

Tlamachti 10: Iaqazd iazh Tlakoebli

Cooking and Food

ススルコ スヨ とルゾルケル

The Verb Infinitive

In the previous lesson we mentioned the concept of the *verb infinitive* when it appears as part of the sentence structure. In fact, we have already seen many examples of Zdetl verbs in their infinitive form – **iqe'**, **kavre'**, and **merkede'** (to be, to have, and to have permission) are all *infinitives* of the verbs. They refer to the action itself without reference to time, place, or actor.

In Anglic, verbs most often have two words leading with *to* followed by the verb itself, as in “to speak”; in Zdetl this does not happen. All verb infinitives are a single word usually ending in **e'** (ㄟ^):

iqe' to be
fae' to name (someone)
otlake' to happen

kekke' to have fun
ikotle' to want
tlateme' to feed

Zdetl, like Anglic, has a few instances of verbs that need another verb in its infinitive form to complete their meaning. For example, in Anglic we don't say “I can something” or “I am able to something”, we say:

I must DO something
I can DO something
I am able TO DO something

The verb DO (with or without TO) is the *infinitive*, and in Zdetl is translated as **miche'** (ㄝ^人王ㄟ^):

Ichatetl miche' devia ze.

I must (am obligated to) do something.

Ichatetl miche' chelia ze.

I can (am able to) do something

Prepositions with an Infinitive

The Anglic ending *-ing* is often used as an infinitive. In Zdetl, placing a preposition before the infinitive has the same function:

Ilchita (Instead of):	Ilchita kiatlaze’ , tlepia se. <i>Instead of resting</i> , he worked. Ilchita itzia ozde’ ze, ai ke fevranzhadl ozdie ze. <i>Instead of going</i> home, I went to the library.
Niedl (for):	Ke qik niedl chilite’ chak kavria ze. I don’t have the time for playing. Omei achan niedl kenkache’ katilia zhe ke tlakoli. One needs two hours to prepare that meal. Chienzi yzqia niedl makoe’ deo chemati. Here are some exercises to help your health.
Okeqa (besides):	Okeqa ride’ , ikotlia qiqiche’ se. Besides singing, he wanted to whistle.
Ziv (without)	Matlapamatlachien zdev chiktie se, ziv timane’ ke itzi. She walked ten kilometers without leaving the house. Zitetl ziv potle’ timanie se. He left without saying anything. Ziatl chak miqania ze, ziv qrazhe’. I can’t move the table without making noise.
Niedl with an infinitive usually means <i>in order to</i> .	

Affixes As Independent Words

Many of the prefixes and suffixes covered in previous lessons may be used as independent roots, taking the appropriate ending. Here are a few useful examples:

affix	as a noun	as an adjective	as a verb
-ebl (possibility)	ebli (a chance)	ebla (possible)	eble’ (to be possible)
-aji (a part)	aji (a piece)	aja (fractional)	ajae’ (to subdivide)
ro- (repetition)	roi (a repetition)	roa (repetitive)	roe’ (to repeat)

Particles – words used without an ending, i.e., correlatives, prepositions, etc. – can also be used this way by adding an ending. This is actually very common, and many new words can be created this way; the following table is only a small subset of what’s possible:

achiqik (always)	achiqika (permanent, constant)
ininqik (then)	ininqika (of that time) ininqiknad (a man of the time, a contemporary)
ininzhia (there)	ininzhiai (of that place, local)
iazh (yes)	iazhe' (to reply affirmatively)
chak (no)	chake' (to deny)
alir (outside)	alira (external, outer) aliraj (the outer part)
zhin (above)	zhina (superior) zhinad (a superior) chakzhinebla (insuperable)
tiech (before)	tiechi (previous) tieche (previously) tiechnad (predecessor)

Discussion: Food

When the now-extinct species known only as The Ancients settled Zhdant, they brought with them a collection of species from other worlds, including the humans that eventually would become the Zhodani race. Their reasons are unknown and no longer relevant; what is known is that unlike some of their other transplants, the Ancients genetically modified the proto-Zhodani to allow them to process the local, alien proteins. Modern Zhodani exhibit several biological features that are not shared by other species of humaniti that enable them to digest the alien proteins and other nutrients found in the native flora and fauna of Zhdant.

-OZH (𐤀𐤆𐤇)

The suffix **-ozh** refers to a food made from the root word.

tlakoye' (to eat)	tlakoyozh (food)
abrrstia (chicken)	abrrstiozh (chicken meat)
breia (wing)	breiozh (wings, the appetizer)

These changes are naturally reflected in the Zhodani diet and cuisine, which as a much higher protein content than a typical Terran diet does despite coming mostly from plant-based sources. Starches and carbohydrates come mainly from legumes and tubers; the Zhdant ecosystem lacks the vast expanses of grasslands found on Terra and the arid climate makes large-scale cultivation of grasslands nearly impossible, so grains like wheat, rice, and barley are entirely unknown on Zhdant. Animal-based proteins are mainly meat and eggs from domesticated avian species like the **abrrstia** and related birds as well as

from the semi-aquatic **noql**. Herds of large grazers are entirely unknown, though a few native species have been domesticated for centuries as draught animals and for meat. Milk and dairy products, while not entirely unknown, lack the variety found on Terra. The few cheeses and other milk products are often unpalatable and indigestible to non-native visitors. Ice cream is almost entirely unknown in the Consulate (much to the disappointment of Solomani visitors).

Common domesticated food animals

abrrstia アブルスチア	A winged herbivore resembling a four-winged Terran chicken. Raised for its eggs, meat, and fibrous feathers.
noql ノルク	An amphibious crawler commonly raised in dammed streams and kept for its eggs. Known to be not native to Zhdant.
kredl クレド	A grazer native to Zhdant, kept as cattle for meat, leather, and milk.
kotlanqi コトランキ	A small grazer, analogue to Terran goats. Kept for milk, meat, and leather, found in mountains and desert regions.

The forests of Zhdant produce a wide variety of fruits, which make a significant portion of the Zhodani diet. Noticeably lacking are any form of citrus. Unlike Terran humans, the Zhodani physiology is capable of producing folate and folic acid, which obviates the need for supplemental citrate and folate. Fruits are grown and consumed mostly for enjoyment and flavor rather than nutrition. The following list presents a few native examples.

A few common fruits

choqikali チョキカリ	Fruit, in general
keklimoli ケクリモリ	a cluster fruit that grows in the forest canopy and has been compared to a combination of Terran bananas and papayas. Commonly used as a pureed base for soups, salsas, and curry dishes.
chechicheli チェチチェリ	a large, pulpy fruit from a plant that grows along riverbanks. It has a leathery husk surrounding a sweet interior. The seeds are toxic to most native fauna and induce vomiting, diarrhea, and death. Zhodani, however, harvest the pulp and seeds, drying the latter to create a spicy powder used in many of their local dishes. Visitors who have tried it describe the experience as “hellish.”
kamtoli カントリ	A hardy tuber analogous to sweet potatoes.

Spices play an important role in modern Zhodani food culture as well. During the Second Dark Age, long-term food storage became difficult to impossible due to the lack of refrigeration, so the survivors at the time turned to pickling and spices to preserve vegetables, fish, fruit, and meats. Many of these local spices are either indigestible or unpalatable to non-natives; the few that aren't have a high concentration of chemicals resembling Terran capsaicin and can be very spicy.

A few spices and herbs

kinklicha
 𐌺𐌶𐌵𐌺𐌶𐌵𐌶𐌵𐌶𐌵

A savory spice derived from the bark of the kinklicha tree

noztika
 𐌵𐌺𐌶𐌵𐌶𐌵𐌶𐌵𐌶𐌵

A subtle spice made from the ground up hull of a nut found in the northern latitudes of Qiknavra

ikelatliko
 𐌶𐌶𐌶𐌶𐌶𐌶𐌶𐌶𐌶𐌶𐌶𐌶𐌶

An herb a bit like rosemary

chonakai
 𐌶𐌶𐌶𐌶𐌶𐌶𐌶𐌶𐌶𐌶𐌶𐌶𐌶

Like garlic but much stronger

-AJO (-𐌶𐌶𐌶𐌶)

The suffix **-ajo** refers to a blend or mixture made with the root word. In cooking, it usually refers to a spice blend or combination of food items. Its meaning is roughly similar to the Terran “masala.” **Ajo** can be used independently as a noun **ajoi** a mixture, a verb **ajoe’** to combine, or an adjective **ajoa** blended. Spice blends usually take their name from the region they come from:

Qiknavra **Qiknavrajo** (a hot, flavorful blend of spices)

Dlolpliiki **Dlolplikiajo** (a savory mixture commonly used with fruits)

Viepchaki **Viepchaklajo** (a particularly challenging spice blend with a lingering after-burn)

Like any other primate species, the Zhodani enjoy sweets and sweetened foods. However, excessive consumption of such delicacies is considered a sign of poor mental health and is highly discouraged. Dried fruit and sweetened confections are often consumed alongside or following a normal meal and provide a pleasant counterpoint to the spices of the main course. Balance in life is important to the Zhodani, and mealtime is no exception.

The Zhodani eat more frequently during the day than their Imperial or Solomani counterparts, often five or six times during a 30-hour period, but they

eat smaller meals. The Zhodani metabolism processes nutrients significantly faster than that of Vilani and Solomani, and light snacks of dried fruit, vegetables, or meat are common.

Meals are social events, and the six “standard” meals roughly correspond to the times of day they are consumed. The type, amount, and composition of the meals varies widely throughout the day as well.

Pliebraits	Pliebraitstlakoli	Breakfast	Easily digested starches and proteins
Chapani	Chapanitlakoli	Elevenes	Supplemental starch and proteins
Stialchali	Stialchalitlakoni	Lunch	Typically, the largest meal of the day, large portions of spicy food rich in nutrition
Tlacha	Kotlqik	Teatime	A social meal a lot like the British version
Pliebrimani	Pliebrimanitlakoni	Supper	Another large meal, but not as heavy as lunch
Tlatso	Iepritlakoni	Afters	A lighter meal in preparation for the night’s rest

A Zhodani might also awaken a few times during the 10-hour sleeping period for light exercise and a snack.

Reading

A cooking lesson.

Vocabulary

Words	Zdetl	Meaning
abrrstia	𐌱𐌹𐌺𐌰𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸	a chicken-like bird raised for food and fiber
-ajo	𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰	blend or mixture
chapanitlakoli	𐌸𐌰𐌹𐌺𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰	elevenes
chechicheli	𐌸𐌰𐌹𐌺𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰	a large, pulpy fruit from a plant that grows along riverbanks.
-cheli	𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰	a suffix generically referring to curry dishes
chemata	𐌸𐌰𐌹𐌺𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰	healthy
chemati	𐌸𐌰𐌹𐌺𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰	health
chienze'	𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰	to exercise
chienzi	𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰	exercise
chikte'	𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰	to walk
chonakai	𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰	Like garlic but much stronger
choqikali	𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰	fruit, in general
iaqe'	𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰	to cook
iepritlakoni	𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰	after, the meal just before bedtime
ikelatliko	𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰	An herb a bit like rosemary
ilchita	𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰	instead of
kamtoli	𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰	A hardy tuber analogous to sweet potatoes.
keklimoli	𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰	a cluster fruit that grows in the forest canopy
kinklicha	𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌸𐌰	A savory spice derived from the bark of the kinklicha tree

