

# Yiirabarhi at a Glance

The intelligent life-form on 567-908 has an unpronounceable name which is a combination of ultra-high sound and gestures. The high pitched, loud communications between them provokes an obvious name: *shriekers*.

Their spoken language (named Yiirabarhi) uses different frequency levels, and humans cannot hear much of the sound produced by shriekers, although shriekers can hear human voices. The shrieker nerve pulse cannot be sensed by humans even if in direct contact, and so it is difficult for humans to understand the subtleties of much of what is said by shriekers.

Words in the Shrieker language are usually two syllables long, and generally convey simpler meanings than English words, since their spoken language is only one facet of their communications ability. Words are built up of CV (consonant + vowel) syllables, with an alphabet of 42 consonants and 6 vowels:

Vowels:

- a: continental 'a' – sounds like the vowel in 'cot'
- aa: same sound, but pronounced twice as long
- e: continental 'e' – almost sounds like the vowel in 'late'
- ee: sounds almost like the final sound of 'desirée' drawn out a bit
- i: continental 'I' – sounds like the vowel in 'feel'
- ii: same sound, but pronounced twice as long

Consonants:

r rv v vr  
rh rhv vh vhr  
y yh w wh

b br brv bv bvr  
k kr krk kv kvr  
kh khr khv khvr  
s sr srk sv svr  
sh shr shrk shv shvr

## Grammar

Yiirabarhi is center-embedded with one major grammatical rule: the determinant is embedded in the determined. Adjectives and adverbs are represented by stative verbs; for example, instead of having an adjective for 'red', there is a verb (called a **stative** verb) 'to be red' which works just like an adjective.

**Example:**

'one' *kabe*  
'tasty' *kahi*  
'fish' *raayhee*

"tasty (determinant) fish (determined)" raa-kahi-hee

and

"one (determinant) tasty fish (determined)" raa-ka-kabe-hi-hee

The final syllables are sometimes marked to help humans parse the word:

*Raakakabe'hi'hee*

A subject marker distinguishes noun phrases:

- subject marker *kaka*
- 'she' *share*
- 'swim' *kebaa*
- 'in' *kakii*
- 'ocean' *beshi*

"she swims in the ocean": ke- ka-share-ka ka-beshi-kii -baa  
(Literally "Swims she in-ocean") *Kekasharekakabeshikii*baa.  
With marked end-syllables: *Kekashare'ka-kabeshi'kii'baa*.

The most commonly used native name for their homeworld is *Shvireeyiyi* (often conflated to Shvreeyiyi):  
*Shviyi*: world. *Reeyi*: home.

### Elision Morphology

Occasionally, a word may end with a repeated syllable, such as *Bakewhe'whe*, "edge of the desert". In some cases the repeated syllable can be ignored, yielding (for example) *Bakewhe*. This elision is usually only used at the end of a sentence, or where the word is otherwise recoverable.

## Productions

Two very productive transformations are the conversion of nouns into verbs. There are two kinds of verbs in Yirabarhi: eventive and stative. Nouns can be used as stative verbs naturally: that is, a noun that describes another noun is acting as a stative verb. Converting a noun to an eventive verb involves changing the vowels of the noun based on these rules:

1. Only short-voweled nouns can be turned into eventive verbs.
2. The vowel change is regular, as shown below:

Noun Vowels	Eventive Vowels
a.a	aa.a
a.e	ee.a
a.i	ii.a
e.a	aa.e
e.e	ee.e
e.i	ii.e
i.a	aa.i
i.e	ee.i
i.i	ii.i
khavri	khiivra
bekrva	baakrve
shrikhva	shraakhvi

## English to Yiraba'rhi

(command marker)	:	yikvhe
I	:	braka
all things	:	khavvii
all, be	:	khavvii
allow, to	:	keeri
allowance, an	:	kire
allowing, be	:	kire
alongside, be	:	kaasii
answer, an	:	rhishe
answer, to	:	rheeshi
answered, be	:	rhishe
approach, an	:	kabi
approach, to	:	kiiba
arid, be	:	bawhe
arid, make	:	beewha
ask, to	:	kiibe
asked, be	:	kebi
asleep, be	:	biwi
attack	:	shvrrarhvi
attack, to	:	shvriirhva
attacked, be	:	shvrrarhvi
attract, to	:	yiikha
attracted, be	:	yakhi
attraction	:	yakhi
backward, be	:	barve
backward, go	:	beerva
bake, to	:	vhreeyi
baked, be	:	vhriye
because	:	bakhrvii
begin, to	:	svaari
beginning	:	svira
between, be	:	wisvra
between, go	:	waasvri
bleed, to	:	sheekvra
bleeding, be	:	shakvre
blood	:	shakvre
blue	:	bvrabeshi'ke (color(ocean))
body, a	:	karva
border	:	kewhe
border, to	:	keewhe
bordered, be	:	kewhe
breath, a	:	whekha
breathe, to	:	whaakhe
breathing, be	:	whekha
brick	:	vhriye

build, to	:	bvriiya	
building, a	:	bvrayi	
by	:	raba	
by way of	:	rvekii	
call, a	:	sirhi	
call, to	:	siirhi	
called, be	:	sirhi	
cargo	:	warvi	
chaos	:	karve	
city	:	kvribi	
civilize, to	:	vaase	
civilized, be	:	vesa	
coin(s) (bronze)	:	kabe	
coin(s) (copper)	:	kayibe	(kayibibe)
coin, to	:	kiibee	
coined, be	:	keeba	
colored, be	:	bvrake	
come, to	:	havha	
confuse, to	:	keerva	
confused, be	:	karve	
count, a	:	rike	
count, to	:	reeki	
counted, be	:	rike	
culture	:	vesa	
current, a	:	sisha	
day	:	brabvre	
desert	:	bawhe	
destination	:	rvaya	
do, to	:	yiivra	
done, be	:	yavri	
doubt, a	:	kabva	
doubt, be in	:	kabva	
doubt, to	:	kaabva	
east, the	:	breve	
east, to go	:	breeve	
eastern	:	breve	
eat, to	:	baakrva	
edge	:	kewhe	
eight	:	rveekhe	
empty, be	:	kababibvi	
enumerate, to	:	reeki	
enumeration	:	rike	
everything	:	khabvii	
far from	:	bikaa	
fight, a	:	shvrirhva	
fight, to	:	shvraarhvi	
fighting, be	:	shvrirhva	

fill, to	:	kiibva
fire	:	vrakre
fish	:	raayhee
five	:	wiikhe
flavor	:	kahi
flow, to	:	vaari
food	:	bakrva
food, be	:	bakrva
for (because)	:	bakhrvii
foreward, be	:	kibrva
foreward, go	:	kaabrvi
four	:	bvreyhi
from, be	:	raba
full, be	:	kabvi (from kakhaabvi'be)
fullness	:	kabvi
gather, to	:	khaake
gift, a	:	rikhe
give, to	:	reekhi
go, to	:	rvaaya
great, be	:	biba
great, make	:	baabi
greatness	:	biba
green	:	bvrayaabe'ke (color(grow))
group, a	:	kekha
grow, to	:	yaabe
have, to	:	vaahe
he	:	khare
he/2	:	khaare
head	:	kabri
hear, to	:	rhiibre
hearing, be	:	rhebri
hit, a	:	shvrrarhvi
hit, be	:	shvrrarhvi
hit, to	:	shvriirhva
home	:	reeyi
homeworld	:	shvireeyi'yi
hour	:	hiiraa
it	:	kare
it/2	:	kaare
keep, to	:	kiike
keepsake, a	:	keki
language	:	shrakhve
list	:	rike
list, to	:	reeki
listed, be	:	rike
loc-when-from	:	bibaa
loc-where	:	raayi

loc-where-through	:	kakii
loc-where-to	:	riyaa
long ago	:	sekhe
lost one	:	rebabi'yi
make, to	:	reekii
mal-	:	babi
many, be	:	kekha
methane	:	bebaa
mountain	:	khrvaakvhree
name, a	:	sirhi
name, to	:	siirhi
named, be	:	sirhi
near, be	:	kabi
night	:	rhibrabvre'bri
nine	:	kakhe
non-	:	babi
ocean	:	beshi
of	:	raba
one	:	kabe
orange	:	bvrashakvre'ke (color(blood))
out	:	raba
out, be	:	raba
out, go	:	raaba
owned, be	:	veha
people	:	siiraba'rhi
placement	:	kvrire
plan, a	:	brawhe
plan, to	:	breewha
planned, be	:	brawhe
plant	:	yeba
possession	:	veha
pull, to	:	reekhi
put, to	:	kvreeri
question, a	:	kebi
question, to	:	kiibe
question-mark	:	biikee
questioned, be	:	kebi
quiet, be	:	beki
respond, to	:	rheeshi
response	:	rhishe
river	:	vira
road	:	rvekri
ruins	:	rvekabakaakhe'bi'bvi'kri ("empty roads")
rule, to	:	riishra
ruler, a	:	rashri
ruling, be	:	rashri
run, to	:	shaake

scatter, to	:	svraaka
scattered, be	:	svraka
see, to	:	riisii
seem, to	:	wave
send, to	:	wiirva
seven	:	kvebrvii
she	:	share
she/2	:	shaare
shine, to	:	briikva
side	:	kaasii
sight	:	risi
six	:	brakhe
sky	:	khari
sleep, a	:	biwi
sleep, to	:	biiwi
sleeping, be	:	biwi
small thing	:	yibi
small, be	:	yibi
son	:	sasre
source	:	raba
speak, to	:	shreekhva
speed	:	sheka
star	:	brakvi
stone	:	kiya
stop, to	:	viikhvra
strength	:	khaavri
strong, be	:	khaavri
subject-marker	:	kaka
sun	:	brabvre
swift, be	:	sheka
swim, to	:	kebaa
take, to	:	keeka
talk, to	:	shreekhvaa
taste, to	:	kiiha
tasty, be	:	kahi
ten	:	wiirva
they	:	khare
they/2	:	kheere
thorough, be	:	kabvi
three	:	rveebvee
today	:	bvabrva
together, be	:	vikrva
tomorrow	:	bvakrva
toward (to)	:	kheree
tower, a	:	bavra
travel, to	:	rviikre
tribe	:	rhasi

turn, a	:	rhibri
turn, to	:	rhiibri
turned, be	:	rhibri
two	:	rirva
wanderer	:	rebabiyi
warm, be	:	shrakha
warm, to	:	shraakha
water	:	vhriwe
water, to	:	vhreewi
watered, be	:	vhriwe
way	:	rvekri
we	:	braaka
weak, be	:	bakhaavri'bi
well (intj)	:	rasvi
what	:	kese
with	:	kaasvre
word	:	vaabrvee
wordlist	:	vaariike'brvee
world	:	shviyi
yellow	:	bvrabawhe'ke (color(desert))
yes	:	kheve
yesterday	:	bvarve
you pl.	:	yaare
you s.	:	yare
zero	:	shriwhii



## Yiiraba'rhi to English

great, make	:	baabi
eat, to	:	baakrva
non-	:	babi
weak, be	:	bakhaavri'bi
for (because)	:	bakhrvii
food, be	:	bakrva
backward, be	:	barve
tower, a	:	bavra
desert	:	bawhe
methane	:	bebaa
backward, go	:	beerva
arid, make	:	beewha
quiet, be	:	beki
ocean	:	beshi
greatness	:	biba
loc-when-from	:	bibaa
question-mark	:	biikee
sleep, to	:	biiwi
far from	:	bikaa
sleeping, be	:	biwi
we	:	braaka
sun	:	brabvre
I	:	braka
six	:	brakhe
star	:	brakvi
planned, be	:	brawhe
east, to go	:	breeve
plan, to	:	breewha
eastern	:	breve
shine, to	:	briikva
today	:	bvabrva
tomorrow	:	bvakrva
yesterday	:	bvarve
yellow	:	bvraba[whe'ke] (color(desert))
blue	:	bvrabe[shi'ke] (color(ocean))
green	:	bvrayaa[be'ke] (color(grow))
orange	:	bvrasha[kvre'ke] (color(blood))
red	:	bvravra[kre'ke] (color(fire))
building, a	:	bvrayi
four	:	bvreyhi
build, to	:	bvriiya
colored, be	:	bvrake
come, to	:	havha
hour	:	hiiraa
foreward, go	:	kaabrvi

doubt, to	:	kaabva	
it/2	:	kaare	
side	:	kaasii	
with	:	kaasvre	
empty, be	:	kababibvi	
one	:	kabe	
near, be	:	kabi	
head	:	kabri	
doubt, be in	:	kabva	
thorough, be	:	kabvi	
full, be	:	kabvi	(from kakhaabvi'be)
tasty, be	:	kahi	
subject-marker	:	kaka	
nine	:	kakhe	
loc-where-through	:	kakii	
it	:	kare	
body, a	:	karva	
confused, be	:	karve	
coin(s) (copper)	:	kayibe	(kayibi'be)
swim, to	:	kebaa	
questioned, be	:	kebi	
coined, be	:	keeba	
take, to	:	keeka	
allow, to	:	keeri	
confuse, to	:	keerva	
border, to	:	keewhe	
many, be	:	kekha	
keepsake, a	:	keki	
what	:	kese	
edge	:	kewhe	
gather, to	:	khaake	
he/2	:	khaare	
strong, be	:	khaavri	
everything	:	khavvii	
he	:	khare	
sky	:	khari	
they/2	:	kheere	
they	:	khere	
toward (to)	:	kheree	
yes	:	kheve	
mountain	:	khrrvaakvhree	
foreward, be	:	kibrva	
approach, to	:	kiiba	
question, to	:	kiibe	
coin, to	:	kiibee	
fill, to	:	kiibva	
taste, to	:	kiiha	

keep, to	: kiike	
allowing, be	: kire	
stone	: kiya	
seven	: kvebrvii	
put, to	: kvreeri	
city	: kvribi	
placement	: kvrire	
out, go	: raaba	
fish	: raayhee	
loc-where	: raayi	
source	: raba	
ruling, be	: rashri	
well (intj)	: rasvi	
wanderer	: rebabiyi	
pull, to	: reekhi	
list, to	: reeki	
make, to	: reekii	
home	: reeyi	
tribe	: rhasi	
hearing, be	: rhebri	
respond, to	: rheeshi	
night	: rhibrabvre'bri	
turned, be	: rhibri	
hear, to	: rhiibre	
turn, to	: rhiibri	
response	: rhishe	
rule, to	: riishra	
see, to	: riisii	
listed, be	: rike	
gift, a	: rikhe	
two	: rirva	
sight	: risi	
loc-where-to	: riyaa	
go, to	: rvaaya	
destination	: rvaya	
three	: rveebvee	
eight	: rveekhe	
ruins	: rvekabakaakhe'bi'bvi'kri	("empty roads")
by way of	: rvekii	
way	: rvekri	
travel, to	: rviikre	
son	: sasre	
long ago	: sekhe	
run, to	: shaake	
she/2	: shaare	
blood	: shakvre	
she	: share	

bleed, to	: sheekvra
swift, be	: sheka
warm, to	: shraakha
warm, be	: shrakha
language	: shrakhve
speak, to	: shreekhva
talk, to	: shreekhvaa
zero	: shriwhii
homeworld	: shvireeyi'yi
world	: shviyi
fight, to	: shvraarhvi
hit, be	: shvrarhvi
hit, to	: shvriirhva
fighting, be	: shvrirhva
people	: siirabar'hi
name, to	: siirhi
named, be	: sirhi
current, a	: sisha
begin, to	: svaari
beginning	: svira
scatter, to	: svraaka
scattered, be	: svraka
word	: vaabrvee
have, to	: vaahe
flow, to	: vaari
wordlist	: vaariike'brvee
civilize, to	: vaase
possession	: veva
culture	: vesa
water, to	: vhereewi
bake, to	: vhereeyi
watered, be	: vheree
brick	: vheree
stop, to	: viikhvra
together, be	: vikrva
river	: vira
fire	: vrakre
between, go	: waasvri
cargo	: warvi
seem, to	: wave
breathe, to	: whaakhe
breathing, be	: whekha
five	: wiikhe
ten	: wiirva
between, be	: wisvra
grow, to	: yaabe
you pl.	: yaare

attraction	:	yakhi
you s.	:	yare
done, be	:	yavri
plant	:	yeba
small, be	:	yibi
attract, to	:	yiikha
do, to	:	yiivra
(command marker)	:	yikvhe