
Necarasso Cryssesa, Cressja eas Necarasso

Necarasso Cryssesa, the language of Cressja

uruwi

Šyno necarasso-renvyllyr

A complete grammar

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0.1 | Introduction

0.1.1 | Synopsis

Necarasso Cryssesa (lit. *forest language*) is a language conceived by Uruwi in 2013. It was intended to have an elvish aesthetic.

The language originally had SVO, head-initial order. VE²ENCS (*Vletmata erse Enefa eas Necarasso Cryssesa*) added the dual number and made one verb irregular.

VE³ENCS changed the methods of forming vowel-terminating duals as well as elaborating on punctuation use.

VE⁴ENCS was the last “old Necarasso Cryssesa” and, among other things, completely changed pluralisation, introduced short forms of numerals and created passive forms of verbs.

Due to dissatisfaction with the morphosyntactic similarity to Spanish, 5 (*do*) *vletmata*, published on 26 December 2014, overhauled the language:

- Due to influence from Japanese, the $\{s, t\} \rightarrow \{ʃ, tʃ\}$ ($\blacklozenge V_1\{i, i:, j\}$) rule was added.
- Word order is now SOV and head-final in most cases.
- Articles and gender were removed.
- Case was added.
- Tense is now reflected in conjugation instead of using an auxiliary verb.
- The short numerals are now the only valid numerals.

6 (*mja*) *vletmata*, published on 19 February 2016, expanded the changes:

- Phonotactics were clarified.
- Incorrect linguistic terminology was resolved.
- Obviate pronouns were added.
- A section on transitivity was added.
- New constructs (NCS’s term for peripheral cases) were added.
- Uses of causatives and comparatives were clarified.
- A distinction between *erasing* and *h-forming* morphologies was made.
- Units of measure were specified.

This document edits 6 *vletmata* to meet my new standards for conlang grammars.

0.2 | Original introduction

Welcome to the *new* complete grammar of Necarasso Cryssesa! Note that this is not a full tutorial and assumes that you have the wordlist with you. If you don't have it, then a download link should have been at your reach.

This document replaces the *VE⁴ENCS* you loved (or in my case, loved less); between its release and now, the grammar of Necarasso Cryssesa received major reforms (and perhaps it should be called Cryssesa Necarasso according to the new syntactic rules). It is compiled from the still-relevant parts of *VE⁴ENCS* and the proposed edits in Google Docs, plus more out of thin air (most of Chapter 4, for instance). As a result, you'll probably find the new NCS more terse and beautiful. (Or maybe you're a masochist and preferred the Spanish-like grammar of the former language better. 公平であるよ。)

And finally, if you want to learn the language, you not only need to study this document but also the wordlist (`ncsvocab.ods`). The old part of it was recently batch-converted with a Scala program (before I started to dive into the gory details of Perl 6). I'll be really hard on you. 公平であるよ。

0.2.1 | Too-frequently asked questions

1. Is this language difficult? 1. If you don't find it that way, then either I or you are doing something very, very wrong.
2. Why should I learn this language? Maybe you offered to learn it in return for having me learn yours. Or you just want to blend in with the locals.
3. Am I welcome to learn even if you didn't ask me to? 1.
4. What does 1 mean? Seems as if you'd need to continue.
5. Why did you change the grammar? Because the old one was too much like that of Spanish, my Spanish teacher was mean, and I became obsessed with Japan.
6. Why did you become obsessed with Japan? Shooting little girls. And they shoot back too.
7. What the ファック?!! It's not as bad as it seems.
8. Can you still write NCS in kana? ぺるてねす。
9. This font is ugly! Well, I could use only the DejaVu fonts because of IPA, and DejaVu Sans Mono had spacing problems. It's either this or DejaVu Serif.
10. No, the one you use to write Japanese! It looks like a yukkuri, smells like a yukkuri, and feels like a yukkuri. Take it easy.
11. You're too funny! This isn't a question, but I'll respond anyway. Deal with it.
12. You're going to fill this page with your humor! Relax, there is another page. I should really stop, though.

13. What's your favorite programming language? I have many. TI-Basic (the 83+ version, not the crappy 89 version), Scala, C, and recently I started with Haskell.
14. BLAH BLAH BLAH BLARRG Y U NO LUV PYTHON?!!!!!! Mainly whitespace. Screw you, Haskell, for doing this too when I just wanted to make an ed clone.
15. What's your favorite game for shooting little girls?
東方妖々夢 ～ Perfect Cherry Blossom.
16. What's a *pertingent apudessive construct*? It describes something (a vertical surface) with something else on it.

0.2.2 | Changes in the 6th edition

- Clarify phonotactics
- Use correct linguistic terminology
- Add section on obviate pronouns
- Use proper glosses
- Add section on transitivity
- Clarify combinations of numerical roots
- Add a few new constructs
- Elaborate on causatives and comparatives
- Clarify distinction between erasing and h-forming morphologies
- New section on units of measure

1 | Phonology and orthography

Necarasso Cryssesa uses the following phonemes:

Table 1.1: The consonants of Necarasso Cryssesa.

	Bilabial	Dental	Alveolar	Post-alveolar	Velar	Dento-velar
Nasal	m		n			
Plosive	p b		t d	(č /tʃ/)	c /k/ g	
Fricative	f v /ɸ β/	ss /θ/	s	(š /ʃ/)	h /x/	css /xθ/
Lateral fricative		ll /ɬ/				
Approximant			r /ɹ/			
Lateral approximant			l			

Table 1.2: The vowels of Necarasso Cryssesa.

Short	Long
a	(a:)
e	(ɛ:)
y /i/	i /i:/
o	(ɔ:)

Note that all unvoiced consonants are aspirated and there are no diphthongs.

In addition, any consonant may be palatalised. This is shown with <j> after the consonant; for instance, <cj> = /kʲ/. /ɹ/ is realised as [j], so it is written as <j>.

1.1 | Phonotactics

The basic form for a word is usually $C_0(NC) * N_t$, where:

- C is a consonant
- C_0 is a consonant other than /θ ɬ x/ (but /xθ/ is allowed), or one of /pɹ βɹ βl ɸɹ ɸl tɹ tɹ dl dɹ dɹ kɹ gɹ gl kf/ (<cv> = /kf/)

- N is an approximant, followed by a vowel, then another approximant
- N_t is one of /a e i: o as es i:s os is an en on in ʲa ʲo ʲas ʲos ʲan ʲon aθ eθ iθ eɪθ el il ad id/
- there are no sequences of palatalised consonants followed by /i/ or /i:/.

1.2 | Allophony

(* means that this change is reflected in spelling.)

* $\{s, t\} \rightarrow \{ʃ, tʃ\} \quad (\blacklozenge V_1\{i, i:\})$

* $\{sʲ, tʲ, rʲ\} \rightarrow \{ʃ, tʃ, j\}$

* $\{ka, ko\} \rightarrow \{kʲa, ke\} \quad (\square\blacklozenge)$

$\{a, e, o\} \rightarrow \{a:, \varepsilon:, \circ:\} \quad (\blacklozenge \Sigma_1\{V_1, C_1\{ɹ, ʔ, ɹʲ, \Phi\}, \square\})$

1.3 | Erasing vs. h-forming

Some inflections and compounds might result in two vowels adjacent to each other. *H-forming* morphologies deal with the problem of two identical adjacent vowels by infixing <h> between them. They do not exhibit special behaviour on two different adjacent vowels.

Unconditional erasing morphologies merge two adjacent vowels, resulting in only the first vowel remaining. *Conditional erasing* morphologies merge only identical adjacent vowels.

1.4 | Punctuation

The period, the question mark, the exclamation mark and the semicolon are used as usual. Guillemets are used as quotes, and foreign words are marked with an asterisk.

2 | Syntax

Necarasso Cryssesa requires verbs (present or implied) to come before the subject, object or any obliques in a sentence. In addition, the subject usually comes before the direct object, making the word order SOV in most cases.

A descriptor precedes its antecedent, *unless*:

- it is part of a language name and the antecedent is <necarasso>, or
- it is a cardinal (as opposed to ordinal) numeral

in which case the descriptor follows the antecedent.

Names are presented with the surname first, and the given name second.

3 | Nouns

A noun can adopt any ending that does not end with a <-d>. All nouns are declined in three numbers, as follows:

Table 3.1: Number inflections in Necarasso Cryssesa.

Singular	Dual	Plural
All with a	-ar	-o
-el	-or	-jon
-e	-ir	-i
-erss	-yr	-yss
All others with e	-yr	e → y
-o	-yn	-an
-or	-osor	-el
All others with o	-or	-el
All with i/y	-er	-es
Drop palatalisation?	Yes	No, unless ending rules require dropping

Note that dual number applies to any noun that refers to two entities, whether paired or unpaired.

Number declensions are conditionally erasing. For instance, <ernei> *army* is pluralised to <ernes>.

Nouns are also declined for nominative or oblique case. The nominative case is unmarked, and the oblique is formed by changing the final consonant to <n> (or adding it if the form ends in a vowel) on a noun already inflected for number. Nominative cases are used for the subject of a sentence and with *eas* when referring to possession, as well as in an object of the copula.

3.1 | Personal pronouns

Personal pronouns have irregular numerical declensions, but cases are accounted in the same method as in other nouns.

Table 3.2: Examples of declensions in Nekarasso Cryssesa.

Singular	Dual	Plural	Definition
vercesa	vercesar	verceso	grain, fleck
nesmeja	nesmerar	nesmejo	star
rečyrkar	rečyrkar	rečyrco	flower
mortos	mortor	mortel	hand
arpelja	arpelar	arpeljo	stream
cerel	ceror	cerion	sunset
csserys	csserer	csseres	door
nerdo	nerdyn	nerdan	base, foundation, floor
creten	crečyr	crečyn	wave
naria	nariar	nario	chin

Table 3.3: Personal pronouns in Nekarasso Cryssesa.

	Singular	Dual	Plural
1st	e <i>I</i>	ento	eras <i>we</i>
2nd	eo <i>you</i>	eoro	eos <i>you</i>
3rd	os <i>he, she, it</i>	oson	oros <i>they</i>

In addition, when a two different third-person subjects are mentioned in a context, the first to be mentioned now uses <ela> and the second uses <emta>. If more than two are mentioned, then the following additional pronouns are used:

Table 3.4: Obviate pronouns in Nekarasso Cryssesa.

2	enros
3	ton
4	senca
5	redo
6	remja
7	relen
8	refe
	etc.

<ela> and <emta> are uninflected, the other three suppletive obviate pronouns are inflected as nouns, and the remainder of the obviate pronouns are inflected as such:

- Nominative: redo, rydo, rydo
- Oblique: rendo, ryndo, ryndo

3.1.1 | Reflexive and reciprocal pronouns

These are <nemesa> and <cypra>, respectively:

Menssen nysos ferna nemesan varmeneata.
 mirror-OBL through child self-OBL observe-PAST-3SG
 The child looked at himself through the mirror.

They can also appear in noun phrases where the possessor is identical to the subject of the sentence:

Ementva nemesa eas loran šynčyta.
 yesterday self GEN hair-OBL cut-PAST-3SG
 Yesterday she cut her own hair.

3.1.2 | Compounding

Nouns can be compounded together, with the modifying noun first and the head noun second. Likewise, adjectives can compound with nouns, but this type of compounding is rarely productive outside of names. Both noun-to-noun and adjective-to-noun compounding are unconditionally erasing.

4 | Verbs

Verbs in Necarasso Cryssesa are inflected for person and number, as well as four moods:

- **Indicative** denotes a certain statement (e. g. *It snowed yesterday. I gave him the book.*).
- **Subjunctive** denotes an uncertain statement (e. g. *I'm not sure whether it will snow tomorrow. I'll give him the book if he comes to school.*).
- **Imperative** denotes a command, request, need, or desire (e. g. *Please give me the book. You want her to help you. It's important to eat every day.*).
- **Interrogative** denotes a question (e. g. *Which book did you receive?*). Unless provided separately, it is inflected identically as the indicative. In informal speech, the indicative is often used instead.

Verbs are inflected in five paradigms (*asagi*; sg. *asage*; literally pattern):

Table 4.1: Verb conjugations in Necarasso Cryssesa.

0 <i>asage</i> . Ends in <-ad> but not <-ead>. <cynrad> <i>open</i>			
Indicative	Singular	Dual	Plural
1	e cynra	ento cynran	eras cynress
2	eo cynres	eoro cynresen	eos cynrer
3	os cynre	oson cynren	oros cynri
Subjunctive	Singular	Dual	Plural
1	e cynrena	ento cynrenera	eras cynreiness
2	eo cynrenes	eoro cynreneres	eos cynrener
3	os cynrene	oson cynrenere	oros cynreni
Imperative	Singular	Dual	Plural
1	e cynrenta	ento cynrenela	eras cynrentess
2	eo cynrentes	eoro cynreneles	eos cynrenter
3	os cynrente	oson cynrenele	oros cynrenči

1 asage. Ends in <-yd> but not <-ayd>. <yndaryd> <i>leave</i>			
Indicative	Singular	Dual	Plural
1	e yndare	ento yndaren	eras yndarass
2	eo yndaras	eoro yndaresan	eos yndarar
3	os yndara	oson yndaran	oros yndaro
Subjunctive	Singular	Dual	Plural
1	e yndarese	ento yndaresere	eras yndaresass
2	eo yndaresas	eoro yndareseras	eos yndaresar
3	os yndaresa	oson yndaresera	oros yndareso
Imperative	Singular	Dual	Plural
1	e yndarepe	ento yndarepele	eras yndaretass
2	eo yndaretas	eoro yndareselas	eos yndaretar
3	os yndareta	oson yndaresela	oros yndareto
2 asage. Ends in <-ead>. <sendread> <i>be in excess</i>			
Indicative	Singular	Dual	Plural
1	e sendrea	ento sendrean	eras sendrehess
2	eo sendrehes	eoro sendrehesen	eos sendreher
3	os sendrehe	oson sendrehen	oros sendrei
Subjunctive	Singular	Dual	Plural
1	e sendrehena	ento sendrehenera	eras sendreheness
2	eo sendrehenes	eoro sendreheneres	eos sendrehener
3	os sendrehene	oson sendrehenere	oros sendreheni
Imperative	Singular	Dual	Plural
1	e sendrehenta	ento sendrehenela	eras sendrehentess
2	eo sendrehentes	eoro sendreheneles	eos sendrehenter
3	os sendrehente	oson sendrehenele	oros sendrehenči
Interrogative	Singular	Dual	Plural
1	e sendria	ento sendrian	eras sendrehess
2	eo sendrehes	eoro sendrehesen	eos sendreher
3	os sendrehe	oson sendrehen	oros sendri
3 asage. Ends in <-ayd>. <ylmayd> <i>panic</i>			
Indicative	Singular	Dual	Plural
1	e ylmae	ento ylmaen	eras ylmahass
2	eo ylmahas	eoro ylmaesan	eos ylmahar
3	os ylmaha	oson ylmahan	oros ylmao
Subjunctive	Singular	Dual	Plural
1	e ylmaese	ento ylmaesen	eras elmaesass
2	eo ylmaesas	eoro ylmaesenas	eos ylmaesar
3	os ylmaesa	oson ylmaesan	oros ylmaeso
Imperative	Singular	Dual	Plural
1	e ylmaepe	ento ylmaepen	eras ylmaetass

2	eo ylmaetas	eoro ylmaepenas	eos ylmaetar
3	os ylmaeta	oson ylmaetan	oros ylmaeto
Interrogative	Singular	Dual	Plural
1	e ylmie	ento ylmien	eras ylmahass
2	eo ylmahas	eoro ylmiesan	eos ylmahar
3	os ylmaha	oson ylmahan	oros ylmio
4 asage. <essyd> exist only. <essyd> exist			
Indicative	Singular	Dual	Plural
1	e ve	ento ven	eras veass
2	eo ves	eoro vesen	eos vellar
3	os vella	oson vellan	oros von
Subjunctive	Singular	Dual	Plural
1	e vese	ento vesen	eras vehesass
2	eo vesas	eoro vesenes	eos vellesar
3	os vellesa	oson vellesan	oros veson
Imperative	Singular	Dual	Plural
1	e vepe	ento vepen	eras vehetass
2	eo vetas	eoro vepenes	eos velletar
3	os vellea	oson velletan	oros veton
Interrogative	Singular	Dual	Plural
1	e ce	ento cen	eras ceass
2	eo ces	eoro cesen	eos cellar
3	os cella	oson cellan	oros gon

4.1 | Polarity

In order to form the negative of a non-imperative form of a verb, the particle <ci> is used. In the imperative form, <c'-> is prefixed to verbs beginning with <e-> and <cer-> otherwise.

4.2 | Tense

The only tense distinctions are past and nonpast. Tense is regarded as a special construction, rather than a conjugation; in order to form the past infinitive, replace <-ad> with <-ačyd> and <-yd> with <-yčyd>.

4.3 | Serialisation

To form modal and serial expressions (an English example would be *can come* or *come walking*), the infinitive of the verb that would come second in English occurs first, with the final <d> replaced with <v>, with the other verb appended:

Vyncyvpertena.
 come-SER-able_to-1SG
 I can come.

In a similar construction, a noun can be glued after a verb to form a compound:

necsavesada
 sit-SER-room
 sitting room

4.4 | Voice

In the present tense, passive voice is formed by replacing <-ad> with <-erad> (h-forming), and <-yd> with <-eryd> (conditionally erasing).

The past passive, which is not a verb but rather an adjective, is formed by replacing <-d> with <-go>.

4.5 | Rules for determining which mood to use

1. If it is certain that an action is or is not performed, then use the indicative.
2. If a question is being asked, then use the interrogative.
3. If a command, request, need, or desire is expressed, then use the imperative.
4. The hypothesis clause of <so> *if* always uses the subjunctive.
5. An emotional reaction to an action that happened (e. g. *I feel happy that your parents are inviting me to dinner*) uses the indicative for that action.
6. If doubt or other lack of certainty is expressed or implied, then use the subjunctive.

4.6 | Irregular imperatives

The second-person singular imperative of <marčyd> *wait* is <mares> and that of <jarečyd> *leave alone* is <jares>.

4.7 | Causatives

Necarasso distinguishes between:

- direct causation: the action was caused by a direct act of the subject (e. g. by force)

- indirect causation: the action was caused by an indirect act (e. g. by speech or some chain of events)

Direct causatives are formed by the prefix <do->. Indirect causatives are formed as follows:

- <nyd> → <teryd>
- <ryd> → <ceryd>
- <-d> → <-deryd>

Then the causer assumes the subject position, and the subject of the base action becomes the direct object. If the base action already has a direct object, then it will be the second direct object in the sentence.

Examples:

Cynyn docaršyta.
vase-OBL DC-fall-PAST-3SG
He dropped the vase.

ersaden eferan nyrsen ylmyraderyta.
master servant-OBL water-OBL bring-IC-PAST-3SG
The master had the servant bring water.

Gentrydyr ersaden renecyn renmane rylssyderyta.
study-ANIM_ACTOR master advice-INSTR Renme-INESSIVE rest-IC-PAST-3SG
The student advised the instructor to take a vacation at Renme.

Direct causatives are commonly used to convert intransitive verbs to transitive verbs.

4.8 | Transitivity

Verbs are often either intransitive or transitive. Some can play both roles depending on whether an object is specified, but verbs cannot take on different valences depending on an active / stative distinction:

Menea.
see-1SG
I see.

Enen menea.
tree-OBL see-1SG
I see the tree.

Genar nassala.

snow melt-3SG
The snow melts.

Senar arcyn donassala.
fire ice-OBL DC-melt-3SG
The fire melts the ice.