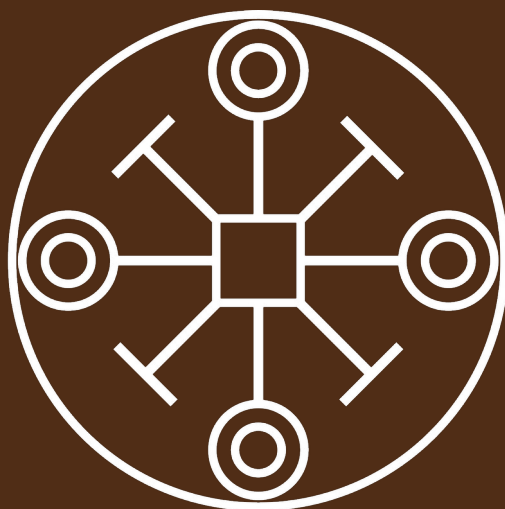


Sambahsa Mundialect

Complete Grammar



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Revision: Dr. Olivier Simon

Version: 21.02.0



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For the elaboration of this grammar, *The Grammar Of Sambahsa-Mundialect In English* by Dr. Olivier Simon was used. Some subchapters of this grammar are practically a transcription of Olivier's book. Dr. Simon has given me permission to do so, even considering the license of this book. I've also utilized many examples from *The Grammar Of Sambahsa-Mundialect In English* and others that Dr. Simon made for me.

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This grammar was translated from Brazilian Portuguese to English. We are waiting for available native speakers to revise the English text.

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INTRODUCTION

Sambahsa Mundialect is an auxiliary language created by the French Dr. Olivier Simon and launched on the internet on July 2007. Its base is Proto-Indo-European, a reconstructed language¹ spoken about 5000 years ago, whose daughter languages are widespread from Southern Russia up to the British Isles and India. Sambahsa also counts with many contributions from other languages, especially Arabic, but also Chinese, Indonesian, and many others.

As it is an auxiliary language, Sambahsa is much easier than any national language like Spanish or German, but Sambahsa is a bit more challenging if it's compared to other auxiliary languages because it is a bit complicated at the beginning. However, after that, the learning process shows itself incredibly simple and the advantages of its complexity will make all the effort be worth it, especially for expressing the thought and translation.

Before we go any further, let me explain why I use the term “national language” to refer to languages like English and Spanish instead of “natural language”. I speak “national language” because there is no global generic version of a language, many non-anglophones learn the English from either the United States or England². In the same way, many people study either the Spanish language from Spain or the one from a Latin American country. I know, at first, you can study variants from different countries, but your speech will not seem natural if you mix words, pronunciations, and ways of speaking from different cultures, so you will have to choose the variant of a country sooner or later. Regarding the problematic of the term “natural language”, it is clear that languages like English and Spanish are natural, in no way am I denying this, even an illiterate person can communicate in his native language. But these languages have a certain degree of artificiality, otherwise, we would not spend years in elementary and high school studying our language, not to mention that even those who have finished school still make minor spelling and grammar mistakes. I avoid using the expression “natural language”, because I would have to speak – explicitly or not – of its opposite, the “artificial language”. Yes, Sambahsa is an artificial language, but if I say “Sambahsa is an artificial language”, many people may understand that Sambahsa would not sound natural, which would be wrong, as the process of using Sambahsa is the same as using Spanish or French, with the difference that you would not need to worry about the constant irregularities of these national languages.

With what the language looks like? The interesting aspect of Sambahsa is its naturalness, you don't see it as a constructed language, but as a national language like any other. As Dave MacLeod has said in his preface for the book *The Grammar Of Sambahsa-Mundialect In English*, “I always imagined Sambahsa to be an example of a language that could have existed somewhere around present-day Armenia, where a kingdom using a descendant of Proto-Indo-European using it has been influenced over the centuries by its Persian, Turkish and Arab neighbors, as well as various countries from the east. At times, it feels a bit like Bulgarian, at other times like Persian, and sometimes similar to German as well”.

- 1 **Reconstructed language:** “A hypothetical, usually unattested language formed by making comparisons between the similarities of actual languages” (Wiktionary) in order to recreate an ancient and extinct language
- 2 OK, no person is going to prohibit them of learning the English from Australia, South Africa, or Jamaica, but in the scope of international communication, people rather use the variation from USA or England

Look an extract from the book Dracula, by Bram Stoker:

In Sambahsa

Trans ia glend kowka clins ios Mittel Land ludeer staur ghirikleitus tiel ia bergwntias iom-pet Karpats. Dexter ed levter quem wey, uhselleer, samt id posmiddien sol pehdend alnos ep ia ed leurnd vasya klewost colors tos bell gabehrg – maurblou ed purpwr in ia skadhs iom pics, glend ed brun quer gras ed rock se blans; dind eet un aunfin prospect om srakut ghianshiek ed ghehrsend crags hina taswo viswohndeer dalgi, quer ia varfs oistieu grandiose-ye. Her ed ter kwecto eent jabbara rifts in ia ghyors, per-ya, kun id sol bieurohp, wey endervis id kweitos uns wedfall. Oin em mien sokwis touchit mien brakh kun wey gir pod un clin ed menxu prohp un bergwnt varf, kwohk-yod, kun wey wohgh ub noster serpent in via, face nos.

– Spehcte: Isten Szk (id thron os Div)!

Ed is kwohr id stavros samt yazgos.

In English

Beyond the green swelling hills of the Mittel Land rose mighty slopes of forest up to the lofty steepes of the Carpathians themselves. Right and left of us they towered, with the afternoon sun falling full upon them and bringing out all the glorious colours of this beautiful range, deep blue and purple in the shadows of the peaks, green and brown where grass and rock mingled, and an endless perspective of jagged rock and pointed crags, till these were themselves lost in the distance, where the snowy peaks rose grandly. Here and there seemed mighty rifts in the mountains, through which, as the sun began to sink, we saw now and again the white gleam of falling water. One of my companions touched my arm as we swept round the base of a hill and opened up the lofty, snow-covered peak of a mountain, which seemed, as we wound on our serpentine way, to be right before us.

‘Look! Isten szk!’—‘God’s seat!’—and he crossed himself reverently.

Sambahsa has a flag to represent it.



The brown color represents the ground since many Indo-European languages derive their words for “person” from words related to clay, like the word “earthling”. The white color was chosen because it contrasts the best. The small concentric circles represent the wheel because it is an important innovation made by humans, the square represents the vehicle (car, chariot...), the “T”s represent the thill, the lines represent the axle and the bigger circle represents the Sun as well as the Circle of Life.

The “movement” that supports Sambahsa is not linked to any kind of thought:

people from all kinds, ethnicities, places, beliefs, genders, sexual orientations, social classes, and ideologies may use this language as they please.

WHY LEARN AN AUXILIARY LANGUAGE? WE ALREADY HAVE ENGLISH

You ask me: “*we already have English as an international language, why learn an artificial language?*”. Before I answer this question, I must remember that we are speaking here about a language for a world context, if I were to work in China or, at least, stay in touch with Chinese people, I would have to learn Mandarin, it's pretty obvious! The point is: if I enter a room where there are a Pakistani, a Russian, an American, an Argentine, and a Japanese, all of them only can have communication if they know a common language because only a very few people have time and disposition to learn five different languages; in current days, it's expected that all these people speak English for making possible a communication. This is the heart of the matter.

The problem with a national language – no matter if it is English, Spanish, French, or Mandarin – is that it's too much spent time (and also money in many cases) learning it. Of course, for those who like to learn languages or will live in a foreign country, it's a **great** investment, even learning a “less important” language is valid if it pleases you. But when the matter is a language that serves as a bridge between different people, the scenario is different.

I like to say that when two people communicate with each other through the language of a determined country, it's like calculate using Roman numerals. It's perfectly possible to calculate with Roman numerals, peoples did that for centuries, but it's much more efficient to calculate with Hindu-Arabic numerals, which in our case would be the communication through a language that you learn in months and is regular. I said “language of a determined country” because people learn – in the international communication scope – the English variant from the United States of America or England, but never the English from Jamaica and neither the one from Australia or South Africa.

SO ARE YOU AGAINST THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE?

My answer to this question is a loud “**NO**”(!), although some other people may have negative views regarding the language originated in England. English is considered as an official language in countries of all the continents and it is relatively easy to learn, not to mention that the United States and England are great exporters of culture. It's because of it and other factors that many people support the idea that English still will be used as *lingua franca* for a good amount of time, even if the United States lose its hegemony. And personally, I think that English is a very beautiful language.

Despite all the critiques made, English still is the most widespread language in the globe. In practically all schools of the world with a minimum of infrastructure, the English language is taught. It's worth pointing out that, unlike English, no auxiliary language had the support of States and companies to propagate it on the globe. We know that, currently, a work will be much better exposed if it is made available in English, which ironically includes this grammar.

BUT WHY LEARN SAMBAHSA? WE ALREADY HAVE ESPERANTO

Because Sambahsa presents a **different approach**, it brings something new to the world of auxiliary languages. Esperanto is by far the most successful auxiliary language (*for no saying “the only successful one”*), with over 50,000 speakers at the worst estimates. To tell the truth, the language created by the Polish Ludwik Lejzer Zamenhof has no actual competitors. Still, there are many other auxiliary languages because there are people not satisfied with Esperanto, if you are reading this grammar, most likely you are one of them.

Sambahsa has success in having the regularity – and facility – of an auxiliary language and the naturalness and native beauty of a national language. Sambahsa is as good as English or Portuguese for making poetry or music. Even the imported proper nouns and names of “exotic” things from other languages don't need, in most cases, to have its spelling or pronounce drastically changed to adequate the orthography of the language, the “difficulties” in importing these words will be the same that occurs in any language like English or Spanish.

Regarding its vocabulary, almost half of it is based on Proto-Indo-European, which covers a good percentage of the people of the world, because, in addition to European languages, it also represents speakers of Iranian languages (like Persian) and Indian ones (like Hindi). For reasons that I will explain later, Sambahsa relies on words from some European languages for more modern concepts, but also relies on contributions from other languages such as Arabic and Chinese as far as possible. It is not possible to simply collect words at random to guarantee supposed equality, an example is that it's much more practical to use part of the vocabulary of Greek and Latin to build technical and scientific words. They will say that speakers of non-Indo-European languages would be at a disadvantage, but many of these people learn an Indo-European language at some point in their lives, so Sambahsa will not be alien to them. Some will notice the small number of authentic contributions from African languages, but you have to understand that these languages had little impact on other languages outside Africa, differently from Arabic that influenced important languages like English, French, and Spanish.

This is a finished language, it means that you don't have to worry whether what you've learned today will change in five years. What you write today in Sambahsa will be understood even in a century! I want to make this clear because reforms will not be accepted! Sambahsa is a unique language amid auxiliary languages, what would be the fun if this language were one more of the same?

IS SAMBAHSA DIFFICULT?

Maybe you'd heard that Sambahsa is difficult. Is that true? The problem is that people observe the language superficially and then got the wrong idea. I am not going to be cynical in saying that this fame is unjustified, but let's try to understand this situation.

Try to imagine the work in learning a language like Spanish or German. Now remove all variations of this language – in the case of the ones spoken in different countries – and irregularities; Sambahsa basically is in this way. It's like Robert Winter said in his “Sambahsa: Guide to Pronouns and Articles”, “*Sambahsa is right on the limit of the degree of difficulty that is practical for an international auxiliary language*”.

The language can be mastered in a matter of very few months if you have a minimum of dedication, you only have to know what are your priorities of study and to know how to study and what to study! Doesn't make sense decorate all declension cases from dative if you use them a very few times! Also, you must have in mind that the fact of this language is easy doesn't mean that you will be writing philosophical treatises in three weeks, but maybe you can do it in four or six months.

People complain that Sambahsa has difficult sounds to learn, but all languages have different sounds to be learned, even other auxiliary languages that try to be the simplest. Soon after, there are a few of the languages most studied by Americans and their sounds that don't exist in the General American English (*the ones in italic are used in Sambahsa*).

Spanish (European Castilian) – [β], [x], [ɲ], [ɣ]

German – [ç], [ʁ], [x], [ʏ], [y], [ø], [œ]

French – [ɲ], [ʁ], [y], [œ], [ø], [y], [ɑ̃], [ɛ̃], [œ̃], [ɔ̃]

Maybe Sambahsa could have simpler sounds (simple for whom?) or less “extra sounds”, but wouldn't the language be poorer? The sounds are easily learnable and I'll show you that you can be pronouncing all of them in a week or less.

And look that, learning these “difficult sounds” you'll end learning the sounds of other languages, which means that if you want to learn French or German in the future you'll already have mastered their pronunciation even before learning them!

I'm still going to teach the pronunciation of words, but let me show you right now a few words, just to you judge whether they are difficult or not. Obviously that you will need to learn some new sounds, but you will see that it's not rocket science. Let's start with the simplest ones, which are the overwhelming majority:

There is a lot of explanation because it's not easy to explain the pronunciation of other language using the American English orthography (that may vary a lot!), that's why I ask for your understanding

Aise – ease (*pronounced “ez” where this “e” has the same sound of the “e” from “dress”*)

Bell – beautiful (*it's pronounced like it's written, just know that this “e” has the same sound of the “a” from “lake”, but without the ee sound*)

Anghen – person (*pronounced “a_unguen”. It's not a sin if you pronounce the Sambahsa's “a” like you do in “father”, but it's better to use the sound that you do when you speak “I”, but without the ee sound*)

Behrg – to put out of danger (*pronounced more or less as “berg” where this “e” has the same sound of the one from “bell”*)

Kwaun – dog (*it's pronounced like it's written, just know that the “au” is pronounced like “ou” from “mouth” having the Sambahsa's “a” sound that I explained to you*)

Rat – rat (*again, the pronunciation of this “a” is like the “a” from “anghen”. The pronunciation of the Sambahsa's “r” admits many forms, you can use the sound of “tt” from the American pronunciation of “better”*)

Now let's look at some supposed complicated words that are not even common:

Zowngschie – anyway (*pronounced as “dzowng_gshee” where this “ow” has the same sound of “oa” from the American pronunciation of “goat” and this “ng” has the same sound of the one from “thing”*)

Rjienrlwey – mankind (*pronounced as “r_jien_rw_a” where this “a” has the same sound of the “a” from “face”*)

Other complaint is that Sambahsa bases its vocabulary upon loanwords instead of

compound words, I explain: in Sambahsa, the adjective “beautiful” is “bell” while “ugly” is “biaur”. Someone could say that, for example, an affix that inverts the meaning of the word would be better because it would eliminate the need of memorizing hundreds of words. Indeed, it's a resource that would bring some advantages, but, on the other hand, sentences with compound sentences take a time to be analyzed, so, after analyzing the pros and cons, it's more practical a word like “biaur” than “*malbell*”³. And frankly, until you master the grammar, you will have memorized all the most relevant words.

SAMBAHSA'S VOCABULARY

Just below there is a list of languages that had contributed for Sambahsa's vocabulary, the percentage of borrowed words and some examples between parentheses:

Proto-Indo-European – 44.28 % (*skadh, paursk, potnia*)

Latin – 15 % (*facil, question, caise*)

Germanic family – 9.5 % (*apter, buk, rogv*)

French – 6.21 % (*journal, adresse, place*)

Greek – 4.64 % (*pharmacia, ieftin, papier*)

Romance family – 3.95 % (*important, visite, torte*)

Arabic – 3.42 % (*lakin, mutawassit, hatta*)

English – 1.45 % (*film, sport, wagon*)

Slavic family – 1.28 % (*lige, grance, vessel*)

Italian – 1 % (*autostrad, valise, dusch*)

Indo-iranian/Persian – 0.92 % (*naft, ris, hevd*)

German – 0.78 % (*dank, postamt, vurst*)

Chinese – 0.71 % (*gienxin, yui, saan*)

Other languages or families – 6.86 %

About the vocabulary that came from the reconstructed words of Proto-Indo-European, it's important to say that some words can not be guaranteed as “common Proto-Indo-European pure”, Proto-Indo-European divided into many linguistic families, but words in common among these languages may not necessarily have their origin in Proto-Indo-European. For example, the words “long” and “pisk” are found in the Romance languages (“*longo*” and “*peixe*” in the case of Portuguese) and German languages (“*long*” and “*fish*” in the case of English), but it's uncertain whether their origin was in Proto-Indo-European, linguistic families continued to exchange words when Proto-Indo-European split up.

Another important detail that must be remembered is that Proto-European was a language from the Bronze Age, so there cannot be words of things that did not exist at that time. For example, the word “stal” (“steel” in Sambahsa) was based on the common root of Germanic (“Stahl” in German) and Slavic (“сталь” in Russian) languages, because there was no steel in the Bronze Age! The word “stal” may still have some relation with a Proto-European word, perhaps “*stek-lo-” from “*stak” which means “to stand, to be firm”, but that doesn't change the fact that Proto-Indo-European speakers did not know steel, so they could not have had a word for this concept.

3 For those who do not know Esperanto and did not get the reference: in Esperanto, if you put the prefix “mal-” in a word, you invert its meaning, so “bela” means “beautiful” while “malbela” means “ugly”.

However, it should be remembered that sambahsa is not a zonal language⁴, that's why the creator of the language has taken back international words. For example, one might ask why Sambahsa does not have words like "medhu" and "woin" in place of "alcohol" and "vin", since these first two would be based directly and respectively on "*medhu-" and "*uoin-a-" from Proto-Indo-European. It's because the words chosen for Sambahsa are more international and used between different languages:

Alcohol – (En.: alcohol; Fr.: alcool; Ru.: алкоголь)

Vin – (En.: wine; Fr.: vin; Ru.: вино)

By the way, "* medhu-" was used to form the word "medu" (mead).

It is true that Sambahsa is based heavily on Proto-Indo-European, but a balance needed to be maintained since this is an auxiliary language. Olivier, the creator of the language, had to make a number of choices when he was creating the vocabulary of Sambahsa. With all that has been said so far, it is unproductive to continue to discuss why that word was chosen instead of that one, especially now that the language is finished and does not allow reforms.

Some words can have "multiple origins":

Amlak – means "asset(s)" (*finance*), it corresponds to the Arabic "أَمْلَاك", to the Turkish "emlak" and the Persian "املاک".

Schut – means "hornless", it corresponds to the Romanian "Șut", to the Bulgarian/Serbo-croatian "šut" and to the ao Albanian "shut".

Geong – means "palace-fortress", it corresponds to the character "城", which is read as *chéng* in Mandarin pinyin, *jō* in Japanese Go-on (latinized Japanese), *seong* in Korean and *thành* in Vietnamese.

Xiongbu – means "chest", it corresponds to "胸部", that is "Xiōngbù" in latinized Chinese and "kyōbu" in latinized Japanese.

Potire – means "pitcher", it corresponds to the Old Greek "ποτήρ", to the Serbo-croatian "потиp", to the Russian "потир" and to the Albanian "potir".

More examples of words of languages whose contribution is not very significant, but have their mark in Sambahsa:

Portuguese – banan, mingo, namor

Spanish – chocolat, ghitarr(a), salg, vanilia

Baltic – biaur, tik

Malay – kye (*also from slav; from Malay-Indonesian comes "ke" and from Russian with some Slavic languages comes "k(o)"*)

Scandinavian – leik, lyt, tiel

Swahili – pori, kulambu, mwembi

Sanskrit – bahsa, nagor

Universal – mama

Celtic – sapoun, briggv (*also from Germanic*), brugs (*also from Italian*)

Arawak – tabak

Nahuatl – tomat

Some people complain about the fact that the pronunciation of certain words is

4 **Zonal constructed languages** are constructed languages made to facilitate communication between speakers of a certain group of closely related languages. (Wikipedia)

different from the original. But this is obvious, in addition to the fact that many of these words have multiple origins, they have been adapted to the auxiliary language. Take “xiongbu” as an example, which came from “胸部”, the transcription of these characters for IPA⁵, in Chinese, is [ç^wũŋp^wù:] and, in Japanese, it is [k'o \ :bu^β]. I say it again, “xiongbu” is a word adapted to Sambahsa and it is not based on a specific language, but two. Next point, the Chinese language has tones and the sound [ç] that don't exist in Sambahsa, in the same way that Sambahsa doesn't have the sound [u^β] from the Japanese language. The pronunciation of the Sambahsa word “xiongbu” is ['ksjɔŋg.bu], whose “x” is pronounced differently from the one found in “Xiōngbù” and from the “k” of “kyôbu”, but know the pronunciation of the Sambahsa words is just an approximation! Even if the word were “schiongbu”, whose pronunciation would be ['ʃjɔŋg.bu], it would still be intelligible to Chinese and Japanese anyway!

5 **IPA = International Phonetic Alphabet:** I will explain what IPA means, for now understand that this is an alphabet created to represent the sounds of human speech

METHODOLOGY OF TEACHING

I structured the grammar in the following way: I avoid the presentation of a new content that demands the previous knowledge of other non-mentioned subject, for example: if for learning the future verbal tense it's necessary to know the infinitive, I will teach the infinitive before the future tense; if for learning the declension is necessary some basic grammar knowledge, I will bring back those teachings from middle school's classes. I believe that this way is the less annoying for the beginner.

This book was made in the way that it serves the student without any previous knowledge, in other words, I am assuming you don't know another language and you even don't know certain basic grammar terms. Thus, a student can read this grammar without the necessity of consulting other books, except dictionaries. The goal of this grammar is to be accessible to everyone!

What I am going to say is important, so pay attention! When you study, don't be in a hurry for decorating all cases in the accusative or all the list of prepositions once, take it easy (!), since you will use some words more times than other ones. No grammar was made to be read just once, but many times. Now that you are starting, read the chapters only once, twice at most, then go on to the next chapter, *but I admit that there will be certain matters that you'll have to master before going on.* After finishing the reading of the grammar, start reading texts, they will help you to increase your vocabulary and improve your grammar knowledge since you will have to consult the grammar for understanding how that sentence or another was made.

It can seem strange, but I started this grammar when I was at the beginning of my studies in the language, in my second or third week of learning, not when I already had a good mastering over Sambahsa. I had two reasons to do that: the act of making a grammar demands great responsibility, what boosted me in my studies, thanks to this work I could learn things more quickly, that was a very interesting exercise; the second reason is that the person who knows the first difficulties of a beginner is another beginner, if I had decided to make this grammar much time after, maybe I could forget certain difficulties that I had and I wouldn't address them in this grammar.

YOU DON'T NEED TO LEARN EVERYTHING

One of the goals of this grammar is being the most complete as possible, in other words, the goal is to cover the most basic until the elements that will only rarely appear in the most erudite literature. There will be things here like the optional forms of the indicative of present, that rarely are used, but this grammar has the **obligation** of presenting it. Focus only in what is necessary for you!

The language also has very rich phonology, some sounds doesn't exist in English, but can be learned in a short time. I made the possible to explain the sounds, since per comparisons with other languages until per what movements of tongue and mouth are made. But if you really have difficulty with some sounds, there is no problem, you can use a similar sound, very improbably someone won't understand you, but endeavor a bit for learning all sounds, it'll be a learning process that will serve for other languages as you will see.

TIPS FOR STUDYING A LANGUAGE

In these years studying languages I've learned some things, they are tips that are useful for any language, not only Sambahsa:

- When you read, listen, write, or say a word, directly associate this word to its idea. I'll explain: some people, when read “nebh”, associate this word to the English word “cloud” and then they make an association to a cloud. Don't do this, train your mind to don't need an intermediate, try to directly associate the word to the idea or object.
WRONG: “kerd” → “heart” → ♥
CORRECT: “kerd” → ♥
- Don't stick to the grammar, read the grammar once or twice then go to the texts, you have to see the language in the practice. With time you will absorb the grammar rules while acquiring vocabulary. When, in a text, you don't know how certain grammatical construction was made, you come back to the grammar.
- Use the language since the first day, even it is only in your mind. Say a “good morning” in Sambahsa, create simple sentences for daily situations. Try to use the language in the beginning as possible, even you don't know the most basic prepositions.

ALPHABET AND PRONUNCIATION

Maybe you take fright because of the size of this chapter, indeed it is a bit big if compared to other grammars in their chapters of alphabet and pronunciation, but it's because I need to explain everything in depth. Ideally, I should only explain the less obvious rules and let you take it all naturally, but since this is a complete grammar, I have the obligation of explaining everything point by point. So, with the exception of the SPT that we will discuss later, don't get too focused on this chapter, read it only once and come back only when you don't understand why a certain word was pronounced in a determined way.

The alphabet is composed by 26 Latin letters, they are: a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z. The orthography is a bit complex, but still regular.

For representing the sounds of Sambahsa we have the Sambahsa Phonetic Transcription (SPT), an alphabet whose words are always between curly brackets { } in all this grammar, the letters in UPPERCASE inside the brackets represent the accentuated syllables and a colon (:) informs that the vowel before this is lengthened. Be aware that the explanations about pronunciation are based on General American English from the USA.

Initially, the SPT was made between square brackets [], but I've chosen curly brackets { } because the square brackets already are used by the other system of phonetic transcription that I'll talk soon after.

In addition, there is something called International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), it's like the SPT, but IPA is used for all languages while SPT is exclusive for Sambahsa. The letters of this alphabet will always lie inside slashes / / or square brackets [] in this grammar. I will use the IPA to explain the SPT, because if you have access to the sounds of the IPA (*it's pretty easy to find multimedia charts of IPA letters through the internet!*), you'll have a secure source of how the Sambahsa sounds are pronounced. **But throughout the grammar, outside the “alphabet and pronunciation” chapter, I practically will only use SPT! Actually, you don't even need to learn IPA, but it would be a very useful resource for you.**

The difference between slashes and square brackets in IPA is the fact that slashes indicate a more simple transcription while square brackets indicate a more precise transcription.

Two – /tu:/ – [t^hu:]

That must be made clear: SPT and IPA are just tools for teaching the pronunciation, not a second script that you must learn as in the case of Japanese that has the three different writing systems: kanji, katakana and hiragana. If this were a video or a material with audio-recordings, I wouldn't even mention anything about SPT and IPA because phonetic alphabets would be unnecessary, but this is not the case.

You ask me: “why we don't only use IPA if this one is official and more known while SPT only applies to Sambahsa?”. There are two reasons:

- SPT is easier to type in computers, which facilitates when someone wants to explain the pronunciation on the internet or in any typed work.
- The most important: Sambahsa was made for people of all the world, one letter of SPT can encompass several sounds represented by IPA.

More observations:

- Probably many sounds here will be new for you. Don't worry, all the sounds not found in the English language from the USA will be explained with all details as possible.
- Sambahsa is very rich in what concerns sounds, if you find that some sound is very complicated, you can use a similar sound in its place if you think that the meaning of the word will neither be twisted and nor make confusion in the conversation. The important is that you use Sambahsa! 😊
- You don't obligatorily need IPA, since all the sounds will be explained. The IPA is there just for serving as an additional resource for you. In fact, I try to offer as many resources as possible to you understand the sounds, for example: I inform that the SPT sound {x} is represented by the letter /ç/ in IPA, it's called "ich-laut" and I also still try to explain how to make this sound; if my explanation is not enough, you can still search the internet on how to pronounce "ich-laut", there are even videos teaching it.

I'll do my best to explain to you the sounds, but since even within the USA the English language may vary, it's safer that you take a IPA chart with sounds (*just search for it on the Internet that you'll find a lot of useful material*) to know how they really sound like.

{a} – /a/ – something like the first part of “i” in “hide” or “bride”, whose sound actually is [aɪ], but without the second part [...ɪ], I mean, it's like when you pronounce the pronoun “I”, but without the “ee” sound. Pay attention that {a} is not like the “a” in “father” or “arm”, whose “a” is /ɑ:/. It's like the “a” from “hat” spoken by Canadians and Californians or like in the Spanish word “amigo”.

{ä} – /ɛ/ – like “e” in “dress” and “met” or “ea” in “bread”.

{b} – /b/ – like “b” in “bad”.

{c} – /ʃ/ – like “sh” in “shoe” or “crash”.

{d} – /d/ – like “d” in “day”.

{e} – /e/ – something like the first part of “a” in “lake”, whose sound actually is /eɪ/, but without the sound [...ɪ]. It's like the “e” in the Spanish word “guerrilla”, the “é” in the French word “beauté” or the “ee” in the standard German “Seele”. Think in the “ay” from the word “may” spoken by an American.

{ë} – /ə/ – like “a” in “comma”, “again” or “u” in “syrup”.

{f} – /f/ – like “f” in “father”.

{g} – /g/ – like “g” in “girl” or “goat”.

{h} – /h/ – like “h” in “horse”

{i} – /i/ – like “ee” in “meet”, “y” in “happy”, “ey” in “money” or “ie” in “parties”.

{j} – /ʒ/ – like “s” “vision” or “asian” or “g” in “beige”

{k} – /k/ – like “c” in “cut”, “ck” in “back” or “k” in “speak”

{l} – /l/ – like “l” in “left” or “soul”.

{m} – /m/ – like “m” in “mother”.

{n} – /n/ – like “n” in “night”

{o} – /o/ or /ɔ/ – the /o/ sound is something like the fist part of “o” in “go”, whose sound actually is /oʊ/, but without the semivowel [...ʊ]. It's like the “o” in the Spanish “hola”, the “eau” in the French word “réseau” or the “o” in the standard German word “oder”. The /ɔ/ sound is usually found in “o” of “north”.

In order to you understand the flexibility of Sambahsa, look below the possible pronunciations of the Sambahsa adjective “composite”:

[kom.po'zit]

[kɔm.pɔ'zit]

[kom.pɔ'zit]

[kɔm.po'zit]

{**ö**} – /ø/ – like the “ö” from German or the “eux” French. It's like when you make the {e} sound, but with the mouth in the form when you make the {o} sound, in other words, speak {e} with the lips puckered.

{**p**} – /p/ – like “p” in “**p**each”.

{**q**} – /x/ – like the “j” in the Spanish word “jota”, the German “ach-laut” or like “ch” in the Scots word “**loch**”. It's like the {h} sound, but you put the back of your tongue against your soft palate as you do with {k} and {g}; think in a vintage kettle.

{**r**} – in situations like in “radh”, “prete” and “accurat”, where after “r” there is a vowel, you can pronounce it as the “tt” in the American pronunciation of “better” /ɾ/. Actually, Sambahsa admits a wide variety of sounds, but if it's for elect an official sound, it should be the uvular “r” (/ʀ/) from German. Don't you know German? There is no problem (*even though you aren't obliged to learn this sound!!!*), here's how to make this sound. Do the following exercise, gargle a bit of water (*or any other liquid*) in order to you understand how to vibrate your uvula. The /ʀ/ sound is made by the trill of the uvula.

{**r**} – /ʁ/ – in situations like in “irk” and “amor”, where just after “r” there is a consonant, or this “r” is the last letter of the word, this consonant assumes the sound [ʁ]. The /ʁ/ is very similar the sound {h}, but there are two differences: you must vibrate your vocal cords and the place of articulation of /ʁ/ is the uvula – while the place of articulation of /h/ is the glottis (*which for some people is the same that it doesn't have a place of articulation*) –, in other words, you must put the back of your tongue against the uvula. If it still is difficult for you, let's try an exercise: when you make the sound /h/ you don't vibrate your vocal cords, the vibration of the vocal cords are important, it's that what differentiates the sounds /t/ (*voiceless, without vibration*) and /d/ (*voiced, with vibration*), /k/ (*voiceless*) and /g/ (*voiced*), /s/ (*voiceless*) and /z/ (*voiced*), /f/ (*voiceless*) and /v/ (*voiced*); OK, try to make the sound /h/ be voiced, in order to make the sound /ɦ/ (*/ɦ/ is just the voiced version of /h/ if you didn't understand*); when you be able to make the sound /ɦ/, then make this sound with the back of the tongue against the uvula, thus you will be making the sound /ʁ/. Just below some examples in IPA:

spar – /spaʁ/

cherkin – /tʃəʁ'kin/

wir – /wiʁ/

clever – /'klevəʁ/

cort – /koʁt/

amor – /a'moʁ/

aur – /'auʁ/

mer – /meʁ/

air – /ɛʁ/

atelier – /atə'ljeʁ/

ier – /jeʁ/

ierk – /jeʁk/

piurn – /pjʊʁn/

oyr – /ojʁ/

ayr – /ajʁ/

butour – /bu'tu:ʁ/

alabster – /a'labstəʃ/
gurgule – /'guʁgyl/
eurp – /øʁp/
arbust – /aʁ'bust/
ender – /'endəʃ/
biaur – /bj'aʊʃ/

An alternative to /ʁ/, in this case, is /R/ or /r/. In other words, you also may pronounce the words “spar” and “cort” as [spar]/[spar] and [kort]/[kort].

You will learn that you can add vowels to some words, so it's important to know how is the pronunciation of a word that ended in -r. A word like “wiro” (*from “wir”*) would be pronounced as /'wi.ʁo/, /'wi.ro/ or /'wi.ɾo/.

{s} – /s/ – like “s” in “**s**ound” or “c” in “**r**ice”.

{t} – /t/ – like “t” in “**t**otal”.

{u} – /u/ – like “oo” in “**l**oose”.

{ü} – /y/ – like the French “u” or the German “ü”. It's very simple, just speak {i} with the lips puckered

{v} – /v/ – like “v” in “**v**ein”

{w} – /w/ – like “w” in “**w**ater”

{y} – /j/ – like “y” in “**y**ou”

{x} – /ç/ – like the German “ich-laut” (*maybe it's like the “h” in “**h**uman” or “**h**uge” depending on the variant*). Put the back of your tongue against your hard palate, then you try to pronounce this sound as you would do with {s}, but without using the teeth.

{z} – /z/ – like “z” in “**z**ap”.

{š} – /θ/ – like “th” in “**birth**day” or “**th**in”, but not like in “**this**” whose sound is /ð/.

{tc} – /tʃ/ – like “ch” in “**wh**ich” or “**c**heap”

{dj} – /dʒ/ – like “g” in “**h**uge” or “j” in “**j**ump”

{ng} – /ŋg/ – for those who don't know IPA, the sound /ŋ/ is the same of “ng” from words like “**th**ing” or “**k**ing”, but observe that when you speak a Sambahsa word like “cing”, you still make the “g” sound.

{nk} – /ŋk/

I suggest you learn the SPT very well before move on. Because it's a very important part, I suggest you make an exception and read this chapter more than twice, I need that you know it very well.

SOME ENGLISH WORDS IN IPA AND SPT

If you've reached here without understanding very well both alphabets, let's see whether with the list below you understand them. Deliberately I've inserted some words whose sounds don't exist in Sambahsa, I did it to make you pay attention to the differences between the two languages, in these cases there won't a transcription to SPT.

It's important to highlight that the SPT was not made to transcribe words of other languages that are not Sambahsa (!!!), what we're going to do here is just fun for you acquiring more intimacy with the SPT.

Firstly I show the word, then the transcription to IPA and then the transcription in SPT.

Men – [mɛn] – {män}
Man – [mæn] – {män} (*{ä} should be /ɛ/, but I think that I can represent /æ/ as {ä}*)
Black – [blæk] – {bläk}
Red – [ɹɛd] – {räd} (*/ɹ/ is not recommended in Sambahsa, but lets transcribe it as {r}*)
Flower – ['flaʊə] – {flAoë} (*{ë} should be /ə/, but I think that I can represent /ë/ as {ə}*)
Fire – ['faɪə] – {fAyë}
Breathe – [bɹi:ð] (*the sound /ð/ doesn't exist In Sambahsa*)
Two – [tʰu:] – {tu:} – (SPT, as broad IPA transcription, can't represent diacritics)
The – [ðə]
Understand – [ˌʌndə'stænd] – {ondëstÄnd} (*we can consider /ʌ/ as {o}*)
Letter – ['lɛtə] – {lÄrë}
Turn – [tʰəɹn] – {tën}
Good – [gʊd] – {gud} – (*we can consider /ʊ/ as {u}*)
Until – [ən'tɪl] – {äntIl} – (*we can consider /ɪ/ as {i} and /ʌ/ as {l}*)
Very – ['vɛɹi] – {vÄri} (*we can represent /ɪ/ as {i}*)
Cheek – [tʃi:k] – {tci:k}
Divide – [dɪ'vaɪd] – {divAyd}
Thing – [θɪŋ] – {Sing}
Thin – [θɪn] – {Sin}
North – [nɔ:ɪθ] – {norS}
Father – ['fɑ:ðə]
Situation – [ˌsɪtʃu:'eɪʃn] – {sItcu:eycn}
Have – [hæv] – {häv}
Battleship – ['bæɹtʃɪp] – {bÄrlcip}
Ring – [ɹɪŋ] – {ring}
Pleasure – ['plɛʒə] – {pläjë}
Emotion – [ɪ'moʊʃn] – {imOocën} (*let's consider [ɹ] as {ën}*)
Able – [/'eɪ.bəl/] – {Eybël} (*let's consider [l] as {ël}*)
Shy – [ʃaɪ] – {cay}
Human – ['hju:mən] or ['çu:mən] – {hyU:mën} or {xU:mën}
Beautiful – ['bju:ɹɪft] – {byU:rufl}
Enough – [ɪ'naʃ] – {inOf}
Kid – [kɪd] – {kid}
Feel – [fi:t] – {fi:l}
Sang – [sæŋ] – {säng}
Sink – [sɪŋk] – {singk}
Jam – [dʒæm] – {djäm}
Hurry – ['hʌɹi] or ['hə.ɹi] – {hOri} or {hËi}
Has – [hæz] – {hüz}
Square – [skwɛɹ] – {skwär}
Twenty – ['twɛnti] or ['twɛɹi] – {twËnti} (*Sambahsa doesn't have nasal vowels*)
Horse – [hɔ:ɹs] – {ho:rs}
Milk – [mɪlk] – {milk}
Queen – [kwɪ:n] – {kwi:n}
Girl – [gɜ:t] – {gël}
When – [wɛn] or [wɛn] – {wän}
True – [tɹu:] – {tru:}
Yellow – ['jɛloʊ] – {yÄlOo}
Star – [stɑ:ɹ] – {sta:r} (*we can consider /ɑ/ as {a}*)
Thought – [θɔ:t] – {So:t}

Choice – [tʃɔɪs] – {tcoys}
Go – [goʊ] – {gOo}
Price – [praɪs] – {prays}
Lot – [lɑ:t] – {la:t}

A LAST VISIT TO THE ALPHABET AND THE NAME OF THE LANGUAGE

Now that you already know SPT, let's go back to the alphabet for you know how each letter is pronounced:

a {a}, b {be}, c {tse}, d {de}, e {e}, f {ef}, g {dje}, h {hatc}, i {i}, j {jye}, k {ka}, l {el}, m {em}, n {en}, o {o}, p {pe}, q {ku}, r {er}, s {es}, t {te}, u {u}, v {ve}, w {we}, x {iks}, y {ü}, z {dzed}

Before we go on, it's important to know how our language is pronounced!

Sambahsa Mundialect – {sambA:sa mundyAlëkt}

WE ARE NOT FINISHED YET, SOME CONVENTIONS

Before we go on, a warning: don't worry with the more complex pronunciation rules, because I'll show you the pronunciation of each example in almost all parts of this grammar, so you'll naturally learn the pronunciation. Don't memorize anything, understand it, absorb it naturally! My advice is: read this part once or twice – at most – then go on with your studies. Is the orthography too difficult? No, but it can be boring at the beginning for those who are starting and it is not, in my personal opinion, obligatory at the beginning since I'll dispose of the pronunciation with the examples.

The vowels are represented by V, they are: “a”, “e”, “i”, “o”, “u”. The consonants and semivowels are represented by C. The letters “w” and “y” are usually semi-vowels, but they can have the role of vowels in certain circumstances, as well as the letters “i” and “u” can have the role of semi-vowels. For example:

mercat – CVCCVC

ayasch – VCVCCC

materia – CVCVCCV

dedwrnt – CVCVCCC

rally – CVCCV

THE LETTER “e”:

When it is the stressed syllable or the first letter of the word, it's pronounced as {e}.

dec {dek} – ten

incandescent {inkandEsënt} – incandescent

emigrant {emigrAnt} – emigrant

It's not pronounced when alone in the final of a word...

monte {mont} – mount (*an animal*)

claviature {klavyatŮr} – keyboard

clientele {klyentEl} – customers

Naturally, this rule does not apply if this “e” is the only vowel in the word

ste {ste} – (you) are (*conjugation of the verb “to be” in the second person plural*)
me {me} – me

... or at the end of a word before the letters “s” and “t”.

crimes {krims} – crimes
accuset {akÜzt} – (he/she) accuses

In some cases, the loss of “e” can create confusion or make the word unpronounceable, in such situations “e” assumes the sound {ë}.

resignet {rëzInyët} – resigned
mecanismes {mëkanIsmës} – mechanisms

All words ending with “quet” and “ques” are pronounced, respectively, as {kët} e {kës}.

jaquet {jAkët} – jacket
boutiques {bu:tIkës} – stores, shops

In all the other cases “e” has the {ë} sound, like in “kohlen”, which is pronounced as {kO:lën}.

THE LETTER “h”:

The {h} sound appears when “h” is at the beginning of a word or between vowels.

habe {hab} – have
hellen {hElën} – Greek
alcohol {alkohOl} – alcohol

When the letter “h” is after a vowel and it is not followed by another vowel, the letter “h” serves to indicate that the pronunciation of the vowel must be lengthened.

kohlen {kO:lën} – hidden
bahsa {bA:sa} – language
bah {ba:} – to say, to speak
hehlp {he:lp} – help

Maybe you ask me: “don't would be much more simple to write the vowel twice to indicate the bigger duration of its pronounce? Instead of writing ‘bahsa’, wouldn't be simpler to write ‘baasa’?”

***The answer is:** No! This would produce a different sound, “baasa” would be pronounced as {baAza}*

If the letter “h” is after a diphthong, like in “credeih”, which means “to believe”, you lengthen the pronunciation of the main vowel then you release the semivowel.

eih {e:y} – to go
addeih {adE:y} – to add

wehrgeih {we:rdjE:y} – to play, to run

“gh”, “bh” e “dh” respectively correspond to {g}, {b} and {d}, the “h” in these letters serves to indicate that they will not suffer any kind of modification.

portughesche {portugEc} – Portuguese

raubher {rAobër} – robber

aurdhen {Aordën} – order

VOWELS

“eau” {o:} – [o:] – like in “plateau” {platO:} (*plateau*)

“aa” {aA} – [a'a] – like in “jaal” {jaAl} (*plagiarism*)

“ae”, “ay” {ay} – [aɹ] – like “yoinkjiae” {yoynkjiAy} (*musical scale*)

“ai” {ä} – like in “affaire” {afÄr} (*affair*)

“au” {Ao} – [aʊ] – like in “augos” {Aogos} (*strength, power*)

“ea” {Ea} (*at the end of a word*) – [e.a] – like in “wakea” {wakEa} (*definitely*)

“ea” {ëA} (*at the end of a word*) – [ə'a] – like in “ocean” {ots(ë)An} (*ocean*) Notice that as the sounds {ë} and {a} are similar, in practice the “e”, in this case, normally ends being absorbed, in other words, it is not pronounced. In this case, any final consonant – except “s” – shifts the stress on “a”, and leads to that pronunciation different from “wakea”.

“ee” {Eë} – [e.ə] – like in “eet” {Eët} ((he/she/it) was)

“eu” {ö} – like in “Europe” “eust” {öst} (*east*)

“ie” {i:} (*when alone at the end of a word*) – like in “allie” {allI:} (*to ally*)

“ie” {ye} (*in all the other casees*) – [je] – like in “alliet” {alyEt} (*allied*)

“iu” {yu} – [ju] – like “iu” in “siuk” {syuk} (*dry*)

“oe”, “oi”, e “oy” {oy} – [oɹ] – like in “oeti” {Oyti} (*waterbird*)

“oo” {oO} – [o'o] – like “moor” {moOr} (*moor*)

“ou” {u:} – like in “bouquete” {bu:kEt} (*bunch o(f)flowers*)

“ue” {ü:} – like in “evacue” {evakÜ:} (*to evacuate*)

“ui” {wi} – [wi] – like in “tsui” {tswi} (*scorch*)

“uy” {uy} – [uɹ] – like in “garuy” {garUy} (*maize stem*)

“u” {u} – like in “urg” {urg} (*urge*)

“u” – (*but it will be {ü} if there is the letter “e” between the two following letters*) – like in “urgence” {urdjEns} (*urgence*).

THE LETTERS “w” AND “y”:

“w” and “y” respectively are {w} and {y} when combined to vowel, but when isolates the letter “w” is pronounced like a short {u}, more precisely [ü] or [ǔ], and the letter “y” is like {ü}.

grandwn {grAndun} – hail (sb)

hydra {hÜdra} – hydra

But when the letter “y” finds itself at the final of a word or followed by an -s, “y” e “ys” respectively will have the sounds {i} and {is}.

baby {bAbi} – baby

babys {bAbis} – babies

yunghy {yUngi} – young sailor
Tethys {tE\$is} – Tethys (npr)

CONSONANTS

“sch” {c} – like in “vrehsch” {vre:c} (*to thresh*)
“ch” {tc} (*when before a vowel*) – “ginchu” {djIntcu} (*lipstick*)
“ch” {k} (*when before a consonant*) – like in “Christ” {krist} (*Christ*).
“gn” {ny} – /nj/ – like in “gnoh” {nyo:} (*to know*)
“kh” {q} – like in “kheiss” {qeys} (*to feel*)
“ph” {f} – like in “philosophia” {filozOfya} (*philosophy*)
“qu” {kw} (*when before “a”, “o” and “u”*) – [kw] or [kʷ] – like in “quod” {kwod} (*what*)
“qu” {k} (*when before “e”, “i” and “y”*) – like in “quis” {kis} (*who*).
“sc” {sk} (*when before “a”, “o” and “u”*) – like in “scaffold” {skafOLd} (*scaffold*)
“sc” {s} (*when before “e”, “i” and “y”*) – like in “science” {syents} (*science*)
“sh” {x} – like in “shienciu” {xyEntsyu} (*overgrown*)
“ss” {s} – like in “permission” {përmisyOn} (*permission*)
“th” {ʃ} – like in “canther” {kAnŞër} (*kantharos*)
“th” {t} (*when combined to {s}, {c} ou {j}*) – like in “anesthesia” {anëstEzya} (*anaesthetics*)
“c” {k} (*when before “a”, “o” and “u”*) – like in “peruca” {përUka} (*wig*)
“c” {ts} – /ts/ (*when before “e”, “i” and “y”*) – like in “cereal” {tsëreAl} (*cereal*)
“g” {g} (*when before “a”, “o” and “u”*) – like in “gordos” {gOrdos} (*enclosure*)
“g” {dj} (*when before “e”, “i” and “y”*) – like in “gep” {djep} (*pocket*)
“j” {j} – like in “jins” {jins} (*jeans*)
“r” {r} – as there are people from different backgrounds, it's admitted a wide variety of manners of how this sound is made, including our “r” from “red” or “tt” from the American pronunciation of “better” ! The recommended form – but it's not compulsory – it's the way spoken in Luxembourg or Saarland, /r/. However, this sound can take other forms:

“rr” /r(r)/ and “rh” /r(h)/ – it's recommended the pronunciation of the Spanish “rr” (/r/). It's made by the trill of the tongue in the alveolar ridge, but know that the movement of the tongue is more made by the airflow than the tongue itself. It's like the /r/ of “better”, but you have multiple vibrations of the tongue instead of a single vibration of /r/.

“rl” – it's recommended the pronunciation of the Japanese “r” (/l/), it may also be pronounced as /rl/ or /ɾl/. Observe to where goes the tip of your tongue when you say the consonants “d” and “l”, talk “da la da la da la...” at least a ten times, notice that the tip of your tongue touches two different spots of the superior part of your mouth cavity, in the pronunciation of “d” the tip of your tongue is closer to the teeth while the one of “l” is farther, in a way that there is a space between these two spots; well, the pronunciation of the Japanese “r” is made with the tongue's tip touching this space between. Here is the other tip, it's very similar to the /r/ of “better”, but you must hold your tongue during a tiny bit of time in order to the air pass at the laterals of your tongue instead of the center of the tongue.

In the case of “rl” being preceded by a vowel, the pronunciation will be /ɾl/:

“churli” (*slander, blackbiting*): [tʃuɾli]

“feurl” (*furl*): [føɾl]

“Carl”: [kaɾl]

I want to reiterate, there are multiple manners of pronouncing “r”, let's see some examples:

“robot” (robot): [ro'bot] / [ro'bot] / [ro'bot]

“rjienrlwey” (humankind): [R.ʒjen'lwɛɪ] / [r.ʒjen'lwɛɪ] / [r.ʒjen'lwɛɪ] / [r.ʒjen'rweɪ]

I didn't include [R.ʒjen'rweɪ] and [r.ʒjen'rweɪ] because they don't indicate the difference between “r” and “rl”.

“s” {s} – like in “sofa” {sOfa} (sofa)

“s” {z} (**when between vowels**) – like in “firasat” {firazAt} (face, general outlook)

“x” {ks} – /ks/ – like in “xiongbu” {ksyOngbu} (chest)

{ks} may become {gz} if it facilitates the pronunciation for you.

“z” {dz} – /dz/ – like in “zoo” {dzOo} (zoo)

MORE REMARKS

Some letters, especially those at the end of the word, may be modified by the neighbor sounds. Like in the case of “hands” {handz} (hands).

Some consonants, as well as the vowel {ë}, may be omitted. The word “franceois” officially is {frantsëOys}, but it may be {fransOys} because of {t} is inside a consonant cluster and the unstressed vowel {ë} is close to the stressed vowel {o}.

If the verbal form starts with {sC}, oi- may be added before this word for euphonic reasons. For example “skap”, which becomes “oiskap”.

STRESS ACCENT IN SAMBAHSA

Start analyzing the word since the last syllable

ALWAYS RECEIVES ACCENTUATION

Vowels before the letter “h” or a double consonant (rr”, “ll”, “tt”, etc. “ck” is included in this group). There are some examples:

Prodah – {prodA:} (to hand over)

If the word were “proda”, the pronunciation would be {prOda}

Access – {aktsEs} (to access)

If the word were “acces”, the pronunciation would be {Aktsës}

Schebeck – {cëbEk} (female monkey)

If the word were “schebek”, the pronunciation would be {cEbëk}

Appetitt – {apëtIt} (appetite)

If the word were “appetit”, the pronunciation would be {apEtit}

Syllables in formations like -CVCV(s) or similar variations:

Taslime – {taslIm} (surrender, -CVCV)

Macabre – {makAbr(ë)} (gruesome, -CVCCV)

Administre – {adminIstr(ë)} (administer, -CVCCCV)

Italia – {itAlya} (Italy, -CVCCV)

The first of two vowels together, except “i” and “u” as semivowels.

Tranchee – {trantcEë} (*trench*)
Australia – {aostrAlya} (*Australia*)
Colosseo – {kolosEo} (*Colosseum*)
Arua – {Arwa} (*intestine*)

The final syllable: -in(C) (*but not -ing*), ey, ie, ui (*when the pronunciation {wi}*), oCel (*where C is the only consonant*).

Hotel – {hotEl} (*hotel*)
Suadin – {swadIn} (*fair weather*)
Reling – {rEling} (*railing*)
Corinth – {korIn\$} (*Corinth*)
Kierey – {kyerEy} (*ram*)

The vowels “a”, “o” and “u” when before a consonant or semivowel, with the exception of a sole “s”.

Udtwac – {udtwAk} (*to trim*)
Calapod – {kalapOd} (*shoetree*)
Gandul – {gandUl} (*lazy*)

NEVER IS ACCENTUATED

Prefixes.

Fortrehc – {fortrE:k} (*away; to depart for a trip*)
Recep – {rëtsEp} – (*to receive*)
Bevid – {bëvId} (*to show, to prove*)

For- – *prefix that means something far*
Re- – *prefix that means repetition*
Be- – *prefix that means something factive*

The letter “w” when used as a vowel.

Sehkwnt – {sE:kunt} ((they) *follow*)

The endings -(i)um, -ule(s), and a vowel followed by the ending -s.

Istifas – {istIfas} (*resignations*)
Territorium – {territOryum} (*territory*)
Insule – {Insül} (*island*)

An alone vowel or semivowel at the end of a word.

Okwi – {Okwi} (*eyes*)
Perry – {pEri} (*perry*)

The vowels “e”, “i” and “y” at the end of a word followed by a semivowel – with the exception of “ey” – or two or diverse consonants that are not double.

Lambhel – {lAmbël} (*hilt*)
Kibrit – {kIbrit} (*match for fire*)
Ouvert – {U:vërt} (*overt*)
Morey – {morEy} (*moray eel*)

In compound words, the stressed syllable stays the same of the original word.

Gouverne – {gu:vErn} (*to govern*)
Gouvernement – {gu:vErnëmënt} (*government*)
Nest – {nest} (*nest*)
Corcuksnest – {korkUksnëst} (*crow's nest*)

These rules don't necessarily apply to proper nouns and the use of hyphen preserves the accentuation on both sides.

IF YOU FOUND SOME SOUNDS VERY DIFFICULT

I did my best to teach you each sound, but if you really can't learn some of them – but I believe you can – it's not the end of the world!!! If you can't pronounce sounds like /x/ or /ç/, no-one you put you in jail if you use /ʃ/ and /h/ in their places. If you can't pronounce the Japanese “r”, use our “r”. The good news is that the difficult sounds are rarely used, with the exception of the vowels not found in the English language.

The advantage of learning the phonetics of Sambahsa is that you master the phonetics of many other languages.

SELLAMAT!

Sellamat! It's with this word, “sellamat” {selamAt}, that we say “hello”, you also may say “salut” {salUt}, which has the same function.

In this chapter I'll show you some sentences, maybe you'll deduce the elements of each one by yourself, but, anyway, in posterior chapters I'll unravel each sentence's element, so don't worry if you don't understand something in this chapter.

Different from English and most of the auxiliary languages, the Sambahsa verbs are conjugated. All verbs are regular, except the verbs for “to be”, “to have” and “to know”, but they are not difficult. Let's start with some basic sentences:

Som John {som djOn} – (I) am John

Io som John {yo som djOn} – I am John

Ego som John {Ego som djOn} – I am John (*more emphasis at “I”*)

Notice that, in the same way as occurs in Spanish, in most cases, you may omit the pronoun because the own verb indicates the used pronoun. You've just met the verb correspondent to “to be” when linked to the pronoun “I”. Let's go to the next sentences:

Es Robert {es rObërt} – You are Robert

Es Linda {es lInda} – You are Linda

Tu es Robert {tu es rObërt} – You are Robert

Tu es Linda {tu es lInda} – You are Linda

Is est Robert {is est rObërt} – He is Robert

Ia est Linda {ya est lInda} – She is Linda

Smos Americans {smos amërikAns} – We are Americans

Wey smos Americans {wey smos amërikAns} – We are Americans

Sambahsa est facil {sambA:sa est fAtsil} – Sambahsa is easy

The next cases are fairly interesting:

Id est gohd {id est go:d} – It is good (*neutral*)

El est gohd {el est go:d} – He/She is good (*undetermined*)

UNDERSTAND IT VERY WELL: neutral pronouns refer to things, undetermined pronouns are used when it's not known the gender or it's not desired to say the gender.

Pay attention: from now, all pronouns or articles that I don't indicate as *neutral* or *undetermined*, will have either the masculine gender or the feminine gender, but I can specify whether the word is related to a male or female being if it's really necessary when the word itself can't inform to which gender it is related. Are we understood?

To make clear what is *neutral* and what is *undetermined*, look the examples below:

Chair – to the best of my knowledge, chairs don't have gender, so it is *neutral*

Dog – if we don't know its gender, so it is *undetermined*

Bitch (*female dog*) – feminine

Grandfather – masculine

Tree – even it is a living creature, it has no gender (*although you can argue about*

dioecious plants...), so it's neutral

Daughter – feminine

Child – as the gender is not specified, it's *undetermined*

Ectoplasm – *like in “the ectoplasm was exteriorized by the medium”* – it's *neutral*, because “ectoplasm” here is considered as a substance

Ectoplasm – *like in “the ectoplasm spoke to me”* – it can be *masculine, feminine* or *undetermined*

Android – you decide, it depends on the context and point of view of each one, it can be *neutral, undetermined*, or even have a gender.

In case of doubt whether the word must be considered as *neutral* or *undetermined*, use the undetermined form.

We've known the basic pronouns and their verbs, now let's see more pronouns and verbs in the plural:

Smos prients {smos pryents} – (We) are friends

Wey smos prients {wey smos pryents} – We are friends

Ste prients {ste pryents} – You are friends

Yu ste prients {yu ste pryents} – You are friends

Yu ste prient {yu ste pryent} – You are friend (*notice that this one is in the singular*)

Tu es prient {tu es pryent} – You are friend (*equal to the sentence just above, but this is informal*)

Ies sont prients {yes sont pryents} – They are friends (*all of the masculine gender*)

Ias sont prients {yas sont pryents} – They are friends (*all of the feminine gender*)

I sont prients {i sont pryents} – They are friends (*undetermined*)

Ia sont gohd {ya sont go:d} – They are good (*neutral*)

I believe I don't need to explain any of these sentences, I only have to say that when “yu” is used in the singular, it is for formal situations, with people you have no intimacy, therefore a courtesy pronoun, and you use “tu” with close friends, family, and kids.

Notice that, even in the singular, the pronoun “yu” make use of the verb “ste”. Only the context can inform whether the “yu” is in singular or plural.

Another important observation about the second person of plural “yu”. You already know that, in most cases, the use of the pronoun is not necessary, but in future examples, you'll notice that the pronunciation of the third-person singular and the second-person plural are identical, look:

Is lieubht me {is liÖbt me} – He loves me

Yu lieubhte me {yu liÖbt me} – You love me

That is why, in the conjugation of the second-person plural, the use of the pronoun “yu” is mandatory.

You must know how to say the phrase “there be”, in the sense of existence. It is pretty similar to English, I'll use the noun “anghen” {Angën}, which means “person”, and the adverb “her” {her}, which means “here”, in the following examples:

Sont anghens her {sont Angëns her} – There are persons here
Ter sont anghens her {ter sont Angëns her} – There are persons here

You may use or not the “ter”.

USEFUL WORDS AND SENTENCES

There is no problem whether you don't know how certain sentences were made, everything will be explained in the next chapters.

Sellamat {selamAt} – hello, hi

Salut {salUt} – hello, hi

Ya {ya} – yes

Si {si} – yes (*answer for a negative question*)

No {no} – no

Sell dien {sel dyen} – good morning

Sell posmiddien {sel posmiddyEn} – good afternoon

Sell vesper {sel vEspër} – good evening

Sell noct {sel nokt} – good night

Dank {dank} – thank you

Mersie {mërsI:} – thank you

Spollay dank {spolAy dank} – thank you very much

Obligat {obligAt} – you're welcome (*when someone thanks you*)

Plais {pläs} – please

Kam leitte yu? {kam leyt yu} – how are you?

Sellgumt {selgUmt} – welcome

Leito {lEyto} – fine

Chao {tcAo} – good bye

Khuda hafiz {qUda hAfidz} – good bye

Do reviden {do rëvIdën} – good bye

Prosit {prosit} – good bye (*desiring good luck*)

Tiel mox {tyel moks} – see you soon

Ne gnohm {në nyo:m} – I don't know

Excuset me {ekskÜzd me} – excuse me

Maaf {maAf} – sorry

Pardon {pardOn} – pardon me

OK(ey) {ok(Ey)} – OK

Tamam {tamAm} – OK

Tabrick {tabrIk} – congratulations

Sell appetite {sel apëtIt} – good appetite

Marba {mArba} – pleased to meet you

Ne bahm maung Sambahsa {ne ba:m mAong sambA:sa} – I don't speak much Sambahsa.

Kam yarat ste yu? {kam yarAt ste yu} – how old are you?

Quod est vies nam? {kwod est vyes nam} – what's your name?

Mien nam est ... {myen nam est} – my name is...

Quetos yu? {kEtos yu} – where do you come from?

Io ne prete {yo ne prEt} – I don't understand (*what you wanted to say*)

Maghte yu hehlpe me? {magt yu he:lp me} – can you help me?

Ye quod saat? {ye kwod saAt} – what time?

Ne ho pretet hol / Ne ho preten hol {ne ho prEtët hol / ne ho prEtën hol} – I haven't understood everything (*what you wanted to say*)

Aun sibia {Aon slbja} – changing the subject; on a different note

THE DECLENSION CASES

Sambahsa has an interesting characteristic, it has a system of declension cases that are: nominative, accusative, dative, and genitive. These cases refer to pronouns and articles. But what they are and how they are used?

Observe the sentence below:

The man buys the car: In this case, “the man” is the one who is doing the action, which in this case is the buying; and “the car” is the one that is *directly* suffering (or *directly being benefited*) by the action. “the man” is in the position of nominative while “the car” in the position of accusative.

I eat a tomato – “I” (position of nominative), “a tomato” (position of accusative)

He loves Mary – “he” (position of nominative), “Mary” (position of accusative)

People walk on the streets – “people” (position of nominative). *Oh, this sentence has nothing in the position of accusative* 😊

Just a boy – “a boy” (position of nominative).

They gave me a message: we have one more element in this sentence, who or what is *indirectly* affected by the action. As the message is being given, so “a message” is in the accusative position, therefore the pronoun “me” is in the dative position.

I've sent you the documents – “I” (position of nominative), “you” (position of dative), “documents” (position of accusative)

She bought him a dog – “she” (position of nominative), “dog” (position of accusative), “him” (position of dative)

TABLE OF DECLENSION CASES

As you can see, there are a lot of little words, but they have an internal logic that you will quickly get. Just worry about learning the first 12 nominative cases. Learn the rest as they appear in the texts you read.

Nominative	Accusative	Dative	Genitive
Ego / io {Ego / yo} – I	me {me}	mi {mi}	
tu {tu} – you	te {te}	tib {tib}	
Is {is} – he	iom {yom}	ei {ey}	ios {yos}
Ia {ya} – she	iam {yam}	ay {ay}	ias {yas}
Id {id} – it (<i>neutral</i>)	id {id}	ei {ey}	ios {yos}
El {el} – he / she / it (<i>undetermined</i>)	el {el}	al {al}	al {al}
Wey {wey} – we	nos {nos}	nos {nos}	
Yu {yu} – you	vos {vos}	vos {vos}	
Ies {yes} – they (<i>masculine</i>)	iens {yens}	ibs {ibz}	iom {yom}
Ias {yas} – they (<i>feminine</i>)	ians {yans}	iabs {yabz}	iam {yam}

Ia {ya} – they (<i>neutral</i>)	ia {ya}	ibs {ibz}	iom {yom}
I {i} – they (<i>undetermined</i>)	i {i}	im {im}	im {im}
So {so} – this (<i>masculine</i>)	tom {tom}	tei {tey}	tos {tos}
Toy {toy} – these (<i>masculine</i>)	tens {tens}	tibs {tibz}	tom {tom}
Sa {sa} – this (<i>feminine</i>)	tam {tam}	tay {tay}	tas {tas}
Tas {tas} – these (<i>feminine</i>)	tans {tans}	tabs {tabz}	tam {tam}
Tod {tod} – this (<i>neutral</i>)	tod	tei {tey}	tos
Ta {ta} – these (<i>neutral</i>)	ta	tibs {tibz}	tom
Tel {tel} – this (<i>undetermined</i>)	tel	tal {tal}	tal {tal}
Ti {Ti} – these (<i>undetermined</i>)	ti	tim {tim}	tim {tim}
Cis {tsis} – that (<i>masculine</i>)	ciom {tsyom}	cei {tsey}	cios {tsyos}
Cies {tsyas} – those (<i>masculine</i>)	ciens {tsyens}	cibs {tsibz}	ciom {tsyom}
Cia {tsya} – that (<i>feminine</i>)	ciam {tsyam}	ciay {tsyay}	cias {tsyas}
Cias {tsyas} – those (<i>feminine</i>)	cians {tsyans}	ciabs {tsyabz}	ciam {tsyam}
Cid {tsid} – that (<i>neutral</i>)	cid	cei {tsey}	cios
Cia {tsya} – those (<i>neutral</i>)	cia	cibs {tsibz}	ciom
Cel {tsel} – that (<i>undetermined</i>)	cel	cial {tsyal}	cial {tsyal}
Ci {tsi} – those (<i>undetermined</i>)	ci	cim {tsim}	cim {tsim}
Qui {ki} – who (<i>masculine / singular</i>)	quom {kwom}	quei {key}	quos {kwos}
Quis {kis} – who (<i>masculine / singular / interrogative</i>)	quom	quei	quos
Quoy {kwoy} – who (<i>masculine / plural</i>)	quens {kens}	quibs {kibz}	quom {kwom}
Qua {kwa} – who (<i>feminine / singular</i>)	quam {kwam}	quay {kway}	quas {kwas}
Quas {kwas} – who (<i>feminine / plural</i>)	quans {kwans}	quabs {kwabz}	quam {kwam}
Quod {kwod} – what (<i>neutral</i>)	quod	quei	quos
Qua – what (<i>neutral</i>)	qua	quibs	quom
Quel {kel} – who (<i>undetermined</i>)	quel	qual {kwal}	qual {kwal}
Qui {ki} – who (<i>undetermined</i>)	qui	quim {kim}	quim {kim}
Neis {neys} – none (<i>masculine / singular</i>)	niom {nyom}	nei {ney}	nios {nyos}
Noy {noy} – none (<i>masculine / plural</i>)	niens {nyens}	neibs {neybz}	niom {nyom}
Nia {nya} – none (<i>feminine / plural</i>)	niam {nyam}	niay {nyay}	nias {nyas}
Nias {nyas} – none (<i>feminine / plural</i>)	nians {nyans}	niabs {nyabz}	niam {nyam}
Neid {neyd} – none, nothing (<i>neutral / singular</i>)	neid {neyd}	nei {ney}	nios {nyos}
Nia {nya} – none, nothing (<i>neutral / plural</i>)	nia {nya}	neibs {neybz}	niom {nyom}
Nel {nel} – none (<i>undetermined / singular</i>)	nel {nel}	nal {nal}	nal {nal}
Nei {ney} – none (<i>undetermined / plural</i>)	nei {ney}	nim {nim}	nim {nim}

To {to}	to	ad to	os to
Quo {kwo}	quo	ad quo	os quo

Please see the subchapter “How work generic pronouns like “to” and “quo”?” from the chapter “Common mistakes and questions”.

The pronoun “ego” is the emphasized form of “io”. When we use “ego” instead “io”, we want to say that there is a certain relevance in the “I”.

Let's see some simple examples with the nominative and accusative cases:

Is kamt iam – He likes her

Ia kamt iom – She likes him

Regarding the dative case, pay attention that if there is a preposition, you will use a word from the accusative case. Let's look at two possible translations of the sentence “He left the house for her” where “left” is translated as “likwit” and “the house” is translated as “id dom”.

Is likwit ay id dom

Is likwit id dom pro iam

What differentiates the two phrases above – which have the very same meaning – is the way how “for her” was translated. In the first sentence, I only used the dative case “ay”. In the second one, I used the preposition “pro” (which is the translation of “for”), so I could only use the word in the accusative case, which in the case was “iam”, although “pro iam” is in the dative position.

By the way, if you forget the dative form, you can use the preposition “ad”:

mi = ad me

tib = ad te

tal = ad tel

quei = ad quod

Let's talk about the genitive case now. Let's see some examples

Id apel ios dru {id Apël yos dru} – The apple of the tree.

Id hand al person {id hand al përsOn} – The hand of the person

Id augos cios wir – {id Aogos tsyos wir} – The power of that man

Ia quitances tos munt {ya kitAntsës tos munt} – The bills of this month

You ask me: *may I, for example, substitute “ios” for “os is”, “ias” for “as ia”, “tal” for “os tel”, “quos” for “os quod” and so on?* It's preferable that you don't do that.

ENDINGS WITH DECLENSIONS

They are used as a complement in diverse words. Before explaining them, let's take a look on them, and then we'll see the explanations. The tables below graphically display the disposition of each declension in relation to its respective gender and case. For example, -um can be used for the masculine and the neutral gender in the accusative and also for the neutral accusative; -u can only be used for the female accusative; -i is used for all genders in the singular dative case as well as for the nominative plural case with the masculine and undetermined genders.

	Singular			
	Neutral	Masculine	Feminine	Undetermined
Accusative	-um		-u	-em
Nominative	-o	-os	-a	-is
Dative	-i			
Genitive	-s			
	-ios		-ias	-es

	Plural			
	Neutral	Masculine	Undetermined	Feminine
Nominative	-a	-i		-as
Accusative		-ens		
Dative	-ims			
Genitive	-n			
	-en			

Personally, I prefer to consult these endings through tables, but if you like lists more:

SINGULAR

Nominative masculine – -o(s)
Accusative masculine – -o / -um
Dative masculine – -i
Genitive masculine – -(io)s

Nominative feminine – -a
Accusative feminine – -u
Dative feminine – -i
Genitive feminine – -(ia)s

Nominative neutral – -o / -um
Accusative neutral – -o / -um

PLURAL

Nominative masculine – -i
Accusative masculine – -ens
Dative masculine – -ims
Genitive masculine – -(e)n

Nominative feminine – -as
Accusative feminine – -ens
Dative feminine – -ims
Genitive feminine – -(e)n

Nominative neutral – -a
Accusative neutral – -a

Dative neutral – -i
Genitive neutral – -(io)s

Dative neutral – -ims
Genitive neutral – -(e)n

Nominative undetermined – -is
Accusative undetermined – -em
Dative undetermined – -i
Genitive undetermined – -(e)s

Nominative undetermined – -i
Accusative undetermined – -ens
Dative undetermined – -ims
Genitive undetermined – -(e)n

EXPLANATION

Sometimes their use is compulsory, as in the words “vasyo” (everything) and “alyo” (another):

Vasyas gwens – all the women
Alyo wir – another man
Vasyi paters – all the fathers
Alyo stul – another chair
Alya stuls – some other chairs

“Vasy-” only exists in the plural.

Remember that, also, there is the genitive case, which represents possession.

Henrique's book – Henriques buk

Matheus' house – Matheusios dom (*notice that I've used the complete termination because “Matheus” already finishes with “s”*)

Woman's son – gwens son

America's beauty – Americas beauteit

For euphonic effects or literary proposals, like poetry, you can use these declensions in other words like, for example, the indefinite article “un”, but these declensions often only are applied to the words “vasyo” and “alyo”. Remember however that those “euphonic” declensions can be used only if they are compatible with the accentuation of the word.

The sentence “un bell dom” {un bel dom}, may be written as “uno bello dom” {Uno bElo dom}.

The plural of “bell plaj” may be written as “bella plaja”.

An example where the declination would be incompatible: the pronunciation of the word “dugter”, which means “daughter”, is {dUgtër}. If I write “dugtera”, the pronunciation is distorted for {dugtEra}, therefore is wrong to write “dugtera”.

A more practical example where the use of the declination is useful to help in the pronunciation:

I edde omo miems – They eat raw meat

I could say “i edde om miems”, but this cluster of the m’s in “...om_miems” can be a bit uncomfortable to pronounce for some people and/or it can be understood as “omiems”.

Complementing what was said, the declensions are optional for many classes of words.

With declination:

I auyi lieubhe ir napters

The grandparents love their grandsons

I napters lieubhe ir auyens

The grandsons love their grandparents

Nihsim mien auyo ed mien auyu do id hospital

I took my grandfather and my grandmother to the hospital

I medyi sakerdots hehlpent id popule, it id popule lieubht i medyens sakerdots

The middle-priests help the people, so the people love the middle-priests

Without declination (they're correct too):

I auyi lieubhe ir napters

I napters lieubhe ir auyi

Nihsim mien auyo ed mien auya do id hospital

I medyo sakerdots hehlpent id popule, it id popule lieubht i medyo sakerdots

THE ARTICLES

DEFINITE ARTICLES

A characteristic of Sambahsa that stands out is its definite articles, the words are the same as the pronouns. How? Look the translations below:

The man – is wir {is wir}

The woman – ia gwen {ya gwen}

The dog – el kwaun {el kwAon}

The person – el anghen {el Angën} *or* el person {el përsOn}

The person – is anghen (*masculine person*)

The country – id land {id land}

The folk – id folk {id folk}

Can you understand how the language works? In the logic of Sambahsa, you don't speak “the secretary” or “the man”, but “she secretary” and “he man”. Bear in mind that the articles suffer the declension as well as the pronouns.

The dog loves the woman – El kwaun lieubht iam gwen {el kwAon liöbt yam gwen}

You could not translate “The dog loves the woman” as “el kwaun lieubht ia gwen” because the definite article that is linked to the substantive “woman” must suffer the declension to accusative.

Another example, but involving the dative case too:

The (female) manager sent the e-mail for the (male) president – Ia manager yisit id blixbrev ei president

INDEFINITE ARTICLE

The indefinite article is “un”.

An apple – Un apel {un Apël}

A wall – Un mur {un mur}

A boy – Un pwarn {un pwarn}

A girl – Un bent {un bent}

The Sambahsa word “sem” is not an indefinite article, but I'll explain about it now. It's like our “some”, same as in English it doesn't change its number when the substantive is in the plural, look:

Sem apel {sem Apël} – Some apple

Sem apels {sem Apëls} – Some apples

But if this “sem” is as a substantive, thus it must receive an appropriate ending. Just after there is a complex sentence. Of course, you don't need to understand it now, I only want you to see how this “sem” can behave as a substantive.

Sems credeihnt est neid global warmen – Some (people) believe there is no global

warming

HOW TO SAY THE CONJUNCTIONS “AND” AND “OR”

I know that it's still early for the conjunctions, but allow me to introduce you to these two basic ones, because until we reach the chapter about conjunctions, maybe we will have seen some examples with them.

The conjunction “and” is translated as “ed” for Sambahsa.

He and I – is ed io {is ed yo}

With “or” you need to pay a bit more attention. Often you'll use “au”:

He or me – is au io {is Ao yo}

But when we deal with two clauses, we use the conjunction “we” (*don't get confused with the English pronoun!*). I'll use a complex sentence, but only look at how the conjunction is used:

My child, you must choose: to play in the park or to swim in the pool
Mien purt, dehlcs chuses: likes in id park we snahe in id piscine

POSSESSION

Here are the prepositions of possession:

Masculine in the singular – os

Masculine in the plural – om

Feminine in the singular – as

Feminine in the plural – am

Neutral in the singular – os

Neutral in the plural – om

Undetermined in the singular – es

Undetermined in the plural – em

Look at some examples:

The sister of Louis – Ia swester os Louis {ya swEstër os lU:is}

The house of Paul and Peter – Id dom om Paul ed Peter {id dom om pAol ed pEtër}

The son of Julia – Is son as Julia {is son as jUlya}

The doll of Lara and Carla – Id pupp am Lara ed Carla {id pupp am lAra ed kArLa}

When diverse elements are owners of something, you also may use the word “sbei” {sbey}⁶, thus “id dom om Paul ed Peter” and “id pupp am Lara ed Carla” may be rewritten as:

“Paul ed Peter sbei dom”

“Lara ed Carla sbei pupp”

Another possibility is the use of declensions if the word allows it:

Max's sister – Maxios swester {mAkxyos swEstër}

The husband of Emma – Emmas mann {Emas man}

Paul and Peter's house – Paul(io)s ed Peters dom {id pAol(yo)s ed pEtërs dom}

We could not say “Peterios” because this manner would change the accentuation of the word, thus would be {petEryos}.

You don't need a definite article like “ia Maxios swester” or “id Paulos ed Peters dom” because the substantives already are ‘defined’ by the genitive.

DIFFERENCE OF USE OF PREPOSITION OF POSSESSION AND GENITIVE CASE

Ios – of the

Os – of

Ias – of the

As – of

Tos – of that

6 You can use “sbei” in the singular, but it is unnecessary in most cases, we only use it in the singular only to avoid misunderstandings. Let's see an example: “*I magvi ex alya villages qui gwaht Aytera **sbei** scol semper dohlg se kinwes kay trehve semjecto pohtu*”; something like “...Ayteras **scol**...” would not be ideal to pronounce because the genitive in “Aytera” would not be perceived since the next word starts with “s”.

Notice that, in the translations of the genitive case, we use the definite article “the” with the preposition “of”, while the preposition of possession is only translated to a preposition. I'll show you some inappropriate sentences for you to understand:

“Ia swester ios Louis” would be translated to “the sister of the Louis” and “Id apel os dru” would be translated to “the apple of tree”. Do you understand now?

OTHER PREPOSITIONS OF POSSESSION

Mien {myen} – my, mine

Tien {tyen} – your, yours (*singular*)

Eys {eys} – his

Ays {ays} – her, hers

Ids {Idz} – its (*neutral*)

Els {elz} – his / her (*also “hers”*) (*undetermined*)

Nies {nyes} – our, ours

Noster {nOstër} – our, ours

Vies {vyes} – your, yours (*plural*)

Voster {vOstër} – your, yours (*plural*)

Ir {ir} – their, theirs (*masculine, feminine, neutral and undetermined*)

Sien {syen} – his, her, its, their, hers, theirs. *Used when it refers to the subject of the sentence.*

Uns {uns} – of a(n)

My house – Mien dom {myen dom}

His city – Eys urb {eys urb}

Our world – Nies mund {nyes mund} / Noster mund {nOstër mund}

Your land – Vies land {vyes land} / Voster land {vOstër land}

*“Nies” and “noster”, as well as “vies” and “voster”, means the same thing.
I'll teach you how to use the pronoun “sien” after I teach you the verbs”.*

We may combine these pronouns with the declensions:

... of my men – ... mienen wirs {miEnën wirs}

... of your son – ... tien(io)s son {tiEn(yo)s son}

... of our daughters – ... niesen dugters {nyEzën dUgtërs}

... of our daughter – ... niesias dugter {nyEzyas dUgtër}

... of your^(plur.) grandsons – ... viesen napters {vyEzën nAptërs}

... of your^(plur.) grandsons – ... viesios napter {vyEzyos nAptër}

Example: *the house of your son* → *id dom tiens son*

Of course that you may say something like “id dom os tien son” or “id pupp am nies dugters”.

You ask me, “Could I write something like ‘nosterios’ or ‘vosteren’”? No, because it would change the pronunciation of the original words, it is preferable that you use “nies” and “vies” instead of “noster” and “voster”, but if you still want to apply the declension in those last two words, you could write them in the following ways:

... nostern dugters {nOstërn dUgtërs}

... nostren dugters {nOstrën dUgtërs}
... nostrias dugter {nOstryas dUgtër}
... vostern napters {vOstërn nAptërs}
... vostren napters {vOstrën nAptërs}
... vostrios napter {vOstryos nAptër}

NAMES OF PLACES WITH CATEGORY

When we talk about names of places that include their category, like “City of Prescott” or “Mount Everest”, normally we decide the position of the category names through the use of the national languages, for example:

City of Prescott – citad Prescott

Mount Everest – Mont Everest

Rock of Gibraltar – Perwnt Gibraltar

Casterly Rock – Casterly Rock

Liancourt Rocks – Perwnts ios Liancourt *(this is interesting because, although its original names are “Dokdo” and “Takeshima”, in the West it has a different name. Since the name comes from French (“Rochers Liancourt”, due to the French whaling ship that sank in that region in 1849), we say “Perwnts ios Liancourt” instead of “Liancourt Rocks”)*

See the examples below:

Lieubho brigvs, in mien safers ho kohgnet maung brigvs: Brigv JK, Millennium Brigv, Brigv Alexandre III, Charles/Karluv Brigv, Kintai Brigv ed Brigv os Rialto – I love bridges, in my travels, I've known many bridges: JK Bridge, Millennium Bridge, Pont Alexandre III, Charles Bridge, Kintai Bridge and Rialto Bridge.

Brigv JK = Ponte Juscelino Kubitschek

Millennium Brigv = Millennium Bridge

Brigv Alexandre III = Pont Alexandre-III

Charles/Karluv Brigv = Karlův most

Kintai Brigv = 錦帯橋 Kintai-kyō

Brigv os Rialto = Ponte di Rialto

In Sambahsa we don't use the genitive when the name refers to the whole place because it would be appellation, we don't say “id citad os Montréal” but “id citad Montréal”, but we have to say “id tribunal os Montréal” because Montreal is not a tribunal. Another example is the translation of “Palace of Versailles” (*“Château de Versailles” in the original*), which is “Chateau os Versailles” in Sambahsa.

ADJECTIVES

An adjective is a word that qualifies a noun, as in “the beautiful house”, where the adjective “beautiful” qualifies the noun “house”.

The construction of adjectives is similar to English, you have to put the adjective just before the noun. Let's know some adjectives and nouns that we'll use in our examples:

Veut {vöt} – old
Moll {mol} – soft
Pell {pel} – fur
Wogh {wog} – car
Bell {bel} – beautiful
Buland {bulAnd} – tall
Amin {amIn} – reliable (*persons, animals*)
Wassic {wAsik} – reliable (*things*)
Yun {yun} – young
Smulk {smulk} – small
Blou {blu;} – blue

Some examples:

Veut wogh – Old car
Moll pel – Soft fur

Naturally, you can make constructions like that:

Id wogh est veut – The car is old

Like in English, the adjectives don't receive the -s ending when in the plural.

Veut woghs – Old cars
Moll pels – Soft furs

You may use the adjective alone and make it as a noun:

The powerful woman – Ia staur(a)

Notice that you need an article and you can make use of declension, when possible.

Also it's possible to make adjectives from verbs through participles, but I'll explain it only in the chapter about participles.

As in English, you can define the characteristics of someone through the verb “hab”:

I have blue eyes – Io ho blou okwi

To create adjectives from substantives, you may make use of affixes like -ic or -eus, like in the examples below:

Bois sont cruoric {bois sont krwOrik} – Battles are bloody
Is est wirtic {is est wIrtik} – He is worthy
Tod place est dangereux {tod plAts est dandjërÖs}⁷ – This place is dangerous
la gwen est nerveus {ya gwen est nervÖs} – The woman is nervous

Don't worry too much about these affixes because many words can be used as substantives or adjectives without the necessity of modifying the word, like “infinitive” in “un infinitive verb” (*an infinitive verb*).

A very important observation is that the vocabulary of Sambahsa comes from languages of different families, like derivatives from Latin and Germanic languages, the rules of the making of adjectives from substantives are adapted according to the origin of the word. See the examples below:

Cid est un insuleus land – That is an insular country (**wrong x**)
Cid est un insulic land – That is an insular country (**wrong x**)
Cid est un insular land – That is an insular country (**correct ✓**)
Som in un problematic situation – I'm in a problematic situation (**wrong x**)
Som in un problematic situation – I'm in a problematic situation { **correct ✓** }
Un pateric amor – A paternal love (**wrong x**)
Un patruw amor – A paternal love (**correct ✓**)
Tod buit monstereus – That was monstrous (**wrong x**)
Tod buit monstrueus – That was monstrous (**correct ✓**)
Es baygh bayeus – You're very fearful (**acceptable, but prefer the sentence below**)
Es baygh bayasen – You're very fearful (**correct ✓**)

Sometimes it's not recommended the using of an affix for transforming a substantive in an adjective, but a preposition like “os” or “es” may be a good alternative.

Kamo anon es kwaun – I like food of dog
Lieubho likes RPGs os table – I love playing tabletop RPGs

Saying something like “...*kwaunic anon*” or “... *tableus RPG*” wouldn't make sense because “...*kwaunic anon*” gives the impression of the food has some canine characteristic, although the food is for dogs, and “... *tableus RPG*” gives the impression that the RPG has a characteristic of table, although the game normally is played on the table.

You can say that sentences in another way:

Kamo kwaun-anon = Kamo anon es kwaun
Lieubho likes table-RPGs = Lieubho likes RPGs os table

Notice that the “table” of “table-RPG” and the “kwaun” of “kwaun-anon” are not as adjectives, but as components of a word made through the agglutination of other words. If, for example, the “table” of “table-RPG” were an adjective, would be possible the sentence “id RPG est table”, what doesn't make the minor sense. Ah, and you can write “kwaun-anon” and “table-RPG” without the hyphens.

⁷ The word “dangereus” {dandjërÖs} is valid because the suffix -eus did not change the pronunciation of the original word “danger”. But “dangero” {dandjEro} is wrong.

For fixing this knowledge:

God of War = Div os Weir = Weir Div = Weir-Div = Weirdiv

By the way, the expression “Div ios Weir” would have a slightly different meaning. It would give the impression that this is a god of a specific war, like “Div ios Vietnan Weir” (“God of the Vietnam War”). Just remember the difference between “os” and “ios” that we saw in the sub-chapter “DIFFERENCE OF USE OF PREPOSITION OF POSSESSION AND GENITIVE CASE”.

Also, know the predicative adjective over the object, very used in sentences like the ones of the below examples:

Ho pict mien dom do glend – I've painted the house green

Ia me hat kalen zani – She has called me adulterous

Tod anon kwehrt/beuwt me sieug – This food makes me sick

I'll use the first example, “*ho pict mien dom do glend*”, to explain more about this kind of situation. We couldn't have written “*ho pict mien dom glend*” because the “glend” would be in the accusative position and the translation would be something like “I've painted my green of house”, it wouldn't make sense. Also, we couldn't write “*ho pict mien glend dom*”, because its translation is “I've painted my green house”, which, although it's grammatically perfect, definitively shows the wrong idea.

Notice that, for building the predicative adjective over the object in the first example, the preposition “do” was used, *which you'll learn with more details in future chapters*, but you can rewrite these sentences in other way, like for example: “Ho pict(o) glend(o) mien dom”, thus the “glend” is not taken to be the attributive adjective of “dom”.

In the second example I could turn the word “zani” into a substantive if I add an indefinite article before this word: “*Ia me hat kalen un zani*”; the meaning practically still is the same. But this case is no more a predicative adjective over the object, but a nominal adjective over the object.

There is a better way to write the third sentence, it would be making use of the -eih suffix, which is a factive, you'll learn about affixes in a specific chapter. The sentence would be thus: “*Tod anon sieugeiht me*” (*this food sickens me*). I didn't use it in the examples because thus the sentence no more would be a predicative adjective over the object.

I will take the opportunity to teach you how to say “Anna called John (as) Robert”. Well, it's exactly like in English: *Anna kiel John (ka) “Robert”*. I suggest you to use the “ka” in order to avoid misunderstandings.

As you know, the qualifier precedes the qualified item, but for quantities, the thing measured can be put after the unit of measure.

Dwo botels vin – Two bottles of wine

Regarding the adjectives that introduce a preposition, they work in the same way that English, as can be seen in the following second sentence:

Latin America hat problemes *qua sont* inexistent in antslohnct lands

Latin America has problems *that are* non-existent in developed countries

Latin America hat problemes *inexistent* in antslohnct lands

Latin America has problems non-existent in developed countries

About the creation of nouns from adjectives, you'll learn how to do this in the chapter about prefixes.

COMPARISONS

The comparison is made by suffixing the -er ending to the adjective (or -ter in the case the word finishes with a vowel), but only use this ending when the accentuation of the word is not altered, in other case use the word “meis”, which means “more”. By the way, “quem” means “than”.

He is older than me – Is est veuter quem io {is est vÖtër kem yo}

He is taller than me – Is est bulander quem io {is est meys bulAnd kem yo}

She is more powerful than me – Ia est meis walik⁸ quem io {ya est meys wAlik kem yo}

“waliker” would be not possible because it changes the stress of the word:

“walik” {wAlik} → “waliker” {walikër}

Comparisons of equality are made with “tem ... quem” {tem ... kem}, which may be translated as “as ... as”.

Mary is as beautiful as Elizabeth – Maria est tem bell quem Elizabeth

Comparisons of inferiority are made with “minter ... quem” {mIntër ... kem}, which may be translated to “less ... than”.

Wolves are less reliable than dogs – Wolfs sont minter amin quem kwauns

“Meis” and “minter” (*sometimes “mins” instead of “minter”, but it’s rare*) are comparative words, now let's talk about superlatives. But what are superlatives? Look the two examples below:

Charles is taller than Michael

Steven is the tallest

Charles is taller than Michael, but it doesn't mean that necessarily doesn't exist people taller than Charles, the “taller” is a comparative, it only makes the comparison between two beings. But the second sentence says that Steven is taller than everybody in the context where he is, “tallest” is a superlative. Of course, the same thought applies to comparisons of inferiority:

Charles is less tall than Michael

Steven is the least tall

The superlatives are “meist” {meyst} (*or the -st suffix when it's possible*), which

8 **Walik** = strong, powerful (*political influence*)

means “most”, and “minst” {minst}, which means “less”. Look the examples below:

Mara is the most beautiful woman in the world – Mara est ia meist jamile gwen tienxia

Mara is the most beautiful woman in the world – Mara est ia jamilest gwen tienxia

Matthew is the least tall – Matthew est is minst buland

The adjectives “megil” {mEdjil} (*great*) and “lytil” {lÛtil} (*little*) have irregular comparative and superlative forms, they are:

Comparative: “meger” {mEdjër} and “lyter” {lÛtër}

Is prev president buit meger quem is actual – The previous president was greater than the current one

Un moto est lyter quem un onwogh – A motorcycle is smaller than a truck

Superlative: “megst” {megst} and “lytst” {lütst}

Is est is megst popstar aiwo – He is the greatest pop star of all time

Oin im lytst mammifers tienxia gwiwt in Thayland – One of the world's smallest mammals lives in Thailand

The word “megil” and its two irregular variations are rather figurative. For saying “bigger” or “biggest”, use the word “mier”:

Un onwogh est mierer quem un moto – A truck is bigger than a motorcycle

Id sol est id mierst waurncorpos ios solar systeme – The sun is the biggest celestial object of the solar system

Soon after, there are the translations for “better”, “best”, “worse” and “worst”:

Better: “kreins” {kreyns}

Lucas baht Sambahsa kreins quem wey – Lucas speaks Sambahsa better than us

Best: “beirst” {beyrst}

Swehpmos beirst in ghim – We sleep best in winter

Worse: “ghers” {gers}

Is sehngvti ghers quem ia – He sings worse than her

Worst: “endem” {Endëm}

Ia sohngv endem – She sang worst

Beware! “kreins”, “beirst”, “ghers” and “endem” are adverbs, so they cannot be used in the cases below that require adjectives:

Est kreins gohder ses un noroct pauper quem un biedan riche – It's better to be a happy poor person than an unhappy rich one

Semper kwehre id sell est id beirst gohdst itner kay stahale id Warwn Roydem – Always doing good is the best way to deserve the Kingdom of Heaven

Ne som un gohd almen, bet mien collegh est ghers smaler quem io – I'm not a good student, but my classmate is worse than me

Id endem smalst moment kay plante beuwen est unte id yutien – The worst time to plant this crop is in the rainy weather

PLURAL

The plural is easy and intuitive, often the words in plural have a -s added in their endings, as made in English, this is basically the standard form.

Prince {prints} (*prince*) – princes {prIntsës} (*princes*)

Div {div} (*god*) – divs {divs} (*gods*)

Kwaun {kwAon} (*dog*) – kwauns {kwAons} (*dogs*)

Land {land} (*country*) – lands {landz} (*countries*)

Words finished with -um have its final replaced by -a.

Territorium {te(r)ritOryum} (*territory*) – territoria {te(r)ritOrya} (*territories*)

Collegium {kolEdjyum} (*college*) – collegia {kol(l)Edjya} (*colleges*)

For words finished with -es or -os, these terminations are replaced respectively for -si e -sa.

Daumos {dAomos} (*marvel*) – daumsa {dAomsa} (*marvels*)

Elkos {Elkos} (*ulcer*) – elksa (Elksa) (*ulcers*)

Bes {bes} (*boss*) – besi {bEzi} (*bosses*)

Kames {kams} (*spell*) – kamsa {kamsa} (*spells*)

There will situations that it's not possible to add a -s at the end of the word for pronunciation issues, in such cases, you can optionally use declensions:

Magv {magv} (*child*) – magv(i) {mAgv(i)} (*children*)

Kwax {kwaks} (*croack*) – kwax(a) {kwAks(a)} (*croacks*)

Urx {urks} (*bear*) – urx(i) {Urks(i)} (*bears*)

Rawaj {rawAj} (*currency unit*) – rawaj(a) {rawAj(a)} (*currency units*)

Aux {Aoks} (*ox*) – aux(i) {Aoks(i)} (*oxen*)

Kwas {kwas} (*cough*) – kwas(a) {kwAz(a)} (*cough*)

Musch {muc} (*fly*) – musch(i) {mUc(i)} (*flies*)

Observe that the examples above are for the nominative case. Here is an example for clarification:

Magvi eddent muschens – children eat flies

Muschi kament magvens – flies like children

Declension rules are “relaxed” for nouns and adjectives, so you can generalize that -i is for animated beings and -a is for inanimate beings even in the position of accusative or dative.

Magvi eddent muschi – children eat flies

Muschi kament magvi – flies like children

The only exception is “ok” (eye), whose plural can be “oks” {oks} or “okwi” {Okwi}.

Some examples with articles:

The men – ies wirs {yes wirs}

The women – ias gwens {yas gwens}

The cars – ia woghs {ya wogz}

The persons – i anghens {i Angëns}

The dogs – i kwauns {i kwAons}

The people – i leuds {i lödz}

Please notice that even the articles are modified, while “the man” is “is wir”, “the men” is “ies wirs”.

For finishing, an example of plural with declension:

Plur millions brasileiren – several millions of Brazilians

Notice that was written “brasileiren” instead “brasileirs”, but I could use anyone without problems, but if you use “brasilers”, don't forget to use the “em”, that would be “Plur millions em brasileirs vahnt...”

SOME, FEW, MANY AND OTHERS

Nothing more – neideti {neydEti}

Nothing at all – khich {qitc}

No-one, nobody – neanghen {neAngën}, nimen {nImën}

Some – sem {sem}

Someone – semanghen {semAngën}

Something – semject {semjekt}

Many, much, very, a lot (adjective ou adverb) – baygh {bayg}

Many, much (colloquial adjective) – maung {mAong}

When before a verb, “maung” often functions as an adverb

Many, much, a lot (literal adjective) – pelu {pElu}

In theory, both “pelu” and “maung” may be adverbs, but this is rare before adjectives

Much, very (adverb) – meg {meg}

Many (adjective) – mult {mult}

Too (much/many) (adverb or adjective) – pior {pyor}

Quite (adverb) – destull {dëstUl}

Several – plur {plur}

More (adverb or adjective) (comparative) – meis {meys}

Less (adverb or adjective) (comparative) – minter {mIntër}

Most (adverb or adjective) (superlative) – meist {meyst}

Less (adverb) (superlative) – minst {minst}

So much, so many – tant {tant}

Each (more than two) – ielg {yElg}

Each (of two), either – ieter {yEtër}

All the – vasyi {vAzyi} (*masculine & undetermined nominative plural*)

All the – vasyas {vAzyas} (*feminine nominative plural*)

All the – vasya {vAzya} (*neutral plural nominative & accusative*)

All – quant {kwant}

The difference between “vasy” and “quant” is that this last one doesn’t include the idea of defined article. For example:

Vasyi Franceois drehnke rudh vin – All the French drink red wine

Wey quanti smos ensans – We all are humans

Some, a few – oik {oyk}

Little, few (adverb) – pau {pAo}

Few (adjective) – pauk {pAok}

A little (adverb or adjective) – lyt {lüt}

Small – smulk {smulk}

Large – large {lardj}

Half (this one as adverb), semi- – pwol {pwol}

One and half – pwolter {pwOltër}

The other (one, of a group of two) – alter {Altër} (*it's not necessary the article*)

The others – alters {Altërs} (*it's not necessary the article*)

Another – alyo {Alyo} (*it's not necessary the article*)

Another person, someone else – alyanghen {alyAngën}

Both – bo

All both – amb(o)

Either... or... – auter... au... {Aotër... Ao...}

Whether, if (before the choose of two) – kweter {kwEtër}

Neither... nor... – neter... ni... {nEtër... ni...}
Neither, none of both – neuter {nÖtër}
One of two – oiter {Oytër}
Which of both? – quoter? {kwOtër}
A(n) (*indefinite article referring to the member of a pair*) – uter {Utër}

Little by little – Lyt ed lyt {lüt ed lüt}
Some days – Sem diens {sem dyens}
Few hors – Pauk hors {pAok hors}
She is a bit heavy – Ia est lyt gwaur {ya est lüt gwAur}
The other book – Alter buk {Altër buk}
Another book – Alyo buk {Alyo buk}

ARE YOU A BIT CONFUSE WITH SO MANY “MUCHS” AND “FEWS”?

You must observe what is an adjective, what is adverb, and what is both, it is very important! Let's see the implications of that:

“Baygh” may not be used before an adjective followed by a substantive, a sentence like “baygh smulk magvi” would mean what? “many small children” or “very small children”? Remember that “baygh” can be used as adjective as adverb, so there is the doubt of what word it qualifies. In such cases the ideal is to use a more specific word, one that is only an adjective or only an adverb. *“Baygh” exists to avoid the repetition of “maung” in a text.*

But you could add a suffix to “baygh” to give the missing precision:

Ho baygh-ye bell magvens – I have very beautiful children

Ho bayghens bell magvens – I have a lot of beautiful children

Don't worry, I'll explain to you how these endings -ye and -ens work.

Look: “maung belli leuds” {mAong bEli lödz}, I know that this sentence means “many beautiful persons”, but not “very beautiful persons”, because of “maung” only serves as an adjective.

I believe you already understand it. Some good examples for you to fix it in your mind:

Maung smulk magvi – Many small children

Meg smulk magvi – Very small children

Tod land hat pauk bella plaja – This country has few beautiful beaches

Tod land hat pau bella plaja – This country has not-very beautiful beaches

You can see that some words mentioned above work sometimes as an adjective, and sometimes as an adverb. What makes the difference? It is an adjective when it refers to the quantity of the substantive, but it's an adverb when it refers to the quality of the adjective.

Volo lyt cofie – I want a little of coffee

Lyt-ye bitter cofie – Slightly bitter coffee

To differentiate them when there is a risk of confusion, use the hyphenated ending “-ye” for adverbs, and, if possible, the “euphonic” declensional endings for adjectives.

About “destull”:

What differentiates “destull” of words like “meg” ou “baygh” is that “destull” is at an inferior level, see the examples below for you to understand:

Brasilu est meg/baygh bell – Brazil is very beautiful (*in the superior category of beauty*)

Brasilu est destull bell – Brazil is quite beautiful (*it is beautiful, but there are other countries that are more beautiful*)

You can also translate “destull” as “kinda”.

NUMBERS

Here are the numbers from 0 to 10:

- 0 – zero {dzEro} – zero**
- 1 – oin {oyn} – one**
- 2 – dwo {dwo} – two**
- 3 – tri {tri} – three**
- 4 – quar {kwar} – four**
- 5 – penk(we) {penk(wě)} – five**
- 6 – six {siks} – six**
- 7 – sept(a) {sEpt(a)} – seven**
- 8 – oct(o) {Okt(o)} – eight**
- 9 – nev {nev} – nine**
- 10 – dec {dek} – ten**

From 11 to 19 you add the suffix -dem.

- 11 – oindem {Oyndēm} – eleven**
- 12 – dwodem {dwOdēm} – twelve**
- 13 – tridem {trIdēm} – thirteen**
- 14 – quardem {kwArdēm} – fourteen**
- 15 – penkdem {pEnkdēm} – fifteen**
- 16 – sixdem {sIkسدēm} – sixteen**
- 17 – septdem {sEptdēm} – seventeen**
- 18 – octdem {Oktdēm} – eighteen**
- 19 – nevdem {nEvdēm} – nineteen**

For numbers like 20, 30, 40, ..., 90 you use the suffix -gim

- 20 – dwogim {dwOdjim} – twenty**
- 30 – trigim {trIdjim} – thirty**
- 40 – quargim {kwArdjim} – forty**
- 50 – penkgim {pEnkdjim} – fifty**
- 60 – sixgim {sIkسدjim} – sixty**
- 70 – septgim {sEptdjim} – seventy**
- 80 – octgim {Oktdjim} – eighty**
- 90 – nevgim {nEvdjim} – ninety**

Here are the numbers 100, 1000, 1000000 and 1000000000:

- 100 – cent(om) {tsent}/{tsëntOm} – one hundred**
- 1000 – mil {mil} – one thousand**
- 1000000 – 10^6 – oin million {oyn milyOn} – one million**
- 1000000000 – 10^9 – oin milliard {oyn milyArd} – one billion**

You know what? Let's see how Sambahsa deal with even bigger numbers:

- 10^{12} – billion (*pay attention, "billion" means "trillion" in American English!*)**
- 10^{15} – billiard**
- 10^{18} – trillion**

10²¹ – trilliard
10²⁴ – quadrillion
10²⁷ – quadrilliard
10³⁰ – quintillion
10³³ – quintilliard
10³⁶ – sextillion
10³⁹ – sextilliard
10⁴² – septillion
10⁴⁵ – septilliard
10⁴⁸ – octillion
10⁵¹ – octilliard
10⁵⁴ – nonillion
10⁵⁷ – nonilliard
10⁶⁰ – decillion
10⁶³ – decilliard
10⁶⁶ – undecillion
10⁶⁹ – undecilliard

Some examples of numbers:

23 – **dwogim tri** – twenty three
130 – **cent trigim** – one hundred and thirty
569 – **penkcent sixgim nev** – five hundred and sixty-nine
1992 – **mil nevcent nevgim dwo** – one thousand nine hundred ninety-two

Cardinal numbers are made with the suffix -t (or -im if the first suffix for incompatible).

First – ~~oin~~ prest (*if it's the first of a group of two, we use “preter” instead “prest”*)

Second – dwot (*or “second”, equal to the English word*)

Third – trit

Fourth – quart

Fifth – penkt

Sixth – sixt

Seventh – septim

Eighth – octim

Ninth – nevt

Tenth – dect

Eleventh – oindemt

Yes, “first” and “second” are irregular, despite be admitted the “dwot”.

Only the last component needs termination:

Twenty-first – dwogim prest (*or “dwogim-prest”, with hyphen*)

Know these too:

Last – senst (*superlative*)

Latter – senter (*comparative*)

A multiplier is made with the suffix -(en)s:

Once – oins

Twice – dwis (*irregular*)

Thrice – tris

We also may use the word “ker”:

Once – oin ker

Twice – dwo kers

Thrice – tri kers

The distributive is made with the suffix -(e)n, but there are irregular forms:

1 – ein

2 – dwin (“*duo*”) (for the word “pair” exists the word “pair”, yeah, it's the same word)

12 – douzen (*our “dozen”!*)

1000 – tulent

For numbers finished in -dem or -gim, you use -tia instead -(e)n.

20 – dwogimtia (*like a score*)

This termination -(e)n also is used for counting nouns that don't have a form in the singular:

Mi ho kaupen trin bruks – I've bought myself three pairs of pants

If the distributive is used as quantity, then the nouns and adjectives are in the plural of genitive.

Un centen wolfen gwiviet in France – A hundred wolves could live in France

Remember of “million” and “milliard”? They only exist in the distributive form. But when the distributive is followed by another number, the distributive no more need to be in the infinitive.

1 891 400 humans – Oino million octcent nevgim oino mil quarcent mensci

Parts can be indicated by -del.

One third – tridel

But look:

Half (*as substantive*) – dwidel

Half (*as adjective*) – pwol (*often used as prefix*)

Ho edden un pwolkhlayb – I've eaten half a loaf (of bread)

One and a half – Pwolter (~~1.5~~ 1,5)

About punctuation in numbers, Sambahsa is different from English, the fractional numbers don't receive a dot, but a comma; a number like “two and a half” is transcribed as “2,5” in Sambahsa, not “2.5”. Numbers superior to 999 don't receive any punctuation, only a space if you want, so “one million” won't be transcribed as “1,000,000”, but as “1000000” or “1 000 000”.

The other 0,5 is taken using the ordinal form of the next number after the “pwol”. Look one more example:

Pwolpenkt – 4,5

Pwolnevt – 8,5

Pwol – 0,5 (“pwol” is translated as “half”, not as “zero point five”)

2,3 = dwo comma tri – two point⁹ three

0,9 = zero comma nev – zero point nine

1,5 = oin comma penk(we) – one point five

0,5 = zero comma penk(we) – zero point five

Math operations:

2 + 2 = 4 – dwo plus dwo kwehr(n)t¹⁰ quar

2 – 2 = 0 – dwo minus/ex dwo kwehr(n)t zero

2 – 3 = –1 – dwo minus/ex tri kwehr(n)t minus oin

2 × 2 = 4 – dwo kers dwo kwehr(n)t quar

2 ÷ 2 = 1 – dwo dividen ab dwo kwehr(n)t oin

$\frac{3}{4}$ – tri ep quar = tri quardels

$\frac{7}{8}$ – sept(a) ep oct(o) = sept(a) octdels

$\frac{5}{16}$ – penk(we) ep sixdem = penk(we) sixdemdels¹¹

6¹ = six alt oin

6² = six alt quadrat

6² = six alt dwo

6³ = six alt cube

6³ = six alt tri

6⁴ = six alt quar

6⁵ = six alt penk(we)

$\sqrt[2]{6}$ = quadrat raudh os six

$\sqrt[3]{6}$ = cubic raudh os six

⁹ Again, notice that Sambahsa uses commas instead of dots

¹⁰ You can say “kwehrt”, “kwehrnt” or “kwehrent”. Anyway, regardless the one you choose, just use one mode throughout your text, keep it consistent.

¹¹ “sixdemdels” alters the pronunciation of the original word “sixdem”, but since there is no other solution beyond just saying “...ep sixdem”, that word is tolerated

Score or result of voting, like the result of a soccer game where Barcelona scored two goals and Real Madrid scored one.

Dwo contra oin pro Barcelona – Two to one to Barcelona

Oin contra dwo pro Real Madrid – One to two to Real Madrid

For indicating age, you use the suffix -at:

Som dwogim sixat – I am twenty six years old

Cid monument est milat – That monument is one thousand years old

For ending this chapter, let's talk about verbal and nominal agreement. It is obvious that a noun followed by a simple cardinal number equal to or greater than 2 will be in the plural, like it does with “dwo apels” or “sept magvi”, but there are more complex situations that require your attention, like the following nine sentences that are all correct:

(1a) Pwolter liter – A liter and a half

(1b) Pwolter liters – A liter and a half

(2a) Zero comma nev liter – Zero point nine liter

(2b) Zero comma nev liters – Zero point nine liters

(3a) Tik oin sixdel im menscen tienxia sagvt suagwive

Only a sixth of the world's people know how to live well

Verb agrees with “oin”.

(3b) Tik oin sixdel im menscen tienxia sagvent suagwive

Only a sixth of the world's people know how to live well

Verb agrees with “menscen”. “sixdel” still is counted as a word in the singular

(4) Tik dwo sixdels im menscen tienxia sagvent suagwive

Only two-sixths of the world's people know how to live well

There is no way to the verb here to be in the singular

(5a) Tik quargim percent ios popule sagvt suagwive

Only forty percent of the people know how to live well

Verb agrees with “popule”.

(5b) Tik quargim percent ios popule sagvent suagwive

Only forty percent of the people know how to live well

Verb agrees with “quargim”.

TIME

To indicate the day of a month, we put “dien” before the cardinal number of the date:

Dien quar jul mil septcent septgim six, ia Uniet Stats bihr independent

On the fourth of July of one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, United States became independent

Dien sept september mil octcent dwogim dwo, Brasilu bihsit independent

On the seventh of September of one thousand eight hundred and twenty two, Brazil became independent

The days of the week:

Mingo {mIngo} – Sunday

Mundie {mundI:} – Monday

Ardie {ardI:} – Tuesday

Credie {krëdI:} – Wednesday

Khamsi {qAmsi} – Thursday

Juma {jUma} – Friday

Sabd {sabd} – Saturday

Here are the months:

Januar {januAr} – January

Februar {februAr} – February

Mart {mart} – March

Aprile {aprIl} – April

Mai {mä} – May

Jun {jun} – June

Jul {jul} – July

August {aogUst} – Agust

September {sëptEmbër} – September

October {oktObër} – October

November {novEmbër} – November

December {dëtsEmbër} – December

To indicate the time, you put the numbers of the hours and minutes (*separated by a colon*) before the word “saat” {saAt}:

18:49 saat – octdem saat quargim nev (*forty-nine minutes past six p.m.*)

05:00 saat – penk saat (*five o'clock*)

If you want, you don't have to write “saat” when in the numeric form, “18:49” and “05:00” are enough.

Another way:

06:49 saat vesper – six saat quargim nev vesper (*six forty-nine p.m.*)

05:00 saat aghyern – penk saat aghyern (*five o'clock a.m.*)

In order to indicate a determined decade, like “the 1970's”, you inform the year

more the termination -tias.

Ia 1970tias – ia mil nevcent septgimtias – the 1970's

To indicate the century we can say something like this:

Gwivmos in id dwogim-prest secul, poskwo sessiet id dwogim-dwot secul, prever eet id dwogimt secul, ed pre tod eet id nevdeimt secul

We live in the twenty-first century, then it will be the twenty-second century, before it was the twentieth century and before this one was the nineteenth century

In the place of “dwogim-prest” and “dwogim-dwot” you may say respectively “dwogim-oimt”¹² and “dwogim-second” if you want.

An adverb of period may be made per the termination -s.

I beis, qui wey eiskwmos, appareiht nocts – The bees, which we want, appears at night

The present period of time may be indicated by the prefix ho-:

Tonight – honoict

This evening – hovesper

But “today” and “this morning” are made in the following ways:

Today – hoyd

This morning – Todeghern

A verb that indicates a period of spent time can be made per the prefix (u)per-.

Passe ad upernocte in mien dom – Spend the night in my house

Uperdienam in id farm – We spent the day in the farm

There the translations for “tomorrow, “yesterday” and their variations:

Tomorrow – cras

Yesterday – ghes

After tomorrow – poscras

Of yesterday – ghestern

Before yesterday – preghes {prëgEs}

More important words:

Hourly – horlong

Last week – perhvd {pEr(h)vdi}

Every time – stets (*used in general with comparatives*)

In times past – xiawngja {ksyAwngja}

Last night – yarlay {yarlAy}

Day & night (24 horas) – yawm {yAwm}

¹² We can use “oimt” here because it is a compound word.

CORRELATIVES AND SOME IMPORTANT WORDS

Correlatives are words made by affixing certain particles to the interrogative pronouns or other words, like “anghen” (*person*), “ject” (*thing*) and “loc” (*place*).

Sem- {sem} – some

-quid {kid} – any (*complete uncertainty, often it's pejorative*)

Is lehct quodquid – he's telling anything at all

-gvonc {gvonk} – it is between “some” and “any”.

Ne has clus id dwer. Quelgvonc ghehdiet entre id dom – You haven't closed the door. Anyone/Someone could enter the house

Ne has tu dar mathen od mien intelligence est dar staurer quem quodgvonc eins?

– Haven't you learnt yet that my intelligence is still mightier than any sword?

-kwe {kwë} – when suffixed to interrogative pronouns corresponds to the English -ever (*but with an idea of totality in a sentence*)

Ir gwelsa brungend quodkwe spalt iom armurs – Their shafts taking advantage of any split of the armours

Querkw gwahtm, io incontre prients – Wherever I go, I encounter friends

-libt {libd} – any (*in the sense of “whichever you want” or “at one's pleasure”*)

Cheus quodlibt fustan {tcös kwOdlibt fustAn} – Choose any skirt (*the one you prefer*)

A comparison for better understanding, the two sentences below mean “any/whichever shoe is useful for me”:

Quodquid schou est util pro me: means that the person doesn't care about the shoe to be worn in his foot

Quodkwe schou est util pro me: it's more serious

Another example:

Ia sayct quodquid – She tells anything at all (*it's a mad woman*)

Ia sayct quodkwe – She says anything (*it means probably that she is an intellectual that knows diverse areas of knowledge*)

Semanghen, semquel {semAngën, semkEl} – someone

Quelgvonc {këlgvOnk} – anyone

Cadanghen {kadAngën} – everybody

Quodquid {kwOdkid} – anything (*pejorative sense*)

Quodgvonc {kwodgvOnk} – anything

Quodkwe {kwOdkwë} – whatever

Quiskwe {kIskwë} – whoever

For saying sentences like “I don't see (any)thing”, you can say “ne vido ject”, it's used “ject” in these cases when in negative sentences. But a better way of expressing would be “vido neid” (“I see nothing”). When we talk about persons we use the word “anghen”.

Ma? {ma} – why?

Itak {itAk} – that's why

Kam? {kam} – how?, like, as (*comparative of equity, this word also means the verb “like”*)

Katha {kAŞa} – so, thus
Ka {ka} – as (a) (*quality, function*)
It(han) {it}/{iŞAn} – so, this way
Zowngschie {dzowngcl:} /dzownʃi/ – anyway

-med {med} – *affixed to a pronoun in the genitive, it has the meaning of “per/through” + instrument. quosmed {kwOsməd} (with what? / by which means?); tosmmed {tOsməd} (with that / through that means)*

Quayt {kwayt} – how much, how many (*pronoun*)
Tant {tant} – so much, so many (*adverb/adjective*)

Semanghen, semquis, semqua {semAngën, semkis, semkwA} – someone
Fulan {fulAn} – so and so
Vasyanghen {vasyAngën} – everybody
Nimen, neanghen {nImën, neAngën} – nobody

Quer {ker} – where
Quetro {kEtro} – whither
Quetos / quois {kEtos / kwoys} – whence
Her {her} – here
Hetro {hEtro} – hither
Hetos / Hois {hEtos / hoys} – hence
Ter {ter} – there
Tetro {tEtro} – thither
Tetos / tois {tEtos / toys} – thence
Cer {tser} – yonder
Cetro {tsEtro} – to yonder
Cetos / ciois {tsEtos / tsyoys} – from yonder
Semloc/semquer, semtro, semtos {semlOk/semkEr, sEmtro, sEmtos} – somewhere
Quantloc/quanter, quantro, quantos/quantois {kwantlOk/kwAntër, kwAntro, kwAntos/kwantOys} – everywhere
Neidloc/nequer, netro, netos {neydlOk/neker, nEtro, nEtos} – nowhere
Alyer, altro, altos/alyois {Alyër, Altro, Altos/alyOys} – elsewhere

“Left” and “right” are represented respectively by lev(ter) and dex(ter), naturally that are possible forms like levtro/dextro and levto/dextos.

“Outside” and “inside” are represented respectively by “exo” and “eni” (*irregular words*), are possible forms like extro/extos and entro/entos.

An adverb of direction can be made per the suffix -worts, like in “Vasya fluvs sreunt marworts” {vAsya fluvz srönt marwOrtz} (“all rivers flow to the sea” or “all rivers flow seawards”). Yeah, -worts equals to -wards.

An adverb of location can be made, rarely, per the termination -i.

Ghomi {gOmi} – on the ground
Urbi {Urbi} – downtown
Domi {dOmi} – in the house
Hemi {hEmi} – at home

Ub {ub} – up
Curro ub tod clin – I'm running up that hill
Ghom {gom} – down

Ghango ghom id strad – *I am walking down the street*

Aptos {Aptos} – from behind

Unte {Untë} – “through where?” and “through” or “during”

Qualg? {kwalg} – Which?

Solg, talg {solg, talg} – Such

Quod? {kwod} – What?

Semject, semquod {semjEkt, semkwOd} – something

Quant(o/um) {kwAnt(o/um)} – everything

Quant est correct – *Everything is correct*

Quant- may serve as a relative pronoun, you only have to add the declension terminations to it.

Khich {qitc} – nothing at all

Quan(do) {kwAn(do)}? – when?

Kun {kun} – when, as

Kun gnahsim, mien scol dar ne existit – *When I born, my school still didn't existed*

Ye id dien kun is mohr, vasyi buir trauric – *On the day he died, everybody were sad*

As relative pronouns, there is no difference between “kun” and “quan(do)”, but only “quan(do)” may be used in the interrogative form.

Yando {yAndo} – sometimes

Ops {ops} – often

Nun {nun} – nun

Yant {yant} – as soon as

Tun {tun} – then

“Tun” is equivalent to the Sambahsa expressions: “ye tod tid”, “in tod condition”, etc

Semper {sEmpër} – always

Naiw(o) {nÄw(o)} – never

Nuntos {nUntos} – from now on

Tuntos {tUntos} – for this time/epoch

Hol {hol} – whole, integer (*adjective*)

Hol est correct – *Everything is correct*

Alnos {Alnos} – completely, wholly (*adverb*)

Ceter {tsEtër} – all the other

Ielg {yelg} – each (*for more than two*)

Ieter {yEtër} – either, each (*for a group of two*)

Cada {kAda} – each, every

THE VERBS

Ah, the verbs...

With the exception of the three main verbs, “es” {es}, “hab” {hab} and “woid” {woyd}, all the other verbs are regular, you only need to pay attention to some cases predicted by the orthographic rules.

It's common, in other languages, that the base form of the verbs is represented in the infinitive form. But in Sambahsa, the standard form of presentation is in the form of stem. I wanna make it clear from now on, the translations from Sambahsa to English will be provided in the infinitive form, even when the verbs are in their original form (*only the stem*). For example: the verb “sedd” is translated to “to sit” (*infinitive just in the English translation!*), but actually “sedd” is not the infinitive form of the word, its infinitive form is “sedde”. Don't worry because I'll warn you when the verb is in the infinitive, I only want you to know that when I show you something like “linekw = to leave”, don't think that “linekw” already is the Sambahsa verb in the infinitive form. Are we understood?

Let's meet the irregular verbs:

Es {es} – to be

Hab {hab} – to have

Woid {woyd} – to know

“Es”, “hab” and “woid” are verbs in the stem form, the infinitive form of them are respectively “ses”, “habe” and “woide”. You don't need to worry a lot about “es”, “hab” and “woid” since these verbs are irregular.

I need to make a special comment about the verb “woid”. The word “woid” means that you have the knowing of a fact or information, like in “he knows when to leave” or “I know Chinese”; “kehgn” is for expressing the familiarity with someone, some place or something, like in “they know Oliver” or “I know China”. We also have the verb “gnoh”, which essentially has both meanings. But “kehgn” and “gnoh” are not irregular like “woid”, “es” and “hab”.

PRESENT

You already know the conjugation of the verb “es” in the present, but it's no bother to repeat them:

Som {som} – (I) am

Es {es} – (you) are (*singular*)

Est {est} – (he/she/it) is

Smos {smos} – (we) are

Ste {ste} – (you) are (*plural*)

Sont {sont} – (they) are

The pronouns were omitted, but you are entirely free to use them! Look the very same conjugation from above, but with the pronouns:

Io som {yo som} – I am
Tu es {tu es} – you are
Is/Ia/Id/El est {is/ya/id/el est} – he/she/it is
Wey smos {wey smos} – we are
Yu Ste {yu ste} – you are
Ies/Ias/Ia/I sont {yes/yas/ya/i sont} – they are

From now I'll omit the pronouns in the conjugations, but know you may use them!
 It's just a personal choice of mine.

Now let's see the conjugations of the verbs “hab” and “woid”:

Ho {ho} – (I) have
Has {has} – (you) have (*singular*)
Hat {hat} – (he/she/it) has
Habmos / Hams {hAbmos / hams} – (we) have
Yu habte {yu habd} – (you) have (*plural*)
Habent / Hant {hAbënt / hant} – (they) have

Woidim {wOydim} – (I) know
Woidst(a) {wOydst(a)} – (you) know (*singular*)
Woidit {wOydit} – (he/she/it) knows
Woidam {woydAm} – (we) know
Woidat {woydAt} – (you) know (*plural*)
Woideer {woydEër} – (they) know
The conjugation of woid is not compulsory.

The conjugation of verbs in the present is made with the following endings:

1st person singular: -m (*when after the sound of vowel or {y}*), -o (*in other cases*). *If the stem of the verb ends with -e or if the addition of -o would be incompatible with the accentuation, add nothing but use the personal pronoun “io”.*

2nd person singular: -s

3rd person singular: -t

1st person plural: -m(o)s (*use the one compatible with the accentuation*)

2nd person plural: -t(e)

3rd person plural: -(e)nt, -e (*use the one compatible with the accentuation*)

Let's see an example:

I love you – Te lieubho {te lyÖbo}
You love me – Me lieubhs {me lyÖbs}
She loves him – Ia lieubht iom {ya lyÖbt yom}
The dog loves the woman – El kwaun lieubht iam gwen {el kwAon lyöbt yam gwen}
We love them (*in this case “them” refers to female persons*) – Lieubhmos ians {lyÖbmos yans}
You love us (*“you” is in the plural*) – Yu lieubhte nos {yu lyÖbt nos}
They love me – Ies lieubhent me {yes lyÖbënt me}

Since the pronouns are often easy to identify (whether they are nominative, accusative, etc) you are free to change the order of them in the sentence, but maintain the good sense for avoiding misunderstandings. You may say too: “lieubho te”, “lieubhs me”, “io lieubho te”, “tu lieubhs me”, “te lieubho io”, “me lieubhs tu”.

Another example to you understand it well:

(I) learn Sambahsa – Euco Sambahsa {Öko sambA:sa}
(You) learn Sambahsa – Eucs Sambahsa {öks sambA:sa}
(He/she/it) learns Sambahsa – Euct Sambahsa {ökt sambA:sa}
(We) learn Sambahsa – Eucmos Sambahsa {Ökmos sambA:sa}
(You) learn Sambahsa – Yu eucte Sambahsa {yu ökt sambA:sa}
(They) learn Sambahsa – Eucent Sambahsa {Ötsënt sambA:sa}

BRIEF EXPLANATION ABOUT THE NASAL INFIX

I will talk about the nasal infix with more details in an appropriate chapter, but as I'll need that you have a notion about this subject right now, I'll show you a quick explanation.

A verb with nasal infix has an unstressed “e” together the consonants “m” or “n”. In all verbal tenses, except a form of imperative that uses the own stem form of the verb, this kind of verb will suffer an alteration, which basically is a lost of the unstressed “e” and, maybe, some other modifications that I will explain in the appropriate chapter.

Look at how it works:

Linekw {lInëkw} → linkw {linkw}
Pregen {prEdjën} → pregn {preny}

You may question: but why Sambahsa has this characteristic? Sambahsa behaves like a natural language, if you analyze it well, it's more pleasant to speak in this way, people naturally would want to drop this unstressed “e”. Without this rule, the language could be a bit easier, but it wouldn't be much comfortable to speak. Do you doubt me? Check whether the incorrect conjugation below is pleasant to pronounce:

Linekwe {linEkwë}
Linekwo {linEkwo}
Linekws {linEkus}
Linekwt {linEkut}
Linekwm(o)s {linEkum(o)s}
Linekwte {linEkut}
Linekwnt {linEkunt}

It becomes a mess, if you look it well you'll notice that that pronunciation is not very natural or human! Now see these words properly conjugated:

linkwes {lInkwës}
linkwo {lInkwö}
linkws {lInkus}

linkwt {lInkut}
linkwm(o)s {lInkum(o)s}
linkwte {lInkut}
linkwnt {lInkunt}

It's much better, isn't?

I hope you understand that this nasal infix rule is not here by chance, it is very necessary. But don't worry, before you know it you'll be applying this rule in your speaking by nature.

PAST TENSE

There are two verbal tenses in the past for the verb “es”, the simple past and the imperfect, while the first one informs about an action that takes place in a punctual time in the past, the second one deals with situations that happened continuously in the past and ended.

Simple past

Buim {bwim} – (I) was
Buist(a) {bwIst(a)} – (you) were
Buit {bwit} – (he/she/it) was
Buam {bwam} – (we) were
Buat {bwat} – (you) were
Buir {bwir} – (they) were

Imperfect past

Eem {Eëm} – (I) was
Ees {Eës} – (you) were
Eet {Eët} – (he/she/it) was
Eemos {Eëmos} – (we) were
Yu eete {yu Eët} – (you) were
Eent {Eënt} – (they) were

Try see these verbs from “imperfect past” like “I used to be”, “you used to be”, “she was being”, “we were being”.

Both “hab” and “woid” only have the simple past.

Hiebibim {hyEbim} – (I) had
Hiebst(a) {hyEbst} – (you) had
Hiebit {hyEbit} – (he/she/it) had
Hiebam {hyebAm} – (we) had
Hiebat {hyebAt} – (you) had
Hiebeer {hyebEër} – (they) had

Woisim {wOyzim} – (I) knew
Woisist {wOyzist} – (you) knew
Woisit {wOyzit} – (je/she/it) knew
Woisam {woyzAm} – (we) knew
Woisat {woyzAt} – (you) knew

Woiseer {woyzEër} – (they) knew

The conjugation of the verb “wois” is not compulsory.

The conjugation of the verbs in the simple past is made by the following terminations:

1st person singular: -im

2nd person singular: -(i)st(a) *(use the one compatible with the accentuation)*

3rd person singular: -it

1st person plural: -am

2nd person plural: -at

3rd person plural: -eer *(it's -r when the verb finishes with an accentuated vowel)*

Between the stem of the verb and the ending of the conjugation, it would be better to make use of the -s-, when the stem ends with the sound of vowel, but it's not mandatory! Look an example below:

ghyah {gya:} – to gape

ghyah + s + it = ghyahsit {gyA:sit} – (he/she/it) gaped

An example to you understand:

(I) browed – brovim {brOvim}

(You) browed – brovist {brOvist} *or* brovsta {brOvzta}

(He/she/it) browed – brovit {brOvit}

(We) browed – brovam {brovAm}

(You) browed – brovat {brovAt}

(They) browed – broveer {brovEër}

“Brovista” is not possible because the “a” would change the accentuation of the word.

Apropos, “brov” also means the substantive “eyebrow”.

Attention: the conjugation of the verbs in the past, whose stems are altered, is not compulsory!

I know that is kinda ridiculous repeat it, but it's in the case still exists doubts. You may say “io buim”, “wey brovam”, “tu ees”, etc, using the pronouns. It's the last time I notify you of this possibility, my conjugations are made without the pronouns, but it doesn't mean that they may not be used! I say the same for any verbal tense.

ACTUALLY THERE ARE TWO WAYS OF REPRESENTING THE PAST

What you've just seen is the simple past, Sambahsa also has the present perfect like English:

Is gwivit in Rome unte oct yars – He lived in Rome for eight years

Is hat gwiwt in Rome unte oct yars – He has lived in Rome for wight years

Ia ghiet iom gouverneur – She met the governor

Ia hat ghaten iom gouverneur – She has met the governor

Lusim mien cleich – I lost my key

Ho lusen mien cleich – I've lost my key

INFINITIVE

You were expecting that I would talk about the future tense, weren't? I will talk about the future tense in another opportunity because I will need the infinitive to explain it.

Ses {ses} – to be

Habe {hab} – to have

Woide {woyd} – to know

Verbs finished in an unstressed “e” don't change:

Accepte {ak(t)sEpt(ë)} – Accepte (*acceptet*)

For verbs with the nasal infix, the unstressed “e” is removed and it's added the termination -es.

Verbs with “ei”{ey} or “eu”{ö} have these parts replaced respectively for “i” and “u” and is added the termination -es.

Linekw {Inëkw} – linkwes {Inkwës} (*to leave*)

Dreiv {dreyv} – drives {drivz} (*to drift*)

Ghieul {giÖl} – ghiules {gyüls} (*to carbonize*)

In all the other cases it's enough to add the final -e when it doesn't change the accentuation, if the accentuation is altered the word simply remains unaltered.

Garabat {garabAt} – garabate {garabAt} (*to scribble*)

Hinder {hIndër} – hinder {hIndër} (*to hinder*)

Let's see a practical example:

Tehrbo kaupe anon {tE:rbo kAop anOn} – I have to buy food

Tehrb {te:rb} – have to

Kaup {kAop} – buy

THE USE OF THE PREPOSITION “AD” WITH VERBS IN THE INFINITIVE

You've known an example of the following kind:

Ghohdim kaupe un wogh {gO:dim kAop un wog} – I could buy a car

Pitim nices un wir {pItim nItsës un wir} – I tried to kill a man

But verbs that denote movement you must use the preposition “ad”, which you will know with more details in a future chapter. That happens because Sambahsa infinitives behave like substantives, except those ones that don't use any article.

Ia ihsit ad vide sien son {ya I:sit ad vid syen son} – She went to see her son

A situation where the verb is explicitly used as substantive:

Is hehlpt iom ad tarjmes id dictionar do portughesche {is he:lpt yom ad tArjmës id diktyonAr do portugEc} – He helps him to translate the dictionary to Portuguese

Other similar situation, but with two verbs in the infinitive:

(Tu) has gwiven kay hehlpe ad cree un nov mund {(tu) has gwIvën kay he:lp ad krEë un nov mund} – you have lived to help create a new world

FUTURE

The conjugations of the three main verbs:

Sessiem {sesyEm} – (I) will be
Sessies {sesyEs} – (you) will be
Sessiet {sesyEt} – (he/she/it) will be
Sessiemos {sesyEmos} – (we) will be
Yu sessiete {yu sesyEt} – (you) will be
Sessient {sesyEnt} – (they) will be

Habsiem {habsyEm} – (I) will have
Habsies {habsyEs} – (you) will have
Habsiet {habsyEt} – (he/she/it) will have
Habsiem(o)s {habsyEm(o)s} – (we) will have
Yu habsiete {yu habsyEt} – (you) will have
Habsient {habsyEnt} – (they) will have

Woidsiem {woydsyEm} – (I) will know
Woidsies {woydsyEs} – (you) will know
Woidsiet {woydsyEt} – (he/she/it) will know
Woidsiem(o)s {woydsyEm(o)s} – (we) will know
Yu woidsiete {yu woydsyEt} – (you) will know
Woidsient {woydsyEnt} – (they) will know

The conjugation of the verbs in the future is made in two ways:

In the first one you use the verbal form in the 2nd person singular plus the particle “ie” and the conjugations of present, look an example below:

You permit – permitts {përmitz} (2nd person singular in the present)

(I) will permit – permittsiem {përmitSyEm}
(You) will permit – permittsies {përmitSyEs}
(He/she/it) will permit – permittsiet {përmitSyEt}
(We) will permit – permittsiem(o)s {përmitSyEm(o)s}
(You) will permit – yu permittsiete {yu përmitSyEt}

Notice that “permittsiem” is the “siem permitte” with the auxiliary as suffix.

In the second form you use the auxiliary sie- (conjugated!) plus the verb in the infinitive, look the same example from above conjugated in this way:

(I) will permit – siem permitte {syem permIt}
(You) will permit – sies permitte {syes permIt}
(He/she/it) will permit – siet permitte {syet permIt}
(We) will permit – siem(o)s permitte {syEm(o)s permIt}
(You) will permit – yu siete permitte {yu syet permIt}
(They) will permit – sient permitte {syent permIt}

We also have a negative version of the above conjugation, the auxiliary nie-, but in this one we can't put a suffix in the verb, that is to say, we can't have something like "permittniem":

(I) won't permit – niem permitte {nyem permIt}
(You) won't permit – nies permitte {nyes permIt}
(He/she/it) won't permit – niet permitte {nyet permIt}
(We) won't permit – niem(o)s permitte {nyEm(o)s permIt}
(You) won't permit – yu niete permitte {yu nyet permIt}
(They) won't permit – nient permitte {nyent permIt}

And to make it clear:

permittsiem = siem permitte

[...]

niem permitte = ne permittsiem

[...]

THE NEAR FUTURE

For an event that is close to occur, we use the auxiliary vah-. It works in the following way: we add to this auxiliary the appropriate conjugation of the present, and then we put the verb in the infinitive. I am going to use the verb "orbat" (to work) in this example.

(I) am going to work – vahm orbate {va:m orbAt}
(You) are going to work – vahs orbate {va:s orbAt}
(He/she/it) going to work – vaht orbate {va:t orbAt}
(We) are going to work – vahmos orbate {vA:mos orbAt}
(You) are going to work – yu vahte orbate {yu va:t orbAt}
(They) are going to work – vahnt orbate {vA:nt orbAt}

FUTURE PERFECT

They are future events, but that already occurred in the mentioned facts. Look an example below:

When I return, he will have already left – Quando reicsiem, is habsiet ja likwn

Very similar to English.

SUBJUNCTIVE

It indicates desire or expectancy.

Only the verb “es” has the complete conjugation in this mode.

Io sia {yo sya} – (*that I*) be

Sias {syas} – (*that you*) be

Is/Ia/Id sia {is/ya/id sya} – (*that he/she/it*) be

Siam(o)s {syAm(o)s} – (*that we*) be

Siate {syat} – (*that you*) be

Siant {syant} – (*that they*) be

All the other verbs only have the singular. The endings are:

1st person singular: -a

2nd person singular: -as

3rd person singular: -a

Per this ending you can make a negative imperative with the prohibitive adverb “mae” {may}.

Mae kaupas {may kAopas} – “Don’t buy!” or “Thou shalt not buy!”

IMPERATIVE

It indicates an order or an ask.

The conjugation of the main verbs:

Sdi {sdi} – be

Estu {Estu} – (*he/she/it*) be

Smad ses {smad ses} – let's be

Ste {ste} – be

Sontu {sOntu} – (*they*) be

Hab(e) {hab} – have

Smad hab(e) {smad hab} – let's have

Habte {habt} – have

Woid(e) {woyd} – know

Smad woide {smad woyd} – let's know

Woidte {woydt} – know

The imperative of the 2nd person singular corresponds to the verbal stem, with or without the final -e.

Leave! – linekw! {lInëkw} ou linkwe! {linkw}

Eat this food – edd tod anon {ed tod anOn}

In the 1st person plural it's used the word "smad" (*let's*) with the verb in the infinitive.

Smad linkwes {smad lInkwës} – let's leave

Smad edde {smad ed} – let's eat

In the 2nd person plural, the form is the same used in the simple present, but without the personal pronoun.

Linkwte {lInkut} – (*you*) leave

Eddte {edt} – (*you*) eat

CONDITIONAL

Esiem {ezyEm} – (*I*) would be

Esies {ezyEs} – (*you*) would be

Esiet {ezyEt} – (*he/she/it*) would be

Esiem(o)s {ezyEm(o)s} – (*we*) would be

Yu esiete {yu ezyEt} – (*you*) would be

Esient {ezyEnt} – (*they*) would be

Habiem {habyEm} – (*I*) would have

Habies {habyEs} – (*you*) would have

Habiet {habyEt} – (*he/she/it*) would have

Habiem(o)s {habyEm(o)s} – (*we*) would have

Yu habiete {yu habyEt} – (*you*) would have

Habient {habyEnt} – (*they*) would have

Woidiem {woydyEm} – (*I*) would know

Woidies {woydyEs} – (*you*) would know

Woidiet {woydyEt} – (*he/she/it*) would know

Woidiem(o)s {woydyEm(o)s} – (*we*) would know

Yu woidiete {woydyEt} – (*you*) would know

Woidient {woydyEnt} – (*they*) would know

This verbal mood is made attaching the verbal stem + "ie" + conjugation of the present.

(I) would eat – eddiem {edyEm}

(You) would eat – eddies {edyEs}

(He/she/it) would eat – eddiet {edyEt}

(We) would eat – eddiemos {edyEm(o)s}

(You) would eat – yu eddiete {yu edyEt}

(They) would eat – eddient {edyEnt}

There is no problem if the verb ends in -ye:

Sudye {sUdy(ë)} (**to sue**) → sudyiet {sudyEt} (*he/she/it* would sue)

BUT WHAT ABOUT VERBS THAT ALREADY FINISH WITH “IE”?

Regarding these ones, replace “ie” for “icie”. Let's see the verb “edifie” {edIfye}, which means “to edify”.

(I) would edify – edificiem {edifitsyEm}

(You) would edify – edificies {edifitsyEs}

(He/she/it) would edify – edificiet {edifitsyEt}

(We) would edify – edificiemos {edifitsyEm(o)s}

(You) would edify – yu edificiete {yu edifitsyEt}

(They) would edify – edificent {edifitsyEnt}

PAST CONDITIONAL TO EXPRESS A “FUTURE OF THE PAST”

It's made with the verb in the conditional with the prefix ee-.

Is eet suaenokw ed bolt, ed okwivid-ye ne kwecto eegerasciet meis oku quem sien pater

He was handsome and valiant, and showed no sign of ageing more swiftly than his father

It ens Angmars malefic waldh, ed it Earnur, Gondors Korion, sib attraxit id implacable haines ios Roybrukh, bet pelu yars eedehnient pre to buit revelet

So ended the evil realm of Angmar; and so did Eärnur, Captain of Gondor, earn the chief hatred of the Witch-king; but many years were still to pass before that was revealed

CATEGORIES OF VERBAL STEMS

Depending on the kind of verb, the stem may suffer changes, all of them will be explained in this subchapter. Although I will talk a lot here about participles, you don't need to worry about them, it's still not necessary to know how create them, it's enough to know that they are nominal forms of the verb (*like the past passive participle “eaten” that comes from the verb “to eat”*).

NASAL INFIXES

From here to the final of this subchapter of **NASAL INFIXES**, the text will be almost a transcription of the book *The Grammar Of Sambahsa-Mundialect In English*, of Dr. Olivier Simon. But I took many information from the text “*Sambahsa in Six Minutes #1 : Nasal Infixes*” by Robert Winter.

Verbs with nasal infixes are those with the following characteristics:

- There is an unstressed “e” as last vowel and this “e”
- This “e” is accompanied by the consonant “m” or “n”. Here are the possible configurations:

____-en

____-en-

____-em

____-em-

____ne-

____-ne-

____me-

____-me-

- This “e” precedes or follows an infix

Be careful to not fall into the trap of putting all verbs with “em” or “en” in this category. For example, the verb “preven” (“to prevent”) has no nasal infix because the stressed syllable is exactly in “en”, {prëvEn}.

Let's work with the following words:

Linekw {lInëkw} – to leave

Pressem {prEsëm} – to press

Scinesd {sInësd} – to split (*transitive verb*)

Annem {Anëm} – to breathe

Pregen {prEdjën} – to imbue, to impregnate

In the present tense, and in all the tenses derived from the present tense, the verbs lose their unstressed “e” when possible. If, with the deletion of the “e”, an “s” or “ss” join to a consonant, they are deleted too. Let's see the result of this:

Linkwo, linkws, linkwt, linkwm(o)s, yu linkwte, linkwnt {lInkunt}

Premo, prems, premt, premmos, yu premt, preme(nt)

Scindo, scinds, scindt, scindmos, yu scindte, scinde(nt)

Annmo, annems, annemt, annmmos, yu annemt, annment

(*“annmt” and “annms” would be unpronounceable*)

Pregno {prEnyo}, pregens {prEdjëns}, pregent, pregnems {prEnyëms}, yu pregent, pregne(nt)

All the verbs, with or without nasal infix, an “e” can be put between the verbal stem and the conjugation for the word being pronounceable. Look at this case with the verb “storgn”.

Storgno, storgnes, storgnet, storgnems, yu storgnet, storgne(nt)

Verbs that have an unstressed “e” at the end are conjugated in the following way:

Io entre, entres, entret, entrems, yu entret, entre(nt)

Yes, it's this what you've seen, the verb doesn't is conjugated in the 1st person singular, that's why is compulsory the use of the pronoun “io”.

Verbs whose last vowel is unstressed and is before a consonant follow the same pattern:

Io hinder, hinders, hindert, hinderms, yu hindert, hindernt

It's “hinder” but not “hindere” because “hindere” would change the accentuation {hindEr}

In the past tense and its derivatives, the verb, besides the lose of the unstressed “e”, loses the nasal infix.

Linekw – likwim, likwist, likwit, likwam, likwat, likweer

Pressem – pressim, pressist, pressit, pressam, pressat, presseer

Annem – annim, annist, annit, annam, annat, anneer

VERBS WITH “EH” + CONSONANT

In verbs with a vowel “eh” followed by a consonant, the “eh” becomes “oh” when in the past tense and past participle.

Ghehd – to be able to, can

Present: ghehdo, ghehds, ghehdt, ghehdmos, yu ghehdte, ghehde(nt)

Infinitive: ghehde

Past tense: io ghohd, tu ghohd...

Or: *ghohdim, ghohdist/ghohdst(a), ghohdit, ghohdam, ghohdat, ghohdeer*

Past participle: ghohdt / ghohden

VERBS WITH “EU” AND “EI”

Verbs with “eu” or “ei”, within the word, have these parts respectively replaced by “i” and “u” when used in the infinitive, past tense or past participle.

Kheiss – to feel

Present: kheisso, tu kheiss, kheisst, kheissmos, yu kheisste, kheisse(nt)

“tu” is compulsory before “kheiss” because its ending cannot be listened

Infinitive: khisses {qIsēs}

Past tense: io khiss, tu khiss...

Or: *khissim, khisst(a) / khissist, khissit, khissam, khissat, khisseer*

Past participle: khisst / khissen

Beud – to appeal to, to make (someone) pay attention (to = dat.), to demand (something)

Present: beudo, beuds, beudt, beudmos, yu beudte, beude(nt)

Infinitive: budes {büd̥z}

Past tense: io bud, tu bud...

Or: *budim, budst(a) / budist, budit, budam, budat, budeer*

Past participle: budt / buden

Credeih – to believe

Present: credeihm, credeihs, credeiht, credeihm(o)s, yu credeihte, credeihnt

Infinitive: credihes {kr̥əd̥I:s}

Past tense: io credih, tu credih...

Or: *credihsim, credihst(a), credihsit, credihsam, credihsat, credihr*

Past participle: crediht / credihn

VERBS WITH “A”

Verbs with “a” within the word, even the diphthongs “au” or “ay”, have their “a” replaced for “ie” in the past tense, but the “a” is maintained in the past participle. Despite this rule, the apophony may be ignored for the verbs with “a”, “au” and “ay” in the past tense conjugation.

nak – to reach

Present: nako, nacs, nact, nakmos, yu nacte, nake(nt)

Infinitive: nake

Past tense: io niek, tu niek...

Or: *niekim, niecst(a)/niekist, niekit, niekam, niekat, niekeer*
Nakim, nacsta... are possible, but actually they are not used.

Past participle: nact / naken

sayg – to say

Present: saygo, saycs, sayct, saygmos, yu saycte, sayge(nt)

Infinitive: sayge

Past tense: io sieyg, tu sieycst...

Or: *sieygim, sieycst(a)/sieygist, sieygit, sieygam, sieygat, sieygeer*
"Sieygim" almost is not used.

Past participle: sayct / saygen

aur – to hear

Present: auro, aurs, aurt, aurm(o)s, yu aurte, aurnt

Infinitive: aure

Past tense: io ieur, tu ieurst...

Or: *ieurim, ieurst(a)/ieurist, ieurit, ieuram, ieurat, ieureer*

Past participle: aurt / aur(e)n

THE VON WAHL RULES

The ending of these verbs are modified in the past tense and past participle:

Original	After modification
-d	-s
-dd / -tt	-ss
-rt / -rr / -rg	-rs
-lg	-ls
-ct	-x

Verbs ending in -v follow the same procedure of -t, but only for their past participle. If the -v comes after "o" or "u", it falls, otherwise, it will be replaced for -w.

Solv – solwt

Lav – lawt

In other forms the -v disappears.

mov – mot

Clud – to close

Present: cludo, cluds, cludt, cludmos, yu cludte, clude(nt)

Infinitive: clude

Past tense: io clus, tu clusst...

Or: *clusim, clusst(a)/clusist, clusit, clusam, clusat, cluseer*

Past participle: clus / cluden

Sedd – to sit

Present: seddo, sedds, seddt, seddmos, yu seddte, sedde(nt)

Infinitive: sedde

Past tense: io sess, tu sesst...

Or: *sessim, sesst(a)/sessist, sessit, sessam, sessat, sesseer*

Past participle: sess / sedden

Permitt – to allow

Present: permitto, permitts, permitt, permittmos, yu permitte, permitte(nt)

Infinitive: permitte

Past tense: io permiss, tu permisst...

Or: *permissim, permisst(a)/permissist, permissit, permissam, permissat, permisseer*

Past participle: permiss / permitten

Volg – to turn (oneself)

Present: volgo, volcs, volct, volgmos, yu volcte, volge(nt)

Infinitive: volge

Past tense: io vols, tu volsst...

Or: *volsim, volsst(a)/volsist, volsit, volsam, volsat, volseer*

Past participle: vols / volgen

Curr – to run

Present: curro, currs, currt, currm(o)s, yu currte, curre(nt)

Infinitive: curre

Past tense: io curs, tu curst...

Or: *cursim, curst(a)/cursist, cursit, cursam, cursat, curseer*

Past participle: curs / curren

ENDING WITH A STRESSED VOWEL

Verbs ending with a stressed vowel, or with a -h just after the vowel, follow the pattern below:

Gwah – to go to

Present: gwahm, gwahs, gwaht, gwahm(o)s, yu gwahte, gwahnt

Infinitive: gwahe

Past tense: gwahsim, gwahst(a)/gwahsist, gwahsit, gwahsam, gwahsat, gwahr

Past participle: gwaht / gwahn

THE OTHER VERBS

They follow the rules normally and request the conjugation in the past tense.

Duc – to lead

Present: duco, ducs, duct, ducmos, yu ducte, ducent

Infinitive: duce {düts}

Past tense: duxim, ducst(a)/duxist, duxit, duxam, duxat, duxeer

You may say “ducim”, “ducit”... too. “duxim” was chosen here for etimological reasons,

because Latin have dux- as the past of duc-.

Past participle: duct / ducen

The accentuation must stay in the same syllable for all persons in the present tense.

In all the verbal moods, except the nasal infixes, the unstressed “e” between two consonants, when this range is at the end of the word, can be dropped if the junction of these two consonants doesn't change the pronunciation of the first consonant.

For ending this section with a golden key, I bring the conjugation of more two verbs that may look complicated for some people:

Peries – to surpass

Present: perieso, (tu) peries, periest, periesmos, yu perieste, periesent

Future: periessim, periessies, periessiet, periessim(o)s, yu periessiete, periessient

Conditional: periesiem, periesies, periesiet, periesiem(o)s, yu periesiete, periesient

Infinitive: periese

Past tense: periesim, periesist, periesit, periesam, periesat, perieseer

Past participle: periest / periesen

Smauter – to watch

Present: io smauter, smauters, smautert, smauterms, yu smautert, smaunternt

Conditional: smauteriem, smauteries, etc..

Infinitive: smauter

Past tense: io smieuter, tu smieuterst, is/ia/id smieuter...

Or: *smieutrim, smieuterst/smieutrist, smieutrit, smieut(e)ram, smieut(e)rat, smieut(e)reer*

It's also possible to use the form without ablaut: *smautrim, smauterst/smautrist, smautrit...*

Past participle: smautert / smautern

VERBAL AFFIXES

In the examples below I will use words in the gerund and I will make use of reflexive pronouns, don't worry about them, only focus on the verbal affix and how they change the verbs. Later I will talk about gerund and reflexive pronouns.

bi- – to begin to (*inchoative*)

Id luce biattract insects – The light begins to attract insects

na- – to keep on + *gerund (continuative)*

Is nieudh urgent-ye namove – He needed urgently to keep moving

re- – as the *re-* of English

Ho tohrben rescribe mien buk – I have had to rewrite my book

vi- – corresponds to the English adverb “finally”

Is viemers ex id wed – He finally emerged out of the water

to- – away

Eys disciples tospohr eys talim – His disciples spread his teaching away

za- – to stop doing

Ibs sclavs buit permitten za-ermes – The slaves were allowed to stop rowing

AFFIXES THAT CHANGE THE TENSE OF THE VERB

ee- – used to

Hermann ee(-)gwaht id scol siens urb – Hermann used to go to the school of his town

Ia ee(-)lyeict flors ep id tumbh sienias mater – She used to lay down flowers on her mother's grave

Io eeorbato cer – I used to work there

Notice that the verbs are in the present tense

sa(l)- – to be about to + *verb* (*always written with hyphen*)

Is wir sa-khierk – The man was about to drown

-skw – to intend to do, to like to (*desiderative*) (*may be added to verbs if it doesn't modify the accentuation of the verb*)

Ies nauts gwahskweer id maykhana – The sailors wanted to go to the inn

-eih – *factive*

Kaupeihtm iom tod wogh – I make him buy this car

Verbs ended in “ie” have this part replaced by “iceih”. Stems in “ei” change this part for “i” because of euphonic reasons.

Pay attention that no all verb ended in “eih” is a factive, “credeih” and “vergeih” are two examples.

This affix can be added to adjectives. “rudh” means “red”, “rudheih” means “make (something) red”.

SOME LITERARY VERBAL FORMS

Due to its Indo-European heritage, Sambahsa has some verbal forms that are found only in literary use.

OPTIONAL ENDINGS OF THE PRESENT OF THE INDICATIVE

If it is compatible with the accentuation, the verbs can receive the following terminations:

1st person singular: -mi

2nd person singular: -si

3rd person singular: -ti

3rd person plural: -nti

The verb “ses”: esmi, essi, esti, sonti

Stahnti medsu iens peinds – here, they stand amidst the enemies

Acquiseihmi denars kay likes videoleiks – I gain money for playing video-games

There is not much to explain about this form, it is like a euphonic vocalization, but for the conjugation of the present.

OLD FORMS OF THE IMPERATIVE

In the 2nd person singular of the imperative, an option may be the use of the suffix -di to the stem of the verb. Don't forget in changing “eu” and “ei” for respectively “u” and “i” and observe the nasal infix.

Kludi! – listen! *instead* “kleu(e)!”

Ihdi! – go! *instead* “eih(e)!”

An imperative in the 3rd persons is possible by suffixing the -u to the conjugated verb, if it doesn't change the accentuation.

Is maurdher nehct – the murderer perishes

Is maurdher nehctu! – let the murderer perish!

I slougs behrnt gwaurn bermens – the servants carry heavy burdens

I slougs behrntu gwaurn bermens! – let the servants carry heavy burdens!

It's possible to use the stem of the verb with the ending -e and a subject in the sentence:

Gwive is roy! – long live the king!

PARTICIPLE IN THE FUTURE

To make the participle, it's used the synthetic form of the future plus the ending -nd.

gwehmsie + nd = gwehmsiend – *what or who* will be coming

The near future is marked with the ending “tur”, for making it:

- Add -ur to the verbs in participle that follow the Von Wahl rules, or those ones that end with “v”.

Cedd – cessur (going to yield)

Emov – emotur (going to emote)

- Add -ur to the 3rd person singular in the present.

Baht – bahtur (going to speak)

The active future of the verb “ses” is “butur”.

Dat tod strehl khact esus xuden in vain, Ashvatthâman diswehrt id kyî embryos qui ias esors iom Pândavas behrnt we behrsient in ir gwelbhs, quibs is addeiht iom gnahtur napter Arjunas – As this shaft cannot have been smitten in vain, Ashvatthâman diverts it towards the embryos that the wives of the Pândavas are bearing or will bear in their

wombs, to whom he adds Arjuna's grandson yet to be born
“gnahtur” comes from “gnah”.

THE OLD FORMATIONS OF THE INFINITIVE

Formations of the old infinitive are possible in two ways: following the same base of the active future seen before (the use of the passive participle in “t” or of the 3rd person singular of the present), if it doesn't modify the accentuation.

The first formation ends with -(t) and expresses the idea of a proposal.

Abgwahsit pinctum in id widu – He goes off to paint in the timberland

Gwehmo essum con vos – I come to eat with you

Noun verbs.

Deictum exact reuls sienims almens – Showing exact rules to one's pupils

sienims = “sien” + dative plural “ims”

The other endings end with -tu and may be translated as “to be ...-ed”. It appears often after qualitative adjectives.

Un garden amat spehctu – A garden (*that is*) pleasant to be looked at

Sometimes it appears as an adjective of obligation.

Ia kwehrtu opsa – The tasks to be done

THE DURATIVE

The durative suffix -neu corresponds to actions that started in the past and continue until the present, it includes situations where normally it would be used words like “since” or “for”.

Stahneum her pon trigim minutes – I've been standing here for thirty minutes

The past tense is made with ee-.

Eestahneum her pon trigim minutes – I had been standing there for 30 minutes

Eeghangneut apter iom pon Orleans – He had been walking behind him since Orleans

THE EVENTIVE

It means “not to stop doing”, it consists in repeat the first consonant (or sC, Cw, Cy or Cv) before the stem with the addition of i- or ei-. The imperfect tense is made with ee-.

Gainsbourg eedideumt ed vimohr ob cancer – Gainsbourg didn't stop / was always smoking and finally died of cancer

“eedideumt” comes from “deum”

Is gignect iam nieberin – He doesn't stop ogling the female neighbor
“gignect” comes from “gleg”

THE INTENSIVE

It means “to do little by little”. It consists in the duplication of the stem (with the deletion of occlusives in the middle). Rarely used. The imperfect tense is made with ee-.

Is leisleist “Alice in Daumsenland” aun eucus Sambahsa lakin speht is visagvsiet tod bahsa – He is reading little by little "Alice in Daumsenland" without having learned Sambahsa and hopes however he will finally know (how to speak) this language

THE ITERATIVE

It means “to start to keep on doing”. There are apophonies to be observed:

eh: oh

ei: oi

eu: ou

You use the suffix -ye. The imperfect tense is made with ee-.

Quan is eewehght ex Paris do Varschava, is eestopt in Nürnberg dind eekwohryet sien itner tiel Polska – When he used to drive from Paris to Warsaw, he would stop at Nuremberg and then continue his journey up to Poland

Kwehr- sien itner – to make one's way

Kwohrye- sien itner – *it indicates that the action was stopped for a time (for example: for the agent get a rest) and it continues this action later. It wouldn't be like in “rekwehr- sien itner”, which indicates that all the action is being remade.*

Pos neicus el moskitt, lyohgyim – After having killed the mosquito, I lay back on my bed
“lyohgyim” comes from “lyehg”

THE PERFECT

It represents an action made in the past whose effects or consequences still influence in the present. It's made prefixing the first letter of the stem followed by the “e” and then the verb conjugated in the past.

Lelikwst id vetus wastu – Thou hast left the old city (*“lelikwst” comes from the verb “linekw”*)

Ia lelyigit flors ep id tumbh sienias mater – She has been laying down flowers on her mother's grave (*she does it until today, it's a tradition now*)

It's very similar to the Present Perfect, the difference is that the Perfect reinforces the idea that the consequences of the actions are still there. This verbal form is very literal and can't work with all the verbs.

ADVERBS

Adverbs are words that qualify verbs and adjectives, like in “traveled quietly” and “ate a lot”, where the verbs “traveled” and “ate” are qualified by the adverbs “quietly” and “a lot”. For making an adverb you have to add the suffix -ye (with hyphen!!!). Look at some examples:

End – end, final

End-ye – finally

Enpace – peaceful

Enpace-ye – peacefully

It's can be said that the -ye is like the -ly of English. But, as in English, not all adverbs end with the same termination, because some words are adverbs by themselves, look at some examples:

Tik – only

Ops – often

Just – just

Ho just nican un wir – I've just killed a man

Just barwakt – just in time

It(han) {it / i\$An} – so, this way

Bfuyi {bfUyi} – forever

Sigwra {sIgura} – definitely, surely

Oku {Oku} – quickly

Ja {ja} – already

Semper {sEmpër} – always

Tun {tun} – then

(Ya)schi {(yA)ci} – too

Adverbs also can be made by adding the prefix a- to substantives.

Part – part

Top(p) – top

Apart – apart

Atop – atop

Adverbs of quality like “baygh” and “pior” may behave like adjectives when they refer to a substantive, they may have (it's not compulsory) a declensional final, but as an adverb (with the possible adjunction of the -ye) when they refer to an attributive adjective.

Piora kowpic chifans sont vierdnic pro sieune – Too many copious meals are harmful for health

Pior-ye kowpic chifans sont vierdnic pro sieune – Too much copious meals are harmful for health

REFLEXIVE PRONOUNS AND THE POSSESSIVE PRONOUN “SIEN”

The pronouns are: “se” (accusative), “sib” (dative) and “sien” (possessive pronoun).

Se vidmos in id specule¹³ – We see ourselves in the mirror

“...”, sib sieyg is lytil prince – “...”, said the little prince to himself

The pronoun “sien” refers to the subject of the sentence, but never appears together the nominal group of the subject.

Un pater alt sien purts – A father raises his children

Julio ed eyso prient siefreer do Brasilu – Julio and his friend traveled to Brazil

Notice that it couldn't be “Julio ed sien prient”, remember of what was said before.

The “self” is translated as -swo, look:

Gnohdi teswo – Know thyself

Ah, it's opportune to say that “each other” is translated to “mutu” in Sambahsa.

Martin ed eyso prient tolke con mutu in Sambahsa – Martin and his friend talk to each other in Sambahsa

13 Naturally that we can say “*nos vidmos in id specule*” too

RELATIVE PRONOUN AND SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTION

Look the sentences below, look at the use of the word “that”:

- (1) This is the horse that I bought
- (2) I had a daughter that wanted to be singer
- (3) I’ve said that I don’t like coffee
- (4) He is so lazy that his parents put wheels in his bed

Although they are the same word, they have different functions.

The “that”s of the sentences (1) and (2) are relative pronouns because they are related to some substantive used before, in the case of the sentence (1) it's “horse” and in the sentence (2) it's “daughter”.

The “that”s of the sentences (3) and (4) are subordinating conjunctions because they start a new sentence.

You already know the relative pronouns, because they are in that list of cases of declension, only pay attention about what case to use, because the “that” of the sentence (1) is a direct object (of the verb “bought”) while the “that” of the sentence (2) is a subject.

This is the horse that I bought – Tel est el cavall quel kieupim

I had a daughter that wanted to be singer – Hiebim un dugter qua iskwit ses sehngver

The subordinating conjunction is often translated as “od”.

I’ve said that I don’t like coffee – Ho saygen od ne kamo cofie

He thought that I am from Africa – Is mohnit od som ex Africa

As sometimes only a conjunction is not clear enough to indicate whether what was said is a desire or a claim, there is also the subordinating conjunction “ke” (or “kem”), which express a desire and may be used in the place of “od”.

I desire that he learns Sambahsa – Vanscho kem is euct Sambahsa

That our team win the enemy team and become the European soccer champion – Ke nies swoin vinct id peindswoin ed biht Europes football champion

Let’s fake that the glass have become so soft as gauze to we can go the on the other side – Smad simule kem id glas hat biht tem moll quem kaz kay ghehdiemos lites ocolo

I ask you to leave – Te prehgo ke linkws

THE RELATIVE PRONOUNS “YO(S)”, “YA” AND “YOD”

I thought a lot if I really should bring this subject here, because, as you’ll see, maybe you will never use them, but as this is a complete grammar, I felt in the obligation of explaining them.

Basically the relation is:

Qui – yo(s)

Qua – ya
Quod – yod

The relative pronouns yo(s)/ya/yod exist to make independent sentences, how? Look the example below:

Latif, gwivt-yo in Afghanistan, baht Sambahsa – Latif, who lives in Afghanistan, speaks Sambahsa

They actually are enclitics, you'll know more about them in an appropriate chapter, it's enough to know that they must be suffixed – with a hyphen – just after the verb.

Do you notice that even if we remove the excerpt “gwivt-yo in Afghanistan”, the sentence wouldn’t lose its meaning, once “Latif baht Sambahsa” still pass the same message? We can understand the relative pronouns yo(s)/ya/yod insert information merely additional that – grammatically speaking – can be omitted.

Now let’s see an example that the relative pronouns yo(s)/ya/yod wouldn’t be useful.

Id bahsa, quod Latif baht, est Sambahsa – the language, which Latif speaks, is Sambahsa

If we remove the excerpt “quod Latif baht”, the sentence would lose its original meaning.

You would question me: “but I could use a lot these relative pronouns that you say be rarely used because I make a lot of sentences where they fit”.

But you could use the pronouns qui/qua/quod in the place of yo(s)/ya/yod like in: “Latif, qui gwivt in Afghanistan, baht Sambahsa”

The only reason to use the relative pronouns yo(s)/ya/yod would be for literary proposals.

QUESTIONS

There are diverse ways for making a question, the first one is by adding the word “kwe” {kwe} at the beginning of the sentence.

Kwe ghehdo ghende tod? – Can I hold it?

Kwe siem ghehdo ghende tod? – Could I hold it?

Kwe ter sont leuds her? – Are there people here?

Kwe sont leuds her? – Are there people here?

The “kwe” also may be used at the end of a question together with the “no” with the role of “isn’t”, “aren’t”, “wasn’t”, etc.

Safersiemos do ia Uniet Stats, kwe no? – We will travel to the United States, wont?

You also can make a question inverting the position of the main verb.

Ghehdo io ghende tod? – Can I hold it?

Siem io ghehde ghende tod? – Can I hold it?

Notice that is necessary for the use of the pronoun.

Sont ter leuds her? – Are there people here?

Notice that is necessary the use of the “ter”.

For questions with “what”, “who”, “when” and other similar pronouns, you can just use the translations of these words.

Quis ste yu? – Who are you? (*question made for a male person*)

Quando safersies – When you travel?

NEGATION

To answer a question in a negative way, you can simply say “no”.

Gwivte yu in France? – Do you live in France?

No, ne gwivo in France, weiko in America – no, I don’t live in France, I live in America

To create a negative verb, it’s enough to put the “ne” before the verb.

Ne eddo leckereits – I don’t eat candies

The “mae” {may} is a prohibitive.

Mae eddo leckereits – I shouldn’t eat sweeties

Mae eddas leckereits – “don’t eat sweeties” or “thou shalt not eat sweeties” (*don’t you understand the reason of the ending -as in the verb “edd”? Remember the reason in the chapter about the subjunctive verb*)

To facilitate, just remember those biblical commandments:

Mae neicas – You shall not murder

We may not forget the verb “khak” {qak}, the antonymous of “ghehd”..

Khako kaupe un wogh – I can’t buy a car

ABOUT THE USE OF THE “SI”

In order to have not questions regarding the use of the “si”, which means “yes” and is used to answer negative questions. Observe the following situation:

Ne has tu purts? – Don’t you have children?

Si

Notice that “si” doesn’t confirm the thought of who asks, in other words.

Ne has tu purts? – Don’t you have children?

Si, ho purts – Yes, I have children

AVOIDING REPETITIONS

In a conversation, the necessity of referring to a substantive already used just before may occur. For avoiding the repetition of words, Sambahsa offers basically the same resources as English. Look the examples:

If you like tea, I can give you some

Sei tu kams chay, vahm tib schehnke sem

I bring the tea and its cups.

Please, give me one!

Bringho id chay ed ia tasses.

Plais, schehnk mi uno!

A course of faculty is composed of diverse subjects, and each one has a certain quantity of hours

Un facultat curs est composen ab/med multa matiers, ed ielg hat un certain quantitat om hors

Take your book and pass mine

Ghendte vies buk ed anancte mi mieno

You could say just “mien” or “id mien”, but “mieno” makes the message more clear

Which T-shirt are you going to use?

I am going to use my newer one

Qualg tischert vahte yu vehse?

Vahm vehse mien nov(er)

My little fish is like of the neighbor's one before die

Mien lytil pisk est lik tal ios nieber pre mehre

Here the complete sentence: Mien lytil pisk est lik al pisk ios nieber pre mehre

PARTICIPLES

Participles are the nominal form of the verb.

ACTIVE PRESENT

For forming the active participle of the present, it's enough to add the suffix **-(e)nd** (*-(e)nt is possible too, but rarely used because it can make confusion with the third person of the plural*).

Using the verb “to be” plus the participle plus the active participle of the present for making sentences like:

Id sol eet bleigend – The sun was shining

Id bleigend sol – The shining sun

Es – esend

Hab – habend

Woid – woidend

Linekw – linkwnd

Pregen – pregnend

Pressem – premend

Ghehd – ghehdend

Kheiss – kheissend

Beud – beudend

Nak – nakend

In theory, the participles can be used as substantives, but actually, it never occurs, what happens is the use of endings like **-(e)nt** and **-(a)nt**, like in “president”, “studyent” and “immigrant”.

ACTIVE PAST

For forming the active participle of the past, it's enough to add the suffix **-us** or **-vs** (*it'll depend on what gives the better pronunciation to the word and on its accentuation patterns*).

Dank spollay ob gwehmus hetro – Thank you very much for coming here

Ia minst antslehnkus lands – The less developed countries

Es – esus

Hab – habus

Woid – woidus

Linekw – linkwus

Pregen – pregnus

Pressem – premus

Ghehd – ghehdus

Kheiss – kheissus

Beud – beudus

Nak – nakus

PASSIVE PRESENT

From the passive participles, Sambahsa uses only the past, but it's possible to use the passive present in composed words. The suffix is -men with the stem of the verb in the present.

Al – raise (*in the sense of raise a child*)

Almen – pupil

Linekw – linkwmen

Pregen – *it's impossible for "pregen"*

Pressem – premmen

Ghehd – ghehdmen

Kheiss – kheissmen

Beud – beudmen

Nak – nakmen

PASSIVE PAST

For forming the passive participle, it's enough to add the suffix -t or -(e)n. I judge this participle the better way, and you'll understand why.

Es – est / esen (*been*)

Hab – habt / haben (*had*)

Woid – wois / woiden (*known*)

Linekw – likwt / likwn

Pregen – prect / pregen

Pressem – presst / pressen

Ghehd – ghohdt / ghohden

Kheiss – khisst / khissen

Beud – budt / buden

Nak – nact / naken

OTHER WAY OF EXPRESSING THE PAST TENSE, THE PRESENT PERFECT

It's the same as in English but Sambahsa tenses can refer to actions that don't last anymore, even if they still have consequences.

Ho edden / Ho ess¹⁴ – I've eaten

Ho kaupen / Ho kaupt – I've bought

Has liubhen / Has liubht – You've loved

Habte yu edden? / Habte yu ess? – Have you eaten?

Habte yu kaupen? / Habte yu kaupt? – Have you bought?

A MANNER OF MAKING ADJECTIVES THROUGH VERBS

Let's use the following verbs and substantives in the examples:

14 **Why not "eddt"?** Remember the Von Wahl rules

Sneigv {sneygv} – snow

Calive {kallv} – cabin

Lyegher {lyEgër} – layer

Tenu {tEnu} – thin

Myehrs {mye:rs} – to forget

Covehr {kovE:r} – to cover

Covohr {kovO:r} – *verb “covehr” in the past. In the next chapter, I’ll explain why it occurs.*

Now let’s see the application of the participles:

Myohrsen land – Forgotten land

Uno sneigvcovohrn calive – A snow-covered cabin

Un calive covohrno med un tenu sneigvlyegher – A cabin covered with a thin snow-layer

DECLENSIONS IN PARTICIPLES

This is possible, but do not forget that the stress should be respected.

Som drahndos¹⁵ do id dom – I’m running into the house

I gleihvsi smautrers – The spectators who have laughed

Ia gwen ho visu – The woman that I have seen

15 The -os in “drahndos” indicates that the agent of this action is a person of masculine gender

GERUND

To make the gerund, the active participle is used plus the suffix -ye (with a hyphen!) when it's used a verb that is not "es".

I am eating... – Som eddend...

He ate the cake looking at me – Is essit id torte spehcend-ye me

They (*women*) died working – Ias mohreer orbatend-ye

If I'd written "Is essit id torte spehcend me" (*without the -ye in the gerund*) it would mean that is the cake that is looking me, I hope that with this example you've learned how to difference better the gerund of the active participle in the present.

If it facilitates the understanding: the two examples above may be translated like "he ate the cake while he looked at me" and "they died while they are working".

See one more case, so you will be able to know when not to use the gerund:

Tu vis iam nigviend ep id krov – You saw her bathing on the roof

Tu vis iam nigviend-ye ep id krov – You saw her *while you* bathed on the roof

The gerund usually refers to the subject. In "tu vis iam nigviend ep id krov", we actually use the active participle "nigviend" which refers to the pronoun "iam". In "tu vis iam nigviend-ye ep id krov", the gerund "nigviend-ye" refers to the verb "vis", therefore, it refers to the subject of the sentence "tu".

CONJUNCTIONS AND OTHER INVARIABLE WORDS

Both in this chapter and in the next one, the chapter about the prepositions, I'll work in the following way: I'll show some direct translations of the words, but in the examples I may translate these invariable Sambahsa words from per words or expressions of the English language that I didn't show in the direct translation. How? For example, the translation of "schowi" is "therefore, consequently", but in the examples I did not exactly use this translation! I did it deliberately with the goal of showing you that you have to learn the idea behind the words, not merely their direct translations!

Don't be afraid with the size of this chapter, I only aimed to put all the invariable words here, in order to this grammar be a good reference material.

Aiw(o) {Äw(o)} – ever

Ays kays eet id bellst quod is hieb aiwo vis – Her hair was the most beautiful he had ever seen

Est stragn od tod ilaj aiw hieb esen usen – It's strange that this (medical) treatment has ever been used

As substantive, "aiwo" means "age", i.e. "period of time, History", like in "Petraiwo", which means "Stone Age".

Id memorandum comprindt oino iom meist exhaustive playcts aiwo signen ab bo lands, markend uno major wehnd in ira relations – The memorandum comprises one of the most exhaustive agreements ever signed by both countries, highlighting a major turning point in their relations

Id khakst film aiwo – The worst movie ever

Agar {agAr} – if, in case

In 2005, id Chinese Parlament hat widen un "anti-secession" leg autorisend silahneud agar Taywan declariet sien independence – In 2005, the Chinese Parliament passed an "anti-secession" act which authorizes the use of force in case that Taiwan would declare its independence

Albatt(a) {albAt(a)} – certainly, indeed

Albatt Sambahsa ne est id meist facil bahsa – Certainly, Sambahsa is not the easiest language

Als {als} – otherwise, else

Kwe semanghen als volt anon? – Does someone else want some food?

Also {Also} – also, so

Ne ho denars kay safer, also tehrbo studye – I don't have money to travel, also I have to study

Maria ghi hieb neid magho kay lises ments. Also ia contentit-se med abgires ed chehxe proscher cada face – Maria indeed had no powers to read minds. So she contented herself with turning away and looking closer at each face

Is fauran mohn de stuppe sieno nas; also sternues ne lambh iom – He suddenly thought about stopping up his nose; also, he wasn't caught by sneezings

Amalan {amalAn} – practically

Ti bell animals sont amalan extinct – These beautiful animals are practically extinct.

An {an} – whether, if, that (*introducing an interrogation, a doubt*)

Ne woidim an poitto drehnke hoyd – I don't know if I have the right to drink (alcohol) today.

Ia ihsit ad vide an ays wogh hieb likwt id reparation service – She went off to see if her car had left the reparation service

Daumo an i insects tant kame plukes ambh kiers – I wonder whether insects so much like to fly around candles

Anter {Antër} – rather

Sieycst “torche”, bet kad eiskws sayge anter “torte” – You said “torche”, bet perhaps that you rather mean “cake”

Api {Api} – but, now (*to introduce a counter-argument*)

Est saygen od pisks ne maghe ses daht im leuds, i dehlge bihe bedarst ad piskes, api leuds ne hant access ei fluv – It is said that fish(es) cannot be given to people, they must be taught how to fish, but people don't have any access to the river

Gulf lands eiskwnt conserve ir teutisk ed religieus traditions. Api, id interpretation ios Coran ed ia reuls in gwis ios scharia inferioreihnt gwens dia wirs – The Gulf countries want to keep their tribal and religious traditions. Now, the interpretation of the Coran and the rules in force of the Sharia make women inferior towards men

Aproposs {apropOs} – by the way, a propos

Dank ob aurdhens id meja. Aproposs, kwohrst tien almentask? – Thanks for putting the table in order. By the way, did you do your (school) homework?

Som un serieus christian ed, aproposs, som gai. Sem leuds pohnd difficil ghabe to – I'm a serious Christian and, by the way, I'm gay. Some people found this difficult to understand

Ar {ar} – for (*used when “ghi” is not convenient*)

Kartvelia est ayt un perodhkala os Occident ar, pos dwo secules os Russiano militaro presence, Moskva hat dohlgen evacue in 2005 sien sensta militar bases – Georgia (the Caucasian country) is considered an advanced bastion of the West for, after two centuries of Russian military presence, Moscow had to evacuate in 2005 its last military bases
Notice that the use of “ghi” would not be practical because of the long complement “pos dwo secules os Russiano militaro presence”

Arasih {arazi:} – accidentally

Arasih ho sorben un bei – Accidentally I've swallowed a bee

Au {Ao} – or (*separate substantives, adjectives and verbs*)

Dah ei un apel au un vinber – Give him an apple or a grape

Aus {Aos} – early

Is gwohmit aus – he came early

Autah {aotA:} – or (*it's just stronger than “au”*)

China est tienxia dwot plautsto Stat yeji id land superficie, autah trit au quart plautsto yeji id total superficie, sekwent id meid methode – China is the world's second largest state by land area, or either the third or fourth-largest by total area, depending on the method of measurement

Auti {Aoti} – or ... too, or ... also

Tod militar potential ghehdt ses nuddt eni id quader om UNO au NATO operations, auti ob id maidehsa om certain lands au organisations – This military potential can be used within the framework of UNO or NATO operations, or else because of the call for help of certain countries or organisations

Bad {bad} – at last, finally

Bad gwahsiem hem – at last I'll go home

Ia gwenak me spohc med sien okwi meg-ye ghyanen ob staunos, pre bad sprehge – The young woman looked at me with her eyes wide-opened in amazement, before she finally talked to me

Ne ... bad {ne ... bad} – not ... yet

Ne ho bad perichohxen id hol Sambahsa-Portughesche kamus – I haven't yet proofread the whole Sambahsa-Portuguese lexicon

perichohxen = peri + chohxen (past tense of “chehx”)

Bariem {baryEm} – at least

Som orm, bet bariem weiko in un riche land – I'm poor, but at least I live in a rich country

Besonters {bezOntërs} – especially

Kamo magvi, besonters i tamijders – I like children, especially the well-educated ones

Extra: “those well-educated” would be “ti tamijdar”, because “ti” here replaces the substantive.

Bet {bet} – but

Ho un bell gvibh, bet ne som noroct – I have a beautiful wife, but I'm not happy

Bfuyi {bfUyi} – non-stop, continuously

El Manticore henslit iom bfuyi – The Manticore harassed him continuously

Biadet {byAdët} – usually

Biadet eihm hem jumas – Usually I go home on Fridays

Bilax {bilAks} – on the contrary

Ne orbato con bandits, bilax, tik orbato con honeste leuds – I don't work with bandits, on the contrary, I only work with honest people

(Bil)hassa {(bil)hAsa} – mostly

Bilhassa ghango in id forest nocts – I walk in the forest mostly at night

Cadadien {kadadyEn} – daily

Cadadien puwno id dom – I clean up the house every day

Casu quo {kAzu kwo} – if need be

Casu quo, pehrnsiem id dom, men neti sessiem makrouse – If necessary, I will sell the house, but I won't be indebted anymore

Chiowdeo {tcyowdEo} – exactly

Quod volst sayge chiowdeo? – What did you mean exactly?

Chunke {tcunk} – since, as (conditional)

Chunke yu xeihte id magh os kyukes iom Mighelekwo, ne ghehdieste yu sprehege iom quer wehst eys poti? – Since you hold the power to summon the Horse of Mist, couldn't you ask him where his master is now?

Circa {tsIrka} – about, approximately

Is est circa dwo meters buland – He's approximately two meters tall

Com(samen) {kom(sAmën)} – together

Hovesper, sessiemos com – Tonight, we'll be together

Daanistah {daanista:} – knowingly, intentionally

Daanistah brohgim id machine – I broke the machine intentionally

Dalg {dalg} – far

Weiko dalg – I live far (from here)

Dalger {dAldjër} – farther, further (in the spatial sense, never temporal)

Tetos dalger, vidsies un phar – Farther from there, you'll see a lighthouse

Seghlim dalger kay trehve id noroc – I sailed farther to find happiness

Dar {dar} – still (as an adverb)

Quan gwahm lict, mien mann dar est wehrgend – When I go to bed, my husband is still working

Dat {dat} – given that

Dat id noct hieb gwohmen, is Marjban ess oin lembas pre swehpe – Given that the night had come, the Ranger (from Middle Earth of Tolkien) ate one lembas before sleeping

Dat is hieb nia denars kay tules un eustwort porm, Tosten dohlgit linkwes id urb – Given that he had no money to afford a fare to the east, Tosten had to leave the city

Daydey {daydEy} – in general, generally

Daydey ia semens teukent quan (sont) madhen – In general, seeds do sprout when they've turned wet

Ps.: in this case, writting only "...quan madhen" is not gramatically incorrect, but it's preferable the use of the verb in the middle for clarity

Dayim {dAyim} – constantly

Is fabric orbater premt ia scrubs dayim – The factory worker constantly presses the screws
It's synonyms of "bfuyi"

Dexios {dEksjos} – briskly

Id Caroline snohg dexios inter ia enflammen vracks ed interceptit oino iom feugend vecels – The Caroline (a warship) sneaked skillfully between the flamed wrecks and intercepted one of the fleeing vessels

Dind {dind} – then, after that

Gwahsim id mercat, dind gwahsim kyrk – I went to market, then I went to church
“Dind” is synonyms of “poskwo” and “pos to”

Diu {dyu} – long time, long (*temporal adverb*)
Unte baygh diu, ho esen her – During a long time, I've been here
Diutos is est un prisoner – He's been a prisoner for a long time

Diuper {dyÜpër} – long ago
Diuper ia gwivit in mien dom – Long ago, she lived in my house

Ed {ed} – and
Io ed mien son – Me and my son

Entrim {Entrim} – meanwhile
Vahm soke discret-ye, bet entrim, to dehlct remane inter nos – I'm gonna investigate discretely, but meanwhile, that must remain between us

Esdi {Ezdi} – even if
Ne weiko in tod dom esdi i payghent me – I don't live in that house even if they pay me
I men Chinesees name ir land Zhōngguó, quo hat dahn id Sambahsa Giungkwok, esdi tod nam est neter nudt in id official nam ios Popules Respublic China, ni in tod ios Respublic China (Taywan). China de gwehmt ex id nam ios megil cesar Qin Shi Huangdi (246-210 pre JC) – Chinesees do call their country Zhōngguó, what has given the Sambahsa Giungkwok, even if this name is neither used in the official name of the People's Republic of China, nor in Taiwan's one. “China” comes from the name of the great emperor Qin Shi Huangdi (246-210 B.C.)

If you didn't understand the use of “... men (...) de ...”, in the chapter “Enclitics and Proclitics” there is an explanation.

Eni {Eni} – within, inside
El kwaun est eni id dom – the dog is inside the house

Eti {Eti} – moreover, furthermore, also
Ne eddo hamburger, eti som vegetarian – I don't eat hamburger, moreover I'm a vegan
En id plan ios edifice. Tod plan est ja veut. Kad id edifice hat est modifiet mulayim-ye tuntos. Eti khact ses vis ep id an fulan dwer est ghyanen au cluden – Here is the plan of the building. This plan is already old. Perhaps that the building was slightly modified since this time. Moreover, we cannot see whether any door is open or closed
Tod vestibule compris eti dwo dwers, uter wester, alter euster – This entrance room comprised furthermore two doors, one to the west, the other one to the east

Exo {Ekso} – outside
El kwaun est exo id dom – The dog is outside the house
We can also say: “el kwaun est exter id dom”

Fauran {faorAn} – immediately
Kehrziem mien kays fauran, iey(it) is orbater ei bes – I will cut my hair immediately, the worker said to the boss

Filan {filAn} – so and so

Ia religius autoritats hant tolcto kay woide kweter filan buk ios Bible eet we ne inspiret ab Div – The religious authorities have discussed to know whether this or that book of the Bible was inspired by God or not

Fujatan {fujatAn} – suddenly

Fujatan eem trigimat – Suddenly I turned thirty

Gairn {gärn} – of goodwill

Is commander reservit id access ibs “inner kyals” (kam is gairn kiel ia) sibswo – The commander reserved the access to the “inner rooms” (as he liked to call them) to himself

Gontro {gOntro} (gon + tro) – aside (adverb of movement)

Reusch gontro! – Rush to the side!

Per noroc is ekwos ios hussar, se kheissend protietragen ghomtro ab id ansia is colonel dier, movit gontro, ed it id longo miech ios saber os gwaur cavalerie os Fabrice slid engwn id vest ios hussar ed passit alnos sub eys okwi – By chance the horse of the hussard, feeling tugged down by the rein the colonel was holding firmly, moved to the side, and, this way, the long blade of Fabricio's sabre of heavy cavalry slid along the dress of the hussard and passed just under his very eyes

Ghi {gi} – without any definite meaning, this word frequently appears in second position and serves to emphasize the word before. It is often suffixed to a pronoun, an adverb, as long as it is phonetically compatible. Can mean “also, then, for...”

Is ne kieup id wogh, isghi ne hieb denars – He didn't buy the car, for he had no money

Eiskwo woide id ghi payghen pris – I'd like to know the (actually) paid price

Id probleme tom prabhils est od pauk ghi anghens brunge ia – The problem with these rules is that (indeed) few people benefit from them

Gwaru {gwAru} – seriously, heavily (when referring to a wound)

Id ecosysteme os Amazonia buit gwaru taraght ab illegal reuydens – The ecosystem of Amazonia was heavily upset by illegal exploitations

Hatta {hAta} – even (adverb)

Hatta i smulkst aranks ghehde nices – Even the smallest spiders can kill

Pedro ne hat hatta smautert tod film – Pedro hasn't even watched this movie

Tu hatta ghyienst id hadia – You even opened the present

Hatta habend-ye piten, ne kamyabim – Even having tried, I didn't succeed

Magho sayge od hatta Suomi hat falls os foll gwow siuge – I can tell that even Finland has cases of mad cow disease

Hakan {hakAn} – really, truly

Is hakan lieubht te – He really loves you

Iawod {yawOd} – provided that, let's hope that

Hol grupps bihnt autoriset ad page, conservend ir bahsa, ir mores, ir social organisation iawod obedeihnt ia loys ios Roman Stat – Whole groups are authorized to settle down, keeping their language, their customs, their social organisation, provided that they abide by the laws of the Roman State

Ib {ib} – lest

Eti, un ieuster daysa iom opnos tehrbiet bihe instohlen in multa lands, ibo vide udbrehge grave social troubles – Moreover, a fairer sharing of wealth should be set up in many lands, lest (we) see grave social troubles break up

Ilhali {ilhAli} – whereas

Ilhali id recognition ios inherent decos vasyims members ios menscfamilia ed iren egal edinalienable rects constituet id sul om lure, justice ed pace tienxia – Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world

Inkaptos {inkAptos} – from the beginning/start

Sayg mi quanto wakyit inkaptos – Tell me everything that happened from the beginning

Intant {intAnt} – in the meantime

Bet intant, kwehr quodlibt – But in the meantime, do what you want

Iter {Itër} – once again, oncemore, anew

Som con mien família iter – I'm once again with my family

In unisson {in unisOn} – in unison

I brasileirs obswihr iom corrupe president in unisson – The Brazilians booed at the corrupted president in unison

Ja {ja} – already

Tu biscopst todeghern ed tu ja finihst id wehrg – You began to write this morning and already you finished the work

Jaldi {jAldi} – fast, quickly (notion of velocity)

Ia cursit meg jaldi quando ia eet yuner – She ran more quickly when she was younger

Id nivell ios wed est steighend jaldi – The level of the water is rising quickly

Ka {ka} – as (a) (when referring to a quality)

Tod werd wehrct ka adjective ed adverb – This word works as an adjective and as an adverb

Kad {kad} – maybe, perhaps that

Kad wehdsiem iam – Perhaps I will marry her

Kafi {kAfi} – enough

Sat! {sat} – enough!

Ho edden kafi – I've eaten enough

Kam {kam} – how?, in what manner ?, like

Kam has tu arriven her? – How have you arrived here?

Kam leits tu? – How are you?

Som kam tu – I am like you

Kam adet {kam Adët} – as usual

Kam adet ia oisbud aus – As usual she woke up early

Kamsei {kamsEy} – as if

Is ee-sispehct me kamsei is esiet/eet un lion sispehcend un owu – He didn't stop looking at me as if he was/were a lion looking at a sheep

Kariban {karibAn} – soon, shortly

Linkwsiemos (hetos) kariban – We'll soon leave (from here)

Kathalika {ka\$aliIka} – likewise

Tony ed Sandro sont kerabs, kathalika sont Otavio ed Clarissa – Tony and Sandro are relatives, likewise are Otavio and Clarissa

Kay {kay} – (in order) to

Gwahsiem weir kay defende mien land – I'll go to war to defend my country

Eiskwo un wogh kay safer – I want a car in order to travel

Khaliban {qalibAn} – mainly

Is orbietit khaliban ka swobod orbater – He mainly worked as a freelancer

Kheptenn {qëptEn} – quite, definitely

Is kheptenn est gai – He's definitely gay

Kjiawxieng {kjiawksyEng} – by chance, incidentally

Kjiawxieng kwe has cigarettes? – By chance, do you have some cigarettes?

Kongcio {kOngtsyO} – from now on, hereinafter, henceforth

Kongcio sessiem un gohd pater, promitto – Henceforth I'll be a good father, I promise

“Nuntos” has the same meaning and often is most used, since the “kongcio” seems be antiquated.

Kwecto {kwEcto} – apparently, as it seems

Id phial, quei poskwo dahsim mien attention, kwecto pwolpohld med un cruorrudh liqueur – The phial, to which I next turned my attention, might have been about half-full of a blood-red liquor

Hatta eys prientias kwecto kibr ep un samliko catholicitat os suabuhsa – Even his friendships seemed to be founded in a similar catholicity of good-nature

Kweid {kweyd} – even if, though (pass the idea of: under the price of/it is necessary that)

Iaschi EU lands maghe bihe tenten ab bringhes wahid-ye securitara responses ei probleme os terrorisme, kweid biht limitet id bungos iom civil lures – The EU countries themselves may be tempted to bring security-only responses to the problem of terrorism, even (under the price of) if the function of the civil freedoms gets limited

Kweter {kwEtër} – whether. It indicates the choice or the doubt between two options

Ay buit impossible tarctum kweter ia hieb vanien in id hava we ia hieb curren baygh oku in id bosc (“tarctum” is an optional antiquated form of infinitive) – It was impossible to her to conjecture whether she has vanished in the air or she had run very quickly into the wood

Quo ia druve-ye gnohskwit eet kweter el stohng we ne – What she really wanted to know (about an insect) was whether it stung or not

Lakin {lakIn} – however, nevertheless

Kamo te, lakin tu dehlcs change – *I like you, however you've got to change*

Libter {libtër} – willingly, with pleasure

Libter kwehrsiem tod pro te – *With pleasure I shall do that for you*

Lika {lika} – the same (*adverb*), alike

Daydey, ho piten vergihes werds qua swehnient pior lika alyi – *In general, I have tried to avoid words that sounded too much the same as another (one)*

Makar {makAr} – even though, although

Makar ei saygo, is ne kaurt de – *Even though I tell him, he doesn't care*

Makar io ielgv denars, na kwahsim spare – *Even though I earned money, I failed to spare*

Makar kauro, ne kwahm vergihes howkscheces – *Even though I care, I fail to avoid potholes*

Makhsus {mAqsus} – on purpose, intentionally

Makhsus ho scriben id texte samt errors – *Deliberately I've written the text with mistakes*

Mathalan {ma\$alAn} – for example, for instance

Kamo aw fantasia buks, mathalan “Is Lytil Prince” ed Lovecrafts buks – *I like old fantasy books, for example “The Little Prince” and Lovecraft's books.*

Meist-ye {meyst ye} – at the most, at the latest

Eiskwo meist-ye dwo purts, ne meis quem to – *I want two children at the most, no more than that*

Men {men} – but (less strong than “bet”)

Men, weidwos, to ne est tien fault – *But, of course, this is not your fault*

Menxu {mEnksu} – while (*conjunction*)

Eem in alyo land menxu mien land eet invaden – *I was in another country while my country was invaded*

Minst-ye, lytst-ye – at the least (“tehrb” can be used here)

Naudhsies minst-ye six hevds kay plane adequat-ye – *You shall require at the least seven weeks in order to plan adequately*

Mudam {mudAm} – constantly, steadily, continually, continuously

Myen machine orbat mudam – *My machine works continually*

Id seuy fallt mudam – *The rain is continually falling*

Mutlak {mutlAk} – absolutely

Ia est mutlak khiter – *She is absolutely evil*

Mox(u) {mOks(u)} – soon

Vidsiem te mox – *I shall see you soon*

Naiw(o) {nÄw(o)} – never

Naiwo likwim mien land – *I never left my country*

Naturelika {natürëllka} – naturally

Naturelika kamo uces bahsas – Naturally I enjoy learning languages

Nepunei {nepŬney} – with impunity

“Niem permitte od quoy serve iom Demon-Roy safernt nepunei unte mien land, Castelian”, grohm Beruh – “I won't allow that those who serve the Demon-King travel unpunished through my country, Castelian”, did Beruh roar

Neti {nEti} – not ... anymore, nevermore, never again, no more

Neti eddo her – I eat here no more

Nib(o) {nIb(o)} – unless

Orbatsiem in id farm nibo kamyabo in un public concurs – I will work at the farm unless I pass a public exam

Nisbatan {nisbatAn} – relatively

Ia ruines sont nisbatan salver quem id forest – The ruins are relatively safer than the forest

Nun {nun} – now

Som noroct nun – Now I'm happy

Nundiens {nundyEns} – nowadays

Nundiens, leuds sont suagramat – Nowadays, people are well literate

Nuper {nŬpër} – recently

Gnahsit nuper – (He/She) was born recently

Nuptos {nUptos} – not long ago (it's more like “pon nuper”)

Mien dugter est nuptos un esor – My daughter is a married woman since recently

Oku {Oku} – quickly

Gwehm oku – Come quickly

Ne ghehdo antwehrde tib oku – I cannot answer quickly to you

Okwivid-ye {okwivId-ye} – obviously

Okwivid-ye i ne surviveer – Obviously they didn't survive

Payn {payn} – hardly

Payn kwahsiemos fuges – We could hardly flee

Perodh {perOd} – forward

Ghango perodh – I walk forward

Plus {plus} – more (+), additional, more

Dwo plus dwo est egal ad quar – $2 + 2 = 4$

Ho addihn plus mathmoun ad mien buk – I've added more contents to my book
In the latter sentence, you could have used “meis” instead of “plus”.

Poskwo {pOskwo} – afterwards, then

Ghamsiemos poskwo stajersiemos un dom – *We will marry and we will rent a house afterwards*

Prevst {prevst} – once (*in the very past*), before

Visim un fee prevst – *I saw a fairy once in the past*

Protiapo {protyApo} – against the current

Snahm protiapo – *I swim against the stream*

Punor {punOr} – however, on the other hand (*opposition*)

Habe purts est gohd, punor dehlcs dedie tien hol gwiv pro i – *Having children is good, but, on the other hand, you must dedicate your life to them*

Quayque {kwAyk(ë)} – (al)though

Eddo mult leckereits, quayque som diabetic – *I eat a lot of sweets, though I'm diabetic*

Quasi {kwAzi} – nearly, almost

Quasi mohrim honoct – *I nearly died tonight*

Quodlibt {kwOdlibd} – anyone/thing you like/want

Vols tu un orange, un banane au un mankay? Quodlibt – *Do you want an orange, a banana or a mango? Anyone you want*

Quoterlibt {kwOtërlibd} – Same as “quodlibt”, but for a choice between two options

Vols tu un orange au un mankay? Quoterlibt – *Do you want an orange or a mango? Anyone you want*

Saat-ye {saAt ye} – clockwise (*adverb*)

Id wogh gwaht saat-ye – *The car runs clockwise*

Sammel {sAmël} – at the same time

Nies purts vanier sammel – *Our children vanished at the same time*

Sat {sat} – enough

Essim sat – *I ate enough*

Schawxwen {xAwkswën} – momentarily

Eem schawxwen dusiht – *I turned momentarily dizzy*

Schowi {cOwi} – therefore, consequently

Id institutional division iom maghs est schowi necessar iri mutual control – *The institutional division of the powers is by consequence necessary to their mutual control*

Sei {sey} – if (*introducing a condition or supposition*)

Sei seuyt, mansiem domi – *If it rains, I'll stay at home*

Kaupsiem tien hadia, bet sei tien pater ne payght mi, cheidsiem con iom – *I shall buy your present, but if your father doesn't pay me, I'll have an argument with him*

Sekwent {sEkwënt} – following, according to

Sekwent ids Constitution, official bahsa Ukraines est ukrainsk – According to its constitution, the official language of Ukraine is Ukrainian

Sekwent id Tyrk statistic institut, id population ios landios mikdier 74,7 millions leuden in 2011 – According to the Turkish statistical institute, the country's population amounted to 74,7 million people in 2011

Seni {sEni} – apart, separately, asunder

Crohscim seni ud mien braters ed swesters – I grew up separately from my brothers and sisters

Ser {ser} – seriously (when refering to injuries, wounds...)

Buim ser vurnt unte id accident – I was severely injured during the accident

Serter {sErtër} – later

Wano wakt nun, ghehdsiemos vide mutu serter – I'm lacking time for the moment, we can see each other later

Shayad {xayAd} – probably

Credeihm od ne ter sessient meis large ubnuwa nuntos. Shayad naudhsiem kaure tik de ia – I think that there won't be larger updates from now on. Probably I'll have to care about them

Sigwra {sIgura} – certainly, sure

Sigwra eucsiem Sambahsa – I will certainly learn Sambahsa

Sonst {sonst} – if not, or else

Is ne hat daken vies message, sonst habiet gwohmt – He didn't get your message, or else he would have come

Sontern {sOntörn} – but (after a negation)

“Ne ho saygen od neid est gohder,” jawieb is Roy, “sontern od neid est meis lecker – “I haven't said that nothing is better,” replied the King, “but that nothing is more delicious”

Stayg {stayg} = fujatan (both can be used as adjectives)

Strax {straks} = fauran

Tadrijan {tadrIjan} – gradually

Tadrijan i beis construgent ir alvey – Little by little do the bees build their hive

Taiper {tÄpër} – presently

Taiper id mund est baygh dangereux – The world is presently very dangerous

Takriban {takribAn} – about, approximately

Ho takriban penkwe milliards in id bank – I have approximately five millions at the bank

Tan(do) {tAn(do)} – as long as

“Ghehdo te hehlpe ad kwehre id sam”, is iey “tan es asli-ye zakir” – “I can help you to do the same”, he said, “as long as you are faithfully pious”

Tienxia {tyEnksya} – all around the world

Tienxia est khitert, betschi tienxia est karam – *There's evil all around the world, but there is also goodness all around the world*

Tik {tik} – only

Som tik octat – *I'm only eight years old*

Towsraen {towsrAyn} – randomly, at random

Ia numers prehpent towsraen – *The numbers come up at random*

Tsay {tsay} – back

I peinds gwehment tsay – *The enemies are coming back*

Tun {tun} – then (*temporal adverb*)

Tun el magv visit un serpent ep id gras – *Then the child saw a snake on the grass*

Wa {wa} – and/or (*to indicate alternative names*)

Feira de Santana wa “Princesse Urb” est id second mierst urb os Bahia – *Feira de Santana or “Princess City” is the second largest city of Bahia*

Wakea {wakEa} – definitely

Is est wakea is meist preparet – *He's definitely the best prepared one*

Way {way} – alas, unfortunately

Way ia mohrit – *Alas, she died*

We {we} – or (*separates clauses*)

Ne woidim an kaupo un wogh we io safer do Tyrkia – *I don't know if I buy a car or travel to Turkey*

Weidwos {wEydwos} – of course

Weidwos od Sambahsa est facil – *Of course that Sambahsa is easy*

Yadi {yAdi} – if only

Yadi Jorge hieb esen perodhsedd, hol esiet different – *If only Jorge had been the chairman, everything would be different*

Yani {yAni} – that is to say (*to bring a precision*)

Babys sont pur, yani, i ne hant synt – *Babies are pure, that is to say, they haven't sin*
...i hant neid synt – *...they have no sin*

(Ya)schi {(yA)ci} – too, also (“-schi” can be suffixed to a pronoun, an article or another invariable word if it's phonetically compatible and if it's the word concerned by the repetition)

Iaschi buit aunstohmen ad mohrt – *She also was sentenced to death*

Cavalls yaschi ghehdent ses usen ka transport forme – *Horses also can be used as a means of transportation*

Yed {yed} – yet, however

Yed, is postalion ne gwohmit – Yet, the postman didn't come

Yeji {yEji} – according to

Yeji id Traiteit os Amritsar, is Radja os Jammu, Gulab Singh, bihsit is nov wanak os Kashmir – Pursuant to the Amritsar Traiteit, the Ralah of Jammu, Gulab Singh, became the new ruler of Kashmir

Strehcend uper circa 9,6 millions km², China est tienxia dwot plautsto Stat yeji id land superficie – Spanning over around 9,6 millions km², China is the second or third largest country of the world according to land surface

Yeji Einstein, dwo jects sont aunfin, id universe ed mensc cacavania – According to Einstein, two things are endless, the universe and human stupidity

Yunyun {yunyUn} – and so on

Un cycliste safert 20Km in id prest hor, 16 in id second yunyun – A cyclist travels 20 km in the first hour, 16 in the second one, and so on

SOME QUESTIONS THAT CAN APPEAR

I've tried to explain the conjunctions well in the examples, I've even used very similar examples to evidence the differences, but some doubts can remain. In this subchapter, I try to predict some of them and I try to answer them.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN “BET” AND “MEN”?

While “bet”, the most common, presents a real opposition, “men” doesn't present real opposition. Look the examples below:

- (1) Ne eddo leckereits, MEN ne som diabetic** – I don't eat candies, but I am not diabetic
- (2) Ia orbat in un kiekwrschop, MEN ia ne est veterinar** – She works in a pet shop, but she is not a veterinarian
- (3) Kamo sports, BET ne som un athlete** – I like sports, but I am not an athlete
- (4) Gwivs in id eust, BET eiskws gwive in id west** – You live in the east, but you want to live in the west

Observe that, in (1), if I don't eat candies, it doesn't necessarily mean that I am diabetic; in (2) the woman works in a pet shop, but she doesn't have to be veterinarian to work there. But in (3), if I say that I like sports, many people may presume that I am an athlete; in (4) the person lives in the east, so it's assumed that he/she wanted to live there, but in reality his/her desire is other.

Don't worry so much, because the chose between “men” and “bet” is very subjective, some can say that if you work in a pet shop, much probably you are a veterinarian, thus we should use “bet” instead “men” in (2). In (3), if you live in a place where people like sports a lot, but it's common that almost no one practices such activities, “men” can be used.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN “KA” AND “KAM”?

The conjunction “ka” refers to quality while “kam” refers to identity.

Ka Brasileir, Henrique hat portughesche ka materbahsa

As Brazilian, Henrique has Portuguese as mother tongue

Kam Olivier, Henrique baht Sambahsa

As Olivier, Henrique speaks Sambahsa

PREPOSITIONS

Most of the Sambahsa prepositions can be used as conjunctions too. They are:

Ab {ab} – by (*after a verb in the passive*). This preposition becomes “af” when before words that begins with “h”. It also can mean “as of” or “starting from”

Id torte buit edden ab me – The pie was eaten by me

Afhoyd – From today

Ab-kap {ab kap} – at the end of

Ab-kap id XXt seculu prohp Internet – Internet appeared at the end of the XXth century

Ad {ad} – at. Very useful when the dative cannot be used.

Yeiso un blixbrev ad Henrique – I send an e-mail to Henrique

Ia ihsit ad vide an ays wogh hieb likwt id reparation service – She went off to see if her car had left the reparation service

Ant {ant} – before, in front of

Ant id scol – In front of the school

Ant id thron – In front of the throne

Apo {Apo} – off. It can be reduced to “ap” when before vowels.

Grand Britain lyehct apo id Europay dayluk – Great Britain is located off the European mainland

Apter {Aptër} – behind

Apter id dru – Behind the trees

Apter iam mater – Behind the mother

Id urb est apter id forest – The city is behind the forest

Aun {Aon} – without

Som aun chifan – I'm without meal

Bayna {bAyna} – among

Smos bayna i peinds – We're among the enemies

Id vallee est bayna ia ghyors – The valle is among the mountains

Is planit id competition bayna i daskals – He planned the competition among the teachers

Bi {bi} – at (*workplace, shop*), in (*the work of an author*), by (*idea of non-permanent proximity*). This preposition often merges with pronouns in the dative and accusative forms. *bi + ei = bei; bi + ay = bay; bi + el = bil; bi + im = bim.*

Fruits sont kaupen bi mercat – Fruits are bought at the market

Manskwo bi mien sokwi ep tod walu – I want to stand by my companion on that battlefield

Sei yed id dayi progress dehlct ses, bi Kant kam bi Condorcet, id norme quod permitt judce Historia... – If however the idea of progress must be, in Kant as in Condorcet, the norm that allows to judge History...

Bila {blla} – in lack of, failing

Bila satisfacend communicationzariyas ed efficienta transportsnetwehrgs, ia electoral campagnes sont difficil ductu – In lack of satisfying communication means and transportation networks, electoral campaigns are hard to carry on

Cis {tsis} – on this side (where I am)
Cis tod fluv – On this side of the river

Con {kon} – with (idea of company)
Som con te – I'm with you.
Safersiem con iom – I will travel with him
Weiko con mien esor – I live with my wife
Tolko con Olivier – I'm talking with Olivier

Contra {kOntra} – against
I katuer contra nos – They fought against us

Circa {tsIrka} – about, approximately
Is est circa dwo meters buland – He's approximately two meters high

Dayir {dAyir} – concerning
Ia conflicts dayir wed bihnt schowi imminent – By consequence, conflicts about water are getting imminent

De {de} – about
Tod buk est de drus – This book is about trees

Dia {dya} – towards (in a moral, figurative sense)
Id majoritat os Kashmirs population esiet nuntos ryowkhowo dia independence – the majority of Kashmir's population would be from now on favorable towards independence
Som allergic dia penicillin – I'm allergic at penicillin

Do {do} – (in)to
Wey safersiemos do Espania – we will travel (in)to Spain
Ho adapten sem reconstruct nams em antique hindeuropay divs do Sambahsa – I have adapted some reconstructed names of antique Indo-european gods into Sambahsa

Due {dü:} – due to
Due id seuy, khako linkwes mien dom – Because of (due to) the rain, I can't leave my house

En {en} – here is/are + acc
En id antwehrd – here is the answer

Ender {Endër} – beneath, underneath (doesn't imply contact)
Ter est un kwaun ender id meja – There is a dog beneath the table
Ender nebhs sont id land ed id mar – Under the clouds are the land and the sea
Id stohm ender id nas – The mouth beneath the nose

Endo {Endo} – within, inside (with movement)
El monster fugit endo antro – The monster fled inside the cave-den

Engwn {Engun} – along

Tod permitt mette precis-ye engwn ia walls ed flors – This allows to mow with precision along the remparts and the flowers

Eni {Eni} – within

Eni mien corpos ter sont vehrms – There are worms inside my body

Ep {ep} – on (touches the object). Before “h” this preposition becomes “ef”, like is done with “ab”

Ter est un rat ep id meja – There is a rat on the table

Epter {Eptër} – just over (ex: a garment on another one, or looking over a shoulder)

Ia dohm-se ep id bors om sien peds, ed, glanzend epter id leizdo ios mur, ayso spect incontrit tod uns buland wir – she stood upright on the tip of her feet, and, glancing over the edge of the wall, her look met the one of a tall man

Ex {eks} – out of, from (within)

Som ex ia Uniet Stats – I am from the United States

Un helm ex stal – A helmet (made) of steel

El kwaun gwehmt ex id dom – The dog comes out of the house

Look the difference between “ex” and “exo”

El kwaun est exo id dom – The dog is outside the house

When is not possible to express the idea of “made of” or “from certain place”, the preposition “ex” passes the idea of movement.

In {in} – in

Som in id strad X – I am in the street X

Ghehdo bahe in dwodem bahsas – I can speak in twelve languages

Credeihm in fees – I believe in fairies

Instet {instEt} – instead (of)

Instet swehpe, ma ne orbats? – Instead of sleeping, why don't you work?

Inter {Intër} – between

Ia bent est inter dwo geronts – The girl is between two old men

Id joyel eet inter ia columnns – The jewel was between the columns

Kata {kAta} – from above, down

Mathalan, ia pinegs hangend kata id mur nieb id ogwn quanta tengier gwiv – For example, the paintings on the wall near the fire all seemed to be alive

Kye {kye} – in the direction of. This preposition merges itself with the following determinat or the pronoun in the 3rd person, it's not rare to find something like kyid (kye + id).

Vahm gwahe kye mien dom – I shall go soon in the direction of my house

Is fallit kya dubes ios hayd – He fell towards the depths of Hell

To ne est bad perfection, sontern to est un itner kye – this is not yet perfection, but this is a way in (that) direction

Kyant {kyant} = kye + ant – towards (coming in the opposite direction of)

Io vis iom gwehme kyant me – I saw him coming towards me

Med {med} – with (an instrument).

Is magician construgit un castell med sien magia – The magician built a castle with his magics

Saferam med wogh – We traveled in a car

Med alya werds – With other words

Medsu {mEdsu} – amidst, in the middle of

Eduarda khiek sib stambhes glihes medsu sien dakrus – Eduarda couldn't help herself from laughing in the middle of her tears

Arriveer bad in vid unios mier menegh medsu quod is Lion ed is Unicorn eent katuend – They eventually arrived in sight of a big crowd in the middle of which the Lion and the Unicorn were fighting

Mustathna {mustA\$na} – apart from

3 729 500 leuds gwiveer dien 1sto Januar 2015 in Kartvelia (mustathna Abkhasia ed Sud-Iristan) – 3,729,500 people were living on the 1st of January 2015 in Georgia (not counting Abkhazia and South Ossetia)

Na {na} – in continuation to

J. K. Rowling scripsit alya Harry Potter buks na “The Philosopher's Stone” – J. K. Rowling wrote other Harry Potter books in continuation to “The Philosopher's Stone”

Nespekent {näspEkënt} – despite

Nespekent sien situation, Sophia biey meis pro iom quem pro se ye cid moment – Despite her situation, Sophi feared more for him than for herself at this moment

Nieb {nyeb} – next to, on the side of, beside

Id dru est nieb id dom – The tree is by the house

Ob {ob} – because (of)

Eddo sabzi ob id suasmeht – I eat vegetables because they taste good

Dank ob id antwehrd – Thanks for the answer

Ois {oys} – coming from, having its origin in. Sometimes it is written as “oys”.

Tuntos, ad pelu Stats ois id decolonisation moliet trehve ir tula – From this time, many States born out of the decolonization had difficulties to find their balance

I think that it's better to explain what “ad” is doing in “ad pelu Stats” for those who didn't understand. In the example was used the verb “moliet”, which means “to be difficult to”, that's why was necessary the use of “ad” for indicating the indirect object. The real subject of “moliet” is “trehve”.

Pati {pAti} – including

Ceters hieb esen lusen unte id naufrage, pati vasya mehmens os eys gwito tuntro – All other things had been lost during the shipwreck, including all the memories of his life until then

Sayg mi tien adresse, pati tien postal code – Tell me your address, including your postal code

Per {per} – through

Skapam per cid passage – We escaped through this passage

Presaygo id future per mien cristall ball – I foretell the future through my crystal ball

Dec kilometers per hor – Ten kilometers per hour

(Per)ambh {(për)Amb} – around

Piends sont ambh nos – Enemies are around us

Ia ghyors perambh id vallee – The mountains around the valley

Ter est wed perambh id insule – There is water around the island

Ploisko {plOysko} – except

Eddo quant genos os miems, ploisko pork – I eat all kind of meat, except pork

Po {po} – for (in exchange of, in search for)

Io exchange un apel po un banane – I exchange an apple for a banana

Pon {pon} – since, for

Som her pon id auror – I'm here since dawn

Pon kamdiu reidneute yu in plen diewo? – For how long have you been riding in full daylight? (notice the use of the durative -neu-, I'll talk about it in the appropriate chapter)

Pos {pos} – after

Tolko tib pos io arrive – I (will) talk to you after I (will) arrive

Ho corregen werd pos werd – I've corrected word by word

Pre {pre} – before (in time)

Tolko tib pre linkwo – I talk to you before I leave

Pri {pri} – by, along (idea of movement)

Is vis un bloudun reider qui galoppit pri iom dextos levtrō – He saw a blue-clad rider who was galloped before him from the right to the left

Quando yu gwahsiete pri id cocin – When you'll go by the kitchen

El shamyu snahsit pri me – The shark was swimming along me

Pro {pro} – for (the benefit of), to, per

Kieupim un cavall pro te – I bought a horse for you

Eiskwo un wogh pro miena safers – I want a car for my travels

El behrger mohrit pro vies gwits – The saviour died for your lives

Dec kilometers pro hor – Ten kilometers per hour

To est nearyo pro me – That's Greek to me / it's double Dutch

Prod {prod} – ahead (of)

Noster chef semper ghanct prod nies grupp – Our boss always walks ahead the group

Prokwe(m) {prOkwë(m)} – near, close to

El animal est prokwe me – The animal is close to me

Prosch {proc} – close(r) to (idea of approaching)

Id wogho gwehmt prosch me – The car is approaching me

Protie {protI:} = Contra

I katueer protiev nos – They fought against us

Protiev {protyEv} = Protie

Samt {samt} – with (circumstance, description)

Un wir samt blou okwi – a blue-eyed man

Cid familia gwiwt samt maungo noroc – this family lives with a lot of happiness

Cheuso mien werds samt kaur – I choose my words carefully

Sekwos {sEkwos} – following

Sekwos id swodetermination referendum os 1sto Jul 1962, Algeria proclamet sien independence – Following the self-determination referendum of July 1st, 1962, Algeria proclaims its independence

Speit {speyt} – despite (with an idea of disappointment)(is a substantive as well)

Id tank, speit gwaur leusa, tadrijan upertrehsit id squadron – The tank, despite heavy losses, managed to get through his squadron

Sub {sub} – under (often implies contact)

Ter est un arank sub id meja – There's a spider under the table

Sub un peruca ter est un calv cap – Under a wig there's a bald head

Subpoena {subpOyna} – under fear of (penalty)

Uno mukhla al est tun dahn kay linkwes id land subpoena expulsion – A deadline is then given to him/her in order to leave the country under threat of expulsion

Suisraen {swisrAyn} – notwithstanding

Diplomatia ghehdeiht ia Stats suisraen ia differences iren constitutional ed social systemes, do mutual comprehension – Diplomacy allows States, notwithstanding the differences of their constitutional and social systemes, to reach mutual understanding

Suppose {supOzë} – supposing that

Suppose mathalan yu subscripte un contract bi un pharmaceutic firma kay behrge vos ud diabetes – Let's suppose, for example, that you sign a contract with a pharmaceutical firm to keep you from diabetes

Swod {swod} – in the way of, according to the custom of

Swod iens atavs (salaf) sokwis ios Prophet – In the way of the ancestors (salaf) who followed the Prophet

Tiel {tyel}– till. But before a verb we use “hin(a)”.

Id verdia start ex id urb ed continuet tiel id mar – The highway starts from the city and runs to the sea

Cursim tiel mien dom – I ran up to my house

Trans {trans} – beyond

Trans tod fluv – beyond the river

Trans destruge doms, hurcan Irma hat nicen leuds – Beyond the destruction of houses,

the hurricane Irma has killed people

Ud {ud} – from

Un brev ud Marta – A letter from Marta

Ia kieupit un dom med denars ud ays pater – She bought a house with money from her father

Ulter {Ultër} – besides, moreover, in addition to

Ulter id marche wehlen ios roy Huan, is conservit precieus-ye id royal titule yeji quod is poiss mutalbe id noble nam Vasconcelos – In addition to the march order of King Huan, he kept preciously the royal title according to which he had the right to claim the noble name Vasconcelos

Uper {Üpër} – over (it doesn't touche the object)

Un plav pleuct uper id tor – A plane is flying over the tower

Unte {Untë} – during, in the space of (temporal or spatial meaning)

Unte id wer – During the spring

Unte id hall – Within the hall

I construgeer id tor unte ia yars – They build the tower during the years

Unte tod wakt, in Washington – During this time, in Washington

Sub id schock, is Waktprince remien aunmov unte un khvil – Under the shock, the Prince of Time remained motionless for a while

Vice {vits} – at the place of (it can also be used as a prefix)

Henrique ne hat ghohden dake ia buks. Vice to, Olivier hat ei yist ia odt-documents – Henrique could not get the books. Instead of this, Olivier sent him the odt-documents

Witerom {witërOm} – opposite to (it's also an adverb)

Witerom id dikhliz, is daskal skohpt me – On the opposite end of the gangway, the teacher was waiting for me

Yant {yant} – as soon as (can be used with substantives)

Yant ho denars, kaupo un leuyk tib – As soon as I get money, I buy you a toy

Ye {ye} – it doesn't have a defined meaning, it expresses a circumstance or condition, you use this preposition when no other is useful, it is our Joker card

Ye mien surprise – At my surprise

Ye mieno mayn – In my opinion

Io arrive do hem ye noct – I arrive at the house at night

Za {dza} – in the back of

Za te! – In your back!

SOME QUESTIONS THAT MAY APPEAR

I've tried to explain the prepositions well in the examples, I've even used very similar examples to evidence the differences, but some doubts can remain. In this subchapter, I try to predict some of them and I try to answer them.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN “MED” AND “PER”

What's the difference between the two sentences below?

Is magician hat construgen un castell med sien magia – The magician has built a castle with his magic

Is magician hat construgen un castell per sien magia – The magician has built a castle through his magic

The second sentence is grammatically correct, but it gives the impression that the magician has built the castle with him in another dimension or distant place, while in the first sentence the magician has built the castle in the place where he was. Look whether with the example below you can understand:

Glego per id fenster med mien durbin iam bikini-vehsend gwenak

I ogle through the window with my binoculars the bikini-wearer young woman

Did you notice why my second example (*the one about the magician who has built the castle “per” his magic*) was strange?

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN “POS” AND “TRANS”

“Pos” is initially an adverb, in other words, if you say a sentence like the one below:

Id urb est pos id forest – *the city is after the forest*

The sentence above means something like: first, it's necessary to cross the forest before reaching the city.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN “EX” AND “UD”

Let's see three examples:

Som ex ia Uniet Stats – *I am from the United States*

Un helm ex stal – *A helmet of steel*

Un brev ud Hilda – *a letter from Hilda*

The “ex”, when not in the sense of “out”, is used for something made from the mentioned object or came from it, like a helmet of steel or a person from a country. The “ud” is used for things that didn't come from within the mentioned object, like we don't expect that the letter was made from the body of Hilda, so we use “ud” instead “ex”.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN “VICE” AND “INSTET”

As prepositions both mean the same thing, but “instet” can be also an adverb while “vice” also can be a prefix, like in “vice-president”.

Henrique ne hat ghohden dake ia buks. Instet, Olivier hat ei yist ia odt-documents

Henrique ne hat ghohden dake ia buks. Vice to, Olivier hat ei yist ia odt-documents

INTERJECTIONS

Ajaban! {ajabAn} – gosh!
Al-hamdulillah! {al hamdulilA:} – thank you God!
Aman! {amAn} – have mercy!
Anchoa! {antcOa} – not possible!
Asafa! {azAfa} – how awful!
Bast(a)! {bAst(a)} – it's enough!
Bravo! {brAvo} – bravo!
Bre! {bre} – whoa! (*hello*)
Chao! {tcAo} – goodbye!
Chiba! {tcIba} – *word used to drive a dog*
Chinchay! – nothing!
Coul! {ku:l} – cool!
Dank! {dank} – Thanks!
E? {ë} – hein?
Ehh {e:} – err (*doubt*)
Gwivtu! / Gwive! {gw} – hurray!
Ha ha ha! {ha ha ha} – Ha ha ha!
Hay(te)! {hay(t)} – go! (*encouragement*)
Hue! {hü:} – Gee up! *for a horse*
Hurrah! {hurA:} – hooray!
Iblis! {Iblis} – deuce! devil!
Interjection {intërjëktyOn} – *interjection*
Lassamahallah {lasamahalaA:} – God help us!
Lutfan {lutfAn} – be nice!
Maideh {mäde:} – help! mayday!
Marba {mArba} – please to meet you!
Mersie! {mërsI:} – thank you!
O Deiwes! {o dEywës} – great Gods!
Pawiropeku! {pawiropeku} – goodbye!, farewell!
Quod?! – What?!
Sayang! {sayAng} – what a pity!
Servus! {sErvus} – at your service!
Scha! {ca} – hush!
Sieune {syön} – Bless You! (*to someone who has just sneezed*)
Sikhtir {sIqtir} – out!
Stop! {stop} – stop!
Toi! {toy} – *deception*
Uff! {uf} – uff!
Ups! {ups} – ops!
Vedim! {vEdim} – let's see! (*to bring a counter-argument*)
Yallah! {yalA:} – my God!
Way! {way} – ai!, ui! (*lamentation*)
Zinhaar! {dzinhaAr} – beware!, caution!

ENCLITICS AND PROCLITICS

Some of these words are not easy to be translated. Enclitics are words put after another word while proclitics are words put before another word.

The enclitic “tun” is the demonstrative of “kun” or “quando”.

Herodotos extendt tod nam do id continental hinterland, beuwend it Asia id trit part ios gnoht mundios tun – Herodot extends this name to the continental hinterland, making thus of Asia the third part of the known world then (*at that time*)

Id Occidental nam ios land gwehmt sigwra ex id Medieval Chinese pronunciation tom khanjis, quod tun buit launto do id bahsa Indonesias ka “Jepang”, ed dind ab Portughesche nauts – the Occidental name of the country surely comes from the Medieval Chinese pronunciation of those hanzis, which was then borrowed into Indonesian as “Jepang”, and afterward by Portuguese sailors

When you have to use some clitic, but you haven’t a word with the convenient accentuation that supports the clitic, you can use “nu” as a support, like in “nughi” (*nu + ghi*) or with the relative pronouns “yos”, “ya”, “yod”, “yel” (*for example: nu- yos, nu-yel*).

Chanda ex Zambia, nu-yos suabaht Sambahsa, gnoht maung bahsas – Chanda from Zambia, who speaks well Sambahsa, knows many languages

“ge” and “tar” are like “ghi”, but as, sometimes, the repetition of the particle “ghi” occurs very repeatedly, it's used these two particles. “ge” emphasizes personal pronouns and articles, while “tar” emphasizes interrogative pronouns.

Ia gehnsiet un son, ed ei dahsies id nam Jesus; is ge salvsiet sien popule ex idsa synts – she will conceive a son, whom she will give the name Jesus; it's him who will save his people from its sins

Yed, isge ieg kam weysmee – however, he did like we (did)

-ge is connected to a personal pronoun, in this sentence of the example -ge is here to emphasize the opposition with “wey-smee”

Quod tar tengicit is? – what did he (really) look like?

Often “tar” and “ge” are not directly translated to another language, especially “tar”

An excellent example with “nu” and “tar”:

Sei nu id luce quod est in te est temos, kam tar megil sessiet tod temos! – if, therefore, the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!

The enclitic “pet” reinforces identity, often translated as our “very”.

Henrique weict in idpet centre ios citad – Henrique lives in the very center of the city

To write “...in idswo centre...” would be strange because it means “... in the center itself...”

Id brev hieb gwohmt unte idpet dwer ios laboratorium – the letter had come through the very door of the laboratory

Est un prientlik geront quospet ghalv buit trohven medsu eys bustan – it's a friendly old man whose very skull was found in the middle of his garden

I reuschus leuds eent ipet parents ias magv – the people who had rushed were (*precisely*) the parents of the child (*after that child had an accident*)
ipet = i (the definite article) + pet

When “pet” is used after a verb, it has the sense of “to be in the capacity of”.

Sei yu plais steighte con me do mien fiaker, duco-pet vos ad eys baytel – if you accept to get in with me into my cab, I (*can*) drive you to his home

With adverbs of time and space, the word “kye”, as an enclitic, reinforces the adverb.

... ed terkye id sinister masse uns bina forstilb ids ghebel uper id strad – ... and just at that point, a certain sinister block of building thrust forward its gable on the street

Ed mehnte ghi od is nos duxit tei stet querkye staht id dwer?! – and where do you think he carried us but to that place with the door?!

“Nunkye”, bahsit alter, antwehrdte mi: “quois gnohte yu me?” – “And now”, said the other, you answer me: “how did you know me?”

Notice that “antwehrdte” and “gnohte yu” refer to one person, not to a group as it may look at a first moment. It's because it's used the pronoun of courtesy “yu”, indeed you only can know it by the context.

Tunkye eet circum nev saat ios aghyern, ed id prest nebule ios saison – it was by this time about nine in the morning, and the first fog of the season

Gheskye ia ne eevevis iom pon quasi dwo munts – it was nearly two months since she had seen him till yesterday

The enclitic “wert” indicates reported speech.

Sambahsa estwert baygh interessant – Sambahsa - it is said - is very interesting

Sekwent qui ghieng pri iens unte ir mingo promenades, bowert sieyg neid – it was reported by those who encountered them in their Sunday walks, that they said nothing

Sekwent tom mertikwol, ia bent comwert hieb haben meis dekhschat quem gvol – well, the child was not much the worse, more frightened, according to the Sawbones

Iswert liek stets meis confinit-se in id practis uper id laboratorium, quer is hatta swohp yando – the doctor, it appeared, now more than ever confined himself to the cabinet over the laboratory, where he would sometimes even sleep (*in the preceding sentence of the translation, what we know about the doctor is reported by his butler*)

The proclitic “proe” is often translated as “already”.

Kun id nam os Hyde buit swohrt, Ustad Utterson proe-akowsicit, bet kun is chohx id klor, is khiek etidwoie – when Hyde's name was uttered, Mr. Utterson was already listening, but when he checked the bit of wood, he no longer doubted it

Mien kerd hat tem aghnuet quem ioschi proe-plangiem – I came away with that upon my heart, that I could have wept too

... proeghi tetyohc pelu dwogimtias – ... a thing that had befallen many scores of times

The conjunction “... men (...) de ...” or “... nu (...) de ...” shows an opposition between two sentences:

Olivier men weict in France; Henrique de in Brasilu – Olivier lives (*on his side*) in France; Henrique (*for what regards him*) in Brazil

Central ed Eust Asia nu est befolct ab mongoloids. Indonesia de superpont uni aborigine substrat malays populations – Central & East Asia is populated (*on its side*) by mongoloids. Indonesia (*on its side*) superposes Malay populations to an aborigine substrate

uni = un + i = ad un (dative singular)

“... men (...) de ...” and “... nu (...) de ...” have the very same role.

But when “nu” is used alone, that’s to say, it’s not used in conjunction with “de”, it’s an adverb that means “namely”.

Un public wesnum est un contracto conclus ab un contragend magh, nu id Stat, ia regional au local autoritats – a public procurement is a contract concluded by a contracting authority, namely/that is to say the State, the regional or local authorities

The enclitic affix -schi already was explained and the enclitic affix -smee will be explained soon.

USEFUL AFFIXES

Differently from other auxiliary languages, Sambahsa relies more on borrowed words than composed words. Sambahsa has so many languages as sources that is impossible to have a regular system of derivation, but some useful affixes can be listed.

Some basic rules can be considered in forms derived from the romance languages, an important characteristic of theirs is that they're based on the "perfect stem", which is predicted in the following ways:

For verbs ending with unstressed "e", it's used -at- instead.

forme → *format-* → formation

For verbs ending with "ie", it's used -icat- instead.

publie → *publicat-* → publication

For verbs ending with "ue", it's used -ut- instead. It also is applied to verbs whose past participles in "t" ends with -wt.

constitue → *constitutut-* → constitution

For verbs ending with "eih", it's used -it- instead.

addeih → *addit-* → addition

The perfect stem of other verbs corresponds to their participles in "t".

PREFIXES

ab- – away

Abcurr – to run away

apo- – indicates the fourth generation

Apopater – great-grandfather

be- – makes transitive verbs as be- in English

begh(i)s- – deprived of

bfu- – negative prefix before words of Sinitic origin.

cum- – similar to words with the prefix god-

Cumpater – godfather

Cummater – godmother

dus- – ill-, bad

Dusmenos – ill-disposed

en- – to put into

Enquestion – to put in question, to question

ender- – diminutive of action

Endervid – to catch a glimpse of

Enderghyan – to half-open

eti- – Indicates the fifth generation

for- – corresponds to the adverb astray

ga- – before a verb with apophony: indicates the result of an action; if it has the suffix -os it indicates something pejorative. Before a substantive it indicates sum.

Gabehrg – *mountain range* (behrig = cliff)

ken- – empty of

mu- – *may be used to indicate the executioner of an action when prefixed to a word of “Muslim” origin*

Mussafer – *traveller* (safer = to travel)

muta- – to change

Mutamayn – *to change opinion*

Ni- – *means “down” in a figurative sense*

Niklad – *to download* (klad = load)

(oi)s- – the opposite of en-, it means “to put off/out”

oischalt – to switch off

(en)schalt – to switch on

or- – original, primeval, primitive

Oraryo – *Pre-Aryan or Proto Indo-European* (aryo = arian)

par- – completion or fulfilled action

parkwehr – *to archive* (wehr = to do)

peri- – through

Perigumt – throughfare (gumt = coming)

pro- – indicates the third generation. *Before a verb, it means “in front of” or “preceding” and triggers the dative.*

Pronepot – *grandnephew*

Is mi proghieng – *he was walking in front of me*

rhayr – negative prefix used before words of Arab origin, but often is used as an independent adverb

Rhayr yakin – *unsure*

step- – *family after a second marriage*

Steppater – *stepfather*

Stepmater – *stepmother*

Steppurt – *stepson, stepdaughter*

sua- – well

Suakwohrt – *well done* (kwohrt = past tense of “kwohr”, which means “done”)

ud- – capacity of doing better than others

Ho udsnaht iom – *I've outswum him*

With the reflexive pronoun “sib”, it indicates the way of getting something.

Id mafia sib udtehrct id silence schahiden – The Mafia gets the silence of witnesses by threatening them

SUFFIXES

EXPRESSING QUALITY OR STATE

In some cases, it's added the suffix -e and it's submitted to apophony if possible.

long {long} (length) – longe {londj} (lengthiness)

deub {döb} (deep) – dube {düb} (deepness)

slab {slab} (weak) – sliebe {slyeb} (weakness)

The ending -e would nor be viable with a word like “mild” because “milde” has the very same pronunciation of the original word.

This system only works if there is a phonetic difference between the adjective and the derived form. For other adjectives is used the suffix -(e)t.

mild {mild} (mild) – mildet {mİldët} (pity)

mynder {mÜndër} (proud) – myndert {mÜndërt} (pride)

It's possible the use of other affixes like -os and -ia. For words of romance origin it's used -or and -(i)tat.

austere {aostEr} (austere) – austere – austeritat {aostëritAt} (austerity)

lent {lent} (slow) – lentor {lëntOr} (slowness)

EXPRESSING AN ACTION

If the own stem is not enough, the ending -(e)n may be added (*or -sa for verbs ending with a stressed vowel sound*). For verbs of Romance origin, it's added -(t)ion to the verbal stem.

hehlp {he:lp} (to help) – hehlp {he:lp} (help (*sb.*))

leis {leys} (to read) – leisen {lEyzën} (reading)

gwah {gwa:} (to go to) – gwahsa {gwA:sa} (outward journey)

hesite {hëzIt} (to hesitate) – hesitation {hëzitatyOn} (hesitation)

How do I know whether I use the bare verb or the verbal stem plus a suffix? If the verb is of Romance origin or ends with a stressed vowel, you use the shown suffixes; for the rest, there is no objective answer, naturalistic constructed languages have this problem, you need to learn which ones receive the ending -en and which ones don't.

INDICATING THE PERFORMER OF AN ACTION

The most used is -er, very similar to English. A practical set is -ant for who makes the action, -eit for who suffers this action, and -at to indicate the result or object of this action.

Is telephonant kwehrt un telephonat pro iom telephoneit

The caller makes a phone call to the called

OTHER SUFFIXES

-ar – collection. For names of profession, it means “maker of”

-asc – to become

-at – years old

-av – in a verbal stem it means “inclined to” (the verbs are modified because of nasal infix and other reasons)

-ber – berry, fruit

Vinber – *grape* (vin = vin)

-ble – possibility. Very similar to the English -ble. If there is a risk of confusion with other conjugated forms, then use **-et** (or **-im** if the **-t** is not possible)

Dyehrcet – *glimpsable* (dyehrc = to glimpse)

-dem – region. Very similar to English -dom.

Roydem – *kingdom* (roy = king)

-eus – adjective of quality. It corresponds to the -ous from English

Bulbeus – *bulbous* (bulbe = bulb)

-en – adjective of substance

Golden – *golden* (gold = gold)

-fred – free from

-ia – quality, science, country

-ic – forms adjectives. It corresponds to adjectives that end in -ic

Cubic – *cubic* (cube = cube)

-iev – fruit, grain

-ika – young (*female*)

Potnika – *miss* (potnia = lady)

-iko – young (*male*)

Potiko – *galant* (poti = sir)

-il – susceptible to, open to.

-in – feminine suffix or “forest of”

-(i)sk – adjective of origin

Coschmarisk – *nightmarish* (coschmar = nightmare)

-isme – study of something, theory, ideology

-iste – participants or supporters of a study of something, theory or ideology

-ka – makes the feminine diminutive in a stressed syllable

-ko – makes the masculine diminutive in a stressed syllable

Hansel & Gretel – *Hanko & Ritka*¹⁶

Cat – *cat* → *catko*

Dog – *kwaun* → *kwaunko*

Kitchen – *cucin* → *(cu)cinko*

Book – *buk* → *bukko*

-lik – -like

Ays face est cavallik – *her face is horselike*

-log – -logist

Astrolog – *astrologer*

Cardiolog – *cardiologist*

-ment – corresponds to no-adverb borrowed words that end in -ment. For matter of accentuation, this suffix counts as apart substantive within of a compounded word

-mon – who can

-ner – masculine suffix

Eireanner – *irishman* (eirean = person or thing from Ireland)

-nic – pejorative (*masculine*)

Drehnknic – *drunkard*

-nica – pejorative (*feminine*)

-on – precision (*with hyphen*)

Segim mien diemens. Bet ye tod-on momento, ies Orks vols ed exkardkiesch ir simitars ed dagas – *I cut my bonds. But at this very moment, the Orcs turned around and pulled out their scimitars and daggers*

-os – on a verb it means “game of”

Skeulkos – *esconde-esconde*

-smee – always on personal pronouns to emphasize oppositions

Weysmee habmos naiwo likwno nies parents – *We (not you) have never left our parents*

-ster – feminine suffix. Use this only there are no problems with change of accentuation

16 Indeed it's “Ritka” instead “Gritka”. If you wanna know why Olivier (this example is his) did in this way, its because “Gretel” comes from Latin “Margaritha”, in the diverse languages this name lost some syllables:

Greta → Gretchen → Gretel

The original joint of letters is “margaRITa”, not “GRIT”, that's why it became “Ritka”.

-ure – on the perfect stem it means “result” or “quality”

-went – makes adjectives, corresponds to the English -ful. For matter of accentuation, this suffix counts as apart substantive within of a compounded word.

Dakruwent – *tearful* (*dakru* = *tear*)

STYLE

Different from the national languages, which have native speakers inserted in a determined social context, Sambahsa is to be spoken between people of different backgrounds. A Mongolian will not understand very well a person who speaks in the German way, regardless of the Sambahsa of this second person is grammatically correct, and his/her pronunciation is perfect.

For example: you must be aware to not translate a sentence like “It's necessary to repair the house” to “id est necessar urpes id dom”, the correct translation is “est necessar urpes id dom”, although the better way of expressing this idea would be “id dom tehrt bihe urpt”. Be careful, avoid transporting anglicisms to Sambahsa.

Now let's see the case of the idioms, do you know what is an idiom? It's a linguistic term used to describe terms that are only used in a determined language, if they were directly translated to another language, they won't have any sense. I'll show you some examples from the French language:

Cherchez la femme – police slang for situations when there is a complication and nobody knows who was responsible. In a literal translation, it is “look for the woman”

Pourboire – it's our tip (*the extra money that we give to the waiter*). In direct translation, it is “for drinking”.

Let's see a more familiar example: “Fred kicked the bucket”, which means that Fred has died. If you say “Fred kalkit id amfer” to a Brazilian he or she will understand that Fred literally kicked a physical bucket!

It's not like the idioms are untranslatable, it's their direct translation that is unfeasible. Are understanding what I am trying to say?

I am not saying that you have to speak a poor and personality-less Sambahsa! But you have to be aware in avoiding idioms and other forms of speaking that are exclusive of Americans. Talk in a simple way, but without losing the personality that the language allows us to have and the richness that it offers us.

NEW WORDS

This chapter briefly discusses the creation of words for the language. There is no reason to worry about new words, Sambahsa already has a great lexicon and new words will come from the absorption of neologisms. If it's not possible a translation from the existent lexicon in Sambahsa, it can be used the word in its original form, the terms from the computer science area are a good example of it. For words that imply a specific cultural item, like a martial art of a people or a typical dish, it will be used the own word. It's similar to what would happen in English, for example, the word 武術 (*wushu*) was translated in the nearest way to what is pronounced in the original, respecting the limits of the English language that doesn't have the intonations of Chinese and other different sounds.

I notice that many people underestimate the vocabulary of Sambahsa, I remember when I saw a man who thought that Sambahsa didn't have translations for words like "source-code". We already have many words, a lot of them. I admit that Sambahsa doesn't have translations for all the medical terms created by man, but the vocabulary is very rich.

The primary source is, surely, what was reconstructed from the ancestor (Proto-)Indo-European. As not all words were reconstructed, many of them can be obtained from Indo-European ancient languages like Sanskrit, Ancient Greek, and Latin.

Other sources are borrowed words from, at least, two linguistic branches, from West Europe until East Asia.

As you can see, naturally that the new words have to be adapted to the orthography of Sambahsa, which, due to its flexibility, tries at best to maintain the words in their original form and original pronunciation.

COMMON MISTAKES AND QUESTIONS

Throughout this grammar, I've tried to explain all the details of the language, but something that was not understood by someone may always exist. So I've created this chapter for listing all the mistakes and questions I had throughout my learning in Sambahsa. I hope that this chapter will be useful to you.

Obviously that, in future versions of this grammar, questions of other people will be added here.

HOW WORK GENERIC PRONOUNS LIKE “TO” AND “QUO”?

Words like “to” and “quo” are generic pronouns that especially refer to already said things, they are for neutral singular nominative/accusative. They don't suffer declension.

Henrique hat creet un nov automatic dictionar. Tod suawehrct!

Here “tod” refers to “automatic dictionar”.

Henrique hat creet un nov automatic dictionar. To est un khauris khabar!

Here “to” sto the previous sentence, to the fact that Henrique has created a new dictionary.

“To hat duren pior diu!!!!” sieyg is ob impatience.

Here “to” refers to the situation that created this impatience.

El prient: “Volo kaupe un ieftin deluxe auto, bet ne trehvo semject interessant in id journal”.

Serter: Est her un annunce quod correspondt quo tu paurskes

Here “quod” refers to “annunce” and “quo” refers to something that was not said in the sentence.

Is it possible the use of more generic pronouns? In theory, would be possible pronouns like “cio” and “eno”, but they almost are never used.

WHAT THE VERB “LEIT” REALLY MEANS

It means “to go, to run” in the figurative sense.

Is vohs un armur quod baygh duslit ei – He wore an armor that wasn't good in him
duslit = *dus* (preffix for “bad” or “ill-”) + *lit* (past tense of “leit”)

In ielg poesis, lit meis au minter dayir pisk – In each poetry, the matter was more or less about fish

Kam leitte yu? – How are you? (or “*how are you going?*”)

Bet tod conversation leit lyt pior oku – But this conversation is going a bit very quickly

Id grance leit engwn id Rhen – The boundaries go along the Rhine

More examples, but with the word “uperleit”:

Hind uperleit ex un agrent societate eni un democratic quader – India makes the transition from an agricultural society within a democratic framework

Id economic crosct nilent, uperleitend ex 9% pro yar in 2010 do 6% in 2011 – The economic growth is slowing down, passing from 9% for year to 6% in 2011

Mehnent maghe uperlites fauran do id politic nivell – They think (*they*) can pass immediately to the political level

Serter uperlit is do id camp ios Papp – Later, he joined the camp of the Pope

Ghehdt uperlites id hol territorium uns land – It can go (*extend*) beyond the whole territory of a country

HOW TO ASK SOMETHING TO SOMEONE

How translate “I asked my father for money”. The most correct translation is not “prohgim denars ad mien pater”, let's see the problems of this sentence. The sentence in its passive form:

* **Denars buir prohgen ab me ud mien pater** – Money was prayed to me by my father

Remember that the verb “prehg”, in the sense of “ask something to someone” is used with the word “ke(m)” and in this case should be used the “ud” instead “ad”. Let's see how would be the translation of this absurd sentence.

* **Prohgim denars ad mien pater** – I prayed to money for my father

Now see the sentence how it should be translated:

I asked my father for money – Prohgim mien pater ke mi daht denars (*literally: I asked my father that he give me money*)
Notice that “mi” is in the dative case

HOW TO SAY WHETHER SOMETHING WILL BE DELAYED OR BE LATE?

Let's start with the verb “chitay”. You can make sentences like:

Tod saat chitayt – This clock is late

Id machine chitayt pre schalte – The machine is delaying to start (*in direct translation: “the machine delays before starting”. You mustn't use “kay” here*)

How the transitive verb “chitay” may be used with persons:

Id seuy hat chitayt mien prient – The rain has delayed my friend

You can use the adjective “skept”.

Mien prient est skept ob id seuy – My friend is late due to the rain

There are several forms of expressing an idea:

Id machine tehrpt wakt pre biwehrge – The machine needs time before it start to work

VERBS OF DIRECTION LIKE “GWAH”

Verbs like “gwah” (to go to) dispense prepositions because their direct objects already inform that they are the direction of movement. The preposition may serve to inform something more, like in the examples below:

Vahm gwahe kye mien dom – I am going to my house (*I am going to the house, but I don't plain to enter into it*)

Vahm gwahe mien dom – I am going to my house (*I enter into the houseentro na casa*)

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN “YAKIN” AND “WEIDWOS”?

While “yakin” is an adjective, “weidwos” is an adverb.

Always pay attention in the dictionary to the grammatical classification of the words.

ABOUT MINOR GRAMMATICAL ISSUES

NAMES OF LANGUAGES AND NATIONALITIES

Look the following text: “Did you know that Spanish is spoken by more than five hundred million people? But there are only forty-seven million Spaniards”.

This very same text in Portuguese: “Você sabia que o espanhol é falado por mais de quinhentos milhões de pessoas? Mas só existem quarenta e sete milhões de espanhóis”.

Notice that in English the first letter of the name of the language was written in capital letter and didn't receive a definite article, the gentile was also written in capital letter. But in Portuguese both the name of the language and its gentile always has its first letter written in lowercase, and the name of the language receives article.

Which model does Sambahsa follow? Both are valid, write in the way you think is better.

English way: Wois(at) yu od Espaniol est baht ab meis quem penk(we) cent millions leuden? Bet ter sont tik quargim sept millions Espaniolen

Portuguese way: Wois(at) yu od id espaniol est baht ab meis quem penk(we) cent millions em leuds? Bet ter sont tik quargim sept millions em espaniols

VERBAL CONCORDANCE OF THE VERB “ES”

Look at the following sentences:

- (1) – Id bratriya est i Purts ios Desert
- (2) – Id bratriya sont i Purts ios Desert

Which one would be the correct in this case, “est” or “sont”? To which sentence the verb “es” preferably agrees, “Id bratriya” or “i Purts ios Desert”? In such cases, if there is an element in the plural, the verb to be used will be in the plural, therefore the correct would be (2).

Yeah, I know that the best way to write this sentence would be “id bratriya est composen ab i Purts ios Desert”, but I've forced a more informal sentence to show you what to do in situations like that.

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