BEGINNING ZDETL

人王乙Ꝺ乙ᒋ冗ᒑ乙 ᗡㄡ乙

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BEGINNING ZDETL

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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 -6055[1].

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" – 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

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

main noun last[2]. Zdetl makes widespread use of *affixatives*, which are usually Locative[3], Lative[4], and Comparative[5] 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-noncomforming 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.

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[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

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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:

ᚱ *A* as in "lock" or "father", never as in "pale": *atrint,* **Ah-trint**; driant*,* **dri-Ahnt**

ᚴ *E* as in "get" or "let", never as in "pier": *echtovr,* **EHch-tovr;**

ᚤ *I* as in "kit", never as in "mile": *ivr,* **IHvr;** *izhtak,* **IHzh-tak**

ᚥ *IA* as in "**ya**nk": *iavchieql,* **Yav-chiegl;** *iatepcha,* **Ya-tep-cha**

ᚥ *IE* as in "la**ye**r": *iebr,* **Ye-br**

ᚢ *O* as in "go": *ibro,* **i-brO;** *otre',* **O-tre'**

ᚱ *Ř* is a trilled "r" sound similar to the Polish "<mark>Przemysl</mark>[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'

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.

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

Pronunciation of the consonant forms is as follows:

⼘ *B* as in Anglic "**b**oy": *baz,* **Baz**; "barbarian"

⼘ *BL* as in "**bl**ue": *achabl,* **ach-aBL**

⼘ *BR* as in "**br**ood": *dlabre';* **dla-BRe'**

王 *CH* as in "**ch**ild"; never hard as in "kick": *echtovr;* **eCH-tovr**

⼚ *D* as in "**d**og": *dizh;* **Dizh**

⼚ *DL* as in "pad**dl**e": *dlabre';* **DLa-bre'**

⼚ *DR* as in "**dr**y": *driejabr;* **DRie-jabr**

⼂ *F* as in "**f**ar"; never a "v" as in "of": *fevranzh;* **Fev-ranzh**

⼂ *FL* as in "**fl**y": *flietavrian;* **FLie-tav-rian**

⼂ *FR* as in "**fr**ee": *fronzh;* **FRonzh**

⼐ *J* as in "**j**ump": *jiavr;* **Jiavr**

⼗ *K* as in "**k**ite": *kaz;* **Kaz**

⼗ *KL* as in "**cl**ing" or wrin**kl**e": *kliazh;* **KLiazh**

⼗ *KR* as in "**cr**y" or "**cr**acker": *kral;* **KRal**

⼕ *L* as in "**l**ong": *lienj;* **Lienj**; "wind"

⼎ *M* as in "**m**any": *mazhde';* **Mazh-de'**

⼍ *N* as in "**n**ever": *nad;* **Nad**; "a person who does something"

⼍王 *NCH* as in "cru**nch**": *Dlenchiepr;* **dleNCH-iepr**; "Intendant"

⼍⼐ *NJ* as in "excha**nge**": *lienj;* **lieNJ**; "wind"

⼍⊥ *NS* as in "da**ns** macabre": *rans;* **raNS**; "hate (n)"

⼍± *NSH* as in "n + sh": *tavrziansh;* **ta-vř-ziaNSH**; "Morality's Path"

⼍⊂ *NT* as in "ca**n't**": *Zhdant;* **zhdaNT**; The Zhodani homeworld

⼍⼂ *NTS* as in "pa**nts**": *yentschapo;* **yeNTS-cha-po**; "bacon"

⼍⼞ *NZ* as in "ca**ns**": *Ninz;* **niNZ**; A class of 100-ton scout ships

⼍∃ *NZH* as in "bi**nge**" or "fri**nge**": *dranzh;* **draNZH**; "sun"

P as in "ca**p**": *piapr*; **Piapr**; "thaw"

PL as in "**pl**ay": *Pliebr*; **PLiebr**; the primary G0V star of the Zhdant system

PR as in "**pr**ay": *piapr*; **piaPR**

Q is like the Terran Arabic Q, which is a glottal hard "G" as in "**Q**atar": *qiets,* **Gi-ets**

QL as in "**gl**ue": *qlome',* **GLo-me'**

QR as in "**gr**own": *tliaqre',* **tli-a-GRe'**

R as in "**r**un": *rans,* **Rans**; "rain"

S as in "**s**un": *stial,* **Stial**; a day on Zhdant, about 27 hours

SH as in "**sh**ut": *shiv;* **SHiv**; "moon"

SHT as in "I**sht**ar": *shtefrabr;* **SHTe-frabr**; "father"

ST as in "**st**op": *stebre';* **STe-bre'**;

T as in "**t**all": *tozjabr;* **Toz-jabr**;

TL as in "a**tl**as": *pranatl;* **pran-aTL**; a minor noble, "aspirant"

TR as in "**tr**ain": *atrint;* **a-TRint**; "raining," the wet season on Zhdant

TS as in "se**ts**": *qiets;* **qieTS**; "swift"

V as in "**v**ery": *viaj;* **Vyaj**; "yes" or "truth"

VL as in "**Vl**and": *vlezhd;* **VLezhd**

VR as in "**vr**oom": *vrien;* **VRien**; "heat"

Y as in "**y**et": *yonchobo;* **Yon-cho-bo**; a draft animal native to Zhdant

Z as in "**z**oo": *zar;* **Zar**; "trek"

ZD as in "Thur**sd**ay": *Zdetl;* **ZDetl**; the official language of the Zhodani

ZH as in "mea**su**re": *Zhodani;* **ZHo-da-ni**

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

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Atchafser (*at-chaf-ser*) = "waning," the time of the year when the summer's heat fades
Ataniebl (*a-tan-yebl*) = "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 = *chial* (chyal)	6 = *kiachti* (kyach-ti)
2 = *omei* (oh-myeh)	7 = *komi* (ko-mi)
3 = *tyeii* (ty-yeh-i)	8 = *koe* (ko-e)
4 = *nachoie* (na-cho-yeh)	9 = *kona* (ko-na)
5 = *machieli* (ma-chyeh-li)	10 = *matlapa* (ma-tla-pa)
100 = *chien* (chyen)	1000 = *matlachien* (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*
Etc.

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]

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

Lesson Two
Itzi iazh Kenkali
Home and Family

ㅅㄷㄱㅅ ㅈㅌ ㄥㅅㄱㄱ㎡ㅅ

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," but that is not always the case. Practice and learn the following words first:

Driefri – boy

Driefrabr – brother

Driefrzin – son
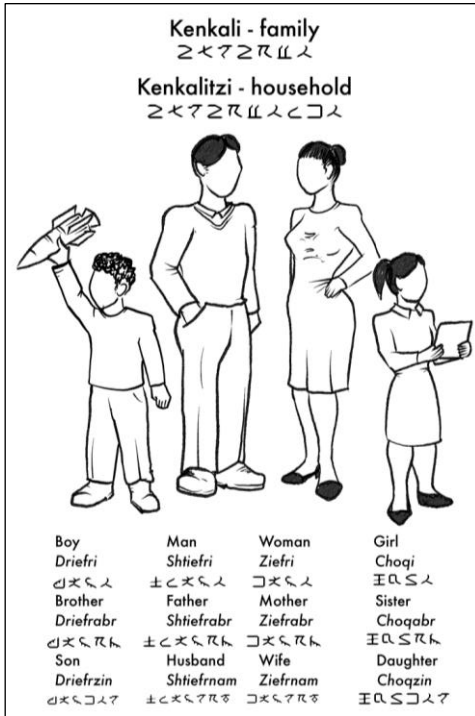
Kenkali - family
ㄥㅅㄱㄱ㎡ㅅ

Kenkalitzi - household
ㄥㅅㄱㄱ㎡ㅅㄷㄱㅅ

Boy	Man	Woman	Girl
Driefri	Shtiefri	Ziefri	Choqi
Brother	Father	Mother	Sister
Driefrabr	Shtiefrabr	Ziefrabr	Choqabr
Son	Husband	Wife	Daughter
Driefrzin	Shtiefrnam	Ziefrnam	Choqzin

Choqi – girl

Choqabr – sister

Choqrzin – daughter

Shtiefri – man

Shtiefrabr – father

Shtiefrnam – husband

Ziefri – woman

Ziefrabr – mother

Ziefrnam – wife

-abr – "family member"

-zin – "child of"

-nam – "spouse"

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, beast   **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:
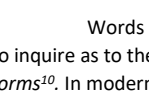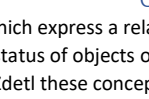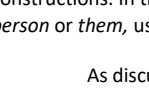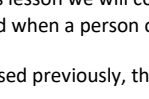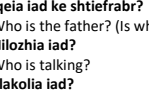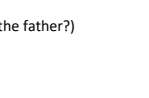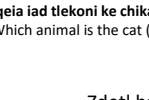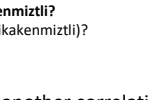
IkatikIA ke shtiefrabr.   The father stands/The father is standing.
KrillIA ke driefri.   The boy cries/The boy is crying.
ChoetzhIA ke ziefrnam.   The wife laughs/The wife is laughing.

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

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

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.

Vocabulary - verbs		
	miztlie^ - ride **kochie^** - sleep **noetzhite^** - climb **oliane^** - swim **kopeche^** - push **katzitlane^** - pull **yanae^** - hide **mochite^** - read **Iqe^** - to be **Tlakoie^** - eat **Tlapae^** - drink **Qiloe^** - paint **Shtiave^** - think **Zhdazhe^** - catch **Tie^** - throw **Niloze^** - talk **Koqie^** - listen **Kotozhe^** - sit **Ikatike^ -** stand	

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].

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 -**tetl** refers to objects or

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10 Pro-form - Wikipedia

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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 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
Choqzin – daughter
Driefri – boy
Choqi – girl
Shtiefrnam – husband
Ziefrnam – wife

Chezin – children (sons and daughters)

Chefri – boys and girls

Chefrnam – husbands and wives; men and women of the household

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
Tliaqre^ - to grind grain

Qilonad – a painter
Tliaqrnad – one who grinds grain, a miller – also a common Zhodani prole surname

Zhant'ad – a commoner or Prole

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

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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.

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

<div align="center">-TIKI-</div>

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
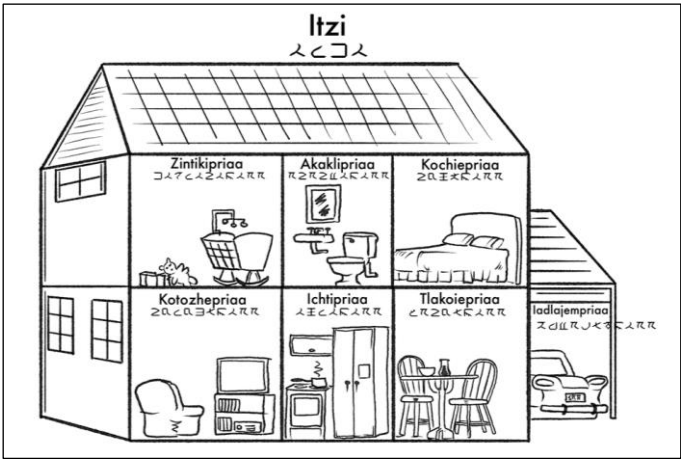
Itzi yzqia kenkali Tliaqrnad.

Klachti 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 from this chapter

akom	ᚱᐯᘎᕗ	inside, within, in
alir	ᚱᏘᚺᛂ	outside, without, external to
chi-	ᚘᚺ*	gender-inclusive/exclusive prefix
chikakenmiztli	ᚘᚺᐯᚱᐯᛕᚨᕗᚺᘇᐯᚺ	cat
chokte'	ᚘᐁᐯᚸᛐ^	to contain, to have
choqabr	ᚘᐁᐯᐯᛞ	sister
choqi	ᚘᐁᐯᚺ	girl
choqzin	ᚘᐁᐯᘇᚺᛁ	daughter

<div align="center">11</div>

driefrabr		brother
driefri		boy
driefrzin		son
drieftiki		baby boy
fevranzh		book
iadlajem		sky car
iadlajemtiki		compact sky car
iazh		also, too
ibro		egg
ikatike'		to stand
iqe'		to be
itzi		house, home
kafi		coffee
katzitlane'		to pull
ke		definite article "the"
kenkali		family
kenkalitzi		household
klachti		six
kochie'		to sleep
kopeche'		to push
koqie'		to listen
kotozhe'		to sit
miztlie'		to ride
mochite'		to read
nad		person who
nam		spouse of
niloze'		to talk
noetzhite'		to climb
oliane'		to swim
priaa		a room
qiloe'		to paint
shtiave'		to think
shtiefrabr		father
shtiefri		man

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shtiefrnam	±Շ ×𝒳 Շ 𝟋 𝑅 𝟅	husband
tie'	Շ × ^	to throw
tikizin	Շ 人 𝟚 人 𝖢 人 𝟋	infant, small child
tlakole'	Շ 𝑅 𝟚 Ɑ 𝑙𝑙 �^	to eat
tlapae'	Շ 𝑅 ⎑ 𝑅 ㄡ^	to drink
tlekoni	Շ ㄥ 𝟚 Ɑ 𝟋 人	animal
tliaqre'	Շ ㄋ ≤ ㄡ^	to grind grain
yanae'	∪ 𝑅 𝟋 𝑅 ㄡ^	to hide
yzqe'	∪ ⊐ ≤ ㄡ^	behold, look at, observe
zhdazhe'	ⴺ 𝑅 ⴺ ㄡ^	to catch
ziatl	⊐ 人 𝑅 Շ	table
ziefrabr	⊐ × Շ 𝑅 Ⱶ	mother
ziefri	⊐ × Շ 人	woman
ziefrnam	⊐ × Շ 𝟋 𝑅 𝟅	wife
zin	∗⊐ 人 𝟋	child of

Exercises

Exercise 2a: Zdetl to Anglic

1. Iqia Mashti Tlieqrnad shtiefrabr, iazh iqeia Mazi Tliaqrnad ziefrabr.
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.

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Lesson Three

Akom ke apriaa
In the room

ᴿᙆᴀᎦ ᴢᴋ ᴿᎦᴧᴿᴿ

The next lessons will feature Zdetl translations alongside the written Anglic forms of the vocabulary as much as possible. Students may want to practice writing the Zdetl glyphs using the printable practice sheets in Appendix 1.

Adjectives

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

kala chikakenmiztli – good cat
sarkikasha tlekonio – extinct animals
zina shtiefri – childish (or childlike) 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 (-�)** but it can be:

zina shtiefrio/zinao shtiefrio – childish men
yeka ibroo/yekao ibro – bad eggs[13]

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

Adjectives should be placed in front of the nouns they modify[14]:

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

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

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 – ᴶᴋ – I, me	**ve –** ᴼᴶᴋ – You (singular)	**se –** ⟂ᴋ – he, she, or it
de – ᴅᴋ – us, we	**le –** ᴫᴋ – You (collective)	**ye –** ∪ᴋ – they

A seventh pronoun exists – zhe (ᴣᴋ) – or "one," which is used when referring to a non-specified person or persons. 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."

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[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 chaoqia priaa* becomes *chaoqia priaatiki.* Often adjectives prefixes, suffixes and nouns are combined into a single compound word; in this example *tikia chaoqia priaao* would become *chaoqipriaatikio,* "cozy little room."

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

mochite' – ᕲᐸᗑ人ᐑᐠ – to read

mochitie ze – I read, I am reading	**mochitie ve** – you read	**mochitie se** – (s)he reads
mochitie de – we read	**mochitie le** – you all read	**mochitie ye** – they read

iqe' - 人ᐊᐞᐠ – to be

iqia ze – I am	**iqia ve** – you are	**iqia se** – (s)he is
iqia de – we are	**iqia le** – you all are	**iqia ye** – they are

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

iqia ze iad – who am I?	**iqia ve iad** – who are you?	**iqia se iad** – who is she?
iqia de iad – who are we?	**iqia le iad** – who are y'all?	**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** (ᑌᐊᕽ) is added:

Mochitia ze	becomes	**Jdo mochitia 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 (ᑫᔓᑌ) = *yes* or *truth*; **chak** (ᐊᕋ≤) = *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./Chaqietsa 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 (�入乙ᐊ乙) – what/which thing; **inintetl** (�入𝟕入ᐊ乙ᐊ乙) – that thing

As discussed in the previous lession, 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]

iochti (入ᕴᕮ乙入) – what kind/type of; **ininochti** (入𝟕入ᕴᕴᕮ乙入) that kind/type of

Iochti 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.
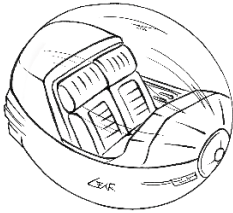
Iochti is often used in exclamations:

Iocthti tlekoni!	**Iochti shtiefri ve!**	**Iochti qrazhe!**
(what a beast!)	(what a man you are!)	(such a noise!)

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[15] Note the omission of the verb **iqe'.**

Iochti ziatl se? (what kind of table is that?)	**Malachtia ziatl se.** (It's a table.)	
Iochti iadlajem se? (what kind of sky car is that?)	**Tchipl se.**[16]	
Iochti shtiefri ve? (what kind of man are you?)	**Homo Zdotlas de.** (I'm a *Homo Zdotlas.*)	
Iochti tlekonio se? (what kind of animals are those?)	**Tochinqoa se.** (Those are honey badgers.)	

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** (ᗡᴙ) is inserted between the object and the subject to show ownership. The defininte article **ke** can be used or omitted without loss of meaning:

Ke itzi dra kenkali Tliaqrnad
(The Tliaqrnad residence)
Ke iadlajem dra Ma Tliaqrnad
(Mr. Tliaqrnad's car)

Priaa dra Kieko (Kieko's room)

Chakilio dra Akam (Akam's toys)

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** (ᗡ᙭ᕴ), 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** (�), 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** (ᗡ). **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,

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[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."

government bureaucrats, business management, doctors, and police forces are staffed by **dlenchiepr.**

The upper tier of Consulate society is the *nobility*, the **zhdobrdievl** (ココ٩ᙁᙁᙁᗡᙀ٩). 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 **zhdant'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.

shtadievl (±ᘹᙁᗡᙀ٩) telepathy	**pradievl** (ᙁᙁᗡᙀ٩) telekinesis
koetsdievl (ᘔᗩᙊᘹᗡᙀ٩) teleportation	**petlandievl** (ᙁᙊᘹᙁ7ᗡᙀ٩) clairvoyance
tlakoyedievl (ᘹᙁᘔᗩᙌᙊᗡᙀ٩) awareness	**zhdavadievl** (ᗡᙀᙏᙀᙁᗡᙀ٩) precognition

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

Shtadrnad (±ᘹᙁᗡ7ᙀᙁᗡ) a person trained in telepathy
Pradrnad (ᙁᙁᗡ7ᙀᙁᗡ) a person trained in telekinesis
Koetsdrnad (ᘔᗩᙊᘹᗡ7ᙀᙁᗡ) a person trained in teleportation
Petlandrnad (ᙁᙊᘹᙁ7ᗡ7ᙀᙁᗡ) a person trained in clairvoyance
Tlakoyedrnad (ᘹᙁᘔᗩᙌᙊᗡ7ᙀᙁᗡ) a person trained in awareness
Zhdavrnad (ᗡᙀᙏᙀ7ᙀᙁᗡ) a person trained in precognition

Zhdavrnad are very rare, accounting for about 1% of the psionic population. They often suffer from severe psychiactric 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.

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Seo chakilio chilitia Kieko.

⊥ᚅᚐ ᚔᚏᗂᒐᚆᒐᚐ ᚔᒐᚆᒐᗂᚆ ᗂᚉᗂᚐ
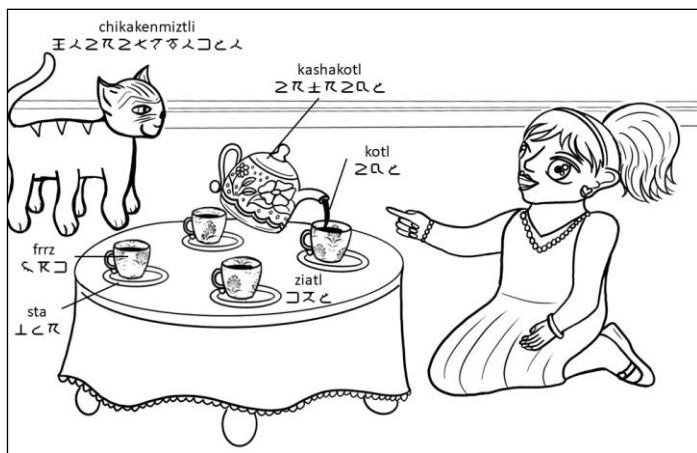
Reading

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 Kotlanchrnad	Tlachipale, Nor. Viaj, kamatli.
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	Viay, 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.
Ikan Tliaqrnad enters.	
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.

akostial	ℛⵥα⊥ⲥⵥℛⱠ	tomorrow
amanstial	ℛ♂ℛ�ʔ⊥ⵥⵥℛℒ	today
apaz	ℛⵥℛⴺ	in front of
chak	Ŧℛⵥ	no or false
chakili	Ŧℛⵥⵥℒⵥ	toy
chaoqia	Ŧℛαⵦⵥ	cozy, snug
chilite'	Ŧⵥℒⵥⵥℛˆ	to play, to play with something
de	ⵚⵜ	we
deo	ⵚⵜα	our, ours
deva	ⵚⵜⵙℛ	to be required to; must do
dievl	ⵚⵥⵜⵙ	psionics
dlenchiepr	ⵚⵜʔŦⵜℾ	Intendant
dra	ⵚℛ	"of", indicating possession of a thing or relation to a person (wife of, son of, etc)
frrz	ⵦℛⴺ	cup
ichi	ⵥŦⵥ	upon
ikotlie'	ⵥⵥαⵥℒⵜˆ	to desire, to want
io	ⵥα	"to", into
ipatle	ⵥℛℛⵚⵜ	why? For what reason?
jdo	ⵡⵚα	question indicator
kamatli	ⵥℛ♂ℛⵥⵥ	thank you, my thanks
kashakotl	ⵥℛŦℛⵥαⵥ	teapot
kayotlie	ⵥℛ∪αⵥⵜ	beautiful
koetsdievl	ⵥαⵜⵥⵚⵜⵙ	teleportation
koetsdrnad	ⵥαⵜⵥⵚℛℛⵚ	a person trained in teleportation
kon	ⵥαʔ	with
kotl	ⵥαⵥ	tea
le	ⵥⵜ	y'all
leo	ⵥⵜα	your (many)
malachtia	♂ℛⵥℛℛŦⵥⵜℛ	circular, round
mazhde'	♂ℛⵚⵜˆ	to suppose, implies lack of certainty
mizhtloyo	♂ⵥⴺⵥα∪α	pastry
ozdie'	αⵡⵚⵜˆ	to go
pale'	ℛℛⵥⵜˆ	to greet

pale	⌐ℜ⅏≺	greetings!
petlandievl	⌐≺⌐ℜↄ⋊ⴗ	clairvoyance
petlandrnad	⌐≺⌐ℜↄ⋎ℜↄ	a person trained in clairvoyance
pradievl	⌐ℜↄ⋊ⴗ	telekinesis
pradrie'	⌐ℜↄ⋊^	to levitate; to move something telekinetically
pradrnad	⌐Ⱨℜↄ⋎ℜↄ	one trained in telekinesis
preql	⌐Ⱨ⋊ⴗ	city
qich	≤⋋Ŧ	enough, sufficient
qrazhe	ⴗℜ⊒⋊	noise
se	⊥⋉	he, she, or it
seo	⊥⋉ᴖ	his, hers, or its
shtadievl	±ϲℜↄ⋊ⴗ	telepathy
shtadrnad	±ϲℜↄ⋎ℜↄ	a person trained in telepathy
sta	⊥ϲℜ	saucer, plate
stial	⊥ϲ⋋ℜ⅏	day
tlacha	ϲℜŦℜ	afternoon
tlachipale!	ϲℜŦ⋋⌐ℜ⅏⋉	good afternoon
tlakoyedievl	ϲℜ⊇ᴖⴗ⋉ↄ⋊ⴗ	awareness
tlakoyedrnad	ϲℜ⊇ᴖⴗ⋉ↄ⋎ℜↄ	a person trained in awareness
Tlayotekoyandievl	ϲℜⴖᴖϲ⋉⊇ᴖⴗ⋎ↄ⋊ⴗ	The Psionic Testing Center
tochinqoa	ϲℜŦ⋋⋎≤ℿℜ	a creature resembling a six-legged rabbit, but with the temperament of an African honey badger.
tokpa	ϲℿ⊇⌐ℜ	well, healthy
ve	ⴗ⋉	you
veo	ⴗ⋉ᴖ	your (singular)
viaj	ⴗ⋊Ɉ	yes or truth
vrien	ⴗⱧ⋊⋎	hot, heat
ye	∪⋉	they
yekta	∪⋉≤ϲℜ	good
yeo	∪⋉ᴖ	their, theirs
ze	⊐⋉	I, me
zeo	⊐⋉ᴖ	mine, my
zhdanstial	ↄℜ⋎⊥ϲ⋋ℜ⅏	a solar day on Zhdant, about 27.5 hours

zhdavadievl	Ǝᴙꟼᴙᗡꭕꟼ	precognition
zhdavrnad	ƎᴙꟼꙜᴙᗡ	a person trained in precognition
zhdobrdievl	Ǝꝳᴋᗡꭕꟼ	noble
ziatl	⊃ㅅᴙ乚	table

Ke preql iazh iatlepcha
The City and the Countryside

ᘔᛌ ᚱᛌᛈ ᛌᚽ ᚷᛈᛌᚳᚱᛋᚱ

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

Ke iatlepcha
ᘔᛌ ᚷᛈᛌᚳᚱᛋᚱ

mizh (ᚠᛌᚽ) – cloud	**dranzh** (ᚳᚱᛒᚽ) – sun
iadla (ᛌᚳᛁᚱ) – sky	**jdatl** (ᛃᚳᚱᛋ) – mountain
abavnomaki (ᚱᚴᚱᚳᛒᚪᚠᚱᛒᛌ) – truck	**otlatl** (ᚪᛋᚱᛋ) – road
iadlajem (ᛌᚳᛁᚱᚳᛃᛌᚠ) – sky car	**mantlachjem** (ᚠᚱᛒᛋᛌᚱᚳᛃᛌᚠ) – ground car
preql (ᚱᛈᛌᛈ) – city	**akopatlicha** (ᚱᛒᚪᛁᚱᚱᛋᛌᛌᚽᚱ) – monorail, train
qietsfatilia (ᛈᚽᛌᛋᛈᚱᚱᛋᛌᛌᛁᚱ) – motorcycle	**zhdiechtlatl** (ᛃᚽᚽᛌᛋᛌ) - forest
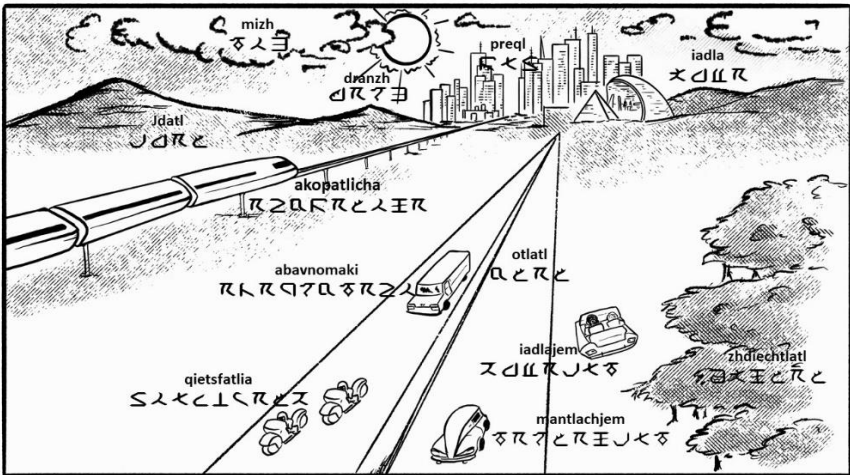
The picture displays the countryside. There is a road in the center. There is a monorail to the left of the road. On the road there are motorcycles, a car, and a truck. Above the road is a sky car. The sky car is above a forest. The city is among the mountains. The sun is overhead. A cloud is in front of the sun. The sun and clouds are in the sky. The road and monorail lead toward the city.

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 Zdelt, most adverbs end in **-e** (-�Ↄ):

kayotla (ᘓᴙՈᗭ⊏ᴙ) beautiful	kayotle (ᘓᴙՈᗭ⊏�Ↄ) beautifully
qich (ᙐ⅄Ŧ) sufficient	qiche (ᙐ⅄ŦↃ) sufficiently
yekta (ᑌↃᘓ⊏ᴙ) good	yekte (ᑌↃᘓ⊏Ↄ) well
pradievl (ᖊᴙ⪫ᖴ⪦) telekinesis (n)	pradievle (ᖊᴙ⪫ᖴↃ) 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 mochitia ke ziefrabr. ᘓↃ ᙐↃᖴᴙᴙᴌᗩ ᗉՈŦ⅄⊏⅄ᙐ ᘓↃ ᗔↃᙐᴙᖴ. The mother reads the book.
Ke ziefrabr iqia Ma Tliaqrnad. ᘓↃ ᗔↃᙐᖴ⅄ ⅄ᙐᙁ ᗉᴙ ⊏ᙁᗉᴙᴙ⪫. The mother is Mrs. Miller.

The person or entity taking the action is the **subject**. In these examples, **ziefrabr** 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 Zdetl, the **direct object** always appears first in the sentence, followed by the **verb** (and preceded by any adjectives), and then finally the **subject**. Zdetl word order is always Object – Verb – Subject.

More Correlative Pro-Forms

izhia (⅄ᗘᙁ) – where? What place?; **ininzhia** (⅄ᖬ⅄ᗘᙁ) – there, that place

Izhie vidlia ve? ⅄ᗘᙁ ᗉ⅄⪫ᖴᙁ ᗉↃ/ Where do you live?	**Ininzhie vidlia ze.** ⅄ᖬ⅄ᗘᙁ ᗉ⅄⪫ᖴᙁ ᗉↃ. I live there.
Izhie iqia se? ⅄ᗘᙁ ⅄ᙐᙁ ⊥Ↄ/ Where is he (she, it)?	**Ininzhie iqia se.** ⅄ᖬ⅄ᗘᙁ ⅄ᙐᙁ ⊥Ↄ. He (she, it) is there.

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iqenta (ㄥㄥㄑ⁷ㄷㄇ) – how? What way?; **ininqenta** (ㄥㄱㄥ⁷ㄥㄑ⁷ㄷㄇ) – in that way, thusly

Iqenta chilitia le? ㄥㄥㄑ⁷ㄷㄇ ㅌㄥ瓜ㄥㄷㄥ 瓜ㄑ/ How do they play?	**Ininqenta chilitia le.** ㄥㄱㄥ⁷ㄥㄑ⁷ㄷㄇ ㅌㄥ瓜ㄥㄷㄥ 瓜ㄑ* They play like that (thus, thusly).
Iqenta liebia se? ㄥㄥㄑ⁷ㄷㄇ 瓜ㄒㄥㄥ ⊥ㄑ/ How does he work?	**Ininqenta liebia se.** (ㄥㄱㄥ⁷ㄥㄑ⁷ㄷㄇ 瓜ㄒㄥㄥ ⊥ㄑ* He works that way.
Iqenta miqania se? ㄥㄥㄑ⁷ㄷㄇ ㄖㄥㄥㄇㄑㄥ ⊥ㄑ/ How does it move?	**Ininqenta qietse miqania se.** ㄥㄱㄥ⁷ㄥㄑ⁷ㄷㄇ ㄥㄒㄥㄑ ㄖㄥㄥㄇㄑㄥ ⊥ㄑ* It moves so quickly.

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

Chakiqia se ichakipreql ininqenta Zhdantpreql. ㅌㄇㄥㄥㄥㄥ ⊥ㄑ ㄥㅌㄇㄥㄥㄇㄑㄥ ㄥㄱㄥ⁷ㄥㄑ⁷ㄷㄇ �ㄇ⁷ㄷㄇㄑㄑ It is not a large city like Zhdantpreql (The capital city of Zhdant).
Chak chilitia se ininqenta ve. ㅌㄇㄥ ㅌㄥ瓜ㄥㄷㄥ ⊥ㄑ ㄥㄱㄥ⁷ㄥㄑ⁷ㄷㄇ ㄑㄑ He does not play like you.

The combination of **iqenta** … **ininqenta** can be translated to Anglic *as … as*:

Chakiqia Tchipl iqenta ichiaki ininqenta iadlajem. ㅌㄇㄥㄥㄥㄥ ㄷㄥㅌㄇ ㄥㄥㄑ⁷ㄷㄇ ㄥㅌㄥㄥㄥ ㄥㄒ瓜ㄇㄥㄑㄥ* A Tchipl is not **as** big **as** a sky car.
Chakiqia chikakenmiztli iqenta tlayeia ininqenta tochinqoa. ㅌㄇㄥㄥㄥㄥ ㅌㄥㄥㄇㄥㄇㄑㄥㄥㄥ瓜ㄥ ㄥㄥㄑ⁷ㄷㄇ ㄷㄇㄥㄑㄑ ㄥㄱㄥ⁷ㄥㄑ⁷ㄷㄇ ㄷ瓜ㅌㄥ⁷ㄥㄒ瓜ㄇ* A chikakenmiztli is not **as** fierce **as** a tochinqoa.

More Prefixes and Suffixes
ICHAKI- (ㄥㅌㄇㄥㄥ-)

The prefix **ichaki-** is the opposite of **-tiki** and is used to imply a great deal of size.

fevranzh ㄑㄑㄇㄇㄑㄥ A book	ichakifevranzh ㄥㅌㄇㄥㄥㄑㄑㄇㄇㄑㄥ A huge book, a tome
jem ㄥㄑㄖ A car	ichakijem ㄥㅌㄇㄥㄥㄥㄑㄖ A limousine
zhdiech ㄖㄑㅌ A tree	ichakizhdiech ㄥㅌㄇㄥㄥㄖㄑㅌ 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** (ㄇㅌㄥㄥㄥㅌㄇ⁷ㄑㄑㄇ) – *refrigerator*, and **ashashtiablnefa** (ㄇㅌㄇㅌㄥㄥㄥㅌㄇ⁷ㄑㄑㄇ) – *freezer*. Literally, these mean "cold box" and "very cold box" respectively.

-TLATL (-ㄑㄇㄑ)

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

jdatl ᒍᑐᎡᏋ a mountain	jdatltlatl ᒍᑐᎡᏋᏋᎡᏋ A mountain range
zhdiech ᖯᚷᏦᎬ A tree	zhdiechtlatl ᖯᚷᏦᎬᏋᎡᏋ A forest
fevranzh ᏟᏒᏊᎬᎡᎱᖲ A book	fevranzhtlatl ᏟᏒᏊᎬᎡᎱᖲᏋᎡᏋ 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 (-ᎡᏤ).** You will want to practice the pronunciation of this suffix often.

Ai ve akostial kiloře ze. ᎡᎧ ᏊᏤ ᎡᏃᎯᎷᏋᏨᎡᏟ ᏃᎧᎯᎡᏤ ᒍᏤ* I will write to you tomorrow.
Tlakoře ketlachia[17] de. ᏋᎡᏃᎯᎡᏤ ᏃᏤᏨᎡᎽᎳ ᒍᏤ* We will eat this afternoon.
Drekr kestial ezhieře se. ᒍᏤᏃ ᏃᏤᎷᏨᏃᎳ ᏤᎱᖲᎡᏤ ᎷᏤ* She will visit the doctor today.
Jdo kayotlie iqře ze? ᒍᒍᎯ ᏃᎡᏙᎯᏨᏤᎽ ᎷᏕᎡᏤ ᒍᏤ/ 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 (-ᚷ)**.

Ai ye iqinstial kiloie ze. ᎡᎧ ᏌᏤ ᎷᏕᎧᎱᎷᏨᏨᎳ ᏃᎧᎯᎧᎽ ᒍᏤ* I wrote to you yesterday.
Kechapani ketlachie de. ᏃᏤᎽᎡᏟᎡᏙᎧ ᏃᏤᏨᎡᎬᎽ ᒍᏤ* We ate this morning.
Drekr iqinstial ezhie se. ᒍᏤᏃ ᎷᏕᎧᎱᎷᏨᏨᎳ ᏤᎱᎽ ᎷᏤ* She visited the doctor yesterday.
Kochie se. ᏃᎯᎬᎽ ᎷᏤ* He slept.

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[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').

zhdobrdievlitzi (ᗺᴖᖆᗡᴖᖰᏠᴖᘓᖰ) – palace, mansion, noble's residence	**tepek** (ᘓᖰᖊᖰᗱ) – public park
ichtiozhie (ᴖᏞᘓᴖᴖᗱᴖᴖ) – path	**preqlkoyan** (ᖊᖰᔕᗱᴖᑌᖇᏗ) – city center
itztikio (ᴖᘓᖰᘓᴖᘓᗱᴖᴖ) – small houses	**chalanzhie** (ᏴᖇᘉᖇᏗᗱᴖ) – tunnel
jem (ᴗᴖᗧ) – car	**Tchipl** (ᘓᏞᴖᖊ) – taxi
kialoyan (ᗱᴖᘉᴖᑌᖇᏗ) – train station	**zhavrjem** (ᗺᖇᗡᴗᴖᗧ) – bus
Tlayotekoyandievl (ᘓᖇᑌᴖᘓᖰᗱᴖᑌᖇᏗᗡᴖᴖᖰ) – Psionic Testing Center	
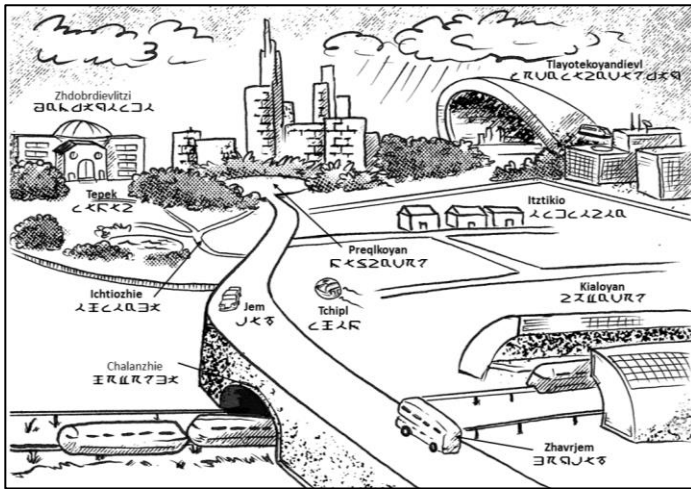
Tlapaka ke preql zochia ke tlanshia. Chak ichakipreql ininqenta Zhdantpreql iqia se; qin preqltiki iqia se. Ai ke preqlkoya oyanqia ke otlatlatl. Fevre ke otlatlatl iqia tepek. Tlo ke tepek oyanqia ozhda ichtiozhieo. Edre ke tepek iqia ke Zhdobrdievlitzi. Jdele ke otlatatl iqia ozhda otlatltikio aia itzitikio. Alir ke preql iqia ke kialoyan. Tlo chalanzhie oyanqia ke akopatlicha.

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

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 Tliaqrnad	Ininzhia kotozhia de, Kieko. Yekta zhia Niedl tlakole' iqia.
Kieko	Jdo itetl tlachikola, shtefrabr?
Ikan	Chokotecho, zhedadenzh, iazh iazde chektia ziefrabr. Ichaꝗez 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. Iazde, kamatli.
Ikan	Tlayotekoyandievl ozdře de iepri tlachikola.
Kieko	Ininzhia jdo de michře?
Ikan	Ve tlanemilře ke drekro.
Kieko	Ipatle?
Ikan	Pradrnad iqa de, Kieko.

Tepek ⌁⊻⊦⊻⊰

Chtiachi — ⨅⊻⊼⨅⊻
Zhochtila — ⊐⊐⨅⊰⫣⊼⫬
Ichtiozhie — ⊼⫬⊻⊐⊹⊻
Achazhatli — ⫬⨅⊼⊐⫬⊰⊰
Kanatli — ⟍⧓⊐⫬⊰⊰

Tepozhachtio — ⌁⊻⊦⨒⊐⫭⊐⊰⟍⊐
Kozhitl — ⟍⧓⊐⨅⊰
Tlapakalanch — ⊏⫬⫬⟍⟍⟍⊐⫬⊐⨅
Kliamanali — ⟨⊐⊐⫬⊐⊰⊰⊰
Achtalili — ⫬⊼⊏⊰⊰⟍⟍⟍
Choazoitli — ⊐⊐⫬⊐⊰⊰⊰
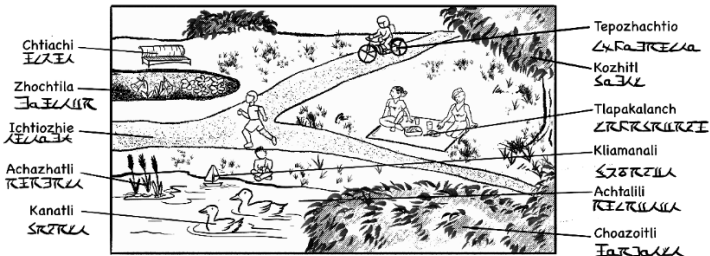
Vocabulary:

Word	Zdetl	Meaning
abavnomaki	⫬⊻⫬⟍⊐⊹⊐⧓⊹⊐⟍⊐⊻	truck
achazhatli	⫬⊼⊐⊐⫬⊻⊰⊻	reeds, pond grass
ai	⫬⊻	to, unto
akopatlicha	⫬⊐⧓⟍⫬⊻⊰⊻⊼⊐⫬	monorail, train
akostial	⫬⊐⧓⊥⊰⊐⊼⫭⫬	tomorrow
amanstial	⫬⊹⫬⊐⊥⊰⊐⊼⫭⫬	today
ashashtiablnefa	⫬⊼⊐⫬⊼⊐⊰⊻⊏⫬⊐⫬⟍⟍⊐⫬	freezer
ashtiablnefa	⫬⊼⊐⊰⊻⊏⫬⊐⫬⟍⟍⊐⫬	refrigerator
ayoaka	⫬⊍⧓⫬⊐⊐⫬	pleasant
chapani	⊼⫬⟍⟍⫬⊐⊻	morning
chekte'	⊼⟍⊐⊏⊻⟍⊹^	to pack
choazoitli	⊼⧓⫬⊐⊏⧓⊻⊰⊻	bush

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chokotecho	王Ⴖ⊋Ⴖ乚⹁王Ⴖ	bread
chtiachi	王乚ス王人	park bench
dievldrekr	⌁ᒣ⌁≺⊋	psionicologist
dranzh	⌁R⋀Ǝ	sun
drekr	⌁≺⊋	doctor, physician
edre	≺⌁≺	near
ezhie'	≺Ǝ⽬^	to visit
fevr	⟨≺ᒣ	left
iadla	⟨⌁𝄞R	sky
iazde	⟨⌇≺	apple (the Zhodani version)
ichaki-	人王R⊋人^	very large
ichtiozhie	人王乚人Ⴖⴈ⽬	path
iepri	⽬⟃人	after
ikotle'	人⊋Ⴖ乚≺^	to want something
ininqenta	人⋀人⋀ⵠ≺⋀乚R	thusly, so
ininzhia	人⋀人⋀Ǝ⼉	there, that place
ipatle	人⟃R乚≺	for what reason/why
iqenta	人ⵠ≺⋀乚R	how?
iqinstial	人ⵠ人⋀⊥乚⼉𝄞	yesterday
izhia	人Ǝ⼉	where?
jdatl	∪⌁R乚	mountain
jdel	∪⌁≺𝄞	right
jem	∪≺ᔔ	car
kanatli	⊋R⋀R乚人	ducks
kiloe'	⊋人𝄞Ⴖ≺^	to write
kliamanali	⊋⼉ᔔR⋀R𝄞人	toy boat
kozitl	⊋Ⴖ⼍人乚𝄞	leaf
mantlach	ᔔR⋀乚R王	ground
mantlachjem	ᔔR⋀乚R王∪≺ᔔ	ground car
miche'	ᔔ人王≺^	to do (something)
miqane'	ᔔ人ⵠR⋀≺^	to move
mizh	ᔔ人Ǝ	cloud
niedl	⋀⽬⌁	for, in order to, for the purpose

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otlatl	ᴓᴄ℞ᴄ	road
oyanqe'	ᴓ∪℞ᒣ≤ᴋˆ	to travel
oyanqrnad	ᴓ∪℞ᒣ≤ᒣ℞ᴌ	A traveller
ozhda	ᴓᴟ℞	many
preql	⼓ᴋ≤	city
qietsfatilia	≤ᴣᴄᔆ℞ᴄ⅄⅏℞	motorcycle
qin	≤⅄ᒣ	only, merely
shtiavldrekr	王ᴄ⊼ᑫᴌᴋⵌ	psychologist
tepozhachtio	ᴄᴋ⼓ᴓᴟ℞王ᴄ⅄ᴓ	bicycle
tlacha	ᴄ℞王℞	afternoon
tlanshia	ᴄ℞ᒣ±ᴢ	a picture
tlapaka	ᴄ℞⼓℞≥℞	a fragment or piece
tlapkalanch	ᴄ℞⼓≥℞⅏℞ᒣ王	picnic lunch
-tlatl	ˍᴄ℞ᴄ	a group of
tlo	ᴄᴓ	through (preposition)
vidle'	ᑫ⅄ᴝᴋˆ	to live
zhdiech	ᴟᴣ王	tree
zhdiechtlatl	ᴟᴣ王ᴄ℞ᴄ	forest
zhedadenzh	ᴟᴋᴌ℞ᴌᴋᒣᴟ	cheese
zhochtlia	ᴟᴓ王ᴄᴢ	garden
zoche'	⊐ᴓ王ˆ	to display

Lesson Five

Ke Tlayokeyoandievl
The Psionic Center

ᗺ ᘓᖴᑌᑊᗺᴋᑌᑊᖴ⅄ᘓ⅄ᗺ

tlamatzinad (ᘓᖴᗘᖴᘓᗊᗺᴋᖴᗺᘓ) – physician	**nakazna (ᖴᖴᗺᖴᘓᖴᖴ) –** block, cube
kokochia (ᗺᗊᗺᗊᗘᘓᗺ) – patient (a patient)	**iadlayotl (ᗺᘓᴑᖴᑌᗊᗺ) –**airplane
dlenchiepr (ᴑᴋᗘᗘᗘᘓ) – Intendant, a minor noble	**kolitzlinad (ᗺᗊᴑᴋᗺᗘᴑᴋᗺᖴᗺᘓ) –** scribe
chakilijem (ᗘᖴᗺᴋᴑᴋᴋᴐᴋᗘ) – toy car	**kochyan (ᗺᗊᗘᑌᖴᗘ) –** door
ichtotlzdiaq (ᴋᗘᴋᗊᴋᗊᘓᗺᗺ) – eye chart	**ololi (ᗊᴑᗊᴑᴋ) –** ball, sphere

Movement Toward
Zhi' (ᗜᴋˆ)

Movement From
Pe' (ᖴᴋˆ)
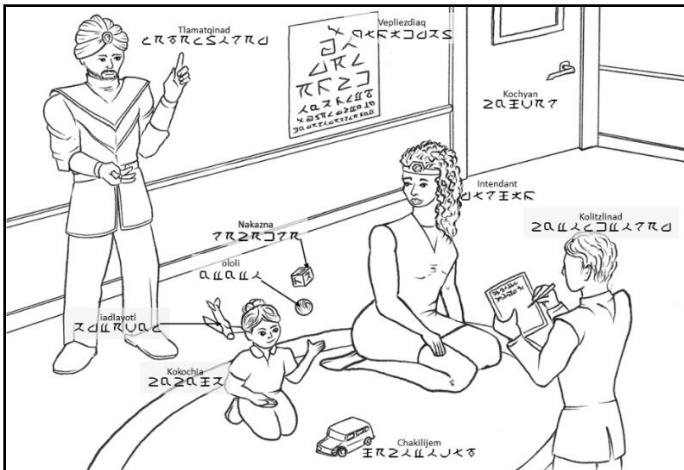
Verbs: The Imperative Case

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

Chedle' (ᵻ⽊⽕⽊^) to guard	Chedlzda! (ᵻ⽊⽕ �ヨ⽊) guard (that)!
Pradrie' (ᵹ⽊⽕⽊^) to move something, telekinetically	Pradrizhda! (ᵹ⽊⽕⽕⽊ヨ⽊) move (that) telekinetically!
Tlakole' (⽕⽊⽚⽙⽑⽊^) to eat	Tlakolzhda! (⽕⽊⽚⽙⽑⽊ヨ⽊) eat (that)!

More Correlative Pro-Forms

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

iqez (⽕⽚⽊⽚) - how many	ininqez (⽕⽗⽕⽞⽚⽊⽚) - that many	achiqez (⽊ᵻ⽕⽚⽊⽚) - every
ayoqez (⽊⽈⽑⽚⽊⽚) - none	ichaqez (⽕ᵻ⽊⽚⽊⽚) - some	ziqez (⽚⽕⽚⽊⽚) – any amount

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

iad (⽚⽕) – which person	ininad (⽕⽗⽕⽞⽊⽕) – that person	achiad (⽊ᵻ⽚⽕) – every person
ayoad (⽊⽈⽑⽊⽕) – no person	ichaad (⽕ᵻ⽊⽊⽕) – someone	ziad (⽚⽚⽕) – anyone

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

Iad? (who/ which person?) Ichaad. (someone) Ayoad. (no one) Ziad. (anyone)

Iqez? (how many?) Achiqez. (all of them) Ziqez. (any quantity)

Cultural Discussion: Zhodani Medicine

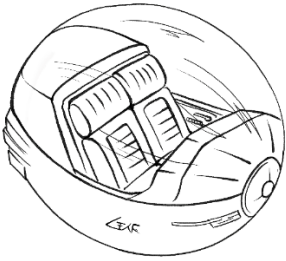## Prefixes and Suffixes

Dialogue

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Vocabulary:

Lesson Six

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(Ascension Day)

Appendix A: Writing practice

Appendix B: Vehicles and Equipment

Tchipl – TL-12 robotic taxi

Tchipl-class Compact Grav Robo-Taxi (乙王人邝)	
Craft ID:	Tchipl-class Zhodani Compact Grav Taxi, Cr3,000,000
Hull:	1/2, Disp = 1, Config = 5SL, 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 meaing "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-Form Table

	Some (icha-)	What (i-)	That (inin-)	Every (achi-)	None (ayo-)	Any (zi-)
Thing (-tetl)	icha-tetl	i-tetl	inin-tetl	achi-tetl	ayo-tetl	zi-tetl
Person (-ad)	icha-ad	i-ad	inin-ad	achi-ad	ayo-ad	zi-ad
Place (-zhia)	icha-zhia	i-zhia	inin-zhia	achi-zhia	ayo-zhia	zi-zhia
Quantity (-qez)	icha-qez	i-qez	inin-qez	achi-qez	ayo-qez	zi-qez
Reason (-patle)	icha-patle	i-patle	inin-patle	achi-patle	ayo-patle	zi-patle
Manner (-qenta)	icha-qenta	i-qenta	inin-qenta	achi-qenta	ayo-qenta	zi-qenta
Time (-qik)	icha-qik	i-qik	inin-qik	achi-qik	ayo-qik	zi-qik
Possession (-adl)	icha-adl	i-adl	inin-adl	achi-adl	ayo-adl	zi-adl
Kind (-ochti)	icha-ochti	i-ochti	inin-ochti	achi-ochti	ayo-ochti	zi-ochti

Appendix E: Zdetl Pronoun Forms

Standard			Possessive	
i	first person singular	ze (ⵍⵣ)	my	zeo (ⵍⵣⵟ)
we	first person plural	de (ⵎⵣ)	our	deo (ⵎⵣⵟ)
you	second person singular	ve (ⵈⵣ)	your	veo (ⵈⵣⵟ)
y'all	second person plural	le (ⵖⵣ)	y'all's	leo (ⵖⵣⵟ)
he/she/it	third person singular	se (⊥ⵣ)	his/hers/its	seo (⊥ⵣⵟ)
they	third person plural	ye (∪ⵣ)	theirs	yeo (∪ⵣⵟ)
reflexive pronoun	non-specific "one"	zhe (ⴺⵣ)	one's	zheo (ⴺⵣⵟ)
definite article	the	ke (≥ⵣ)		