâki-kay> (tree + group = grove)
- Y is a time expression such as <mane> (day) – e. g. <lykoj-mane> (next + day = tomorrow)
- Y is <sepu> (occurrence) – e. g. <sel-sepu> (once)
- Y is the name of a mathematical function
- the expression is the name of a plant or animal – e. g. <mojru-nâki> (apple tree)
- the expression is the name of a colour – e. g. <hina-suhor> (sea blue)
- in noun-verb-er compounds – e. g. <tasavo-vuleplū> (drum-hitter = drummer)
- in some fixed expressions such as <manenure> (day + middle = noon) or <tomu-forme> (domesticated animal + field = pasture)

As always, consult section 1.6.

### 3.4 | Coaspects

Coaspects apply before case but after number, and they can be stacked:

- Additional (also A, even A): <≥-tu>
- Exclusive (only A): <≥-(k, g, ħ, ġ, ñ)a> depending on the place of articulation and voicing of the onset of the previous syllable
- Superlative (the most A): <≥-do>
- Completive (all of A): <≥-tšek>
- Emphatic: <►-ħraw>

Technically, any verbal aspect can be applied on nouns, but those outside the list above are rare.

### 3.5 | Prefixes

- Diminutive: <ki->
- Augmentative: <to->
- Excessive: <dû->
- Feminine: <se->
- Masculine: <ne->
- False: <vil->
- Demonstrative prefixes:
  - <ħana-> this
  - <rina-> that
  - <dana-> yonder
  - <hê-> other

### 3.6 | Appositive

In an appositive phrase, the base word (*not* the clarification) receives the suffix <±-vek>, after all other affixes:

Ďrahýl Rasémavek *Ďrahyn-Nýrlí rase* ħada etu týrelke.

Ďrahyn-GEN language-LOC-APPOSITIVE *Ďrahyn-land-GEN language* 12<sup>6</sup> human\PL speak\PL-3ANM-PROG

*Ďrahýl Rase, the language of Ďrahyn-Nýr, is spoken by (about) 3,000,000 people.*

### 3.7 | Relational nouns

Ďrahyíl Rase lacks adpositions or cases specialised for concepts such as “outside” or “through”, but it can still express such concepts through *relational* nouns, which describe spatial or temporal relations. Relational nouns often use the zero-marked genitive.

Table 3.2: Some examples of relational noun use.

Phrase	Components	Translation
nâki-mojmé	tree + away + directional	away from the tree
ĥanamane-mojmé	today + away + directional	from today on
taga-nēmá	box + inside + locative	inside the box
forme-ĥajmé	field + span + directional	through the field
kelinka-nurema	huts + middle + locative	amongst the huts
ĥak-šluvisko-heselár	three + square root + latch + adverbial	in terms of $\sqrt{3}$
pahnûnew-pasár	killing + intent + adverbial	with the intent to kill
suýnut-tšakér	dusk + despite + adverbial	despite the dusk

### 3.8 | Polarity

The negative of a noun is expressed with a particle <kêl> before the noun. Hence, for instance, <ínylu> means *with us*, and <kêl inýlu> means *without us*.

### 3.9 | Pronouns

Pronouns are separated by person and class (see table 3.3). The pronouns are given in Table 3.4.

Table 3.3: The pronoun classes of Ďrahyíl Rase.

Class	Things that fall under this class
Divine	Deities
Human elite	Scholars, members of the military
Human non-elite	All other sentient beings
Non-human animate	Live animals and parts thereof
Inanimate	All other objects

The dual and plural forms of pronouns are derived regularly.

The dual and plural forms of first-person pronouns are exclusive. To convey the inclusive first-person plural, a first-person and second-person pronoun are used together.

Note that the first-person plural pronouns are exclusive. Inclusive pronouns are expressed using the conjunction of two pronouns: <ĥi suý> = *we and you*.

Table 3.4: The pronouns of Ďrahýl Rase.

Class \ Person	1st	2nd	3rd
Divine	ervo	nime	
Elite	naba	revu	ħranu
Non-elite	ej	suý	ane
Animate			nej
Inanimate			vas





## 4 | Verbs

Verbs (<hrînu>; sg. <hrênu>; lit. *knots*) are conjugated for the person and number of both the ergative and the absolutive arguments, an optional causative, evidentiality, sense, zero or more aspects and tense. Only the person and number of the absolutive argument is obligatory.

### 4.1 | Verb structure

Figure 4.1: The structure of a conjugated finite form of a verb.



Note that the only optional affix dependent on another optional affix is the dislocated patient of the causative, which depends on the causative marker.

Figure 4.2: The structure of an infinitive form of a verb.



## 4.2 | The infinitive form of a verb

The infinitive form of a verb ends in <-ek>. Additionally, the pitch accent does not fall on the last syllable.

## 4.3 | Absolutive argument marking in finite forms

Conjugating for the absolutive argument involves adding an ending for person and, for plural patients, changing the stem of the verb by raising the high syllable (e. g. <zane> to <zene>). Dual forms receive a special suffix.

For verb conjugation, the inanimate class in table 3.3 is placed into its own group, and all other classes are combined into an animate class. This distinction is made only in the third person.

Table 4.1: Conjugation of <zane<sup>k</sup>> (to move).

	Singular	Dual	Plural
1st	zana	zanat	zena
2nd	zanu	zanut	zenu
3rd anim.	zanel	zaneš	zenel
3rd inanim.	zane	zanes	zene
0th	zano		
relative	zani		

The zeroeth-person marking is used for verbs that have no absolutive argument:

Table 4.2: Comparison between the presence of ABS and the absence.

Explicit ABS	Implicit ABS	No ABS
Ĥjamárzi ěnerku rine. bird-ERG seed\PL eat\PL-3 <i>The bird eats the seeds.</i>	Ĥjamárzi rine. bird-ERG eat\PL-3 <i>The bird eats them.</i>	Ĥjamárzi reno. bird-ERG eat-0 <i>The bird eats.</i>

## 4.4 | Ergative argument marking

This suffix is required only if the ergative argument is not explicitly mentioned elsewhere and it is not in the zeroeth person.

## 4.5 | Aspect

A verb in Ďrahýl Rase can also receive zero or more aspect affixes. These come after the evidentiality markers in finite verb forms and immediately before the stem in the infinitive.

Table 4.3: Suffixes for the person and number of the ergative argument.

	Singular	Dual	Plural
1st	-to	-tot	-tu
2nd	-toso	-tosot	-tuso
3rd	-ta	-tat	-te
relative	-teba		
reflexive	-tame		

Note that Ďrahýl Rase's *aspects* range beyond the traditional sense of “aspect”; it also covers mood, modality, degree, tellicity and volition.

Table 4.4: Aspect markers for Ďrahýl Rase verbs.

Name	Affix	Meaning
Habitual	-mo	Indicates an action performed as a habit.
Progressive	-ke	Indicates an action in progress.
Gnomic	-he	Indicates a general truth or aphorism.
Iterative	-sit	Indicates a repeated action at one point in time.
Inclinative <sup>1</sup>	-ñas	Indicates a tendency toward an action. Unlike the gnomic aspect, this does not suggest a universal. e. g. Ĥana-renus linka vineteñas. this-fox\PL-ERG house\PL scratch\PL-3-3.PL-TENDENCY These foxes tend to scratch houses.
Continuative	-kju	Indicates an action that is continuing to happen.
Momentane	-šu	Indicates an action that happens once or is short-lived.
Occasional ♦	-vir	Indicates an action that sometimes happens.
Temporary	-žir	Indicates a temporary state.
Inceptive	-ma	Indicates an action that is starting.
Cessative	-de, -du	Indicates an action that is ending. The exact suffix must agree with the vowel group of the previous syllable.
Deontic Potential	-ge	Indicates an action that is able to happen.
Deontic Necessitative	-gan	Indicates an action that must or should happen.
Epistemic Potential	-fe	Indicates an action that is inferred to be able to happen.
Epistemic Probable	-he	Indicates an action that is inferred to be likely to happen.
Epistemic Necessitative	-van	Indicates an action that is inferred to necessarily happen.
Attempt	-da	Indicates an attempted action.
Defective	-kla	Indicates an action that almost happens.
Completive	-tsek	Indicates an action that is done to completion: ĥraletsekra burn-3-COMPLETIVE-PAST It burnt away completely.

Name	Affix	Meaning
Telic	-vlo	Indicates a successful action (“managed to”).
Ineffective	-tšalu	Indicates that an action is ineffective in meeting some goal (“no use”).
Indifferent	-nelu	Indicates that an action is unnecessary in meeting some goal (“doesn’t matter”).
Diminutive	-ki	Indicates an action happening to a smaller degree. When combined with the imperative <-tro>, the verb is taken as a recommendation rather than a command.
Excessive	-dû	Indicates an action that happens to an excessive degree (“too much”).
Additional	-tu	Indicates an action happening in addition to another (“also”, “even”).
Exclusive	-(k, g, h, ġ, ñ)a	Indicates an action happening to the exclusion of others (“only”). The manner of articulation of initial consonant of the affix agrees with that of the onset of the previous syllable.
Superlative	-do	Indicates an action happening to the greatest extent (“the most”).
Discrete	-ni	Indicates one unit of action (e. g. “walk” → “step”).
Intentional	-pa	Indicates an action done on purpose.
Unintentional	-zy	Indicates an action done unintentionally.
Voluntary ♦	-sej	Indicates an action done willingly.
Involuntary ♦	-krej	Indicates an action done unwillingly.
Meritative ♦	-bûr	Indicates that an action is deserved.
Demeritative ♦	-kebûr	Indicates that an action is not deserved.
Improper	-zañ	Indicates that an action was done in an improper manner (“mis-”).
Actual ♦	-fšu	Indicates an actual state.
Imperative	-tro	Indicates a command to the second-person argument.
Hypothetical	-vluý	Acts as an if-clause. Mevu kël sunuhevluý, mîny penetuta. rain NEG fall-3-HYPOT, flower\PL see\PL-3-1.PL-FUT If it doesn’t rain, we will look at the flowers.

Name	Affix	Meaning
Conditional	-to	Indicates an action that depends on another condition (i. e. equivalent to our “would”).
Conflictive	-tšak	Acts as an although-clause.
Analogous	-mes	Indicates the antecedent of an analogy (i. e. equivalent to “for the same reason that”)
Emphatic	-ħraw	Places emphasis on the verb.
Reciprocal	-ñe	Indicates that ABS and ERG (or in <i>n</i> -verbs, ACC and ABS) performed the action on each other.
Evident	-zu	Indicates an obvious action. Often condescending.
Antipassive ♦	-pah	Moves ERG to ABS, and ABS (if present) to ACC. May be used instead of the zeroeth-person ABS in order to avoid rhyming.
Exact	-kat	Indicates that the action is done or known exactly.
Approximate	-vis	Indicates that the action is done only approximately.
♦ indicates aspect limited to formal language		

## 4.6 | Tense

The tense marker, which comes at the end of a finite verb form, is one of the below:

- <∅> present
- <-ra> past
- <-ta> future
- <-rus> immediate past
- <-tys> immediate future

## 4.7 | Causative

Verbs can be marked as a causative. As seen in figure 4.3, this moves one argument to another position: inside the verb.

(If the base action has no ERG, then the causer assumes the ERG position and no further action is needed.)

The dislocated patient is incorporated in the verb, before the causative marker <-du>. It is not necessary to mark the dislocated patient.

<sup>1</sup>Thanks to marek for suggesting this name.

Figure 4.3: The movement of arguments in a causative.



## 4.8 | Evidentiality

Evidentiality is optionally marked after the causative marker.

- <-haka> by direct evidence
- <-hana> by hearsay
- <-hame> inferential
- <-hamehe> inferential (self-evident)
- <-hala> by hope
- <-hale> by imagination
- <-hapa> by allegation
- <-hase> by desire

## 4.9 | Comparative

The comparative marker <gzo->, if present on a verb with no ERG, will cause the verb to compare the degree of the action between ERG and ABS. In otherwords, “X-ERG Y COMP-Z” means “X Zs more than Y”, akin to the *out-* prefix in English.

Hênu kretenelñas.  
 dog\PL run\PL-3ANM-INCLINATIVE  
*Dogs tend to run.*

Hênus tûku gžokretenelñas.  
 dog\PL-ERG cat\PL COMP-run\PL-3ANM-INCLINATIVE  
*Dogs tend to run more than cats.*

## 4.10 | Direction

A verb may have a directional marker before the comparative marker.

- <sun-> to a lower place

- <lak-> to a higher place
- <ren-> inwards
- <sak-> outwards, away
- <len-> with oneself

#### 4.11 | Relation

A verb may have a relational marker before the directional marker.

- <nê-> inside (an unspecified place)
- <kun-> outside (...)
- <mu-> to the side of (...)
- <kej-> around (...)
- <saj-> on top of (...)

Note that relational markers do not act as applicatives.

#### 4.12 | Pitch accent

If the pitch accent of the infinitive falls on the natural location, then it will for any conjugated form.

If it falls one syllable before it, then it will fall one syllable before the natural location for any conjugated form, unless the natural location is on the third-to-last syllable, in which case it falls on the third-to-last syllable.

If it falls one syllable after it, then it will fall one syllable after the natural location for any conjugated form, unless the natural location is on the last syllable, in which case it falls on the last syllable.

#### 4.13 | Notes about formality

Formal language tends to revere brevity. As a result, when there is an option to either express something morphologically as opposed to periphrastically, it will prefer the former option.

On the other hand, informal language tends to use more periphrastic constructions, and avoid marking direction and relation morphologically. Compare the following examples:

Nêlumotokreja.

REL\_IN-read-0-1-INVOLUNTARY-PAST

Kolohevu vasa-nēmá lumotora.



unwillingly there-inside-LOC read-0-1-PAST  
*I unwillingly read inside.*

Although the two sentences above express the same idea, the first sentence is more formal.

#### 4.14 | Polarity

As with nouns, the negative of a verb is expressed with a particle <kêl> before the verb.

Similarly, tag questions are marked with the particle <têl>:

Munumár têl kotanurus.  
 slow-ADV TAG come-2-IMMEDIATE\_PAST  
*You came late, right?*

#### 4.15 | N-verbs

*N*-verbs are a special class of verbs that, instead of taking ERG and ABS arguments, take ABS and ACC arguments. In the example below, <sinek> is an *n*-verb.

Daj-manema ane ralan sinelra.  
 previous-day-LOC PR.3.NONELITE sorrow-ACC feel-3ANM-PAST  
*Yesterday, she felt sorrow.*

Other *n*-verbs include <rumek> (depend, rely on).

Some verbs can be used either as a regular verb or an *n*-verb, but carry different meanings depending on usage:

Table 4.5: Some verbs whose meanings depend on *n*-usage.

Verb	<i>N</i>	Non- <i>n</i>
panek	see	look at
takek	hear	listen to
rakek	touch accidentally	touch intentionally
mumek	hate because of some intrinsic quality of what is hated	hate for the sake of hating
ramek	break something that is in the way	break something, seeking out things to be broken

#### 4.16 | Ditransitive verbs

Đraħýl Rase is a secundative language; in other words, in ditransitive verbs, the recipient is the absolutive argument of the verb. The theme is marked with the instrumental case.

Zanys Ħarku zārerul vemtelra.  
 Zany-ERG Ħarku spoon-INTR give-3ANM-PAST  
 Zany gave Ħarku a spoon.<sup>2</sup>

Note that \*⟨Zanys Ħarkume zāre vemtera⟩ is grammatically incorrect.

However, other verbs may act in a monotransitive or ditransitive manner. Thus, ⟨Zanys Ħarku zārerul betlelra⟩ and ⟨Zanys Ħarkume zāre betlera⟩ are both correct and mean “Zany sent Ħarku a spoon”.

#### 4.17 | General comparatives and superlatives

The comparative prefix ⟨gzo-⟩ (mentioned in section 4.9) works only if the base sentence has no ergative argument and the subject of comparison is the absolutive argument. Alternatively, if the ergative argument is present and it is the subject of comparison, and there is no accusative argument, the verb can receive the antipassive aspect, demoting the ergative to the absolutive, but this method tends to be unusually formal.

The general approach is used only when an ergative argument is present in the base sentence or the subject of comparison is not the absolutive argument. This approach uses the relationals ⟨hāle⟩ and ⟨kâ⟩ on the dominant and recessive subjects, respectively. These relationals are in turn declined for the case of the subject of comparison:

Pylus mîny-hāle setla-kâ rinehe.  
 fish\PL-ERG flower\PL-CMPDOM leaf\PL-CMPRESS eat\PL-3-GNOMIC  
 Fish eat more flowers than leaves.

Zany-hāles Ħarku-kâz gedu rene.  
 Zany-CMPDOM-ERG Ħarku-CMPRESS-ERG meat eat-3  
 Zany eats more meat than Ħarku does.

Further difficulties arise from cases where the subject of comparison is the verb, or even complete clauses. In this case, the dominant verb receives the comparative prefix ⟨gzo-⟩ and the completive aspect marker ⟨-tšek⟩, while the recessive verb receives the comparative prefix and the diminutive aspect ⟨-ki⟩:

Mako varu-mulama gżopuluheltšek sydasej gżolymetaki.  
 Mako lake-side-LOC COMP-catch\_fish-3ANM-COMPLETIVE book\PL COMP-read\PL-3-3SG-DIM  
 Mako fishes beside the lake more than he reads books.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>2</sup>If you're curious, ⟨Zany⟩ means *robin* and ⟨Ħarku⟩ means *seed*.

<sup>3</sup>⟨Mako⟩ means *star*. Oddly enough, it's a masculine name.

In any case, omitting either the dominant or the recessive subject of comparison is ungrammatical.

Superlatives follow a completely different strategy. In most cases, the subject of comparison receives the <-do> coaspect or aspect:

Zakíl tages hrasodo lene.  
west-GEN wind-ERG vigour-SUPER have-3  
The west wind is the strongest.

Nehetu-tûr Zany naneldora.  
MASC-person-out\_of-ADV Zany work-3ANM-SUPER-PAST  
Of the men, Zany worked the most.

As in the second example, the relational <tuý> plus the adverbial case marks the basis of comparison.

Occasionally, multiple subjects of comparison might be marked:

Kay-tûr suydos gireltosofo.  
group-out\_of-ADV 2SG.NE-SUPER-ERG attract-3ANM-2SG-SUPER  
Out of the group, he is attracted to you the most.

This double marking suggests that there are two plausible subjects of comparison.

## 4.18 | Dependent clauses

### 4.18.1 | Relative clauses

A relative clause, or one that modifies a noun, is formed by appending <►-kâl> or <►-kaš> to the conjugated verb. Either the relative pronoun strategy (using verbal affixes or the pronoun <bâ>) or the gap strategy may be used to express the antecedent inside the clause. The relative pronoun strategy is the most common when the antecedent is the ABS of the clause or it would be otherwise unclear where it is. The gap strategy is the most common for non-ABS antecedents that are clear.

Table 4.6: Examples of relative clause usage.

Role of ante. in RC	Example
ABS	kunemikekâl sazuha dance-RELPRO-PROG-rel monkey the monkey that is dancing (<kunemekekâl sazuha> is also acceptable)
ERG	daj-manema hwonarakâl nehatu previous-day-LOC befriend-1-PAST-REL MASC-human the man who befriended me yesterday (<... hwonatebarakâl nehatu> is also acceptable)
LOC	mîny flenekâl kinâhe

Role of ante. in RC	Example
GEN	<p>flower\PL grow\PL-3-REL hill  <i>the hill where the flowers grow</i>          (&lt;mîny bâma flenekâl kinâhe&gt; is also acceptable)</p>
BENEFACTIVE	<p>hânu teneldūkâl kisehatu          dog bark-3ANM-EXCESSIVE-REL DIM-FEM-HUMAN  <i>the girl whose dog barks too much</i>          (&lt;bâli hânu teneldūkâl kisehatu&gt; is also acceptable)</p> <p>bāsane nanakâs rûma          REL-BENEFACTIVE work-1-REL.NONRESTRICTIVE CHILD  <i>my child, whom I work for</i>          (&lt;nanakâs rûma&gt; is somewhat acceptable but confusing)</p>

<►-kâl> is used for restrictive clauses, and <►-kâs> is used for nonrestrictive clauses:

hânu teneldūkâl kisehatu  
 dog bark-3ANM-EXCESSIVE-REL DIM-FEM-HUMAN  
*the girl whose dog barks too much*

hânu teneldūkâs kisehatu  
 dog bark-3ANM-EXCESSIVE-REL.NONRESTRICTIVE DIM-FEM-HUMAN  
*the girl, whose dog barks too much*

Furthermore, despite allophony rules, <►-kâs> is not pronounced [kâ:], but rather [kâ:ʔ].

#### 4.18.2 | Content clauses

Content clauses are clauses that stand in place of nouns. They are formed by appending <►-kaj> to the conjugated form of a verb. The resulting clause can be declined as a noun, except that it is necessarily singular and its genitive form is <►-kâlî>.

Kejsa nînelmokâz klaśake.  
 subject\PL belittle\PL-3ANM-HABITUAL-CONT-ERG worry-1-PROG  
*That he belittles his subjects is worrying me.*  
 or: *I'm worried that he has a habit of belittling his subordinates.*

#### 4.18.3 | Quotatives

Some verbs accept an argument other than ABS, ERG or ACC. The *quotative* (QUOT) argument is used to show direct or indirect speech. To create a quotative, the particle <tes> is used.

“Ĥak pejson panara” tes tûrelra.  
 “three butterfly\PL-ACC see-1-PAST” QUOT say-3ANM-PAST

*He said, "I saw three butterflies."*

Len tynda peneltara tes tûrelra.

four squirrel(\PL) see\PL-3ANM-3-PAST QUOT say-3ANM-PAST

*She said that she looked at four squirrels.*

Sometimes, it may be useful to pass non-quotative arguments where a quotative is expected (e. g. *I didn't say anything*). In that case, the quotative relational noun <tene> (lit. word) plus the adverbial case is used:

Selko-tenér kêl tûrara.

anything-QUOT.RELATION-ADV NEG say-1-PAST

*I didn't say anything.*<sup>4</sup>

---

<sup>4</sup>But note that this could also be expressed as <Selsun kêl tûrara>.



## 5 | Numbers

### 5.1 | Cardinal numbers

Đraħýl Rase uses a base-12 numbering system. The cardinal numbers from 0 – 12 are given below:

Table 5.1: The cardinal numbers from 0 – 12.

#	word
0	nâ
1	sel
2	mon
3	tak
4	len
5	bê
6	fû
7	zat
8	ko
9	rej
10	gym
11	ħyk
12	vôn

Words for numbers in the form  $x \cdot 12$  for  $2 \leq x < 12$  are expressed as  $\langle x\text{-vôn} \rangle$  – e. g.  $\langle \text{monvôn} \rangle = 24$ ;  $\langle \text{rejvôn} \rangle = 108$ .

Words for numbers in the form  $x \cdot 12 + y$  for  $2 \leq x < 12$  and  $1 \leq y < 12$  are expressed as  $\langle x\text{-vôn-}y \rangle$ , but with a few exceptions:

- Long vowels in  $y$  are shortened; e. g.  $17 = 12 + 5$  is  $\langle \text{vônbe} \rangle$ , not  $\ast \langle \text{vônbê} \rangle$
- $\langle \text{mon} \rangle$  (2) and  $\langle \text{len} \rangle$  (4) swallow the  $\langle n \rangle$  of  $\langle \text{vôn} \rangle$ ; e. g.  $62 = 5 \cdot 12 + 2$  is  $\langle \text{bêvômon} \rangle$ , not  $\ast \langle \text{bêvônmon} \rangle$
- $\langle \text{rej} \rangle$  (9) is shortened to  $\langle \text{re} \rangle$  and swallows the  $\langle n \rangle$  of  $\langle \text{vôn} \rangle$ ; e. g.  $33 = 2 \cdot 12 + 9$  is  $\langle \text{monvôre} \rangle$ , not  $\ast \langle \text{monvônrej} \rangle$

- $\langle ko \rangle$  (8) and  $\langle gym \rangle$  (10) change the  $\langle n \rangle$  or  $\langle v\hat{o}n \rangle$  to  $\langle \hat{n} \rangle$  (though in the standard dialect, this is only an orthographic change); e. g.  $82 = 6 \cdot 12 + 10$  is  $\langle f\hat{u}v\hat{o}n\hat{n}gym \rangle$ , not  $^*\langle f\hat{u}v\hat{o}ngym \rangle$

Words for numbers less than  $12^6$  are expressed in the form

$$a \cdot 12^5 + b \cdot 12^4 + c \cdot 12^3 + d \cdot 12^2 + (x \cdot 12 + y)$$

where  $(x \cdot 12 + y)$  is expressed using the rules above, and the remaining terms are expressed with the words:

Table 5.2: The cardinal powers of 12 up to  $12^5$ .

#	word
$12^2$	sanu
$12^3$	pôre
$12^4$	rakir
$12^5$	fegi

Words for numbers that are  $12^6$  or greater are split into groups of six digits and use the following words for powers of  $12^6$ :

Table 5.3: The cardinal powers of  $12^6$

#	word
$12^6$	hâda
$12^{12}$	vaza
$12^{18}$	tehâda
$12^{24}$	linhâda
$12^{30}$	bahâda
$12^{36}$	fuhâda
$12^{42}$	zethâda
$12^{48}$	kuhâda
$12^{54}$	rîhâda
$12^{60}$	gymhâda
$12^{66}$	hykhâda
$12^{72}$	vûnhâda

## 5.2 | Ordinal numbers

The ordinal numbers for *1st* and *2nd* are the suppletive forms  $\langle troma \rangle$  and  $\langle iramu \rangle$ , respectively. Most ordinals after *2nd* are expressed regularly with the suffix  $\langle -ru \rangle$ .

Ordinals that end with the following roots are formed irregularly:



Table 5.4: Suppletive ordinals

final	ordinal form
sanu	sanru
pôre	pôru
rakir	rakiru

### 5.3 | Fractions

Most fractions of the form  $1/n$  are formed by suffixing <-kul>. The exceptions are listed in the following two tables:

Table 5.5: Suppletive fractional forms

#	word
$1/2$	šaga
$1/12$	bžarit or vônkul
$1/144$	kaslo
$1/12^3$	navam

Table 5.6: Suppletive fractional forms

ending root	fractional
rakir	rakirlo
fegi	fegilo
ħada	ħadalo
vaza	vazalo
teħada	teħadalo

Notes:

- Fractions of the form  $1/(n \cdot 12)$ ,  $1/(n \cdot 144)$  or  $1/(n \cdot 12^3)$  (with  $n \neq 1$ ) are formed regularly; e. g.  $1/(3 \cdot 12^3)$  is <takpôrekul>, not \*<taknavam>
- But this does not apply to table 5.6; e. g.  $1/(11 \cdot 12^4)$  is <hykrakirlo>, not \*<hykrakirkul>
- The fractional forms of higher powers of  $12^6$  are not suppletive; e. g.  $1/(12^{30})$  is <baħadaku>, not \*<baħadalo>
- The pitch accent is shifted to the second-to-last syllable.

Fractions of the form  $x/y$ , where  $x \neq 1$ , are written as  $x (1/y)s$ . For example, <tak kovōlinkul> means 3 (1/100)s, or 3/100 (note the pluralisation). Likewise, 2/99 would be written <mon kovōntakkulte>. In the ergative case, for instance, this would be written as <mon kovōntekkulzi>.

## 5.4 | Distributive numbers

These are formed by suffixing <▷-vin>, and carry a meaning similar to “each” or “at a time”.

Ṭakvin tego linetat zanešra.  
 three-DISTRIBUTIVE box\PL hold\PL-3-3.DU move-3.DU-PAST  
*The two carried three boxes each.*

Kasu-ḥajmé selvin nyvelra.  
 door-through-DIR one-DISTRIBUTIVE leave\PL-PAST  
*They left through the door one at a time.*

## 5.5 | Collective numbers

These are formed by suffixing <►-kô>, and are equivalent to the English expression “between them”.

Ṭakkô tego linetat zanešra.  
 three-COLLECTIVE box\PL hold\PL-3-3.DU move-3.DU-PAST  
*The two carried three boxes between them.*

## 5.6 | Multipliers

Multipliers tell how many times one amount is relative to another. They are similar to the expression “x times as much as” or “x-fold”, and they act as descriptors or adverbials. They are formed by appending <±-fsal>.

Kajnes vōlenfsal atúl kajne keme.  
 height-ERG twelve-four-MULTIPLIER human-GEN height equal-3  
*Its height is sixteen times the height of a human.*  
 or: *It is sixteen times as tall as a human.*

## 6 | Conjunctions

### 6.1 | Juxtaposition

Juxtaposition is used to join two elements with an “and”:

Nâkin / nâhen panara.  
tree-ACC mountain-ACC see-1-PAST  
*I saw a tree and a mountain.*

Kihatu klanel, unelra.  
DIM-person be\_lost-3ANM cry-3ANM-PAST  
*The child got lost and cried.*

When written, nouns are joined with a slash (an interpunct <·> in NTP), and clauses with a comma (a broken pipe <|> in NTP).

When two predicates are joined, which of ERG, ABS or ACC occurs first in the first clause becomes the ABS in the second clause:

Hatus hânu rakel, kunemelra.  
human-ERG dog touch-3ANM dance-3ANM-PAST  
*The person pet the dog and the person danced.*

Hânu hatu rakel, kunemelra.  
dog human-ERG touch-3ANM dance-3ANM-PAST  
*The person pet the dog and the dog danced.*

### 6.2 | <ka> and <gy>

<ka> (inclusive or) and <gy> (exclusive or) are explicit conjunctions that occur between what they join, and follow the same rules as juxtaposition.

When two or more of the three conjunctions occur in the same phrase, all three of these conjunctions have the same precedence level and are evaluated right to left. Explicit grouping is possible using <re ... zo>.

Table 6.1: Examples showing evaluation order of conjunctions.

DR	Translation
A B C	A and B and C
A ka B ka C	A or B or C
A B ka C	A and (B or C)
A ka B C	A or (B and C)
A B ka C D	A and (B or (C and D))
re A B zo ka C D	(A and B) or (C and D)

### 6.3 | The sequential conjunction ⟨ruk⟩

Unlike simple juxtaposition, ⟨ruk⟩ implies a sequence:

Kihatu klanel **ruk** unelra.

DIM-person be\_lost-3ANM **and**.SEQ cry-3ANM-PAST

*The child got lost and then cried.*

## 7 | Adverbs

---

It is commonly said that there are no adverbs in Ďraħýl Rase. This is not entirely true, but true adverbs are a closed class. They do not receive any inflection.

Table 7.1: Some adverbs in Ďraħýl Rase.

Adverb	Meaning
huna	probably
mamane	forever
selšun	at all, ever, suddenly
rūnaħâr	in a few seconds
turusti	anymore
laksun	then, if that is the case
laŋkašaŋka	a long time ago
naý	but, however
kolohevu	unwillingly
anasana	often

It is more common to use the adverbial of a noun: <munuma> *slowness* → <munumár> *slowly*.



## 8 | Derivational rules

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Derivational rules (<rilak>; sg. <relak>; lit. *paths*) are rules that form a related word from a root.

### 8.1 | Verb-to-verb rules

These, as the name suggests, convert a verb into a related verb. These are called <helahreniw> (sg. <helahrenew>; lit. *re-tying*) in Ďraħýl Rase. These are not particularly common, given the rich inflectional morphology of verbs.

#### 8.1.1 | Reversive

Example: <mepek> *learn* → <šlumepek> *forget*

Example: <helek> *cure* → <šluhelek> *infect* (“un-cure”)

Prefixing <šlu-> will change the meaning of an intransitive or transitive verb to its reverse.

#### 8.1.2 | Repetitive

Example: <mepek> *learn* → <helamepek> *relearn*

Example: <hrenek> *tie* → <helahrenek> *retie*

Prefixing <hela-> will change the meaning of an intransitive or transitive verb X to mean “to X again”.

### 8.2 | Verb-to-noun rules

These convert a verb into a related noun. In Ďraħýl Rase, they are called <šluhreniw> (sg. <šluhrenew>; lit. *untying*). A common method to learn these constructions is to use the dummy verb <bžebek> and its derivations to show its role.

### 8.2.1 | Agent noun

These are nouns describing an entity who performs an action. They are distinguished by the role of the agent in the action in question and the animacy of the agent.

Table 8.1: Agent derivations. These can substitute either the <-ek> infinitive affix or the <-kaj> content clause affix. The former substitution is shown first, followed by the latter. All of the affixes shift the stress to the second-to-last syllable.

Role \ Animacy	Animate	Inanimate
ERG	-eplū / -kaplū panek <i>look at</i> paneplū <i>guard</i>	-etanu / -ketanu sunuhek <i>fall, drop</i> mevu-sunuhetanu <i>rain machine</i>
ABS	-oplū / -kuplū benek <i>reside</i> benoplū <i>resident</i>	-otanu / -kotanu ħralek <i>burn, cook</i> ħralotanu <i>fuel</i>

Agent nouns can be compounded. An ERG-agent noun can be prepended with an ABS-argument, and vice-versa (though, as usual in compounding, only the second noun is declined):

mevu-sunu**hetanu**  
rain-fall-**AGENT.ERG.INANIMATE**  
rain-dropp-**er** or *rain machine*

nŷr-rim**oplū**  
land-be\_a\_burden-**AGENT.ABS.ANIMATE**  
*someone who is a burden to the country* or *societal waste*

Hence, the mnemonics are <Bzebeplūz bzebo> *A foo-er foos* and <Bzeboplūz bzebel> *A foo-ee is foed*.

### 8.2.2 | Action noun

As usual, these are distinguished by role. In other words, there is a distinction between the act of being the ERG of a verb and the act of being the ABS.

Table 8.2: Action derivations. These are formed by substituting <-ek> with another affix.

Role	New affix
ERG	►-ew tšalek <i>fight</i> → tšalew <i>battle</i>
ABS	▷-esa panek <i>see</i> → panesa <i>appearance</i>



Note that the ABS and ACC arguments of *n*-verbs are treated as ERG and ABS in action nouns.

Hence, the mnemonics are <Bžebew: bžeboto> *Fooing<sup>erg</sup>: I foo* and <Bžebesa: bžeba> *Fooing<sup>abs</sup>: I am fooed*.

### 8.2.3 | Location noun

These are distinguished between natural and manmade locations.

Table 8.3: Location derivations. These are formed by substituting <-ek> or <-kaj> with another affix. All of the affixes shift the stress to the second-to-last syllable.

Location type	Affix
Natural	-ekolo / -kekolo rumek <i>hunt</i> → rumekolo <i>hunting grounds</i>
Manmade	-elenka / -kalenka renek <i>eat</i> → renelenka <i>restaurant</i>

Hence, the mnemonic is <Bžebelenkama binel bžibelpah> *In the foo-house, they reside and foo*.

### 8.2.4 | Temporal noun

Example: <mepək> *learn* → <mepesu> *schooltime*

These describe the time when an action happens. <-ek> is replaced with <▷-esu>, and <-kaj> with <▷-kašu>.

Hence, the mnemonic is <Bžebešuma vledel bžibelpah> *At foo-time, they wait and foo*.

### 8.2.5 | Pattern noun

Example: <hralek> *cook* → <hralélaj> *recipe*

These describe a pattern or blueprint for an action. <-ek> is replaced with <▷-élaj>, and <-kaj> with <▷-kélaj>.

Hence, the mnemonic is <Êz bžebélaj lume bžebo><sup>1</sup> *I read the foo-book and foo*.

### 8.2.6 | Instrument noun

Example: <tanek> *go, walk* → <tanive> *a tool for walking* → <tanivél vunu> *walking-stick*

These describe an instrument used for an action. <-ek> is replaced with <▷-ive>, and <-kaj> with <▷-kajve>.

Hence, the mnemonic is <Bžebiverul bžebo> *They foo with the foo-tool*.

<sup>1</sup>using whatever first-person pronoun is appropriate

### 8.2.7 | Derivative noun

The derivative noun is used to describe a product made from an action. Again, there is a distinction between natural and manmade derivatives:

Table 8.4: Derivative derivations. These are formed by substituting <-ek> or <-kaj> with another affix. All of the affixes shift the stress to the second-to-last syllable.

Derivative type	Affix
Natural	-eņej / -keņej ponek <i>bite</i> → poneņej <i>result of biting (e. g. bite marks)</i>
Manmade	-eklane / -keklane hralek <i>cook</i> → hraleklane <i>cooked food</i>

Hence, the mnemonic is <Bžebo bžebeklane srane> *They foo and make foo-product.*

### 8.2.8 | Tendency noun

Example: <horek> *laugh* → <horura> *tendency to laugh* → <horurál atu> *a person who tends to laugh*

These create a noun that means “tendency to do X”, which in turn is almost always used in the genitive or as the ABS of <lenek> *to have*.

<-ek> is replaced with <▷-ura>, and <-kaj> with <▷-kura>.

Hence, the mnemonic is <Bžeburál atu bžeboņas> *A person with the tendency to foo tends to foo.*

### 8.2.9 | Craft noun

Example: <ġunek> *experiment, torture* → <ġunyw> *science*

These create a noun that means “the art of doing X”. <-ek> is replaced with <►-yw>, and <-kaj> with <►-nyw>.

Hence, the mnemonic is <Bžebyw varnekâl etu anasana bžebo> *Those who enjoy the art of fooing often foo.*

## 8.3 | Noun-to-noun rules

These convert a noun into a related noun. In Ďraħýl Rase, they are called <lakan-ħej> (sg. <lakan-ħaj>; lit. *spanning over* or *crossing*).

Due to the number of such rules and their straightforwardness, we express them in a table.

Table 8.5: Noun-to-noun rules.

Name	Affix	Description
Collection	►-kaŷ	A collection of the noun. Ex. <nâki> <i>tree</i> → <nākikaŷ> <i>forest</i>
Bounty	▷-tanu	Full of; supplied with; having much of.

Name	Affix	Description
Negative	kê-	Ex. <vuýra> <i>mold</i> → <vuýratanu> <i>moldiness</i> Obvious.
Reversive	ślu-	Ex. <denutanu> <i>finite</i> → <kêdenutanu> <i>infinite</i> The reverse action.
Archetype	≥-ko	Ex. <visko> <i>squaring</i> → <śluvisko> <i>square root</i> An entity of the quality.
Natural derivative	►-nej	Ex. <kensu> <i>redness</i> → <kensuko> <i>red thing</i> Obvious.
Manmade derivative	▷-plane	Ex. <ñarku> <i>seed</i> → <ñarkunej> <i>young plant</i> Obvious.
Partial	►-mân	Ex. <nâki> <i>tree</i> → <nâkiplane> <i>wood</i> A part of something.
Friend	►-tûn	Ex. <nâki> <i>tree</i> → <nâkimân> <i>branch</i> A friend or proponent of something.
Possessor	▷-kâdu	Ex. <śluklanew> <i>correcting misleading information</i> → <śluklanewtûn> <i>proponent of correcting misleading information</i> One who possesses something.
Container	≥-sew	Ex. <nýma> <i>wisdom</i> → <nýmakâdu> <i>wise person</i> A container for or a typical home of something.
Study	▷-relu	Ex. <kês> <i>arrow</i> → <kêssew> <i>quiver</i> The study of something.
Craft	►-nyw	Ex. <hawma> <i>spider</i> → <hawmaséw> <i>spider web</i> The art or craft of something.
Change	≥-ĥa	Ex. <rakama> <i>story</i> → <rakamanyw> <i>literature (field of study)</i> The act of gaining some quality.
Reflexive	ñe-	Ex. <revet> <i>pale, white</i> → <revetha> <i>lightening</i> A quality pertaining to oneself or each other.
Agent	≥-hat	Ex. <kêkemew> <i>difference</i> → <ñekêkemew> <i>diversity</i> One who does.
		Ex. <rekarelu> <i>mathematics</i> → <rekareluhat> <i>mathematician</i>

In general, <▷-relu> suggests a more objective field of study, and <►-nyw> a more subjective one. Interestingly, *science* is translated as <ġunyw>, which uses a derivation analogous to the latter.

## 8.4 | Noun-to-verb rules

These are called <hrenílaj> (sg. <hrenélaj>; lit. *tying recipe*).

### 8.4.1 | Becoming

Example: <kensu> *red* → <kensunek> *red*

This is a simple suffix <≥-nek> and produces an intransitive verb. If the pitch accent somehow falls on the last syllable with the shift, it instead falls on the second-to-last: <hajnek> instead of \*<hajnék>.

### 8.4.2 | Measure

Example: <kaku> *year* → <kakunvek> *be x years old*

Example: <ñetra> *unit of distance equivalent to shoulder-to-fingertip distance (~0.75 cm)* → <ñetranvek> *be x ñitra tall / long*

Example: <farep> *unit of mass (~1.5 kg)* → <faremvek> *weigh x ferep*

A longer example:

Vômon pavranveto.

twelve-two pavra-MEASURE-3-1

I am fourteen pevra tall. (1 pavra = 1/6 ñetra)

The measure rule takes a unit of measure and outputs a transitive verb meaning “ERG measures ABS units”. It is formed by:

- Changing the coda to the nasal at the same place of articulation (but <h> and <h> change to <ñ>, and <t> and <d> to <n>). If there is no coda, append an <n>.
- Appending <▷-vek>.

## 9 | Semantics

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This chapter is meant to be a guide on how to use certain words, and may help you translate text to or from Ďraǵýl Rase.

### 9.1 | Predicative possession

Uninterestingly, predicative (alienable) possession is expressed with the verb <lenek> *have, hold, possess*. (This verb is also used to assign a quality to the noun.)

Bûn êz *lene*.  
cup I.NONELITE-ERG *have-3*  
*I have a cup.*

Inalienable predicative possession uses the relational <dura> *glue* and the verb <atek> *exist*.

Mon takit-durár *ata*.  
two ear-DU-glue-ADV *exist-1*  
*I exist with two ears.*  
or: *I have two ears.*

Predicative association (e. g. *I have a dog*) uses an expression that is translated to *live with*:

Hânunylu *bena*.  
dog-COM *reside-1*  
*I live with a dog.*  
or: *I have a dog.*

## 9.2 | “To be”

The English verb “to be” has no direct translation in Ďrahýl Rase because it has several uses:

- to express identity
- to express membership or subthood
- to express location
- to express a property
- to express definition
- to express existence

Each of these meanings is covered by a different verb in Ďrahýl Rase.

### 9.2.1 | Identity

Identity is expressed with the verb <kemek> *equal*:

Vašâz Tasara keme.  
 Vašây-ERG Tasara equal-3  
 [The city of] Vašây is Tasara.<sup>1</sup>

### 9.2.2 | Membership

Membership is expressed with the verb <asek> *include, contain*. Note that the ERG argument is always plural and refers to the superset:

Mâra etus asel.  
 Mâra human\PL-ERG contain-3ANM  
 [The set of] humans contain[s] Mâra.  
 or: Mâra is a human.

Hrêne nêkis ese.  
 birch\PL tree\PL-ERG contain\PL-3  
 Birches are trees.

Note that juxtaposition of two nouns declined in the ergative case produce unexpected results:

Hênus / tûkus asel.  
 dog\PL-ERG cat\PL-ERG contain-3ANM  
 It is a dog or a cat. (literally [The set of] dogs and cats contains it.)

<sup>1</sup> Vašây and Tasara are the Ďrahýl Rase and Kavinan names for the same city, respectively.

In order to produce the intended result, the clause must be repeated:

Hênus asel, tûkus asel.  
 dog\PL-ERG contain-3ANM cat\PL-ERG contain-3ANM  
 It is both a dog and a cat.

Note that <asek> is also used for the conventional sense of *including* or *containing*:

Tagas laki ase.  
 box-ERG salt contain-3  
 The box contains salt.

### 9.2.3 | Location

Location is expressed with the verb <benek> *be at, reside, stand, live*:

Suylí lenkama bena.  
 PR.2.NONELITE-GEN house-LOC be\_at-1  
 I am at your house.

### 9.2.4 | Property

<lenek> *have, possess* is used for qualities:

Zekkus revet lene.  
 rabbit-ERG white have-3  
 The rabbit is white.

### 9.2.5 | Definition

<hšenek> *ERG is defined as ABS* is used:

Pavras fûkul ñetra hšene.  
 pavra-ERG six-FRACTION ñetra defined\_as-3  
 A pavra is one-sixth of a ñetra.

### 9.2.6 | Existence

This uses <atek> *exist*.

Vanrakajkáne ata.  
 ponder-1-CONTENT-CAUS exist-1  
 I think; therefore, I am.

### 9.3 | “Good” and “bad”

There are no direct translations of *good* or *bad* in Ďrahýl Rase. One must specify *by which metric*.



## 10 | Miscellanea

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This chapter covers often-neglected topics that are too small for their own chapters.

### 10.1 | Units of measure

#### 10.1.1 | Time

The following table shows the most common units of time:

Table 10.1: Units of time.

Name	Definition	Approximation
kaku (= <i>year</i> )	365.25 mene, 8 or 9 diku	1 year
deku	44 or 45 mene	
nusa	6 mene	
mane (= <i>day</i> )		1 day
nevr	1/12 mane	2 hours
tarnu	1/72 nevr	5/3 minutes (100 seconds)
pšule	1/108 tarnu	0.925 seconds

The *kaku* starts on the first day of the first *deku* on or after the 12th *mane* before the spring equinox.

## → Names of diku

Table 10.2: Names of the *diku*.

Name	Length	Origin
zandek	44	⟨zany⟩ <i>robin</i>
kazdek	45	⟨kasla⟩ <i>lily</i>
têdek	44	⟨têke⟩ <i>sun</i>
mevdek	45	⟨mevu⟩ <i>rain</i>
sundek	44	⟨sunuhek⟩ <i>fall down</i>
šidek	45	⟨šiki⟩ <i>dust, powder</i>
guldek	44	⟨guli⟩ <i>ice</i>
mordek	45	⟨moru⟩ <i>black</i>
hraldek	44	⟨hrale⟩ <i>fire</i>

*Mordek* is an intercalary *deku* that appears only in *keku* with nine *diku*.

## → Names of the mene of the nusa

Starting from the first day of work, these are:

- pakuy-mane
- sanlu-mane
- kônre-mane
- grefu-mane
- zekku-mane
- Idisa-mane

*Idisa-mane* is commonly considered a day of rest. The first *mane* of the *kaku* is set such that the last *mane* of the *kaku* is *Idisa-mane*.

### 10.1.2 | Length

The following table shows the most common units of length:

Table 10.3: Units of length.

Name	Definition	Approximation
swana	2520 ñitra	1.89 km
ñetra	shoulder-to-fingertip distance	75.0 cm
pavra	1/6 ñetra	12.5 cm
nûko	1/6 pavra	2.08 cm
hjali	1/15 pavra	8.33 mm

### 10.1.3 | Mass

The following table shows the most common units of mass:

Table 10.4: Units of mass.

Name	Definition	Approximation
farep		1.56 kg
vune	1/24 farep	65 g



## 11 | Example Texts

### 11.1 | Varwe (translations of foreign works)

#### 11.1.1 | Helakotanesa

Translation of William Butler Yeats’ “The Second Coming”.

խնէրձն օղնն չէնթրձն

Kolonekâl hjulâma funelkjûkâl

large-BECOME-3-REL vortex-LOC rotate-3ANM-CONTINUATIVE-REL

Turning and turning in the widening gyre

(A point of subtlety: <kawsa> wide is not used since the vortex is inferred to be expanding in two dimensions.)

բձն Դնթեւեւ թ Դննն

Dâba talgeplûn kêl takelge,

falcon take\_care\_of-AGENT-ACC NEG hear-3ANM-DEONTIC\_POTENTIAL

The falcon cannot hear the falconer;

(<dâba> can technically refer to any bird of prey.)

Էյր չփլ Էր թ օննննն

Nýr hîse, nure kêl hrenetamege,

world fall\_apart-3 centre NEG tie-3-REFLEXIVE-DEONTIC\_POTENTIAL

Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold;

Դփննն Էյրննն ռննն

Kasra-hevesi nýr-hajmé betlema,

leader-hole world-through-DIR fly-3-INCHOATIVE

Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world,

օնն Էնննն 56-Դ Ընննն

Uros nefinekâl lerûna sluhrene,

blood-ERG dark-BECOME-3-REL tide REVERSIVE-tie-3

The blood-dimmed tide is loosed ...

ᐱᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐ ᐱᕐᕐᕐ ᐱᕐᕐ ᐱᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐ  
 Heli-koloma palsúl rêku sunemetšek,  
 all-place-LOC innocence-GEN ceremony drown-3-COMPLETIVE  
 and everywhere / The ceremony of innocence is drowned

ᐱᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐ ᐱᕐᕐ ᐱᕐᕐᕐ ᐱᕐᕐ ᐱᕐᕐ ᐱᕐᕐ  
 Mrašadól etus selsun marda kël leneke,  
 virtue-SUPER-GEN human\PL-ERG at\_all conviction NEG have-3-PROG  
 The best lack all conviction, ...

ᐱᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐ ᐱᕐᕐ ᐱᕐᕐ  
 Mogodokêdu ruhas mirel.  
 evil-SUPER-PERSON\_WITH\PL passion-ERG fill-3  
 while the worst / Are full of passionate intensity.

ᐱᕐᕐᕐᕐ ᐱᕐᕐᕐᕐ ᐱᕐᕐ  
 Nūnêr vaneñran penel,  
 death-ADV divine\_wisdom-ACC see\PL-3ANM  
 Surely some revelation is at hand;  
 (lit. Surely they see some divine wisdom)

ᐱᕐᕐᕐᕐ ᐱᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐ ᐱᕐᕐ  
 Nūnêr Helakotanesa beneke.  
 death-ADV AGAIN-come-ACT.P be\_at-3-PROG  
 Surely the Second Coming is at hand.

ᐱᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐ ᐱᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐ  
 Helakotanesa! Tûramañakajmá  
 AGAIN-come-ACT.P say-1-INCHOATIVE-EXCLUSIVE-CONTENT-LOC  
 The Second Coming! Hardly are those words out / When ...

ᐱᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐ ᐱᕐᕐ ᐱᕐᕐ ᐱᕐᕐ  
 Nÿr-hezél rehun pana, ġunata.  
 world-spirit-GEN image-ACC see-1 torture-1-3  
 a vast image out of Spiritus Mundi / troubles my sight. ...  
 (This is a fairly liberal translation.)

ᐱᕐᕐᕐᕐ ᐱᕐᕐᕐ ᐱᕐᕐᕐ  
 Plūnli havatlí rúhlape /  
 sand-GEN desert-GEN wasteland  
 a waste of desert sand;  
 (Note the slash used to mark juxtaposition.)

ᐱᕐᕐ ᐱᕐ ᐱᕐᕐ ᐱᕐᕐ.

Girúl ehu atúl môdu /  
 lion-GEN body human-GEN head  
 A shape with lion body and head of a man,  
 (No slash is used between <girúl ehu> and <atúl môdu> in order to avoid confusion.)

ካፍኮካገፍ ሥኔ ነፍሥ ንፍስ ይኖር  
 Têke-tûr kêl lurakâl numâl panew  
 sun-like-ADV NEG have\_mercy-1-REL empty-GEN see-ACT.A  
 A gaze blank and pitiless as the sun,

፳፭፻፬ ዕኔ ሃይማኖት ሥፍራ  
 Munumár helde zeneke, kejmá  
 slow-ADV leg\PL move\PL-3-PROG around-LOC  
 Is moving its slow thighs, while all about it

፳፭ ዕኔ ስፍራ ስፍራ ይኖር  
 Fanúl havat-hjamerzîl nifi bitle.  
 anger-GEN desert-bird\PL-GEN shadow\PL fly\PL-3  
 Wind shadows of indignant desert birds.

፳፭ ዕኔ ስፍራ ይኖር  
 Nefi helaunuhe, naý hýo  
 darkness AGAIN-descend-3 but now  
 The darkness drops again but now [I know]

፳፭ ዕኔ ስፍራ ይኖር  
 Galúl rajnesál vòmmonsanu mene  
 stone-GEN sleep-ACT.P-GEN 12-2-144 year\PL  
 [That] twenty centuries of stony sleep

፳፭ ዕኔ ስፍራ ይኖር  
 Funes koderifnekera tes tuha,  
 cradle-ERG nightmare-BECOME\PL-3-PROG-PAST QUOT know-1  
 Were vexed to nightmare by a rocking cradle,

፳፭ ዕኔ ስፍራ ይኖር  
 Rû hýo surekâl mêl mogól gane  
 time now know-3-REL what-GEN evil-GEN beast  
 And what rough beast, its hour come round at last,

፳፭ ዕኔ ስፍራ ይኖር  
 Nakkelkajsáne Bêtlehemé tanel?  
 be\_born-3ANM-CONTENT-BENEFACTIVE Betlehem-DIR go-3ANM  
 Slouches toward Bethlehem to be born?





## A | The Ďraňýl Rase lexicon

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An entry looks like this:

marda *n* castle, fortress, stronghold, conviction, firm

From left to right:

1. The entry – the Ďraňýl Rase term listed.
2. The part of speech of the corresponding entry:
  - *n* – a noun or pronoun
  - *v* – a verb
    - *vn* – an *n*-verb
    - *vn?* – a verb that can be used as either an *n*-verb or a non-*n*-verb. In this case, both usages are clarified in the notes.
    - *v2* – a verb that can be used as either a monotransitive verb or a ditransitive verb
    - *v2x* – a verb that is always used as a ditransitive
  - *adv* – a true adverb
3. The definition – the gloss for the corresponding entry.
  - (a) (A) – the ergative argument of the verb.
  - (b) (P) – the absolutive argument of the verb.
  - (c) (QUOT) – the quotative argument of the verb.
4. If applicable, any special grammatical or semantic notes for this term.
5. Optionally, examples of usage.

ej *n* I

| p

pew *n* rest, remainder

pajso *n* butterfly

pasa *n* intention

pyse <i>n</i>	south	taka <i>n</i>	hole	taka-nēme <i>lit.</i>	into
pasek <i>v</i>	(P) answers (QUOT)	a hole	to no end, relentlessly		
pusek <i>vn</i>	(P) lies on, against (O)	taki <i>n</i>	ear		
panek <i>vn?</i>	look at, see, turn to-	teku <i>n</i>	not functioning, not work-		
ward, find	<i>n</i> = see; non- <i>n</i> = find	ing, broken			
ponek <i>v</i>	bite	tewko <i>n</i>	taste, preference		
panā <i>n</i>	feather	takatu <i>n</i>	structure, building		
pama <i>n</i>	snake	takek <i>vn?</i>	hear, listen to	<i>n</i> =	
prakek <i>v</i>	criticise, improve	hear; non- <i>n</i> = listen to			
persek <i>v</i>	(A) defends, protects	takika <i>n</i>	happiness		
against (P)		tekka <i>n</i>	shelf, grid		
prunek <i>v</i>	cut out, excise, delete	takru <i>n</i>	pair of shoes		
paruvo <i>n</i>	society	itase <i>adv</i>	perhaps, maybe		
paruvek <i>v</i>	socialise, live in organ-	itos <i>n</i>	riding animal		
ised tribes		tes <i>n</i>	quotative		
pešek <i>v</i>	collapse, close (umbrella)	tusuý <i>n</i>	cliff, promontory		
pšule <i>n</i>	unit of time (~ 0.92 sec)	tusru <i>n</i>	servant		
pšaldžek <i>v</i>	(P) shakes, trembles	tasavo <i>n</i>	drum		
pela <i>n</i>	table	tene <i>n</i>	word, quotative relational		
pelu <i>n</i>	left	tanek <i>v</i>	go, walk with stop as-		
pulu <i>n</i>	fish	pect, can mean “stop” or “arrive”; with			
pletý <i>n</i>	parent	start aspect, can mean “start” or “depart”			
palsu <i>n</i>	innocence	tenek <i>v</i>	make noise, bark		
puluhek <i>v</i>	catch fish	tuýnek <i>v</i>	(A) resembles (P)		
plû <i>n</i>	hand, arm	tynda <i>n</i>	squirrel		
plûn <i>n</i>	sand	tamu <i>n</i>	skin, hide		
plûgejlek <i>v</i>	tolerate (cf. gejk)	tomu <i>n</i>	domesticated animal		
peva <i>n</i>	glyph, letter, character	tomek <i>v</i>	bind, control, drive		
pavra <i>n</i>	unit of length = 1/6 řetra	tehu <i>n</i>	fence, wall		
puňa <i>n</i>	knee	tuhu <i>n</i>	wisdom		
puzanek <i>v</i>	pull, be pulled, invite	tuhek <i>v</i>	(P) knows, thinks (QUOT)		
pân <i>n</i>	line of sight, what is being	turek <i>v</i>	light (a candle or light		
seen, view		switch), turn on, open (a door or window)			
		trakas <i>n</i>	pompous, boastful		
		trasi <i>n</i>	morning		
		turusti <i>adv</i>	anymore		
		tarno <i>n</i>	brick		
		tšake <i>n</i>	war, battle, despite		
		tašef <i>n</i>	noodles		
		tšane <i>n</i>	basket		
		tšalek <i>v</i>	fight, struggle against		
		tšagek <i>v</i>	shout, ring (bell)		
		tawla <i>n</i>	skill		
		talan <i>n</i>	goose		
		talmo <i>n</i>	clarity, lightness		
		talgek <i>v</i>	raise, take care of		

## | t

atu <i>n</i>	human
toý <i>n</i>	deed, act
tuý <i>n</i>	resemblance, like
tuý <i>n</i>	out of (used in superlative
constructions)	<i>n</i> + tuý + adv
tape <i>n</i>	dry
totu <i>n</i>	largeness
atek <i>v</i>	exist
tajka <i>n</i>	branch, bough

telġek <i>v</i>	prepare for, be prepared for	kasek <i>v</i>	wake up
tovo <i>n</i>	sheep	kasna <i>n</i>	dense, frequent, often, crowded
tavra <i>n</i>	plate, one's share of	kesma <i>n</i>	window
tavlu <i>n</i>	egg	kasra <i>n</i>	military leader, splendour
tevalek <i>v</i>	guess (QUOT P)	kasra-ħevesi <i>n</i>	anarchy
taga <i>n</i>	box	kaslu <i>n</i>	lily
tage <i>n</i>	wind	kajne <i>n</i>	high, tall, height, proud, pride
tegira <i>n</i>	attractive, beautiful, handsome (person)	kanu <i>n</i>	room
tażaru <i>n</i>	summer solstice	konu <i>n</i>	moss
têke <i>n</i>	sun	kune <i>n</i>	outside
têk-sunuh <i>n</i>	midnight	kento <i>n</i>	name
têlaka <i>n</i>	dawn, sunrise	kunek <i>v</i>	decay, wither, rot, perish
têg <i>n</i>	bone	kensu <i>n</i>	red
tôku <i>n</i>	cat	konsu <i>n</i>	ladder
tône <i>n</i>	rainbow	kunemek <i>v</i>	(P) dances
tôrenu <i>n</i>	palace	konrek <i>v</i>	request, ask for
tûrek <i>v</i>	speak, say $\neq$ satek; speaker $\rightarrow$ P	kinâhe <i>n</i>	hill
tûle <i>n</i>	hard, difficult	kemew <i>n</i>	same, equal
tûlo <i>n</i>	heavy, stubborn	kemek <i>v</i>	equal
tûd <i>n</i>	strength, strong	kaħan <i>adv</i>	already
		kaħek <i>v</i>	swim
		keħen <i>n</i>	bucket
		kejhātu <i>n</i>	neighbour
		kohatu <i>n</i>	guest
		kretanek <i>v</i>	run
		karek <i>v</i>	call oneself, assign to oneself
		krenu <i>n</i>	earliness, speed, sudden, fast, early
		kşoj <i>n</i>	dummy noun
		kşaki <i>n</i>	phrase, sentence
		kşakimÿu <i>n</i>	syntax
		kşusa <i>n</i>	lightning
		kşumu <i>n</i>	chain
		kşavo <i>n</i>	bell
		keli <i>n</i>	knife, blade
		kile <i>n</i>	smallness
		klu <i>n</i>	a few, several
		kolo <i>n</i>	ground, place, floor Also used as an adjective to mean "much", "many", "large", "wide" (2D) or "this".
		kula <i>n</i>	scale (for weighing)
		kaltanu <i>n</i>	clock
		kalek <i>v</i>	(P) feels pain in (A)

## k

kelek *v* need  
 klanew *n* state of being lost, mis-  
 leading, false logic  
 kelenka *n* hut  
 klanek *v* be lost, abandon  
 mašew klanek (A) falls short of breath  
 kolman *n* today  
 kluha *n* backside, behind  
 kolohevu *adv* unwillingly  
 klašek *v* (P) is worried / concerned  
 / disturbed about (A)  
 klûd *n* flat object, pane  
 kagi *n* foolish, stupid  
 kegejlew *n* damnation  
 kuňa *n* axe  
 koderef *n* nightmare  
 kebenek *v* camp, reside temporar-  
 ily  
 kêren *n* space, volume  
 kêvek *v* trip, stumble  
 kêš *n* arrow  
 kêva *n* blind  
 kôlo *n* here For brevity, it is not  
 necessary to add the locative suffix.  
 kût *n* resource, wealth  
 kûla *n* piece, shard, rag  
 kÿru *n* nest

## | S

saj *n* surface, top  
 suÿ *n* you  
 sepu *n* ~ times For brevity, it is  
 not necessary to add the temporal suffix.  
 supane *n* care, careful  
 siplu *n* complex, ornate  
 satek *v* tell ≠ tûrek; speaker →  
 A; audience → P  
 satanek *v* travel to In this case,  
 A travels to B = A-s B satane  
 satla *n* leaf  
 asaka *n* danger  
 asek *v* contain, include This  
 verb can also be used to mean “is” in the  
 appropriate case. e. g. Etus Mâra ase.

– Mâra is a human. Note that A is always plural in this case.

sako *n* village  
 seki *n* gender  
 suÿku *n* sugar  
 sjasek *v* (A) catches, arrests (P), (P)  
 is stuck in (A)  
 sane *n* wheat  
 sune *n* water, wet  
 swana *n* unit of distance ~ 1.89 km  
 suÿnut *n* dusk, sunset  
 sejnek *v* want (to)  
 senka *n* compassion, empathy  
 sinek *vn* (emotionally) feel, sense  
 suneka *n* well  
 sunemek *v* drown  
 sunuh *n* below  
 sunuhek *v* fall, descend, drop  
 mevu (sunuhek) rain  
 senrak *v* believe  
 sunugalu *n* meteor  
 samo *n* face  
 simek *v* (A) apologises to (P)  
 simâž *n* sleeping clothes  
 suhe *n* deer  
 sahnæk *v* play  
 sahe *n* line (geometric form)  
 sihe *n* back (part of body), neck  
 sehatu *n* girl  
 suhor *n* blue  
 surek *v* (A) knows about (P)  
 sranek *v* build, make, construct,  
 create, produce  
 sravek *v* intend  
 -saši *n* title for ordinary people,  
 used w/ surname  
 sešek *v* whisper (used like tûrek)  
 sušek *v* (A) visits (P)  
 esela *n* latch, rearrangement, in  
 terms of  
 silu *n* younger sibling  
 syltek *v* hide, cover X hides in Y  
 = Y-s X syltel = Y hides X  
 syltelensaj *n* hanging roof  
 salka *n* stem

selko *n* any, at all, anything, something

salra *n* glass  
 selšun *adv* at all, ever, suddenly  
 seva *n* winter  
 sevy *n* home, one's own house  
 suvek *v* (P) hangs  
 sigut *n* campaign, event, march  
 syda *n* paper  
 sydasay *n* book  
 sydamanu *n* chapter (of a book)  
 sazuha *n* monkey  
 sagek *v* earn  
 segek *v* emit  
 san *n* twig, thing  
 sanko *n* thing

## f

fuý *n* reason  
 jufa *n* flavour, taste, delicious  
 fetek *v* sing (tr), be sung (intr)  
 fukek *v* blow on  
 fykka *n* fern  
 fanu *n* anger, wrath  
 fenu *n* chant, song, poem  
 funa *n* eye  
 fune *n* cradle, wheel  
 funek *v* rotate  
 finso *n* region of country  
 fjumek *v* (A) pushes (P)  
 fahta *n* normal, usual, ordinary  
 farep *n* unit of mass equivalent to ~1.5kg  
 forme *n* countryside, plains, field  
 fsane *n* face  
 fselkek *v* gather, collect, precipitate (out of a solution)  
 fsube *n* border  
 flane *v* grow  
 fy *n* per, each

## n

naý *adv* but, however  
 unu *n* gentle  
 nupo *n* boat  
 nappek *v* (A) bounces, reflects from (P)  
 nupotane *v* sail  
 napek *v* say, write, express, record  
 natû *n* bow  
 nako *n* mushroom  
 nawko *n* mouth  
 unek *v* cry  
 nekek *v* dislike  
 nakkek *n* be born, give birth to  
 nekas *n* dislike  
 nakma *n* military service  
 neklo *n* root  
 nase *n* new  
 anasana *adv* often  
 nefi *n* dark, shadow  
 nefdzerek *v* (magic) (A) changes form into (P)  
 nanek *v* (P) works (labour)  
 nwenek *v* flatter, compliment  
 nema *n* sweetness  
 numa *n* emptiness, void, blank  
 numahatu *n* slave  
 nimur *n* lizard  
 naha *n* award, gift, present (for POSSESSOR)  
 nahyw *n* grammar  
 nahek *v* raise a pillar, build, construct  
 nahana *n* unit of currency  
 nuhe *n* past, before, near  
 nehatu *n* boy  
 nuhurek *v* mourn, grieve  
 anur *n* daytime  
 nure *n* middle, between, among, centre  
 unure *n* weak  
 narek *v* argue  
 narmu *n* loud  
 nurûko *n* devil, demon  
 nula *n* approximately

neltek *v* store, stash, save  
 nalī *n* trick, stunt  
 najva *n* people, race, tribe  
 nuvo *n* hair, fur  
 nuvata *n* spouse  
 nevek *v* (A) agrees to (P)  
 nuvek *v* banish, exile, leave, exit,  
 remove  
 unade *n* solitude, loneliness  
 nebek *v* melt  
 nebewgalu *n* lava  
 nežek *v* (A) wears (P)  
 nuže *n* ink  
 nâ *n* zero, nothing  
 nâki *n* tree  
 nâhe *n* mountain, safe, secure  
 nâhhalde *n* nomad  
 nê *n* inside  
 nênek *v* ridicule, belittle  
 nêbe *n* dignity  
 nûtek *n* shoot from a bow  
 nûko *n* finger  
 nûnek *v* die, kill  
 nūnew *n* death, obviousness  
 nŷma *n* wisdom  
 nŷr *n* land, country, world

# m

ama *n* north  
 mej *n* what?  
 moj *n* distance, opposite side, after,  
 beyond X-mojmé = away from X; moj-  
 mane(ma) = some day  
 mŷu *n* order, sequence  
 mapek *v* (A) translates, interprets  
 (P) as (QUOT)  
 mepek *v* learn, teach (about)  
 learn <A> → <A>-kej má mepek  
 mōýplû *n* fist mōýplûrul vulek  
 punch  
 matek *v* roll  
 matek *v* insult  
 matuk *n* fruit

metek *v* (A) can converse in lan-  
 guage (P)  
 matanew *n* beginning, start  
 matanek *n* begin, start  
 matora *n* ball  
 matuñ *n* nonsense  
 maka *n* (spool of) thread  
 mako *n* star  
 muka *n* love  
 mukek *v* droop, bend  
 mas *n* front  
 mejsa *n* train  
 misek *v* (P) thanks (A)  
 mane *n* day  
 manu *n* part, some, segment  
 mjeny *n* flower  
 mona *n* small piece of food, crumb  
 monu *n* tool  
 menek *v* (A) prays to (P)  
 munuma *n* slowness, lateness  
 monšun *adv* ever again (negat-  
 ive statement) ~  
 mumek *vn?* loathe, hate *n* = be  
 forced to hate; non-*n* = hate intentionally  
 mamane *adv* forever  
 majru *n* wolf  
 mojru *n* apple  
 moru *n* black  
 marek *v* be a past event, (euphem-  
 ism) die  
 merek *v* fill, (P) is filled with / has  
 much (A)  
 mraša *n* correct, right, virtuous  
 marda *n* castle, fortress, strong-  
 hold, conviction, firm  
 meša *n* air, wind, sky, heaven,  
 boundary, limit  
 mašek *v* breathe  
 mušek *v* curse  
 mula *n* side  
 malata *n* togetherness  
 malek *n* take out (something from  
 a container)  
 malka *n* quiet, calm, sound  
 malnek *v* be idle, have nothing to  
 do

mevū *n* rain  
 mevuhâ *n* umbrella  
 mogo *n* evil, heinous, wicked  
 madanek *v* enter  
 medanek *v* flee  
 maġa *n* down, under, below  
 medro *n* barricade, X-shape  
 mêtēs *adv* (QUOT) what?, how?  
 mîne *n* everyday clothes  
 mōġ *n* east  
 mōdu *n* head  
 mōdu-mas *n* forehead

## | ħ

eħu *n* body, object  
 ħisek *v* grind, fall apart  
 ħanek *v* do this  
 ħaname *n* this one, generic pro-  
 noun  
 ħjamar *n* bird  
 ħrakki *n* flame  
 ħrašo *n* vigour, raging  
 ħrašek *v* rage, rave, rush  
 ħrale *n* fire  
 ħralek *v* burn, cook, heat kaj-  
 tos (ħralek) be turned on (stove)  
 ħrâne *n* birch  
 ħeši *n* valley  
 ħšenek *v* (A) is defined as (P)  
 ħalek *v* guide, direct  
 ħelek *v* slide (especially one's feet)  
 ħalde *n* gold, money  
 ħevesi *n* small hole, bore  
 ħâle *n* river, way, method, direc-  
 tion  
 ħên *n* others Declined only for  
 case, not number.

## | ħ

ħaj *n* through, along, during, span,  
 across, long (time)  
 ħara *n* edge

ħawri *n* storm relation word for  
 “as much as possible”  
 ħeli *n* everything, all If modify-  
 ing another noun, that noun is always  
 singular.  
 ħelek *v* cure  
 ħeze *n* spirit, immaterial, abstract,  
 soul

## | h

hÿo *adv, n* now  
 heke *n* stomach  
 hakko *n* tail  
 hise *n* dot, patch, point, drop, place  
 in the sky  
 hifene *n* elder tree  
 hina *n* sea  
 hjane *n* shape  
 huna *adv* probably  
 huno *n* friend  
 hanak *n* spruce  
 hwonek *v* befriend  
 hawma *n* spider  
 hihe *n* mist  
 hawħale *n* swirl, spiral  
 hehlek *v* (P) echoes  
 hara *n* shallow  
 horek *v* laugh  
 hurek *v* oppose  
 hrenek *v* tie, connect  
 hreza *n* old age, oldness  
 hrênu *n* knot, verb  
 hela- *prefix* back, again, re-  
 hele *n* god, deity  
 hjula *n* vortex, gyre  
 helanežek *v* (A) changes clothes to  
 (P)  
 halde *n* leg, foot  
 haldakan *n* lap  
 hlibek *v* accept (an apology)  
 hevu *n* rope, noun  
 havat *n* desert  
 hevuko *n* snow  
 hovrek *v* stand

haga *n* iron  
 hagazaneplū *n* machine  
 hiŋgalu *n* limestone  
 heŋgu *n* cloud, ceiling  
 hazi *n* trait, disposition, quality  
 hoza *n* origin +INS: from (nothing, dust, etc)  
 hâ *n* cloth  
 hâkla *n* clothing  
 hânu *n* dog  
 hârtek *v* suspect  
 hêk *n* corner  
 hêlde *n* curve  
 hîz *interj* well, maybe

# r

uro *n* blood  
 rettu *n* self  
 retvane *n* automation  
 raka *n* (good) taste  
 rake *n* spring  
 reka *n* number  
 ruko *n* night  
 rakek *v* touch *n* = accidental;  
 non-n = intentional  
 rekko *n* young person  
 rikek *v* function, work  
 rakama *n* story  
 rase *n* language  
 resa *n* grass  
 restu *n* concise, packed  
 rusek *v* (A) bores (P)  
 raskek *v* help  
 resnu *n* smart, intelligent  
 reftu *n* horn  
 ranu *n* fox  
 renu *n* meal  
 runa *n* ring, circle  
 rajnek *v* sleep  
 renek *v* eat  
 rinek *v* count  
 ránasa *n* bay  
 riname *n* that one  
 renhâle *n* recipe

rajnelenka *n* bed  
 renlenek *v* bring  
 rima *n* topic, head, title  
 rime *n* baggage, burden  
 ruma *n* child (progeny)  
 iremek *v2x* sell, buy  
 ramek *vn?* break, shatter, tear,  
 destroy *n* = what was broken was in  
 the way; non-n = what did the breaking  
 sought out things to break  
 rimek *v* P is a burden to A  
 rumek *v* hunt  
 rumek *vn* depend, rely on  
 iremelenka *n* store  
 remvek *v* disappear, vanish, cause  
 to disappear  
 rahe *n* measure relation  
 of metric (with ~ as a metric)  
 Tšalyw-rañél tawla lenekâl atúl  
 fetatosorakamadutro. Make me sing  
 the song of the person skilled at fighting.  
 rúhlape *n* wasteland  
 rahi *n* good intention  
 rehi *adv* but rather Nŷr h'rales  
 kêl nûne, rehi nuvosħraw nûne. The  
 world does not end in fire, but rather in  
 hair.  
 rehu *n* image, picture  
 ruha *n* magical energy, passion  
 rehen *n* green  
 ruhât *n* magician, wizard  
 rala *n* sadness, sorrow  
 relu *n* study of  
 relaj *n* path, road, street  
 rjulek *v* entertain  
 relkek *v* to change, to be changed  
 relvek *v* be left, remain  
 revi *n* colour  
 ruve *n* trunk, outline, main idea  
 revet *n* white, pale  
 revekkensu *n* pink  
 reñek *v* bless (tr), succeed (intr)  
 redek *v* (A) belongs on (P)  
 râk *n* future  
 rêku *n* ritual, ceremony  
 rû *n* time, clock



rûna *n* wave  
 rûlu *adv* occasionally  
 rûnañâr *adv* in a few seconds lit.  
 across a wave

## | Š

aštanu *n* bag, backpack  
 šiki *n* dust, powder  
 šikus *n* poppy  
 šuna *n* time, occurrence For  
 brevity, it is not necessary to add the  
 temporal suffix. lykoj-šuna = soon  
 (within a short period)  
 šinvže *n* lily  
 šluhrenek *v* set free, loosen, take  
 off  
 šalrek *v* slay, slice  
 šluvisko *n* square root  
 šaňa *n* queue  
 šuýňek *n* drink, suck  
 šâg *n* orange (fruit)

## | I

luý *n* detail  
 lepu *n* forest  
 leppa *n* feather, pen  
 lapane *n* beauty  
 lepšek *v* push out of the way  
 lite *n* superfluous, frivolous, unne-  
 cessary  
 lotek *v* marry (intr)  
 lutos *n* web  
 laki *n* salt  
 lykoj *n* next  
 laksun *adv* then, if that is the case,  
 therefore  
 lakan *n* above  
 lakanek *v* jump, rise, ascend,  
 bloom (flower)  
 lenek *v* have, possess, hold, carry,  
 belong  
 lenka *n* house, family  
 lunek *v* sit

lenkasaj *n* roof  
 lenkani *n* family member  
 lonos *n* tea  
 luma *n* mouse, rat, rodent  
 lumek *v* read  
 lurek *v* give mercy  
 lerûna *n* tide  
 lušuhek *v* annoy, bother, irritate  
 lava *n* bread  
 luňa *n* speck  
 laňka *n* age, old  
 laňkašaňka *adv* a long time ago

## | V

vepu *n* staircase  
 vepek *v* follow (physically)  
 vipse *n* obscure, not well-known  
 vupanek *v* guard, protect  
 vata *n* sequence, line (of things),  
 row  
 vitšek *v* (A) objects to (P)  
 vjuko *n* straightness, neatness  
 vasa *n* some place, there  
 vystek *v* consider (tr)  
 vesek *v* plan  
 visko *n* square, to the second  
 power  
 vane *n* light, bright, certain  
 vunu *n* stick, rod  
 vante *n* ivy pl. vantej  
 venek *v* write, scratch, draw  
 transitive  
 vanrek *vn* think, consider, ponder  
 [about ACC]  
 venrek *v* permit, allow  
 vaneňra *n* divine wisdom, erudi-  
 tion, profound knowledge  
 vemtek *v2x* give, receive  
 vimek *v* blink  
 vemrek *v* (A) answers to (P)  
 vaňek *v* wash, clean  
 varu *n* lake  
 varwa *n* translation of a work from  
 another language to DR

veru *n* map, table of contents (in a book)

viru *n* cloth, soft  
 vuýra *n* mold (fungus)  
 virte *n* special, unique, unusual  
 varnek *v* enjoy, like  
 vil- *prefix* fake, pseudo-  
 vilpanek *vn?* falsely see (see panek for *n* vs. non-*n* usage)  
 vulek *v* hit, strike, beat, happen  
 vladek *v* wait  
 vladjes *n* patience  
 veňek *v* (A) advances / attacks (P)  
 vžama *n* column, pillar  
 vžohir *n* fact, truth  
 voza *n* mud  
 vazek *v* act as a parasite, take advantage of, plunder  
 vydek *v* sever, cut away, execute  
 vadasi *n* carriage, chariot

## g

gane *n* beast, wild animal  
 genzu *n* crack  
 giru *n* lion  
 girek *v* tempt, attract  
 gires *n* whisker  
 galu *n* stone, rock  
 guli *n* ice  
 gejklek *v* catch, receive, understand, accept, take  
 gedu *n* meat

## ň

jaňa *n* duck  
 ňatek *vn* feel (physical sense)  
 ňetra *n* unit of length equivalent to shoulder-to-fingertip distance (~0.75m)  
 ňekēkemew *n* diversity  
 ňarku *n* seed  
 ňarba *n* chair, stool  
 ňevlek *v* have a cold

## d

daj *n* previous  
 dotek *vn* (P) asks (QUOT) to (ACC)  
 dukka *n* moon  
 denu *n* end, mouth of a river, last  
 dune *n* iron  
 danek *v* attempt, try  
 dunek *v* see, meet, intersect, collide  
 danen *n* yellow  
 duname *n* that one yonder  
 dura *n* glue (as relation) with (a body part, other attached)  
 drekke *n* cold  
 deref *n* dream  
 duzu *n* voice  
 dāba *n* bird of prey (e. g. falcon)

## b

bja *interj* onomatopoeia for splashes or explosions  
 buý *n* sufficient, enough  
 betanek *v* (P) escapes from (A), (P) breaks off from (A) nakmas (betanek) come home from military service  
 batla *n* free  
 betlek *v2* fly, send, rush, throw, toss, vote (for)  
 betlive *n* wing  
 bjuke *n* cover  
 bakar *n* note, message  
 benek *n* be at, reside, stand, live  
 bemek *v* turn off (a light), close (a door or window)  
 berek *v* (A) scares (P), (P) fears (A)  
 berevenew *n* terrorism  
 bereveneplū *n* terrorist  
 berevenek *v* (A) commits an act of terrorism against (P)  
 bulu *n* length, long (space)  
 budek *v* tire, exhaust

bâ *n* relative pronoun Usually  
not necessary.

bûn *n* cup

## | ž

žuna *n* juice

žadek *v* (A) signs a promise with  
(P)

žudek *v* live (vs die)

žÿr *n* life, liveliness

## | z

zaki *n* west

zekku *n* rabbit

zana *n* oak

zany *n* robin

zaneK *v* move

zelek *v* complete

zâre *n* spoon

## | ğ

ġenu *n* right

ġenupulu *adv* back and forth, left  
and right, up and down

ġunek *v* torture, experiment, dis-  
tress

ġinaba *n* cherry tree

ġževek *v* speak quickly, blabber

ġedek *v* do what?

## | ð

ðano *n* older sibling

ðraj *n* heat

ðrenek *v* place, lay, insert

ðruvek *v* evaluate, judge, inspect

ðalfo *n* ash, grey

ðôd *n* trend, fashion

## | ð̇

ð̇akla *n* coarse, gravel

ð̇arek *v* strand, leave, bequeath, re-  
main

ð̇orek *v* think (as a reaction)

ð̇ovura *n* feeling, sentiment

ð̇aba *n* candle

ð̇ânek *v* owe, have to

## | â

âgna *n* each other