Lesson 2: Itzi iazh Kenkali

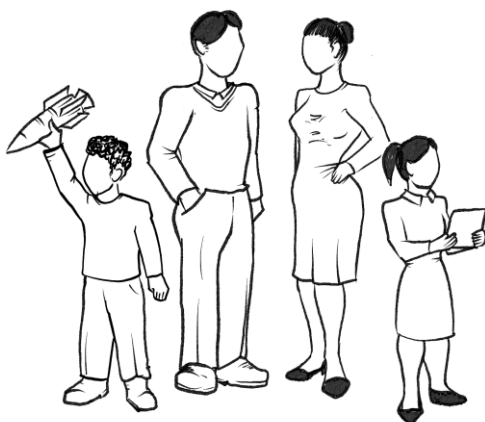## Home and Family

Nouns

Nouns are the words used to name things, either living or inanimate. Nouns can also be used to express abstract concepts as well, like "family" or "household," as we will see in this lesson. In modern Zdetl, many nouns have been standardized to a common ending; this is usually "-i."

Kenkali - family
ᔕᛪᘔᔕᛏᏘᛘᛣ

Kenkalitzi - household
ᔕᛪᘔᔕᛏᏘᛘᛣᘔᛃ

Boy	Man	Woman	Girl
Driefri	Shtiefri	Ziefri	Choqi
ᐃᛪᔑᛣ	ᛏᛟᛪᔑᛣ	ᑕᛪᔑᛣ	ᛝᕳᕆᛣ
Brother	Father	Mother	Sister
Driefrabr	Shtiefrabr	Ziefrabr	Choqabr
ᐃᛪᔑᛣᔑᛣ	ᛏᛟᛪᔑᛣᔑᛣ	ᑕᛪᔑᛣᔑᛣ	ᛝᕳᕆᔑᛣ
Son	Husband	Wife	Daughter
Driefrzin	Shtiefrnam	Ziefrnam	Choqzin
ᐃᛪᔑᛃᘔᛅ	ᛏᛟᛪᔑᛣᛚᛒ	ᑕᛪᔑᛣᛚᛒ	ᛝᕳᕆᘔᛅ

Kenkali Tliaqrnad. Iqeia Ikan Tliaqrnad shtiefrabr. Iqeia Nor Tlieqrnad ziefrabr. Iqeia Ikan shtiefrnam. Iqeia Nor ziefrnam. Iqeia Ikan iazh Nor chefrnam. Iqeia Akam driefrzin. Iqeia Kieko choqzin. Iqeia Akam iazh Kieko chefrzin. Iqeia Mashti Tliaqrnad shtiefrabr. Iqeia Mazi Tliaqrnad ziefrabr.

In Anglic, singular nouns are often indicated by placing the ***indefinite article*** "a" or "an" before them, though it is sometimes omitted. In Zdetl there is no similar word – "a man" and "man" are expressed by simply saying "shtefri".

Plural forms of nouns are expressed by either stating the specific number of the object (or person, place, concept, etc). For non-specific quantities of an object, the prefix **icha-** is added to the word (**shtiefrabr,** father; **ICHAshtiefrabr**, fathers).

Ma – added to *shtiefri* or *ziefri* to create the equivalent of *Mr., Mrs, or Miss,* when needed. If the gender of the person is unknown or non-binary, **Ma** is used without the root word. For same-gender couples, **-o** is added to the end to indicate plurality. When both parents are referred to without regard for gender, **Mao** is used.

Mashti Tliaqrnad – Mr. Miller   **Mazi Tliaqrnad –** Mrs. Miller
Mashtio Tliaqrnad – Mr and Mr Miller   **Mazio Tliaqrnad –** Mrs and Mrs Miller
Mao Tliaqrnad – The Miller family adults

Ke – equivalent of Anglic *the.* This definite article is used when specificity is required:
Ke shtiefrabr – the father   **Ke ziefrnam –** the wife
ke zinzin – the children   **Ke kenkalitzi –** the household

Iazh – equivalent of Anglic *and.* Pronounced "yazh".
Shtiefrabr IAZH driefrzin – father AND son   **Shtiefrabr IAZH ziefrabr –** father AND mother
Ziefrnam IAZH ziefranm – wife AND wife   **Driefrabr IAZH choqrabr –** brother AND sister

A few more Nouns

Tlekoni – animal   **Chikakenmiztli –** a six-legged catlike creature native to Zhdant
Ziatl – table   **Kafi –** coffee
Ibro – egg   **Fevranzh –** book

Verbs – the Present Tense

The words used to name an *action* or a *state of being* are called *verbs*. In Zdetl, most (but not all; these will be highlighted as needed) verbs can be identified by their *infinitive* forms, which usually end in "-e^". The present tense of verbs (actions taking place at the present time, or the current state of an event) is typically denoted by adding the suffix -**IA** to the word:

IkatikIA ke shtiefrabr.	The father stands/The father is standing.
KrilIA ke driefri.	The boy cries/The boy is crying.
ChoetzhIA ke ziefrnam.	The wife laughs/The wife is laughing.

Word order: Note the appearance of the words in each sentence. Unlike many Terran languages, which are "subject oriented" meaning the subject of the sentence is almost always placed first in word order, Zdetl is "object oriented." In Zdetl, sentences follow the pattern "Object – Verb – Subject – Indirect Object(s)[9]." In the simple sentences above, a direct translation of the words as they appear might be "Stands the father," "Cries the boy," and "laughs the wife." This is likely to be an unusual word pattern to students, particularly those accustomed to the Subject – Verb – Object word order used in most European languages. Practice and patience will help with learning the sentence structure.

Correlative Pro-forms

Words which express a relationship between objects, refer to specific objects, are used to inquire as to the status of objects or concepts, are collectively referred to as *correlative pro-forms[10].* In modern Zdetl these concepts have been simplified to a standardized set of forty constructions. In this lesson we will concentrate on two: **iad** (*which person* or *who*) and **ininad** (*that person* or *them,* used when a person or thing is known by its proper name)[11].

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[9] Zdetl (language) - Traveller (travellerrpg.com)

[10] Pro-form - Wikipedia

As discussed previously, the verb always comes first in the sentence.

Iqeia iad ke shtiefrabr?
Who is the father? (Is who the father?)

Iqeia ininad ke shtiefrabr.
That person is the father. (Is that person the father.)

Nilozhia iad?
Who is talking?

Nilozhia ininad.
That person is talking.

Tlakolia iad?
Who is eating?

Tlakolia ininad.
That person is eating.

Iqeia iad tlekoni ke chikakenmiztli?
Which animal is the cat (chikakenmiztli)?

Iqeia ininad tlekoni ke chikakenmiztli.
That animal is the cat (chikakenmiztli).

Zdetl has another correlative form used for inanimate objects. Whereas the suffix -**ad** refers exclusively to a person or animal capable of thought, the suffix -**tetl** refers to objects or organic beings such as plants, not capable of thought or lacking a defined brain that can either learn or be influenced by psionics. Robots and artificial intelligences fall into this latter category. Its usage follows the same pattern:

Iqeia itetl ke iadlajem?
Which is the sky car? (Is which thing the skycar)?

Iqeia inintetl ke iadlajem.
That one is the skycar.

Iqeia itetl ke ziatl?
Which is the table?

Iqeia inintetl ke ziatl.
That is the table.

Iqeia itetl ke ibro?
Which is the egg?

Iqeia inintetl ke ibro.
That one is the egg.

For correlative forms that refer to plural nouns, **-O** is added:

Iqeia iado ke ichashtiefr?
Who are the men?

Iqeia ininado ke ichashtiefr.
They are the men.

Nilozhia iado?
Who is talking?

Nilozhia ininado.
They are talking.

Tlakolia iado?
Who is eating?

Tlakolia ininado.
They are eating.

Prefixes and Suffixes

Like many Terran languages, Zdetl makes extensive use of prefixes and suffixes to extend the vocabulary. Zdetl also combines words into compound word forms that carry deeper meaning than the root words. Many of these are easy to spot and apply as needed or desired without sacrificing clarity. In such cases, nouns modify other nouns as in Anglic, with the root or main noun appearing final in the word.

We have already seen a few such prefixes and suffixes in use in this lesson, notably **ICHA-** and **-ABR.** This section will introduce a few more common ones for routine use.

CHE-

The prefix **che-** is used to denote people of both sexes or gender expressions taken together:

Driefrzin – son	**Chezin** – children (sons and daughters)
Choqzin – daughter	
Driefri – boy	**Chefri** – boys and girls
Choqi – girl	
Shtiefrnam – husband	**Chefrnam** – husbands and wives; men and women of the household
Ziefrnam – wife	

Chefri is occasionally used collectively for "ladies and gentlemen," "Mr and Mrs," but in such cases there are more formal modes of address considered appropriate for use.

-NAD

The suffix **-nad** is used when referring to a person who performs a specific function. It modifies a verb[12]:

Qiloe^ - to paint	**Qilonad** – a painter
Tliaqre^ - to grind grain	**Tliaqrnad** – one who grinds grain, a miller – also a common Zhodani Prole surname

Zhant'ad – a commoner or Prole

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[12] The suffix **-nad** almost exclusively refers to *trades* or *professions* and implies a level of training to do the activity.

-PRIAA

The suffix **-priaa** is used when referring to a place where an activity is done. It also modifies a verb or noun:

Mochite^ - to read   **Mochtiepriaa –** a reading room
Kotozhe^ - to sit   **Kotozhepriaa –** a sitting room
Kafi – coffee   **Kafipriaa** – a coffee house
Iadlajem – sky car; air/raft   **Iadlajempriaa** – sky car garage; hangar

-TIKI

The suffix **-tiki** is a diminutive, often used when referring to infants or young children. Also sometimes used as a term of endearment, like the Japanese "-chan" modifier. It can also refer to objects that are small, or small animals.

Driefri – a boy   **Drieftiki –** a baby boy
Zin – a child   **Tikizin –** an infant
Shtiefrnam – husband   **Shtiefrnamtiki –** my darling husband
Iadlajem – sky car; air/raft   **Iadlajemtiki –** a compact sky car

Itzi
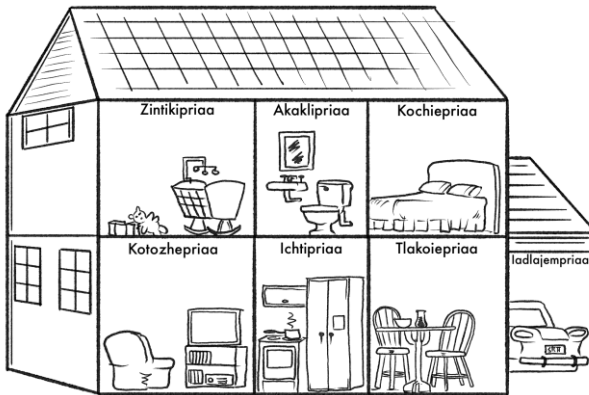
Itzi yzqia kenkali Tliaqrnad. Klachti priaa choktas itzi: zinkikipriaa, akaklipriaa, kochlepriaa, kotozhepriaa, ichtipriaa, iazh tlakoiepriaa. Akom tlakoiepriaa tlakolia kenkali. Akom kochiepriaa kochia ke chefrnam. Akom zintikipriaa kochia ke chefrzin. Alir itzi iqia iadlajempriaa. Akom iadlajempriaa iqia iadlajem.

Vocabulary

akom	ᴙᐨᴀᴆ	inside, within, in
alir	ᴙᴜᴧᚻ	outside, without, external to
chi-	ᴲᴧ*	gender-inclusive/exclusive prefix
chikakenmiztli	ᴲᴧᐨᴙᐨᴋᐸᴆᴧᴐᴈᴧ	cat
chokte'	ᴲᴀᐨᴄᴋˆ	to contain, to have
choqabr	ᴲᴀᐸᴙᴋᵦ	sister
choqi	ᴲᴀᐸᴧ	girl
choqzin	ᴲᴀᐸᴐᴧᐸ	daughter
driefrabr	ᴄᴣᵦᴙᴋᵦ	brother
driefri	ᴄᴣᵦᴧ	boy
driefrzin	ᴄᴣᵦᴐᴧᐸ	son
drieftiki	ᴄᴣᵦᴄᴧᐨᴧ	baby boy
fevranzh	ᵦᴋᴼᚻᴙᐸᴈ	book
iadlajem	ᴧᴙᴄᴜᴙᴐᴋᴆ	sky car
iadlajemtiki	ᴧᴙᴄᴜᴙᴐᴋᴆᴄᴧᐨᴧ	compact sky car
iazh	ᴧᴙᴈ	also, too
ibro	ᴧᵦᴀ	egg
ikatike'	ᴧᐨᴙᴄᴧᐨᴋˆ	to stand
iqe'	ᴧᐸᴋˆ	to be
itzi	ᴧᴄᴐᴧ	house, home
kafi	ᐸᴙᴄᴧ	coffee
katzitlane'	ᐸᴙᴄᴐᴧᴄᴙᴐᴋˆ	to pull
ke	ᐸᴋ	definite article "the"
kenkali	ᐸᴋᴐᐸᴙᴜᴧ	family
kenkalitzi	ᐸᴋᴐᴜᴙᴜᴧᴄᴐᴧ	household
klachti	ᐸᴙᴲᴄᴧ	six
kochie'	ᐸᴀᴲᴍˆ	to sleep
kopeche'	ᐸᴀᵦᴋᴲᴋˆ	to push
koqie'	ᐸᴀᐸᴍˆ	to listen
kotozhe'	ᐸᴀᴄᴀᴈᴋˆ	to sit
miztlie'	ᴆᴧᴐᴄᴍˆ	to ride
mochite'	ᴆᴀᴲᴧᴋˆ	to read
nad	*ᴈᴙᴄ	person who

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nam	*ᔭ�761	spouse of
niloze'	ᔭ人ᄔᑫᄀᛓᐱ	to talk
noetzhite'	ᔭᑫᛓᐸᗱᐸᐸᛓᐱ	to climb
oliane'	ᑫᄔ人7ᔭᛓᐱ	to swim
priaa	ᕑᛃ人77	a room
qiloe'	ᔕ人ᄔᑫᛓᐱ	to paint
shtiave'	±ᐸᔭᑋᛓᐱ	to think
shtiefrabr	±ᐸᛨᐸ7ᖺ	father
shtiefri	±ᐸᛨᐸ人	man
shtiefrnam	±ᐸᛨᐸᔭ761	husband
tie'	ᐸᛨᐱ	to throw
tikizin	ᐸ人ᔱ人ᛓ人ᔭ	infant, small child
tlakole'	ᐸ7ᔱᑫᄔᛓᐱ	to eat
tlapae'	ᐸ7ᕑ7ᛓᐱ	to drink
tlekoni	ᐸᛨᔱᑫᔭ人	animal
tliaqre'	ᐸᗱᔕᛓᐱ	to grind grain
yanae'	∪7ᔭ7ᛓᐱ	to hide
yzqe'	∪ᛓᔕᛓᐱ	behold, look at, observe
zhdazhe'	ᗱ7ᗱᛓᐱ	to catch
ziatl	ᛓ人7ᐸ	table
ziefrabr	ᛓᛨᐸ7ᖺ	mother
ziefri	ᛓᛨᐸ人	woman
ziefrnam	ᛓᛨᐸ7ᔭ761	wife
zin	*ᛓ人ᔭ	child of