

BEGINNING ZDETL
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THE ZHODANI LANGUAGE & CULTURE INSTITUTE Zhdant

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THE ZHODANI LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL INSTITUTE

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With special thanks to

P-O Bergstedt for the creation of the ZhoGlyph character set

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Introductory Lesson

Zdetl is the official language used throughout the Zhodani Consulate in the age of the Third Imperium. While its precise origins are unknown, it is commonly accepted that it developed in the wake of the Final War when the surviving humans on Zhdant found themselves bereft of their Ancient masters for the first time. Over the millennia, Zdetl evolved gradually into its modern form, which was universally adopted as the official language in the 300th Olympiad, the Imperial year -6055¹.

A distinguishing feature of modern Zdetl is its emphasis on standardization in morphology, grammar, syntax, and structure. Zhodani culture is fundamentally assimilative in nature; in other words, the Consulate is not interested in conquest by force but by acculturation. To this end, the Consular language has been simplified over time to make it easy to teach and learn (or at least less difficult than other languages). This does not mean that Zdetl lacks complexity – like the ancient Terran game of Go, its fundamentals can be learned in minutes, but it can take a lifetime to truly master, and few non-native speakers ever reach that level.

Characteristics of Zdetl

Most languages can be divided into three major parts:

1. Vocabulary, the collection of words that makes up the language
2. Spelling and Pronunciation, the sounds (also known as phonemes) that combine to form syllables, words, and phonological phrases
3. Grammar, Syntax, and Word order

In each of these areas Zdetl displays major simplifications when compared to other modern languages.

Spelling and Pronunciation have been standardized and are phonetic in nature. Each of the major phonemes has a single symbol associated with it, and each letter has one sound. There are no “silent” letters; if a phoneme is unvoiced, it is not written.

Vocabulary has been regularized as much as possible. There are few “loan words” as is common in many Terran languages (and even in Imperial Bilandin); one function of the *Tavrchedl* (the Zhodani “Guardians of Morality” –

¹ [Zdetl \(language\) - Traveller \(travellerrpg.com\)](http://Zdetl%20(language)%20-%20Traveller%20(travellerrpg.com))

the so-called “thought police” that monitor Consulate society) is to track linguistic developments and either assimilate or remove them from the social vocabulary as needed. New concepts that may lead to subversive thought are subtly but efficiently erased from the national consciousness.

The new student will observe that Zdetl uses many compound word forms. Most commonly these are nouns modifying nouns; as in Anglic the modifying noun comes first, then the main noun last². Zdetl makes widespread use of *affixatives*, which are usually Locative³, Lative⁴, and Comparative⁵ in nature. There are many others; they will be addressed in later lessons.

Grammar and Word Order in Zdetl is unusual compared to most Terran languages. In Zdetl, sentences follow the structure *Object – Verb – Subject – Indirect Object(s)*⁶.

Unlike other languages, Zdetl does not have “gendered” nouns or pronouns. There is a single third-person singular pronoun – **se** - that is used regardless of the gender of the individual or creature it refers to. This simplifies interactions with gender-fluid or gender-nonconforming humans and monogendered or multigendered non-human species. Concepts such as “mother” and “father” exist but are not limited linguistically to specific genders; similarly, Zdetl does not differentiate between male and female professionals.

² [Zdetl \(language\) - Traveller \(travellerrpg.com\)](#) - Morphology

³ [Locative case - Wikipedia](#)

⁴ [Lative case - Wikipedia](#)

⁵ [Comparative case - Wikipedia](#)

⁶ [Zdetl \(language\) - Traveller \(travellerrpg.com\)](#) - Syntax

Lesson One: Pronunciation & Spelling

As discussed in the previous section, Zdetl is a highly regularized language with consistent spelling, phonetics, and pronunciation. There are no silent letters and no “irregular” spellings, and all letters have one sound and symbol.

The phonemes (sounds) of Zdetl are differentiated and distinct and follow predictable patterns. Multiple vowels rarely appear together, and syllables consist of Vowel (V), Consonant-Vowel (CV), Vowel-Consonant (VC) or Consonant-Vowel-Consonant (CVC) groupings.

Words are accented, and the placement is usually predictable. The accent usually falls on the penultimate syllable. If the word is two syllables, the accent falls on the final. In the case of longer words there may be a secondary accent on the first syllable.

The Zdetl alphabet consists of 42 distinct phonemes: seven vowels and 35 consonants. Eight of the consonants are combinations of the “N” phoneme plus another letter sound; unlike the other letters these do not have their own glyph but are written as a glyph pair.

The vowel sounds are as follows:

Ɱ A as in “lock” or “father”, never as in “pale”: *atrint*, **Ah-trint**;
driant, **dri-Ahnt**

Ɱ E as in “get” or “let”, never as in “pier”: *echtovr*, **EHch-tovr**;

Ɱ I as in “kit”, never as in “mile”: *ivr*, **IHvr**; *izhtak*, **IHZh-tak**

Ɱ IA as in “**y**ank”: *iavchieql*, **Yav-chiegl**; *iatepcha*, **Ya-tep-cha**

Ɱ IE as in “layer”: *iebr*, **Ye-br**

Ɱ O as in “go”: *ibro*, **i-brO**; *otre*’, **O-tre**’

Ɱ Ř is a trilled “r” sound similar to the Polish “**Przemsyl**”⁷. This one can be challenging to learn and recognize in Anglicized Zdetl; students should listen to its spoken form in the footnote and practice saying it often. It will be noted in the Anglicized text as “ř” where appropriate.

Don’t make the vowel sounds too long. “Atrint” and “driant” in the examples above have short, clear “a” sound; all vowels should be pronounced as clearly and purely as possible.

The consonant sounds are as follows: B, BL, BR, CH, D, DL, DR, F, FL, FR, J, K, KL, KR, L, M, N, NCH, NJ, NS, NSH, NT, NTS, NZ, NZH, P, PL, PR, Q, QL, QR, R, SH, T, TS, TL, V, VL, VR, Z, ZH, ZHD’

⁷ [Google Translate](#) – Polish to English

They are pronounced like the Anglic phoneme and combinations, except for Q, which is a softer “K” sound like a combination of “K” and the Anglic “G” sound. The closest Terran approximation is the Arabic “Q”. The last consonant on the list is a glottal stop or sudden vocal pause. There are no alternate or secondary pronunciations of any letters, as is commonly seen in Terran Anglic.

Pronunciation of the consonant forms is as follows:

- 𐌲 B as in Anglic “boy”: *baz*; **Baz**; “barbarian”
- 𐌲𐌵 BL as in “blue”: *achabl*; **ach-aBL**
- 𐌲𐌳 BR as in “brood”: *dlabre’*; **dla-BRe’**
- 𐌹 CH as in “child”; never hard as in “kick”: *echtovr*; **eCH-tovr**
- 𐌳 D as in “dog”: *dizh*; **Dizh**
- 𐌳𐌵 DL as in “paddle”: *dlabre’*; **DLa-bre’**
- 𐌳𐌹 DR as in “dry”: *driejabr*; **DRie-jabr**
- 𐌴 F as in “far”; never a “v” as in “of”: *fevranzh*; **Fev-ranzh**
- 𐌴𐌹 FL as in “fly”: *flietavrian*; **FLie-tav-rian**
- 𐌴𐌳 FR as in “free”: *fronzh*; **FRonzh**
- 𐌶 J as in “jump”: *jiavr*; **Jiavr**
- 𐌷 K as in “kite”: *kaz*; **Kaz**
- 𐌷𐌵 KL as in “cling” or “wrinkle”: *kliazh*; **KLiazh**
- 𐌷𐌹 KR as in “cry” or “cracker”: *kral*; **KRal**
- 𐌸 L as in “long”: *lienj*; **Lienj**; “wind”
- 𐌸𐌹 M as in “many”: *mazhde’*; **Mazh-de’**
- 𐌸𐌶 N as in “never”: *nad*; **Nad**; “a person who does something”
- 𐌸𐌹𐌶 NCH as in “crunch”: *Dlenchiepr*; **dleNCH-iepr**; “Intendant”
- 𐌸𐌶𐌵 NJ as in “exchange”: *lienj*; **lieNJ**; “wind”
- 𐌸𐌶𐌳 NS as in “dans macabre”: *rans*; **raNS**; “hate (n)”
- 𐌸𐌶𐌳𐌹 NSH as in “n + sh”: *tavrziansh*; **ta-vř-ziaNSH**; “Morality’s Path”
- 𐌸𐌶𐌴 NT as in “can’t”: *Zhdant*; **zhdaNT**; The Zhodani homeworld
- 𐌸𐌶𐌴𐌹 NTS as in “pants”: *yentschapo*; **yeNTS-cha-po**; “bacon”
- 𐌸𐌶𐌵𐌹 NZ as in “cans”: *Ninz*; **niNZ**; A class of 100-ton scout ships
- 𐌸𐌶𐌵𐌹𐌶 NZH as in “binge” or “fringe”: *dranzh*; **draNZH**; “sun”
- 𐌶𐌶 P as in “cap”: *piapr*; **Piapr**; “thaw”
- 𐌶𐌶𐌹 PL as in “play”: *Pliebr*; **PLiebr**; the primary GOV star of the Zhdant system
- 𐌶𐌶𐌹𐌶 PR as in “pray”: *piapr*; **piaPR**
- 𐌶𐌶𐌹 Q is like the Terran Arabic Q, which is a glottal hard “G” as in “Qatar”: *qiets*, **Gi-ets**
- 𐌶𐌶𐌹𐌶𐌹 QL as in “glue”: *qlome’*, **GLo-me’**

S QR as in “grown”: *tliagre'*, **tli-a-GRe'**
 R R as in “run”: *rans*, **Rans**; “rain”
 L S as in “sun”: *stial*, **Stial**; a day on Zhdant, about 27 hours
 SH SH as in “shut”: *shiv*; **SHiv**; “moon”
 SH C SHT as in “Ishtar”: *shtefrabr*; **SHTe-frabr**; “father”
 L C ST as in “stop”: *stebre'*; **STe-bre'**;
 C T as in “tall”: *tozjabr*; **Toz-jabr**;
 C TL as in “atlas”: *pranatl*; **pran-aTL**; a minor noble, “aspirant”
 C TR as in “train”: *atrint*; **a-TRint**; “raining,” the wet season on Zhdant
 C TS as in “sets”: *qiets*; **qieTS**; “swift”
 C V as in “very”: *viaj*; **Vyaj**; “yes” or “truth”
 C VL as in “Vland”: *vlezhd*; **VLezhd**
 C VR as in “vroom”: *vrien*; **VRien**; “heat”
 C Y as in “yet”: *yonchobo*; **Yon-cho-bo**; a draft animal native to Zhdant
 C Z as in “zoo”: *zar*; **Zar**; “trek”
 C ZD as in “Thursday”: *Zdetl*; **ZDetl**; the official language of the Zhodani
 C ZH as in “measure”: *Zhodani*; **ZHO-da-ni**
 C ZHD as in “zh + d”: *Zhdant*; **ZHDant**, *vlezhd*; **vleZHD**
 ^ ^ is a glottal stop or a soft pause between syllables.

Students of Zdetl will note that many of the consonants and vowels combine to form *diphthongs* and *triphthongs*, and many consonants combine with ‘R’ and ‘L’ sounds as a single letter. This can sometimes cause confusion for students when it comes to written Zdetl.

Practice pronunciation by learning the names of the seasons:

Atrint (*ah-trint*) = “raining,” the wet season following the winter thaw

Vrienstial (*vryen-styal*) = “heat,” the summer season

Atchafser (*at-chaf-ser*) = “waning,” the time of the year when the summer’s heat fades

Ataniebl (*a-tan-yabl*) = “harvest,” the season on Zhdant to harvest mature crops

Ashtiavl (*ash-tyavl*) = “chill,” the freezing winter season

Atpiapr (*at-pyapr*) = “thaw,” when the freezing winter wanes and becomes more temperate

For additional practice, learn the numbers as well:

1 = <i>chial</i> (chyal)	6 = <i>kiachti</i> (kyach-ti)
2 = <i>omei</i> (oh-myeh)	7 = <i>komi</i> (ko-mi)
3 = <i>tyeii</i> (ty-yeh-i)	8 = <i>koe</i> (ko-e)
4 = <i>nachoie</i> (na-cho-yeh)	9 = <i>kona</i> (ko-na)
5 = <i>machieli</i> (ma-chyeh-li)	10 = <i>matlapa</i> (ma-tla-pa)
100 = <i>chien</i> (chyen)	1000 = <i>matlachien</i> (ma-tla-chyen)

Higher numbers can be formed from the ones above:

11 = *matlachial*

12 = *matla^omei* (note the ^ between the words)

13 = *matlatyeii*

14 = *matlanachoie*

... and so on. Multiples of ten are formed by prepositioning the appropriate ordinal in front of *matlapa*:

20 = *omeimatlapa*

30 = *tyeiimatlapa*

31 = *tyeiimatlapachial*

Practice these by working out any number you choose.

Exercises

1. What is the number of your house? Your street? Your neighbors' houses? Your phone number?
2. Transcribe the following dates into Zdetl:
 - a. 300 (the year Zdetl was standardized)
 - b. 404 (the year the Consulate was established)
 - c. 584 (when the Jump Drive was discovered)
 - d. 2978 (founding of the Third Imperium)
 - e. 3239 (beginning of the First Frontier War)
 - f. 1207 (First Core Expedition)⁸

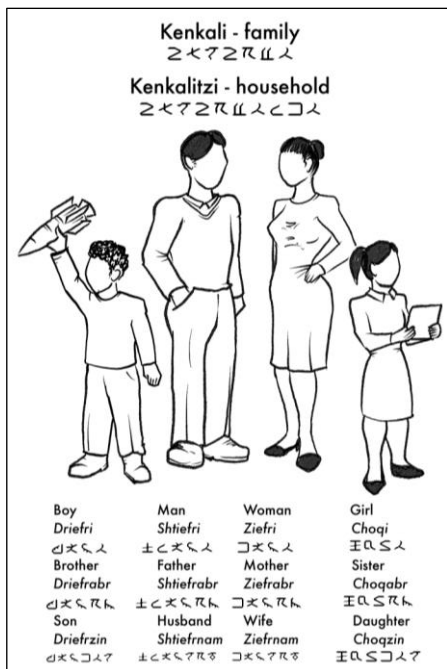
⁸ From Mongoose Traveller Alien Module 4: Zhodani, p. 74

Lesson Two: 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.”



Driefri – boy

Choqi – girl

Shtiefri – man

Ziefri – woman

-abr – "family member"

Driefrabr – brother

Choqabr – sister

Shtiefrabr – father

Ziefrabr – mother

-zin – “child of”

Driefrzin – son

Choqrzin – daughter

Shtiefrnam – husband

Ziefrnam – wife

-nam – “spouse”

Kenkali Tliagrnad. Igeia Ikan Tliagrnad shtiefrabr. Igeia Nor Tliegrnad ziefabr.

Igeia Ikan shtiefrnam. Igeia Nor ziefnam. Igeia Ikan iazh Nor chefrnam.

Iqeia Akam driefrzin. Iqeia Kieko choqzin. Iqeia Akam iazh Kieko chefrzin.

Iqeia Mashti Tliagrnad shtiefrabr. Iqeia Mazi Tliagrnad ziefraabr.

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 “shtiefri”.

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 ziefnam – the wife

ke zinzin – the children

Ke kenkalitzi – the household

lazzh – equivalent of Anglic *and*. Pronounced “yazh”.

Shtiefrabr IAZH driefrzin – father AND son

Shtiefrabr IAZH ziefbrabr – father AND mother

Ziefnam IAZH ziefnam – 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.

KrillIA ke driefri.

The boy cries/The boy is crying.

ChoetzhIA ke ziefnam.

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.

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?)

Nilozhia iad?

Who is talking?

Tlakolia iad?

Who is eating?

Iqeia iad tlekoni ke chikakenmiztli?

Which animal is the cat
(chikakenmiztli)?

Iqeia ininad ke shtiefrabr.

That person is the father. (Is that person the father.)

Nilozhia ininad.

That person is talking.

Tlakolia ininad.

That person is eating.

**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 **-teti** 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 sky car?)

Iqeia itetl ke ziatl?

Which is the table?

Iqeia itetl ke ibro?

Which is the egg?

Iqeia inintetl ke iadlajem.

That one is the skycar.

Iqeia inintetl ke ziatl.

That is the table.

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?

Nilozhia iado?

Who is talking?

Tlakolia iado?

Who is eating?

Iqeia ininado ke ichashtiefr.

They are the men.

Nilozhia ininado.

They are talking.

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 verb¹²:

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

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

Kotozhe[^] - to sit

Kafi – coffee

ladlajem – sky car; air/raft

Mochtiepriaa – a reading room

Kotozhepriaa – a sitting room

Kafipriaa – a coffee house

ladlajempriaa – 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

Zin – a child

Shtiefrnam – husband

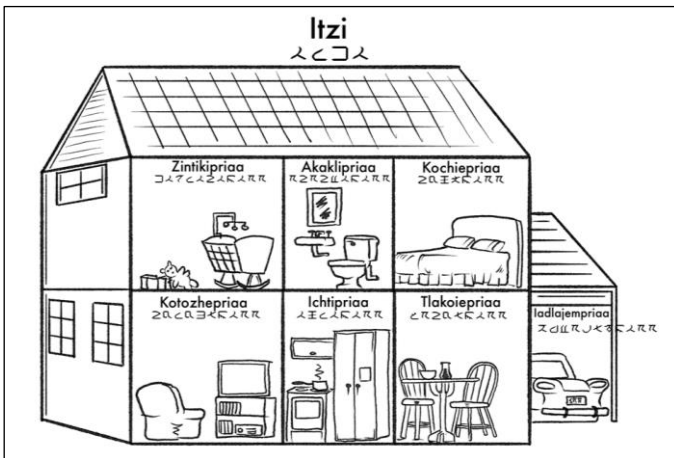
ladlajem – sky car; air/raft

Drieftiki – a baby boy

Tikizin – an infant

Shtiefrnamtiki – my darling husband

ladlajemtiki – a compact sky car



Itzi yzqia kenkali Tliaqrnad.

Klacti priaa choktas itzi: zinkikipriaa, akaklipriaa, kochlepriaa, kotozhepriaa, ichtipriaa, iazh tlakoiepriaa.

Akom tlakolepriaa tlakolia kenkali.

Akom kochiepriaa kochia ke chefrnam.

Akom zintikipriaa kochia ke chefrzin.

Alir itzi iqia iadlajempriaa. Akom iadlajempriaa iqia iadlajem.

Vocabulary

[illegible]

nam	*アアア	spouse of
niloze'	ア人並口セ^	to talk
noetzhite'	ア口セ ^レ ヨ人 ^レ セ^	to climb
oliane'	口並人アアセ^	to swim
priaa	ア人アア	a room
qiloe'	人並口セ^	to paint
shtiave'	土 ^レ ス口セ^	to think
shtiefrabr	土 ^レ セスアア	father
shtiefri	土 ^レ セス人	man
shtiefrnam	土 ^レ セスアアア	husband
tie'	セセ^	to throw
tikizin	人 ^レ 人 ^レ 人 ^レ ア	infant, small child
tlakole'	セア ^レ 人並セ^	to eat
tlapae'	セア ^レ アアセ^	to drink
tlekoni	セセ ^レ 人ア人	animal
tliaqre'	セスセセ^	to grind grain
yanae'	人アアアセ^	to hide
yzqe'	人 ^レ 口セセ^	behold, look at, observe
zhdazhe'	アアヨセ^	to catch
ziatl	人アセ	table
ziefabr	口セスアア	mother
ziefri	口セス人	woman
ziefnam	口セスアアア	wife
zin	*人ア	child of

Exercises

Exercise 2a: Zdetl to Anglic

1. Iqia Mashti Tlieqrnad shtiefrabr, iazh iqeia Mazi Tliaqrnad ziefabr.
2. Iqia Akam iazh Kieko chezin.
3. Iqia iad Mashti Tlieqrnad? Iqeia iad Mazi Tlieqrnad?
4. Iqia iad Akam? Iqeia iad Kieko?
5. Itzi yzqia kenkali Tliaqrnad.
6. Tlakoia akom itetl priaa kenkali Tliaqrnad?
7. Kochia akom itetl priaa Mao Tliaqrnad?
8. Oshia akom itetl priaa ke chezin?
9. Ichtia akom itetl priaa Mao Tliaqrnad?
10. Iqia akom itetl priaa ke iadlajem?
11. Akom iadlajempriaa iqia iadlajem.

Exercise 2b: Anglic to Zdetl

1. Who is Mr. Miller?
2. Who is Mrs. Miller?
3. Who is Akam Miller? Who is Kieko Miller?
4. Observe the Miller residence (house).
5. In which room do Mr and Mrs Miller sleep?
6. In which room do the children play?
7. In which room does the family eat?
8. Where is the sky car?
9. The sky car is in the garage.

Lesson Three: Akom ke apriaa

In the room

ᑭᑭᑭᑭ ᑭᑭ ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ

The next lessons will feature Zdetl translations alongside the written Anglic forms of the vocabulary as much as possible.

Adjectives

Adjectives are words used to describe people and objects. In Zdetl, most adjectives end in **-a** (-ᑭ):

kala chikakenmiztli – good cat
sarkikasha tlekonio – extinct animals
zina shtiefri – childish man

kayotla itzi – beautiful house
tikia priaa – small room
vriena kafi – hot coffee

The adjective does not have to agree with the noun it modifies; in other words, if the noun is plural, the adjective does not have to be made plural by adding **-o** (-ᑭ) but it can be:

zina shtiefrio/zinao shtiefrio – childish men
yeka ibroo/yekao ibro – bad eggs¹³

kayotla itzio/kayotlao itzio – beautiful houses
qietsa iadlajemo/qietsao iadlajemo – fast cars

Adjectives should be placed in front of the nouns they modify¹⁴:

manka chacha chikakenmiztli – soft, furry cat
mankao chachao chikakenmitzlio – soft, furry cats

tikia chaoqa priaa – small, cozy room
tikiao chaoqao priaao – small, cozy rooms

¹³ In the case of nouns that end in **-o**, the extra **-o** may be omitted and applied only to the adjective.

¹⁴ If an adjective is also a suffix, as in the case of **-tiki**, it is considered more proper to simply apply the suffix to the noun and reduce the number of adjectives preceding the noun. *Tikia chaoqa priaa* becomes *chaoqa priaatiki*. Often adjectives prefixes, suffixes and nouns are combined into a single compound word; in this example *tikia chaoqa priaao* would become *chaoqipriaatikio*, “cozy little room.”

Personal Pronouns

Words used in place of nouns are called *pronouns*, and pronouns used to refer to people are called *personal pronouns*. In Zdetl there are six basic forms.

ze (𐄂𐄀) I, me
de (𐄂𐄀) us, we

ve (𐄂𐄀) You (singular)
le (𐄂𐄀) You (collective)

se (𐄂𐄀) he, she, or it
ye (𐄂𐄀) they

A seventh pronoun exists – zhe (𐄂𐄀) – or “one,” which is used when referring to a non-specified person. A good approximation in Anglic comes from the 20th century Terran music group Rush from their song “Limelight”:

“One must put up barriers to keep oneself intact.”

Verbs in Zdetl have mostly been standardized to follow a consistent form. As discussed in Lesson Two, the present tense ending is **-ia** (𐄂𐄀):

mochite' – 𐄂𐄀𐄂𐄀𐄂𐄀𐄂𐄀𐄂𐄀 – to read

mochitie ze – I read, I am
reading

mochitie de – we read

mochitie ve – you
read

mochitie le – you all
read

mochitie se – (s)he
reads

mochitie ye – they read

iqe' - 𐄂𐄀𐄂𐄀𐄂𐄀 – to be

iqia ze – I am

iqia de – we are

iqia ve – you are

iqia le – you all are

iqia se – (s)he is

iqia ye – they are

Recall the *correlative pro-forms* introduced in the previous lesson, **iad** (𐄂𐄀𐄂𐄀) and **itetl** (𐄂𐄀𐄂𐄀𐄂𐄀). When added to a phrase, they transform it into a question:

iqia ze iad – who am I?

iqia de iad – who are
we?

iqia ve iad – who are
you?

iqia le iad – who are
y'all?

iqia se iad – who is she?

iqia ye iad – who are
they?

The verb **iqie** is usually omitted in conversation: **ze iad?** = who am I?

As always, remember the Object – Verb – Subject word order.

Verbs: Continuous Tenses

In Anglic, the present tense noun “am” is added to indicate an action that is happening now, as in “I *am* reading” or “I *am* dancing.” In Zdetl there is no need for this redundancy; for example, **mochitie ze** can be used interchangeably for “I read” and “I am reading.”

Questions

In Anglic, many *question* or *interrogative* statements are created by adding *do/does*, or *is/am/are* to the phrase, as in “AM I reading?” or “DOES he dance?” These added words have no real meaning, as the rising tone of voice at the end of the phrase conveys the meaning as well (“I reading?” can be understood the same as “Am I reading?”, though it lacks the same mature quality).

Similarly, *questions* in Zdetl are indicated by a rising inflection of the voice at the end of the sentence. However, when one wishes to be more specific or formal in inquiry, the question word **jdo** (ㄍㄨㄣ) is added:

Mochitia ze	becomes	Jdo mochtia ze?
Kotozhia ye	becomes	Jdo kotozhia ye?
Tlakolia de	becomes	Jdo tlakolia de?

When the verb in the inquiry is some form of *to be*, often in English the verb form is shifted in the word order:

I am beautiful	becomes	AM I beautiful?
I am eating	becomes	AM I eating?
I am sitting	becomes	AM I sitting?

In Zdetl the verb **iqe'** is not usually used – its meaning should be clear from the context. Instead, the question word is added as shown above, even when the question is about a descriptive quality:

kayotla ze (I am beautiful)	becomes	Jdo kayotla ze? (Am I beautiful?)
Qietsa ye (they are fast)	becomes	Jdo qietsa ye? (Are they fast?)
Tikia se (it is tiny)	becomes	Jdo tikia se? (Is it tiny?)

Iqe' in any form is usually used when the meaning would otherwise be unclear.

Yes and No

viaj (㐁㐂㐃) = *yes or truth*;

chak (㐄㐅㐆) = *no or false*, also used to express negation

To answer in the affirmative, place *viaj* first in the sentence. *Chak* always ends the phrase to answer in the negative, or more often is appended as a prefix to the verb or adjective.

Jdo kayotla ze?

(Am I beautiful?)

Viaj, kayotla ve. - Yes, you are beautiful.

Kayotla ve chak./Chakayotla ve. – You are not beautiful.
(literally, “beautiful you are not.”)

Jdo qietsa ye?

(they are fast)

Viaj, qietsa ye. – Yes, they are fast.

Qietsa ye chak./Chaquetsa ve. – No, they are not fast.

Jdo tikia se?

(is it small?)

Viaj, tikia se. – yes, it is small.

Tikia se chak./Chatikia se. – No, it is not small.

Jdo tlakolia de?

(Are you eating?)

Viaj, tlakolia ze. – Yes, I am eating.

Tlakolia ze chak./Chatlakolia ze. – No, I am not eating.

Note that in Anglic, the present tense verb DO or DOES is often used in negative statements like “I read” vs “I DO NOT read.” In Zdetl this is not required, as the meaning should be clear from context.

More Correlative Pro-Forms

itetl (㐇㐈㐉) – *what/which thing*;

inintetl (㐇㐈㐉㐇㐈㐉) – *that thing*

As discussed in the previous lesson, the suffix **-tetl** refers exclusively to inanimate objects, computers and robots, and organic creatures that lack higher cognitive powers or a complex organic brain. Calling a human or other higher life form by *inintetl* is a grave insult implying a lack of the capacity for independent thought, reason, or judgement.

Itetl se? (what is that?)

Ziatl se. (It’s a table.)¹⁵

¹⁵ Note the omission of the verb *iqe’*.

iochti (人王人) – what kind/type of

ininochti (人王人王人) that kind/type of

lochti inquires as to the quality, nature, or type of a thing. *Ininochti* answers the question; in Anglic it might translate to *such a*. Unlike **itetl** and **inintetl**, this word pair can also be used to inquire about people and animals, not just objects.

lochti is often used in exclamations:

lochti tlekonil

(what a beast!)

lochti shtiefri ve!

(what a man you are!)

lochti qrazhe!

(such a noise!)

lochti ziatl se? (what kind of table is that?)

lochti iadlajem se? (what kind of sky car is that?)

lochti shtiefri ve? (what kind of man are you?)

lochti tlekonio se? (what kind of animals are those?)

Malachtia ziatl se.

(It's a table.)

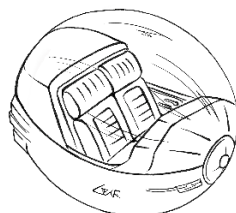
Tchipl se.¹⁶

Homo Zdotlas de.

(I'm a *Homo Zdotlas*.)

Tochingoa se.

(Those are honey badgers.)



人王人

Possessive Phrases

In Anglic, the possessive form of a noun appends “’s” to the word. In Zdetl, no such form exists. Instead, the word **dra** (人王) is inserted between the object and the subject to show ownership. The definite article **ke** can be used or omitted without loss of meaning:

Ke itzi dra kenkali Tliaqrnad

(The Tliaqrnad residence)

Priaa dra Kieko (Kieko’s room)

Ke iadlajem dra Ma Tliaqrnad

(Mr. Tliaqrnad’s car)

Chakilio dra Akam (Akam’s toys)

¹⁶ **Tchipl** is the name of a popular compact grav vehicle that seats two with room for a bit of luggage. It gets its name from its unique, nearly spherical shape, and is also the Zdetl word for “bubble.”

Another way of showing possession in a sentence is to turn the *personal pronoun* into an adjective. In Anglic we might say “Kieko plays with HER toys” indicating that the toys being played with belong to Kieko. In Zdetl, using **dra** would be unwieldy, so we instead say “Seo chakilio chilitia Kieko. (her toys plays with Kieko).” The pronoun **se** becomes **seo** and modifies **chakilio**, toys.

Cultural Discussion: Psionics

No discussion of Zhodani society would be complete without mentioning *Psionics* or **dievl** (𐌆𐌿𐌽𐌰), the set of mental disciplines that defines and underpins their culture. Within Zhodani society there are three classes of citizen, and one’s place in society depends on their ability to use psionics.

At the bottom are the *proles*, known as **zhant’ad** (𐌵𐌹𐌺𐌴𐌹𐌳), who have minimal or no psionic skill or training. **Zhant’ad** make up 75 to 80% of the population of any given Consulate world and do nearly all of the manual labor and many skilled professions like programming and sciences.

Next are the *intendants*, called **dlenchiepr** (𐌆𐌺𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌹𐌱𐌰). **Dlenchiepr** are individuals who have been identified as having significant psionic potential. They make up the lowest ranks of the psionic nobility and account for about 15% of the population. The ranks of military officers, government bureaucrats, business management, doctors, and police forces are staffed by **dlenchiepr**.

The upper tier of Consulate society is the *nobility*, the **zhdobrdievl** (𐌵𐌹𐌆𐌵𐌴𐌹𐌿𐌽𐌰). The nobility perform all the major functions of government and also are the only citizens allowed to vote. Nearly 6% of the population are **zhdobrdievl**.

All Zhodani citizens are evaluated from birth for psionic potential. Centuries of genetic research and careful breeding have produced a culture where nearly every person has some potential – at the very least, most citizens have some low level of telepathic ability – but careful testing identifies any child that shows signs of significant ability is identified at an early age and monitored closely by schools, doctors, and the government. Once the child’s talents begin to manifest, more rigorous testing is performed. If the child shows significant ability, it is removed from the **zhant’ad** family and given the status of **dlenchiepr** and adopted out to a **zhdobrdievl** house.

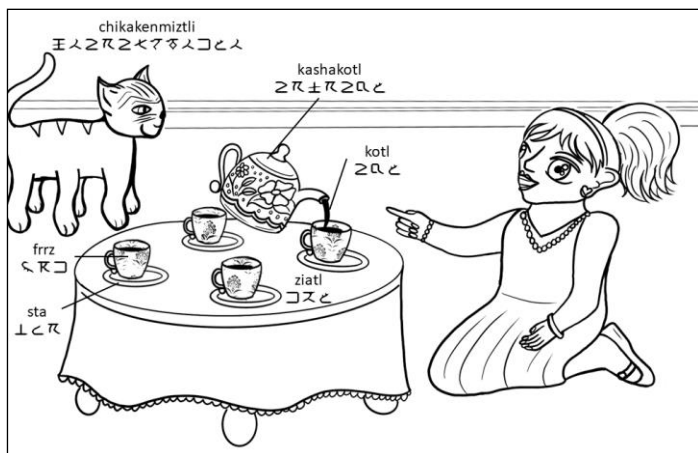
This may seem cruel to outsiders, but in fact it is for the good of both the child and the family. A **zhdant'ad** family simply does not have the resources, skills, or training to safely raise a child whose psionic talents will likely exceed those of the parents. The Zhodani have learned that in such cases, early intervention is critical to both the success of the emerging psion and the health and safety of the biological family. Among **zhdant'ad**, for whom upward nobility is nearly unheard of, having a child elevated to the psionic nobility is a great honor that all aspire to. For the **zhdant'ad** family it is a bittersweet moment, as losing a child is always a stressful time, so the Consulate does everything possible to ease the transition for both family and child. The adoption process is met with ceremony.

shtadievi	± Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ	Telepathy
pradievi	Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ	telekinesis
koetsdievi	Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ	teleportation
petlandievi	Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ	Clairvoyance
tlakoyedievi	± Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ	awareness
zhdavadi	Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ	precognition

To identify a person who is trained in a psionic discipline, add **-nad**:

Shtadrnad (± Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ) a person trained in telepathy
Pradrnad (Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ) a person trained in telekinesis
Koetsdrnad (Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ) a person trained in teleportation
Petlandrnad (Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ) a person trained in clairvoyance
Tlakoyedrnad (± Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ) a person trained in awareness
Zhdavrnad (Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ) a person trained in precognition

Zhdavrnad are very rare, accounting for about 1% of the psionic population. They often suffer from severe psychiatric disorders and mental instability and require constant monitoring and therapy. A well-trained and psychologically stable **zhdavrnad** is highly prized as a military and exploration asset, and a few have been sent on the core expeditions to predict future paths.



Seo chakilio chilitia Kieko.

上ヶル 王ルズ人ル 王人ル人ス 王ルズ

Reading

Seo chakilio chilitia Kieko. Ke kashakotl pradriia Kieko. Se yzqia ke chikakenmiztli. Vel ke ziatl yzqia ke chikakenmiztli. Ichi keo stao iqia keo frrzo. Dlafl keo stao iqia ke ziatl. Akom ke kashakotl iqia kotl. Kotozhia Kieko. Ikakitia chikakenmiztli.

Dialogue

A neighbor, Zhi'a Kotlachrnad (Carpenter), drops by to visit and have afternoon tea with Nor Tliaqrnad. Kieko plays with her tea set in the background. Read, then translate:

Nor Tliaqrnad	Tlachipale, Zhi'a. Kotl ikotlia ve?
Zhi'a	Tlachipale, Nor. Viaj, kamatli.
Kotlachrnad	
Nor Tliaqrnad	Jdo vrienqich ke kotl?
Zhi'a	Kamatli. Viaj, vrienqich. Izhia zino?
Nor	Akom zintikipriaa kochia Akam. Seo chakilio chilitia Kieko.
Zhi'a	Jdo tokpa ye?
Nor	Viaj, kamatli. Tokpa ye.
Zhi'a	Kayotla stial.
Nor	Viaj, iqia se. Mizhtloyo ikotlia ve?
Zhi'a	Kamatli. Cha, yzqia Kieko!
Nor	Cha! Kashakotl pradriia se!

Zhi'a	Iqia yekta, jdo?
Nor	Viaj, mazhdia ze.
<i>Ikan Tliaqrnad enters.</i>	
Ikan	Tlachipale, Zhi'a. Tlachipale, Nor. Jdo tokpia vi?
Zhi'a	Tokpia, Kamatli.
Nor	Kon ve Kieko akostial deva ozdia io ke preql.
Ikan	Cha? Ipatle?
Nor	Se izhia ve deva ozdia io Tlayotekoyandievl.

Vocabulary

akostial	ㄸㄸㄴ ㄱㄴㄴ ㄴ	tomorrow
amanstial	ㄸㄴㄴㄴ ㄱㄴㄴ ㄴ	today
apaz	ㄸㄴㄴㄴ	in front of
chak	ㄸㄴㄴ	no or false
chakili	ㄸㄴㄴㄴㄴㄴ	toy
chaoqia	ㄸㄴㄴㄴㄴ	cozy, snug
chilite'	ㄸㄴㄴㄴㄴㄴ	to play, to play with something
de	ㄱㄴ	we
deo	ㄱㄴㄴ	our, ours
deva	ㄱㄴㄴㄴ	to be required to; must do
dievl	ㄱㄴㄴㄴ	psionics
dlenchiepr	ㄱㄴㄴㄴㄴㄴ	Intendant
dra	ㄱㄴ	"of", indicating possession of a thing or relation to a person (wife of, son of, etc)
frz	ㄴㄴㄴ	cup
ichi	ㄴㄴㄴㄴ	upon
ikotlie'	ㄴㄴㄴㄴㄴㄴ	to desire, to want
io	ㄴㄴ	"to", into
ipatle	ㄴㄴㄴㄴㄴ	why? For what reason?
jdo	ㄴㄴㄴ	question indicator
kamatli	ㄴㄴㄴㄴㄴ	thank you, my thanks

Exercises

Translate from Anglic to Zdetl:

Translate from Zdetl to Anglic:

Lesson Four: Ke preql iazh iatlepcha

The City and the Countryside

ՀԿ ԲԿՏ ՏՅ ՏԵԿԲԽԸ

Mr. Tliaqrnad and his daughter Kieko go to the city. While there, they have a picnic in the park.

mizh (ճՆԻ) – cloud

iadla (ՏԸԼԸ) – sky

abavnomaki (ԲԻԲՆՈՎՈՄԱԿԻ) – truck

iadlajem (ՏԸԼԸՆԵՄ) – sky car

preql (ԲԿՏ) – city

qietsfatilia (ՏԵԿԵԼԵԿԵԼԸ) – motorcycle

dranzh (ԸՐԱՅ) – sun

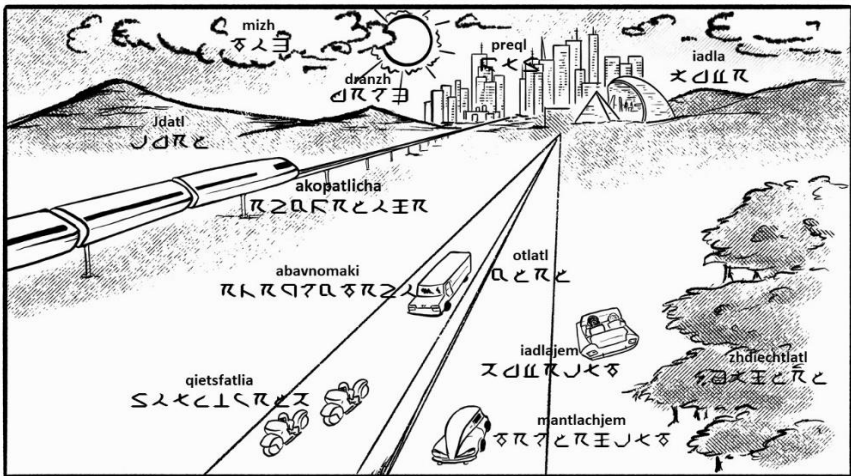
jdatl (ՅԸԼ) – mountain

otlatl (ՐԵԼ) – road

mantlachjem (ՄԱՆԼԱՇՅԵՄ) – ground car

akopatlichia (ԱԿՕՊԱՏԼԻՇԻԱ) – monorail, train

zhdiechtlatl (ՉԺԻԵՇՏԼԱՏԼ) – forest



Ke iatepcha zochia ke ke tlacha. Pantle iqia otlatl. Fevre iqia akopatlichia. Ochi ke otlatl iqia qietsfatilao, mantlachjem, iazh abavnomaki. Kapan ke otlatl iqia iadlajem. Kapan ke zhdiechtlatl iqia ke iadlajem. Akom ke jdatlo iqia ke preql. Kapan iqia ke dranzh. Apaz ke dranzh iqia mizh. Akom ke iadla iqia ke dranzh iazh ke mizho. Ai ke preql oyanqia ke otlatl iazh ke akopatlichia.

Adverbs

Adverbs are words that modify or enhance verbs. In Anglic, most (but not all) adverbs end in -ly. They are formed from adjectives (though nearly any word can become an adverb, as we will see) and commonly answer questions of How, Why, Where, and When of the verb; in other words, they describe the manner, reason, state, etc. of the action. In Zdel, most adverbs end in -e (-ኣ):

kayotla (ᐸᐱᐅᐱ ᐸᐱ) beautiful

qich (ᐸᐱᐱ) sufficient

yekta (ᐅኣᐸᐸᐱ) good

pradievł (ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ) telekinesis (n)

kayotle (ᐸᐱᐅᐱ ᐸኣ) beautifully

qiche (ᐸᐱᐱኣ) sufficiently

yekte (ᐅኣᐸᐸኣ) well

pradievle (ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱኣ) telekinetically

In Anglic, most (but not all) adverbs end in -ly.

Subject and Object

In previous lessons, our sentences have shown what someone or something does or is:

Ke fevranzh mochtia ke ziefraabr.

ᐸኣ ᐱኣᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ ᐸኣ ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ*

The mother reads the book.

Ke ziefraabr iqia Ma Tliaqrnad.

ᐸኣ ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ ᐱᐱᐱᐱ ᐱᐱ ᐸᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ

The mother is Mrs. Miller.

The person or entity taking the action is the **subject**. In these examples, **ziefraabr** is the subject.

In regular usage, however, we are concerned not merely with what the subject is doing, but what the subject is doing *to* something or someone else. For example, when we read, we are reading **something**, when we speak, we are usually speaking to **someone**, when we sleep, we are sleeping **somewhere**, and when we eat or drink, we are eating or drinking **something**. This someone or something is called the **object** or **direct object**. In Zdel, the **direct object** always appears first in the sentence, followed by the **verb** (and preceded by any adjectives), and then finally the **subject**. Zdel word order is always Object – Verb – Subject.

More Correlative Pro-Forms

izhia (イゾス) – where? What place?

ininzhia (イナゾス) – there, that place

Izhie vidlia ve?

イゾス イソビラス イキ/

Where do you live?

Izhie iqia se?

イゾス イセス イキ/

Where is he (she, it)?

Ininzhie vidlia ze.

イナゾス イソビラス イキ*

I live there.

Ininzhie iqia se.

イナゾス イセス イキ*

He (she, it) is there.

iqenta (イセキアセツ) – how? What way?

ininqenta (イナソセキアセツ) – in that way, thusly

Iqenta chilitia le?

イセキアセツ イソユソセツ
ユキ/

How do they play?

Iqenta liebia se?

イセキアセツ ユキトス
ユキ/

How does he work?

Iqenta miqania se?

イセキアセツ イソセツアス
ユキ/

How does it move?

Ininqenta chilitia le.

イナソセキアセツ イソユソセツ
ユキ*

They play like that (thus, thusly).

Ininqenta liebia se.

(イナソセキアセツ ユキトス ユキ*

He works that way.

Ininqenta qietse miqania se.

イナソセキアセツ イセセキ
イソセツアス ユキ*

It moves so quickly.

Ininqenta can also be used to compare to concepts (or things or people):

Chakiqia se ichakipreql ininqenta Dlolprikl.

イセセキ イセキイセキ イナソセキ
イソユソセツ ユキ*

It is not a large city like Dlolprikl (The capital city of Zhdant).

Chak chilitia se ininqenta ve.

イセセキ イソユソセツ ユキ イナソセキイセツ イキ

He does not play like you.

Chakigia Tchipl igenta ichiaki iningenta iadlajem.

A Tchipl is not **as** big **as** a sky car.

Chakigia chikakenmiztli igenta tlaveia iningenta tochingoa.

王₁π₂≥₃人₄Σ₅Σ₆ 王₁人₂≥₃π₄≥₅π₆π₇π₈人₉コ₁₀レ₁₁⌊₁₂人₁₃ 人₁₄Σ₁₅π₁₆レ₁₇π₁₈
と₁₉π₂₀⌋₂₁π₂₂π₂₃ 人₂₄π₂₅人₂₆π₂₇Σ₂₈π₂₉レ₃₀π₃₁ レ₃₂⌋₃₃王₃₄人₃₅π₃₆Σ₃₇⌋₃₈π₃₉*

A chikakenmiztli is not **as** fierce **as** a tochingoa.

ICHAKI- (人王天乙人-)

The prefix **ichaki-** is the opposite of **-tiki** and is used to imply very large size.

fevranzh

८७११४४३

A book

jem
𐌶𐌵𐌶

A car

zhdiech

王次子

A tree

ichakifeyranzh

人王天之王人王之王人王之王人王之王

A huge book, a tome

ichakijem
人王尺ノ人ノセ百

A limousine

ichakizhdiech

人王凡之人曰大王

A large tree

Sometimes when an aspect of a noun needs to be emphasized, the adjective portion is simply doubled to give extra weight to it, as in **ashtiablnefa** (𐎠𐎶𐎠𐎶𐎠𐎵𐎥𐎡𐎴) – *refrigerator*, and **ashashtiablnefa**

(氷箱 氷箱 冷箱 超冷箱 氷箱) – *freezer*. Literally, these mean “cold box” and “very cold box” respectively.

-TLATL (-と π と)

The suffix **-tlatl** refers to a collection or large group of a thing or people.

idatl

ユルテ

a mountain

zhdiech

呂宋王

A tree

fevranzh

REVIEWER:
S K G H R T M

A book

idatlatl

$\cup \cup \pi$ と π と

A mountain range

zhdiechtlatl

日大王と天と

A forest

fevranzhtlatl

レキクハルツヲヨビ

A library, a collection of books

Verbs: Future Tense

When we are talking about events that haven't happened yet or asking about actions that will take place at some point in the future, the verbs take the *future tense* form. In Zdetl, verbs in future tense end in **-ře** (-ṚḲ). You will want to practice the pronunciation of this suffix often.

Ai ve akostial kiloře ze.

ṚḲ ḲḲḲ ṚḲḲḲḲḲḲḲḲ ḲḲḲḲḲḲḲḲ ḲḲḲ*

I will write to you tomorrow.

Tlakoře ketlachia¹⁷ de.

ḲḲḲḲḲḲ ḲḲḲḲḲḲḲḲ ḲḲḲ*

We will eat this afternoon.

Drekr kestial ezhiře se.

ḲḲḲḲ ḲḲḲḲḲḲḲḲ ḲḲḲḲḲḲ ḲḲḲ*

She will visit the doctor today.

Jdo kayotlie iqře ze?

ḲḲḲ ḲḲḲḲḲḲḲḲ ḲḲḲḲḲ ḲḲḲ/

Will I be beautiful?

Verbs: Past Tense

When discussing an event, action, or state that has already happened or existed, verbs take the *past tense* form. In Zdetl, verbs in the past tense end in **-ie** (-ḲḲ).

Ai ye iqinstial kiloie ze.

ṚḲ ḲḲḲ ḲḲḲḲḲḲḲḲḲ ḲḲḲḲḲḲḲ ḲḲḲ*

I wrote to you yesterday.

Kechapani ketlachie de.

ḲḲḲḲḲḲḲḲḲ ḲḲḲḲḲḲḲḲ ḲḲḲ*

We ate this morning.

Drekr iqinstial ezhie se.

ḲḲḲḲ ḲḲḲḲḲḲḲḲḲ ḲḲḲḲ ḲḲḲ*

She visited the doctor yesterday.

Kochie se.

ḲḲḲḲḲḲ ḲḲḲ*

He slept.

¹⁷ Note: the addition of the definite article **ke-** to **tlacha** (afternoon) indicates that the afternoon referred to is happening today; thus, “this afternoon.” If an activity is part of a regular schedule (as in, “We eat daily”), the noun **stial** can be transformed to an adverb to make it *daily* by adding **-e**: **Stiale tlakoia de** (we eat daily) or **Tlachae tlakoia de** (we eat every afternoon/“afternoonly”).

Ke Preql
2x 5x5

zhdobrdievlitzi (ᠵᠳᠣᠪᠷᠳᠢᠶ᠋ᠯᠢᠲᠢ) –
palace, mansion, noble's residence
ichtiozhie (ᠶᠢᠴᠢᠣᠵᠢᠵᠢᠶ᠋ᠡ) – path

itztikio (ᐱᐸᐸᐸᐸᐸᐸᐸᐸ) – small houses

jem (jem) – car

kialoyan (𐎧𐎺𐎠𐎵𐎲𐎠𐎹) – train station

Тлайотекойандиевл

(ཇཀབའ་ཚེངས་ལྟར་དུ།) – Psionic Testing Center

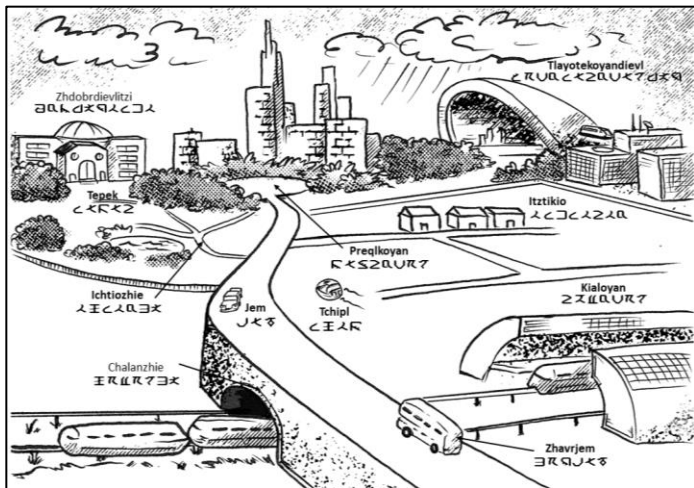
tepek (ᠲᠡᠫᠦᠭᠦᠨ) – public park

preqlkoyan
(ՔԷՏՀԱՍՐԴ) – city
center

chalanzhie (ᠬᠠᠯᠠᠨᠵᠡ) – tunnel

Tchipl (𐌲𐌹𐌸𐌱𐌰) – taxi

zhavrjem (ཟའ་བྲ་འཇུག་ཅེས་) –
bus



Tlapaka ke preql zochia ke tlanshia. Chak ichakipreql iningenta Zhdantpreql iqia se; qin preqltiki iqia se. Ai ke preqlkoya oyanqia ke otlatlatl. Fevre ke otlatlatl iqia tepek. Tlo ke tepek oyanqia ozhda ichtiozhieo. Edre ke tepek iqia ke Zhdobrdievlitzi. Jdele ke otlatatl iqia ozhda otlatltikio aia itzitikio. Alir ke preql iqia ke kialoyan. Tlo chalanzhie oyanqia ke akopatlichia.

Ininqenta zhavrjem ozhdia nado, nidl driatsia ke preql. Ininqenta jem pra tchipl zano ozhdia nado. Jedle ke preqlkoyan iqia ke Tlayotekoyandiev. Iqia drojia ichaka iazh kayotla.

Cultural Discussion: Zhodani Urban Planning

Visitors to the Consulate will notice that Zhodani architecture and urban design share many features common to other human cultures. Government buildings are often designed to project a sense of power and strength; hospitals are designed to be comfortable and relaxing, and businesses and corporations build their spaces with similar considerations. This is entirely by design - telepathy, empathy, and other psionic talents have enabled the Zhodani to create cities, towns, and municipalities that emphasize productivity, comfort, and acceptance of the social hierarchy. When one enters a Zhodani building, they are immediately immersed not only in the sense of awe and wonder, but also belonging - the workplace becomes a space where one wants to be part of the whole, to contribute to the greater good.

This carries over into all public spaces. Nobles will often set aside portions of their estates for use by the public, employing proles and Intendants for groundskeeping and psychic maintenance of the space and those who use it. These spaces are highly valued as essential to the mental health of the populace. Happy people are productive people, and well maintained, publicly accessible parks provide proles, intendants, and nobles alike with a pleasant spot to relax when needed. These relaxing, pleasant spaces are a point of pride for the Zhodani people, and all are expected to make use of them when needed (though spending too much time away from work might result in a visit from the **Tavrchedl**).

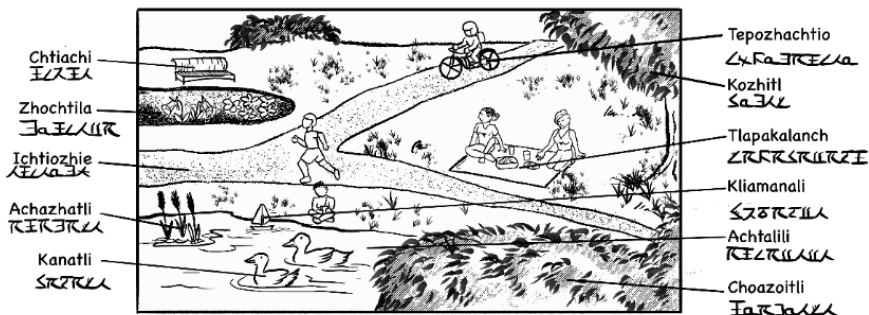
This aesthetic carries over into private homes as well. The homes of proles are designed with comfort, belonging, and satisfaction in mind, whether they're high-tech arcologies on long-settled worlds or prefab habitats on new colonies. The homes of nobles vary widely depending on the personalities, tastes, and desires of the noble family, but they tend to follow similar patterns.

Central to every Zhodani major city is the **Tlayokeyoandievl**, the Psionic Testing Center. These complexes vary widely depending on planetary conditions (a **Tlayokeyoandievl** on a garden world will have a lot of open space; one on a vacuum world might be a group of interlocking domed structures), but all have the same purpose, to evaluate the psionic potential and talents of Zhodani children at all stages of development. On Zhdant, in the capital city of **Dlolprikl**, the **Tlayokeyoandievl** also functions as the primary venue for the **Thequzdievl** (the Psionic Games).

Dialogue

Ikan and Kieko Tliaqrnad stop in the public park for lunch. They talk about what will happen in the Psionic Testing Center. Read, then translate:

- Ikan** Ininzhia kotozhia de, Kieko. Yekta zhia Niedl tlakole' iqia.
- Tliaqrnad**
- Kieko** Jdo itetl tlachikola, shtefrabr?
- Ikan** Chokotecho, zhedadenzh, iazh iazde chektia ziefbrabr. Ichagez ikotlia ve?
- Kieko** Viaj, kamatli.
- Ikan** Ayoaka stial, viaj?
- Kieko** Viaj, shtefrabr. Cha! Jdo yzqia ke kanatlio?
- Ikan** Viaj. Yzqia ininzhia. Tlapakalanchia ke ziefrio.
- Kieko** Kliamanali chilitias ke driefri. lazde, kamatli.
- Ikan** Tlayotekoyandievl ozdře de iepri tlachikola.
- Kieko** Ininzhia jdo de michře?
- Ikan** Ve tlanemilře ke drekre.
- Kieko** Ipatle?
- Ikan** Pradrnad iqa de, Kieko.



Vocabulary

[illegible]

jdell	ㄅㄨㄣˊ	right
jem	ㄅㄨˊ	car
kanatli	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	ducks
kaplan	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	overhead, above
kiloe'	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	to write
kliamanali	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	toy boat
kozitl	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	leaf
mantlach	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	ground
mantlachjem	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	ground car
miche'	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	to do (something)
miqane'	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	to move
mizh	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	cloud
niedl	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	for, in order to, for the purpose
otlatl	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	road
oyanqe'	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	to travel
oyanqrnad	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	A traveller
ozhda	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	many
pantle	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	in the middle
preql	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	city
qietsfatilia	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	motorcycle
qin	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	only, merely
shtiavdrekr	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	psychologist
tepozachtio	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	bicycle
tlacha	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	afternoon
tlanshia	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	a picture
tlapaka	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	a fragment or piece
tlapkalanch	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	picnic lunch
-tlatl	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	a group of
tlo	ㄅㄨˊ	through (preposition)
vidle'	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	to live
zhdiech	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	tree
zhdiechtlatl	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	forest
zhedadenzh	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	cheese
zhochtlia	ㄅㄨˊ ㄅㄨˊ	garden

zoche'

コル王^

to display

Exercises

Translate from Anglic to Zdetl:

Translate from Zdetl to Anglic:

Lesson Five: Ke Tlayokeyoandiev

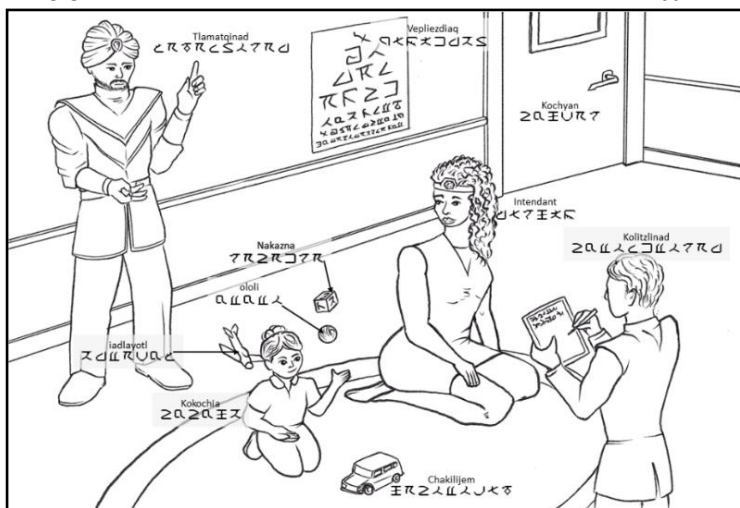
The Psionic Center

2K 2PUL2KULP7JXQ

tlamatzinad
kokochinad
dlenchiepr
chakilijem
ichtotlzdiaq
nakazna
iadlayotl
kolitzlinad
kochyan
ololi

2P7P2C7P7P
2Q2Q7P7P7P
J7P7P7P
7P2P7P7P7P
7P2C7P2C7P
7P2P7P7P
2Q7P7P2C7P7P7P
2Q7P7P7P
Q7P7P7P

physician
patient
Intendant
toy car
eye chart
block, cube
Airplane
scribe
door
ball



The picture shows the psionic testing room at the psionic center. The doctor is observing Kieko while scanning her psionically with Healing. He is also telepathically sending notes to the scribe. Kieko is playing with the toys telekinetically. She is levitating a ball, a block, and a toy airplane. Where is Kieko sitting? She is sitting on a rug. Who is beside her? An Intendant is sitting beside her. The Intendant is wearing a headband with a jewel on it. The doctor is wearing a turban. The doctor is a noble. The scribe is a prole. On the wall beside the door is an eye chart.

Movement Toward

Zhi' (ㄗㄣˊ)

Movement From

Pe' (ㄆㄟˊ)

Verbs: The Imperative Case

The imperative case is used when giving an order or instruction that must be carried out. Verbs in the imperative end in **-zhda** (ㄓㄨㄚˊ).

Chedle' (ㄔㄜㄉㄌㄝˊ) to guard

Pradrie' (ㄆㄚㄌㄣˊ) to move

something, telekinetically

Tlakole' (ㄊㄌㄎㄌㄝˊ) to eat

Chedlzda! (ㄔㄜㄉㄌㄝˊ ㄓㄨㄚˊ) guard (that)!

Pradrizhda! (ㄆㄚㄌㄣˊ ㄓㄨㄚˊ) move

(that) telekinetically!

Tlakolzhda! (ㄊㄌㄎㄌㄝˊ ㄓㄨㄚˊ) eat

(that)!

More Correlative Pro-Forms

The suffix **-qez** (-ㄑㄝˊ) indicates quantity. The correlative words may be formed by adding the appropriate prefixes.

iqez

ininqez

achiqez

ayoqez

ichaqez

ziquez

ㄣˊ ㄑㄝˊ

ㄣˊ ㄗ ㄣˊ ㄑㄝˊ

ㄣˊ ㄗ ㄣˊ ㄑㄝˊ

ㄣˊ ㄌㄣˊ ㄑㄝˊ

ㄣˊ ㄗ ㄣˊ ㄑㄝˊ

ㄑㄣˊ ㄑㄝˊ

how many

that many

every

none

some

any amount

The prefixes shown above can also be applied to any of the other correlative base forms, for example, **-ad** (-ㄚˊ) from Lesson 2:

iad

ininad

achiad

ayoad

ichaad

ziad

ㄗ ㄚˊ

ㄗ ㄗ ㄗ ㄗ ㄚˊ

ㄗ ㄗ ㄗ ㄚˊ

ㄗ ㄌㄣˊ ㄗ ㄚˊ

ㄗ ㄗ ㄗ ㄗ ㄚˊ

ㄑㄣˊ ㄗ ㄚˊ

which person/who?

that person

every person

no person

someone

anyone

As you can see, this adds measurably to the ways questions can be answered quite easily:

to feel calm and safe. Physicians' assistants employ telepathy and empathy to assess their patients' psychological needs; healing (**chochitldievl**) to evaluate and if possible and necessary, treat their physical ailments; telekinesis and teleprojection are used for more intensive outpatient procedures; telepaths trained in both psychiatry are on hand to help patients adjust when needed. If necessary, **Tavrchedl** can be called in when re-education is warranted. Outsiders will notice the lack of sterilization chemicals ubiquitous in other hospitals; aside from controlling airborne diseases, psionics and robotic surgery make them almost completely unnecessary.

Psionic Evaluation

Every child born in the Consulate is evaluated for psionic potential from birth and monitored throughout early childhood. This is done in the nearest **Tlayokeyoandievl**, the Psionic Testing Center found in every major city. The goal is not merely to identify and place children who display strong potential; it is also to ensure the birth family remains healthy and stable as their children's talents emerge (or not). All children are not equal, and some develop their strengths earlier or later than others. Annual medical examinations therefor include psionic evaluations. This helps ensure that children who show early signs of strength can be placed in an appropriate environment where their growing talents can develop safely. Children who do not show significant aptitude are simply not trained.

All parents know it's their duty not only to the Consulate, but to themselves, to report any signs of emerging talent as soon as possible. An untrained, powerful telekinetic child, for example, in a family of **zhant'ad** is a danger to themself and their family - no one wants to experience the 'terrible twos' from a growing **pradrnad**! The State recognizes that this is an emotional time for both families and goes to great lengths to ease the transition for everyone. Ideally, the child will be placed with a **Dlenchiepr** family living nearby. Limited visits may be allowed, supervised by **notzalitlamatzinad** and, if necessary, **Tavrchedl**. In some cases, the **Zhdobrdievl** house the **Dlenchiepr** family is attached to might allow the **zhant'ad** family to work for them, but this is not common. A clean break after an adjustment period is generally preferred.

Lesson Six will focus on the ceremony around this process, commonly known as **Zhinqetstial**, or Ascension Day.

Prefixes and Suffixes

Dialogue

Vocabulary

Lesson Six: Dlenchieprstiavl

Ascension Day

シキヲ王女に上ルズ

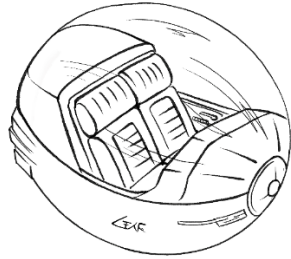
Appendix A: Writing practice

Appendix B: Vehicles and Equipment

Tchipl – TL-12 robotic taxi

Tchipl-class Compact Grav Robo-Taxi (**トチプル**)

Craft ID:	Tchipl-class Zhodani Compact Grav Taxi, Cr3,000,000
Hull:	1/2, Disp = 1, Config = SSL, Armor = 0 Unloaded = 5 tons, Loaded = 7 tons
Power:	1/2, Fusion-12 = 10MW, Duration = 55/18
Locomotion:	1/2, Grav NOE = 160kph, Cruise = 750kph, Top = 1000kph
Comms:	Radio = Regional (500km)
Sensors:	Radar = Dist (5km), Ladar = Dist (5km) Headlights, Passive IR w/Image Enhancement Synthetic Vision
Controls:	Model/0 bis with robotic control systems Backup controls = Computer Linked, HUD
Accomm:	Basic Life Support, Inertial Compensation 2x Passenger Seats
Other:	Cargo = 2kl, Fuel = 4kl



The **Tchipl** is a class of compact, robotic taxis in common use in urban centers in the Zhodani Consulate. It takes its name from the Zdetl word meaning “bubble,” which also resembles the original inventor’s name. Nearly every major city maintains a fleet of **Tchiplo**.

Appendix C: Creatures of Zhdant

Appendix D: Zdetl Correlative Pro-Forms

[illegible]

Appendix E: Zdetl Pronoun Forms

Standard			Possessive	
<i>i</i>	first person singular	ze (ㄷㅅ)	my	zeo (ㄷㅅㄹ)
<i>we</i>	first person plural	de (ㄷㅅ)	our	deo (ㄷㅅㄹ)
<i>you</i>	second person singular	ve (ㄴㅅ)	your	veo (ㄴㅅㄹ)
<i>y'all</i>	second person plural	le (ㄹㅅ)	y'all's	leo (ㄹㅅㄹ)
<i>he/she/it</i>	third person singular	se (ㅅㅅ)	his/hers/its	seo (ㅅㅅㄹ)
<i>they</i>	third person plural	ye (ㅅㅅ)	theirs	yeo (ㅅㅅㄹ)
<i>reflexive pronoun</i>	non-specific "one"	zhe (ㅅㅅ)	one's	zheo (ㅅㅅㄹ)
<i>definite article</i>	the	ke (ㄱㅅ)		