Qevesa Grammar

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to be written...

List of Glossing Abbreviations

1DU First person dual
1PL First person plural
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3PL Third person plural
3SG Third person singular
ACC Accusative case
AGT Agent trigger
ANIM Animate
COND Conditional mood
DEF Definite
DIR Direct case
DIST Distal
DU Dual number
DUR Durative aspect
ERG Ergative case
ESS Essive case
EXC Exclusive
EXP Experiential aspect
GEN Genitive case
HAB Habitual aspect
IMP Imperative mood
INANIM Inanimate
INC Inclusive
INDEF Indefinite
INS Instrumental case
INT Interrogative
IPFV Imperfective aspect
LOC Locative case
MED Medial
MIR Admirative mood
MOMT Momentane aspect
OPT Optative mood
PART Partitive
PAT Patient trigger
PERF Perfect
PL Plural number
PROG Progressive aspect
PROX Proximal
SG Singular number
SUBJ Subjunctive mood

Chapter 1

Background

1.1 Demographic and Ethnographic Information

Qevesa is a member of the Teranean family of languages, primarily spoken in the south eastern corner of the continent.

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CHAPTER 2

Phonology

2.1 Vowels

There are twelve distinct vowel phonemes in Qevesa, listed in Table 2.1. These are divided into six long and six short phonemes, differing in length but not quality. Long vowels are held approximately twice as long as their short counterparts.

	Front	Central	Back
Close	i iː	y yː	u uː
Mid	e eː		o oː
Open		a aː	

Table 2.1 Qevesa vowel phonemes

Although the vowels /e/ and /o/ are conventionally written using the close-mid IPA symbols, they are more accurately transcribed as mid vowels [e̞] and [o̞].

In addition to the plain vowels, there are eight diphthongs, /ai̯ ei̯ oi̯ ui̯ yi̯ au̯ eu̯ iu̯/.

2.1.1 Allophones

Stressed vowels show very little variation, with the exception that word initially, the mid vowels /e/ and /o/ may acquire glides, becoming /je/ and /wo/.

Unstressed vowels tend to be reduced and often show a loss in quality:

- The high vowels /i u/ tend to centralise towards [ɪ] and [ʊ].
- The high front rounded vowel /y/ loses its roundedness as well as centralises towards [ɨ]. This vowel is particularly prone to being reduced.
- The mid front vowel /e/ centralises towards [ə].
- The mid back vowel /o/ is less rounded, more open and also centralised to something between [ʌ~ə].

- The open vowel /a/ centralises towards [ɐ].

Note that these allophones only occur with short vowels in medial or final positions. Long vowels are rarely unstressed, and when they aren't the primary stress in a word they are always pronounced clearly.

2.2 Consonants

	Labial	Dental/alveolar	Postalveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
Nasal	m	n̪		ɲ		
Plosive	p	t̪		c	k	
Fricative	f v	θ ð s z	ʂ ʐ	ɕ [j~ʑ]	x	h [ɦ]
Affricate		ts [dz]	tʂ [dʐ]	[tɕ]		
Approximant	[w] [ʊ]	[ð̞ ɹ]		j		
Lateral		l				
Rhotic		r				

Table 2.2 Consonants

Qevesa possesses twenty-three consonants, excluding allophones, which are listed in Table 2.2. The features and allophones of each row are described in more detail below.

Consonantal length is phonemic, so [mata] and [matːa] are distinguished. In correct speech, geminate consonants should be articulated and released separately, although in quick speech they will be pronounced as prolonged. Geminates may only occur in the middle or at the end of words.

2.2.1 Nasals

Qevesa has three nasal consonants: /m n̪ ɲ/. /n̪/ is a laminal denti-alveolar nasal, rather than a true dental nasal. These consonants are largely consistent in their realisation, though they may assimilate to the articulation point of adjacent plosives in clusters.

2.2.2 Plosives

Qevesa has four plosive consonants, spread over four positions (labial, denti-alveolar, palatal, velar): /p t̪ c k/. They are pronounced unaspirated in all positions except word-finally, where they can acquire a slight aspiration.

Before the stressed rounded vowels /o u y/, all plosives become slightly labialised.

The exact realisation of the palatal consonant /c/ varies quite a bit. [c] is considered the most proper form, but a slight affricate often occurs when syllable-final: [cᶜ]. In some regional dialects [c] and the former phoneme [cʰ] have completely merged into [tɕ] (in the standard dialect they remain separate phonemes), and in regions where Qevesa is widely spoken as a second language a palatalised velar [kʲ] is generally regarded as an acceptable variant, although [ts] may also be heard, particularly by Cavasko speakers on the north coast plains near the border with Cavaskia.

It is very common for back vowels preceding [c] to acquire a slight offglide: /ac/ → [a(ɪ̯)c].

2.2.3 Fricatives and affricates

Qevesa has eleven fricative consonants: /f v θ ð s z ʂ ʐ ɕ x h/. /v/ and /ð/ are commonly realised as approximants. Before front vowels /x/ and /h/ may be realised as [ç]; intervocalic and geminate /h/ may be realised as /ɦ/.

The postalveolar fricatives /ʂ/ and /ʐ/ are realised as laminal retroflex fricatives, and are transcribed as such.

There are four affricate consonants, /ts tʂ tɕ dz dʐ/, the latter three of which are in free variation of the phonemes /ɕ z ʐ/. They primarily occur in geminates and (occasionally) when intervocalic. The phoneme /ts/ only occurs in loan words.

2.2.4 Liquids and Glides

Qevesa has two liquid consonants (one lateral and one rhotic) and two glides.

The lateral consonant is the denti-alveolar /l/. When preceding front vowels or /j/, it is often palatalised to [lʲ] and occasionally realised as [ʎ]. Conversely, when syllable-final—especially when following back vowels—it may be realised as the "dark L" [ɬ].

The rhotic consonant is the alveolar trill /r/, which is often realised as the tap [ɾ] between vowels. Immediately adjacent to /s ʂ ʐ/, /r/ is usually realised as an approximant [ɹ],

and after /n ɲ/ it may be realised as [ɻ]. Adjacent to a lateral, the rhotic assimilates such that /rl lr/ are pronounced [lː] or [ɬ] depending on the following vowel.

The glide is the palatal glide /j/, which alternates between [j~ʝ~ʑ]. Initially and intervocalically it is usually pronounced as an approximant, but when final it may be pronounced as a fricative, especially before a stop or nasal consonant.

The fricatives /v/ and /ð/ are also often realised as approximants [ʋ] and [ð̞].

2.3 Syllables

There are three weights of syllable in Qevesa. Light syllables consist of an onset and a short vowel; heavy syllables consist of an onset, a short vowel and coda, or a long vowel; and superheavy syllables consist of an onset, a long vowel, and a coda.

The onset is optional for all three weights, and any consonant may occur in this position. The coda may consist of any single consonant, a geminate consonant, or one of the following clusters:

- /r l/ + /s ʂ t/: [rs rʂ ls lʂ rt lt]
- /m n ɲ p t c k/ + /s ʂ/: [ms mʂ ns nʂ ɲɕ ps pʂ ts tʂ cç~tɕ ks kʂ]
- /s ʂ/ + /p t c k/ : [sp ʂp st ʂt ɕc sk ʂk]
- /mp nt ɲc nk/

Though there are a large number of permissable consonant clusters, their actual occurrence is fairly infrequent. Syllable-final clusters are to be avoided word-internally where possible: VCCV will always be split into VC.CV.

- Light syllables are (C)V
- Heavy syllables are (C)Vː or (C)VC
- Superheavy syllables are (C)Vː(C)(C) or (C)VCC

2.4 Stress

Stress in Qevesa is not phonemically contrastive, and bears a strong relationship to vowel length and syllable weight. The basic rules are as follows:

- Only one of the last three syllables may be stressed.
- If all three syllables are of equal weight, stress falls on the penultimate syllable.

- If two of these syllables are heavier than the other, primary stress falls on the first of those two, and
- Otherwise, stress falls on the heaviest syllable.

These rules apply regardless of morphology changes, so the stress of a given word will move depending on what affixes (if any) are attached.

2.5 Intonation

Qevesa possesses a limited pitch-accent.

2.6 Romanisation

The usual transcription system used for the Latin alphabet is as follows:

A a	**Â á**	**C c**	**Č č**	**Ch ch**	**D d**	**E e**
/a/	/aː/	/ts/	/tʂ/	/ɕ/	/ð/	/e/
É é	**F f**	**H h**	**I i**	**Í í**	**J j**	**K k**
/eː/	/f/	/h/	/i/	/iː/	/j/	/k/
Kh kh	**L l**	**M m**	**N n**	**Ň ň**	**O o**	**Ó ó**
/x/	/l/	/m/	/n/	/ɲ/	/o/	/oː/
P p	**Q q**	**R r**	**S s**	**Š š**	**T t**	**Ŧh th**
/p/	/c/	/r/	/s/	/ʂ/	/t/	/θ/
U u	**Ú ú**	**V v**	**Y y**	**Ý ý**	**Z z**	**Ž ž**
/u/	/uː/	/v/	/y/	/yː/	/z dz/	/ʐ dʐ/

The Latin orthography is largely phonemic, although not a one-to-one transliteration of the native script, and makes use of a number of diacritics and digraphs. The diacritics indicate the following features:

Háček/Caron The *háček* or caron indicates a palatalised variant. It is used with *c*, *n*, *s* and *z*, producing *č*, *ň*, *š* and *ž*.

Acute The acute accent is used to indicate a long vowel, and is used with *a*, *e*, *i*, *o*, *u* and *y* to produce *á*, *é*, *í*, *ó*, *ú* and *ý*. In handwriting, the acute accent is usually written more like a macron with an almost horizontal line.

The digraphs *ch*, *kh*, and *th* represent the phonemes /ɕ/, /x/, and /θ/. These phonemes were originally pronounced as aspirated stops in Common Therasa, and became fricatives or affricates in Qevesa.

Geminate consonants are doubled, except for the digraphs which only double the first consonant.

CHAPTER 3

Morphological Typology

CHAPTER 4

Verbal Morphology

4.1 Features

The Teranean language family use a *triliteral root system*, not unlike the Semitic languages of Earth, in which verb roots consist of an abstract pattern of three consonants, with actual verb forms created by inserting various vowel patterns between these consonants and adding various prefixes and suffixes. This discontinuous system is uses to form not only conjugated verbs, but also nominal and adjectival derivations, to the extent that the majority of the vocabulary consists of such constructions.

The Proto-Teranean language had a number of different types of verb roots, some of which contained inherent vowels. These various types of root were preserved in the modern Teranean languages to varying degrees, with some becoming prevalent and others gradually disappearing. The eastern Teranean languages, which includes Qevesa, developed a triliteral system as described above, but all the languages retain traces of each of these subclasses of root in some form or another. Qevesa possesses four types of Proto-Teranean roots.

The first and most common type of verb root is the true *triliteral root*, which consists of three consonants and an inherent vowel between C_1 and C_2. This vowel may be /a/, /e/ or /o/, with a strong tendency for /e/ to occur in roots with a stative meaning. The citation form of these roots is $*C_1VC_2uC_3$. Throughout this text, the V listed in transfix patterns will represent the inherent root vowel.

The second most frequent type is the *biliteral root*, which consists of two consonants and an inherent vowel in between them, which is typically /o:/ or /e:/, but may be any long vowel. There are a large number of apparently biliteral roots that exist solely due to sound changes in which a consonant elided in most positions. Other biliteral roots are often augmented with another consonant either before or between the two consonants, and it's believed that the triliteral system evolved from biliteral origins.

The third type is the *quadriliteral root*, which consists of four consonants with no inherent vowel. The majority of these are reduplicated, with the form $*C_1C_2C_1C_2$, and are often ononmatopoaeic. Those quadriliteral roots with four different consonants are almost always derived roots of foreign origin, or extended roots formed by treating a

set of four consonants as an independent root. The citation form of quadriliteral roots is $^{*}C_1aC_2C_3eC_4$.

The final and rarest type of root is the *geminate root*, which consists of two consonants, the second of which is geminated, and an inherent vowel /e/. These roots conjugate triliterally in some forms and biliterally in others. As with the biliteral roots, there are some irregular triliteral roots which appear to be geminates due to sound changes; these are distinguished by their inherent vowel. The citation form of geminate roots is $^{*}C_1eC_2C_2$.

4.1.1 The Verb Structure

The structure of the Qevesa verb involves a number of prefixes, suffixes, and discontinuous affixes, the order of which is important.

(1) PRONOMIAL MARKER-PREVERB-*stem*\PATTERN.ASPECT-MODAL MARKER-TRIGGER MARKER

4.2 The Verbal Patterns

Qevesa has a set of seven *verbal patterns*, also known as constructions (*memódits*[1]). These patterns are sets of verbal conjugations with an associated grammatical function. Each pattern contains a full set of paradigms designating the various aspects; a root conjugated the patterns has its meaning crossed with the pattern's grammatical function. Not all roots can be conjugated into all patterns, and some patterns are prone to semantic drift. The nine patterns are numbered from I–VII and are listed in Table 4.1.

Each pattern will be described in full in the following sections. Within each pattern is a conjugational paradigm that allows the verb to conjugate for aspect and mood; personal suffixes are appended to these stems.

4.2.1 Conjugation Stems

There are six aspects formed by using a root and vowel template, divided into three perfective aspects (*perfective*, *experiential*, and *momentane*) and three imperfective aspects (*progressive*, *durative*, and *habitual*). Each aspect has an indicative stem, used

[1] Derived abstract noun from *modut* "build, construct"

Pattern	Description
I	Base
II	Intensive
III	Causative
IV	Reflexive
V	Reciprocal
VI	Causative Reflexive
VII	Passive Reflexive

Table 4.1 Verb root patterns

to mark the indicative mood, and a modal stem to which modal suffixes are appended. If both the indicative and modal stems are the same, as occurs for some patterns and conjugations, only the infinitive stem is listed in the table.

Each verbal pattern also has up to three other non-finite stems: the *infinitive*, an *active participle*, and a *passive participle*.

4.2.2 Defective Triliteral Roots

Within the set of triliteral roots there are a number of subtypes caused by the presence of certain consonants. These are predictable from the root, but significantly affect the vowel templates the root uses to conjugate, and in some cases cause consonants to alternate between methods of articulation. Although irregular, these *defective roots* are almost entirely due to historical sound changes.

Note that defective roots are not the only type of irregular root; other irregular roots also exist, almost all of which developed from regular sound changes. For example, roots that contain the sequence *t-l* consistently replace the cluster *tl* with *č* or *čč*.

4.2.2.1 Aspirate Roots

Aspirate roots, or H-roots, are those roots which have /h/ in one or more positions, which results the following sound changes:

- A syllable-final /h/ induces lengthening of the previous vowel. Suffixes that follow are usually vowel-final.

- A /h/ following an unvoiced plosive caused it to become a geminate aspirated plosive, which are pronounced in Modern Qevesa as fricatives.
- Roots that have /h/ in more than one position follow the rules of both positions. These are exceedlingly rare.

4.2.2.2 Soft roots

Soft roots, or J-roots are also quite irregular in their conjugations. They are characterised by having had /ɟ/ in one or more positions, and induced the following changes to the conjugated forms:

- a syllable-initial /ɟ/ becomes /j/;
- a syllable-final /ɟ/ tends to become /ʒ/ before stops, affricates and nasals, and /j/ before fricatives and liquids; and
- a geminate /ɟ/ becomes /iʒ/.

These sound changes create a number of homonymic conjugated stems.

4.3 Pattern I

Pattern I is the most common literal root form, containing no preformative affixes. It is typically the closest indicator to the lexical meaning of the root, and has no particular semantic function associated with it, so it includes a wide variety of verbs, including transitive, intransitive, stative and inchoative

4.3.1 Triliteral Roots

The perfective indicative is the citation form of the Pattern I verb, and uses a stem of the form **C₁VC₂uC₃*. The experiential aspect uses the pattern **C₁VC₂aC₃*, and the momentane aspect uses the pattern **C₁VC₂iC₃*. The modal stems take the form **C₁V₁C₂C₃V₂*, where V_1 and V_2 are the first and second vowels of the indicative stems.

The imperfective aspects (progressive, durative and habitual) use the stem *aC₁C₂V₂:C₃V₁*, where 'V_1' is the inherent root vowel and 'V_2' is *-ú-* for the progressive aspect, *-á-* for the durative, and *-í-* for the habitual. The modal stem replaces the final vowel with *-e*.

In general, regardless of the root pattern, perfective aspects will always contain the inherent vowel as the first vowel, and imperfective aspects are always formed by switching the last two vowels, and prefixing with *a-*.

Example triliteral conjugations are given in Table 4.2.

		rokut "write"		*vesuk* "lay down"	
Aspect		**Indicative**	**Modal**	**Indicative**	**Modal**
Perfective	PERF	rokut	roktu	vesuk	vesku
Experiential	EXP	rokat	rokta	vesak	veska
Momentane	MOMT	rokit	rokti	vesik	veski
Progressive	PROG	arkúto	arkúte	avsúke	avsúke
Durative	DUR	arkáto	arkáte	avsáke	avsáke
Habitual	HAB	arkíto	arkíte	avsíke	avsíke

Table 4.2 Pattern I triliteral aspectual stems

The non-finite stems are the infinitive and the active and passive participles. The infinitive is formed with the pattern *C₁uC₂eC₃e*; the active participle with the pattern *eC₁áC₂iC₃*; and the passive participle with the pattern *šeC₁C₂éC₃y*.

Table 4.3 lists the non-finite stems of *rokut* "write".

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*rukete*	*erákit*	*šerkéty*
Meaning	write	writing	written

Table 4.3 Pattern I triliteral non-finite stems

4.3.2 Biliteral Roots

Biliteral roots lack distinct modal stems. The perfective indicative is formed by the pattern **$C_1V{:}C_2u$*, and the experiential and momentane aspects replace the final *-u* with *-a* or *-i*.

The imperfective aspects prefix *a-* and switch the final two vowels; that is, they take the form **$aC_1V_2{:}C_2V_1$*, where V_1 is the short inherent vowel and V_2 one of *-ú-* (progressive), *-á-* (durative), or *-í* (habitual). Biliteral roots whose inherent vowel is **í* or **ú* have *y* as V_1, and biliteral roots whose inherent vowel is **á* have *e* as V_1.

The infinitive is marked by the suffix *-e*, the active participle by the pattern **$eC_1áC_2i$*, and the passive participle by the pattern **$šeC_1V{:}C_2y$*.

Table 4.4 lists some example biliteral conjugations.

4.3.3 Geminate roots

Geminate roots behave like biliteral roots in Pattern I, with the geminate consonants remaining together in the perfective stems and being split in the perfective stems. They lack distinct modal stems.

The perfective indicative is formed by the pattern **$C_1eC_2C_2u$*, and the experiential and momentane aspects replace the final *-u* with *-a* or *-i*.

The imperfective aspects prefix *a-* and switch the final two vowels; that is, they take the form **$aC_1C_2V{:}C_2e$*, where V is one of *-ú-* (progressive), *-á-* (durative), or *-í* (habitual).

The non-finite stems of geminate roots in Pattern I are formed by splitting the geminate consonant and treating them as two single consonants. They use the same patterns as triliteral roots: **$C_1uC_2eC_2e$* (infinitive), **$eC_1áC_2iC_2$* (active participle) and **$šeC_1C_2éC_2y$* (passive participle).

Example conjugations of geminate roots are given in Table 4.5.

Aspect		*mór* “see” **Stem**	*šél* “love” **Stem**	*cív* “be cold” **Stem**
Perfective	PERF	móru	šélu	cívu
Experiential	EXP	móra	šéla	cíva
Momentane	MOMT	móri	šéli	cívi
Progressive	PROG	amúro	ašúle	acúvy
Durative	DUR	amáro	ašále	acávy
Habitual	HAB	amíro	ašíle	acívy

(a) Aspect stems

	Infinitive	**Active Participle**	**Passive Participle**
Stem	*téke*	*etáki*	*šetéky*
Meaning	go	going	gone

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.4 Pattern I biliteral stems

4.3.4 Defective Roots

Defective roots generally follow the patterns outlined above, taking into account the phonological changes listed in Section 4.2.2. Despite being irregular by nature, a lot of the irregularities of defective roots are in fact fairly regular and predictable.

4.3.4.1 Aspirate Roots

Aspirate roots (those with **H* as a root consonant) have fairly predictable irregularities. First-aspirate roots begin with *á-* in the imperfective aspects, and the second vowel is short. Second-aspirate roots behave mostly like regular triliteral roots, though the modal perfective stems have the pattern $C_1V{:}C_3$ to which the aspect suffixes *-u*, *-a* or *-i* are appended. Third-aspirate roots always lengthen the vowel that would otherwise precede C_3.

The non-finite stems are also mostly predictable: syllable-final /h/ lengthens the preceding vowel; /h/ following a plosive causes it to assimilate to the corresponding geminate fricative; /h/ following any other consonant causes it to geminate.

Aspect		*sepp* "turn" Stem	*temm* "finish" Stem
Perfective	PERF	seppu	temmu
Experiential	EXP	seppa	temma
Momentane	MOMT	seppi	temmi
Progressive	PROG	aspúpe	atmúme
Durative	DUR	aspápe	atmáme
Habitual	HAB	aspípe	atmíme

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*supepe*	*esápip*	*šespépy*
Meaning	turn	turning	turned

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.5 Pattern I geminate stems

Examples of aspirate root conjugations are listed in Table 4.6. They can be distinguished from biliteral roots by the form of the imperfective aspects.

4.3.4.2 Soft Roots

Soft roots (those with **ʃ* as a root consonant) are also fairly regular; most of them involve assimilation of **j* to surrounding consonants. The most common assimilations are:

- All occurrences of **-j-* before a consonant become *-ž-* if the consonant is a stop or nasal, and *-i-* if the consonant is a fricative or liquid.
- All occurrences of **-j* after a fricative, affricate, or *n-* assimilate to the geminate palatalised equivalent; that is **sj* ⟶ *šš*, **zj* ⟶ *žž*, **cj* ⟶ *čč*, and **nj* ⟶ *ňň*.
- All occurrences of **-ji-* and **-ij-* become *-í-* except if they are preceded or followed by a different vowel, and word-final **-Vj* becomes the rising diphthongs *-Vi*.

Examples of soft root conjugations are listed in Table 4.7. Note that the verb *jotuh* is also a third-aspirate root, which makes it doubly defective. There are only a very small number of such verbs.

		hevur “be good”		*pohut* “speak”		*zokú* “tie, bind”	
Aspect		**Indicative**	**Modal**	**Indicative**	**Modal**	**Indicative**	**Modal**
Perfective	PERF	hevur	hevru	pohut	pótu	zokú	zokku
Experiential	EXP	hevar	hevra	pohat	póta	zoká	zokka
Momentane	MOMT	hevir	hevri	pohit	póti	zokí	zokki
Progressive	PROG	ávure	ávure	affúto	affúte	azkúho	azkúhe
Durative	DUR	ávare	ávare	affáto	affáte	azkáho	azkáhe
Habitual	HAB	ávire	ávire	affíto	affíte	azkího	azkíhe

(a) Aspect stems

	Infinitive	**Active Participle**	**Passive Participle**
Stem	*huvere*	*ehávir*	*šévery*
Meaning	good	(being) good	(been) good
Stem	*puhete*	*epáhit*	*šefféty*
Meaning	speak	speaking	spoken
Stem	*zuké*	*ezákí*	*šezkéhy*
Meaning	bind	binding	bound

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.6 Pattern I aspirate defective roots

		jotú “know”		*kojur* “read”		*voluj* “rise (sun, moon)”	
Aspect		**Indicative**	**Modal**	**Indicative**	**Modal**	**Indicative**	**Modal**
Perfective	PERF	jotú	jotthu	kojur	koiru	voluj	volju
Experiential	EXP	jotá	jottha	kojar	koira	volaj	volja
Momentane	MOMT	jotí	jotthi	kojir	koiri	volí	volí
Progressive	PROG	aztúho	aztúhe	akjúro	akjúre	avlújo	avlúje
Durative	DUR	aztáho	aztáhe	akjáro	akjáre	avlájo	avláje
Habitual	HAB	aztího	aztíhe	akíro	akíre	avlíjo	avlíje

(a) Aspect stems

	Infinitive	**Active Participle**	**Passive Participle**
Stem	*juté*	*ejátí*	*šeztéhy*
Meaning	know	knowing	known
Stem	*kujere*	*ekájir*	*šekjéry*
Meaning	read	reading	read
Stem	*vuleje*	*eválí*	*ševlévjy*
Meaning	rise	rising	raised

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.7 Pattern I soft defective stems

4.4 Pattern II: Intensive

Pattern II is commonly known as the *intensive* or *transitive* stem. It is primarily used to mean a stronger or iterative form of the action, or to form transitive verbs from intransitive and stative roots. Adjectival roots typically ascribe a causative meaning to Pattern II verbs. This pattern is also the base form of quadriliteral roots.

This pattern was historically formed by reduplicating the first syllable of the root; certain consonant clusters (notably *-tl-*) assimilated resulting in a number of irregular-looking roots. Of the seven root patterns, this pattern is the most irregular: all the others are formed by the addition of a prefix or infix.

4.4.1 Triliteral Roots

The perfective indicative uses a stem of the form **$C_1VC_2VC_2C_3u$*, where 'V' is the inherent vowel. The experiential and momentane aspects replace the *-u-* with *-a-* or *-i-*.

The imperfective aspects use the pattern **$aC_1C_2V_1C_2V_2{:}C_3V_1$*, where V_1 is the inherent vowel and V_2 is *-ú-*, *-á-* or *-í-* for the progressive, durative and habitual aspects.

Both aspectual series lack distinct modal stems.

The non-finite stems are formed similarly to those for Pattern I verbs, albeit with a geminated second consonant. The infinitive is formed with the pattern **$C_1uC_2eC_2C_3e$*; the active participle with the pattern **$eC_1C_2áC_2iC_3$*; and the passive participle with the pattern **$šeC_1C_2éC_2C_3y$*.

Some examples of Pattern II conjugations are listed in Table 4.8.

4.4.2 Biliteral Roots

The perfective indicative is formed by the pattern **$C_1V{:}C_1aC_2u$*, and the experiential and momentane aspects replace the final *-u* with *-a* or *-i*.

The imperfective aspects prefix *a-* and switch the final two vowels; that is, they take the form **$aC_1aC_1V_2{:}C_2V_1$*, where V_1 is the short inherent vowel and V_2 one of *-ú-* (progressive), *-á-* (durative), or *-í* (habitual).

The infinitive is marked by the pattern **$C_1uC_1V{:}C_2e$*, the active participle by the pattern **$eC_1áC_1C_2í$*, and the passive participle by the pattern **$šeC_1C_1éC_2y$*.

Table 4.9 lists some example biliteral conjugations.

Aspect		*sopoptu* "remind, exhort" Stem	*lečetmu* "shrink, reduce, make small" Stem
Perfective	PERF	sopoptu	lečetmu
Experiential	EXP	sopopta	lečetma
Momentane	MOMT	sopopti	lečetmi
Progressive	PROG	aspopúto	alčetúme
Durative	DUR	aspopáto	alčetáme
Habitual	HAB	aspopíto	alčetíme

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*supépte*	*espápit*	*šespépty*
Meaning	remind	reminding	reminded

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.8 Pattern II triliteral stems

4.4.3 Quadriliteral Roots

The base form of quadriliteral roots is Pattern II; they cannot conjugate into Pattern I. The conjugation is similar to that of triliteral roots, albeit with a short *-a-* after C_2.

The perfective indicative aspect takes the form *$^*C_1eC_2aC_3C_4u$*. The experiential and momentane aspects replace the *-u-* with *-a-* or *-i-*.

The imperfective aspects use the pattern *$^*aC_1C_2eC_3V{:}C_4y$*, where V is *-ú-*, *-á-* or *-í-* for the progressive, durative and habitual aspects.

The non-finite stems are formed similarly to those for triliteral roots. The infinitive is formed with the pattern *$^*C_1uC_2eC_3C_4e$*; the active participle with the pattern *$^*eC_1C_2áC_3iC_4$*; and the passive participle with the pattern *$^*šeC_1C_2éC_3C_4y$*.

An example conjugation using the verb *zanzen* "annoy" is given in Table 4.10.

Aspect		*kékaru* "request" Stem	*mómašu* "heat, make hot" Stem	*cícavu* "freeze, make cold" Stem
Perfective	PERF	kékaru	mómašu	cícavu
Experiential	EXP	kékara	mómaša	cícava
Momentane	MOMT	kékari	mómaši	cícavi
Progressive	PROG	akakúre	amamúšo	acacúvy
Durative	DUR	akakáre	amamášo	acacávy
Habitual	HAB	akakíre	amamíšo	acacívy

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*mumóše*	*emámší*	*šemméšy*
Meaning	heat	heating	heated
Stem	*cucóve*	*ecácví*	*šeccévy*
Meaning	freeze	freezing	frozen

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.9 Pattern II biliteral stems

4.4.4 Geminate roots

Geminate roots behave like biliteral roots in some conjugations, and like triliteral roots in others. The perfective indicative is formed by the pattern **$C_1eC_1aC_2C_2u$*, and the experiential and momentane aspects replace the final *-u* with *-a* or *-i*.

The imperfective aspects are formed with the pattern **$aC_1C_1aC_2V_2{:}C_2V_1$*, where V_1 is the short inherent vowel and V_2 one of *-ú-* (progressive), *-á-* (durative), or *-í* (habitual).

The infinitive is marked by the pattern **$C_1uC_1iC_2C_2e$*, the active participle by the pattern **$eC_1áC_1aC_2C_2í$*, and the passive participle by the pattern **$šeC_1aC_1éC_2C_2y$*.

4.4.5 Defective Roots

Defective roots in Pattern II are fairly regular, with the only irregularities being those introduced by the sound changes in Section 4.2.2. The most noticeable irregularities

Aspect		*zanzen* “annoy” Stem	*parzem* “translate, interpret” Stem
Perfective	PERF	zenaznu	perazmu
Experiential	EXP	zenazna	perazma
Momentane	MOMT	zenazni	perazmi
Progressive	PROG	aznezúna	aprezúma
Durative	DUR	aznezána	aprezáma
Habitual	HAB	aznezína	aprezíma

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*zunezne*	*eznázin*	*šeznézny*
Meaning	annoy	annoying	annoyed

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.10 Pattern II quadriliteral stems

occur with third-defective roots, where elision and vowel-lengthening alters patterns in a relatively predictable way. Examples of defective conjugations are given in Table 4.11.

Aspect		*jonanvu* “plunder” **Stem**	*volalju* “soar” **Stem**	*zokakku* “fasten” **Stem**
Perfective	PERF	jononvu	vololju	zokokkhú
Experiential	EXP	jononva	vololja	zokokkhá
Momentane	MOMT	jononvi	vololí	zokokkhí
Progressive	PROG	ažnonúvo	avlolújo	azkokúho
Durative	DUR	ažnonávo	avlolájo	azkokáho
Habitual	HAB	ažnonívo	avlolíjo	azkokího

(a) Aspect stems

	Infinitive	**Active Participle**	**Passive Participle**
Stem	*junénve*	*ežnániv*	*šežnénvy*
Meaning	plunder	plundering	plundered
Stem	*vulélí*	*evlálí*	*ševlély*
Meaning	soar	soaring	soared
Stem	*zukékke*	*ezkákí*	*šezkékkhy*
Meaning	fasten	fastening	fastened

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.11 Pattern II defective stems

4.5 Pattern III: Causative

Pattern III is commonly known as the *causative* stem. Its most common function is causative; it may also convert transitive verbs into ditransitive ones. It can also have a causative meaning on verbs whose Pattern I root is intransitive, and for some verbs, may convey an assistive or factitive meaning. Roots in this pattern include:

- *kopuš* "eat" ⟶ *sakopšu* "feed"
- *rokut* "write" ⟶ *saroktu* "dictate"
- *losut* "learn" ⟶ *salostu* "teach"
- *pesuk* "fall" ⟶ *sapesku* "fell sth (e.g. a tree)"
- *mór* "see" ⟶ *samóru* "show"
- *ték* "go" ⟶ *satéku* "send"

The basic form of Pattern III verbs is prefixing *sa-* onto the root $C_1VC_2C_3$, and as a result this pattern is also referred to as the *S-stem*. Some examples of Pattern III verbs include:

4.5.1 Triliteral Roots

The perfective indicative uses a stem of the form $^*saC_1VC_2C_3u$. The experiential and momentane aspects replace the final *-u* with *-a* or *-i*. Pattern III verbs lack distinct modal stems in the perfective aspects.

The imperfective aspects (progressive, durative and habitual) use the stem $^*asaC_1C_2V_2{:}C_3V_1$, where V_1 is the inherent vowel and V_2 is *-ú-* for the progressive aspect, *-á-* for the durative, and *-í-* for the habitual. The modal stem replaces the final vowel with *-e*.

The infinitive is formed with the pattern $^*saC_1eC_2C_3e$; the active participle with the pattern $^*esC_1áC_2iC_3$; and the passive participle with the pattern $^*šesC_1éC_2C_3y$.

Example triliteral conjugations are given in Table 4.12.

4.5.2 Biliteral Roots

Biliteral roots in Pattern III have similar conjugations to Pattern I, with the addition of the prefix *sa-* or the infix *-s-* that is inserted immediately before C_1. The infix assimilates to the point of articulation of a following fricative, effectively causing it to geminate.

		sakopšu “feed”		*salostu* “teach”	
Aspect		**Indicative**	**Modal**	**Indicative**	**Modal**
Perfective	PERF	sakopšu	sakopšu	salostu	salostu
Experiential	EXP	sakopša	sakopša	salosta	salosta
Momentane	MOMT	sakopši	sakopši	salosti	salosti
Progressive	PROG	asakpúšo	asakpúše	asalsúto	asalsúte
Durative	DUR	asakpášo	asakpáše	asalsáto	asalsáte
Habitual	HAB	asakpíšo	asakpíše	asalsíto	asalsíte

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	**Active Participle**	**Passive Participle**
Stem	*sakepše*	*eskápiš*	*šesképšy*
Meaning	feed	feeding	fed

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.12 Pattern III triliteral stems

The infinitive is marked by the pattern **saC₁V:C₂e*, the active participle by the pattern **esC₁V:C₂i*, and the passive participle by the pattern *šesC₁éC₂y*.

Some examples are listed in Table 4.13.

4.5.3 Quadriliteral roots

Quadriliteral roots form Pattern III similarly to Pattern II. The prefix *sa-* or the infix *-s-* is inserted immediately before C_1, the infix assimilating to a geminate C_1 if that consonant is a fricative.

The infinitive is marked by the pattern **saC₁uC₂eC₃C₄e*, the active participle by the pattern **esaC₁C₂áC₃iC₄*, and the passive participle by the pattern **šesaC₁C₂éC₃C₄y*.

The conjugation of quadriliteral roots in Pattern III is given in Table 4.14.

4.5.4 Geminate roots

Geminate roots form Pattern III similarly to biliteral roots, with a geminate second consonant. The perfective aspects are formed with the pattern **saC₁V₁C₂C₂V₂*, where

Aspect		*satéku* “send” Stem	*samóru* “show”
Perfective	PERF	satéku	samóru
Experiential	EXP	satéka	samóra
Momentane	MOMT	satéki	samóri
Progressive	PROG	astúke	asmúro
Durative	DUR	astáke	asmáro
Habitual	HAB	astíke	asmíro

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*satéke*	*estáki*	*šestéky*
Meaning	send	sending	sent

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.13 Pattern III biliteral stems

V_1 is the inherent vowel and V_2 is one of *-u-*, *-a-* or *-i-* for the perfective, experiential, and momentane aspects.

The imperfective aspects use the pattern **asaC₁V₂:C₂C₂V₁*, where V_1 is the inherent vowel and V_2 is *-ú-* for the progressive aspect, *-á-* for the durative, and *-í-* for the habitual. As the inherent vowel for geminate roots is almost always *e*, these roots lack a distinct modal form.

The infinitive is formed with the pattern **saC₁uC₂C₂e*, the active participle with **esaC₁áC₂C₂i*, and the participle with **šesC₁éC₂C₂y*.

Example geminate stems are listed in Table 4.15.

4.5.5 Defective Roots

Defective roots in Pattern III follow the same phonological assimilation rules as have previously described. This results in a number of predictable irregularities, the most apparent being that the active and passive participles assimilate **-sj-* to *-šš-* and **-sh-* to *-ss-*.

Aspect		*sazarkel* “(cause to be) centred” Stem	*saparzem* “(cause to be) translated” Stem
Perfective	PERF	sazeraklu	saperazmu
Experiential	EXP	sazerakla	saperazma
Momentane	MOMT	sazerakli	saperazmi
Progressive	PROG	asazrekúla	asaprezúma
Durative	DUR	asazrekála	asaprezáma
Habitual	HAB	asazrekíla	asaprezíma

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*sazurekle*	*esazrákil*	*šesazrékly*
Meaning	centre	centring	be centred

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.14 Pattern III quadriliteral stems

An example of a defective triliteral conjugation is given in Table 4.16.

Aspect		*sasyppu* “cause, bring about” Stem
Perfective	PERF	saseppu
Experiential	EXP	saseppa
Momentane	MOMT	saseppi
Progressive	PROG	asasúppe
Durative	DUR	asasáppe
Habitual	HAB	asasíppe

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*sasuppe*	*esasáppi*	*šesséppy*
Meaning	cause	causing	caused

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.15 Pattern III geminate stems

Aspect		*sajotthu* “inform” Indicative	Modal
Perfective	PERF	sajotthu	sajotthu
Experiential	EXP	sajottha	sajottha
Momentane	MOMT	sajotthi	sajotthi
Progressive	PROG	asažtúho	asažtúhe
Durative	DUR	asažtáho	asažtáhe
Habitual	HAB	asažtího	asažtíhe

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*sajetthe*	*ešší́tí*	*šešší́tthy*
Meaning	inform	informing	informed

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.16 Pattern III defective stems

4.6 Pattern IV: Reflexive

Pattern IV is commonly known as the *reflexive* stem, though this is something of a misnomer as true reflexives only account for a portion of the verbs in this pattern. Verbs in Pattern IV are subject to a large amount of semantic drift, and some roots lack base forms in Patterns I or II. The main functions of this pattern are:

- Forming reflexives from transitive roots: *šomú* "shave" → *našmohu* "shave oneself"
- Forming causative reflexives from stative roots: *vorun* "wear" → *navronu* "dress oneself (cause oneself to wear)"
- Forming so-called autoreflexive verbs that denote (often involuntary) actions performed on one's body: *nášoru* "sneeze"
- Forming verbs with unpredictable semantics: *narkotu* "copy (sth)", *nakjoru* "read aloud, recite", *namóru* "look inwards, introspect"

Of the functions listed, the only fully productive class is the reflexives from transitive roots. The verbs with unpredictable semantics are generally admitting of new forms, but the causative reflexives are mostly handled by Pattern VI in modern Qevesa, and the autoreflexives are a closed class.

The basic form of Pattern IV roots is by prefixing *na-* onto the root, and as a result, this pattern is also known as the *N-stem*.

4.6.1 Triliteral Roots

Triliteral roots form the perfective aspects with the pattern **naC₁C₂V₁C₃V₂*, where V_1 is the inherent root vowel and V_2 is one of *-u*, *-a* or *-i* for the various subtypes.

The imperfective aspects are formed with the pattern **anaC₁V₂:C₂C₃V₁*, where V_1 is the inherent root vowel, and V_2 is *-ú-* for the progressive aspect, *-á-* for the durative aspect, and *-í-* for the habitual aspect. Perfective aspects lack a distinct modal form in Pattern IV, but imperfective aspects form it by replacing the final vowel with *-e*.

The infinitive is formed with the pattern **nuC₁C₂eC₃e*; the active participle with the pattern **enáC₁C₂iC₃* and the passive participle with the pattern **šenC₁iC₂C₃u*.

Examples of triliteral stems in Pattern IV are given in Table 4.17.

		narkotu "copy (sth)"		*navronu* "dress oneself"	
Aspect		**Indicative**	**Modal**	**Indicative**	**Modal**
Perfective	PERF	narkotu	narkotu	navronu	navronu
Experiential	EXP	narkota	narkota	navrona	navrona
Momentane	MOMT	narkoti	narkoti	navroni	navroni
Progressive	PROG	anarúkto	anarúkte	anavúrno	anavúrne
Durative	DUR	anarákto	anarákte	anavárno	anavárne
Habitual	HAB	anaríkto	anaríkte	anavírno	anavírne

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	**Active Participle**	**Passive Participle**
Stem	*nurkete*	*enárkit*	*šenrikty*
Meaning	copy	copying	copied

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.17 Pattern IV triliteral stems

4.6.2 Biliteral Roots

Biliteral roots form the perfective aspects by prefixing the Pattern I stem with *na-*. The imperfective stems are formed by inserting the prefix *-n-* immediately before C_1. Like their Pattern I counterparts, biliteral roots in this pattern also lack distinct modal stems.

The infinitive is formed with the pattern **naC₁V:C₂e*; the active participle with the pattern **enC₁áC₂i* and the passive participle with the pattern **šenC₁V:C₂y*.

Examples of biliteral stems are given in Table 4.18.

4.6.3 Quadriliteral roots

Pattern IV quadriliteral roots are rare.

Quadriliteral roots form Pattern IV similarly to Pattern II. The prefix *na-* or the infix *-n-* is inserted immediately before C_1, the infix assimilating to a geminate C_1 if that consonant is a fricative.

Aspect		*namóru* “introspect” Stem	*natévu* “sense, feel within” Stem
Perfective	PERF	namóru	natévu
Experiential	EXP	namóra	natéva
Momentane	MOMT	namóri	natévi
Progressive	PROG	anmúro	antúve
Durative	DUR	anmáro	antáve
Habitual	HAB	anmíro	antíve

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*namóre*	*enmóri*	*šenmóry*
Meaning	introspect	introspecting	introspected

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.18 Pattern IV biliteral stems

The infinitive is marked by the pattern **naC₁C₂eC₃C₄e*, the active participle by the pattern **enaC₁C₂áC₃iC₄*, and the passive participle by the pattern **šenaC₁C₂éC₃C₄y*.

4.6.4 Geminate roots

Geminate roots form Pattern IV similarly to Pattern III, except for the perfective indicative aspects which split the geminate consonant C_2 into two single consonants. The perfective indicative aspects are formed with the pattern **naC₁V₁C₂V₂C₂*, where V_1 is the inherent vowel and V_2 is one of *-u-*, *-a-* or *-i-*, and the modal perfective aspects use the pattern **naC₁V₁C₂C₂V₂*.

The imperfective aspects use the pattern **anC₁V₂:C₂C₂V₁* in the indicative, replacing the final vowel with *-e* to form the modal stem.

The infinitive is formed with the pattern **nuC₁C₂eC₂e*, the active participle with **enáC₁C₂iC₂*, and the participle with **šenC₁éC₂C₂y*.

4.6.5 Defective Roots

Defective roots in Pattern IV follow the same phonological assimilation rules as have previously described.

4.7 Pattern V: Reciprocal

Pattern V is the *reciprocal* stem, whose primary purpose is to create verbs that convey meanings of a reciprocal or reflexive nature. It is often used to create verbs denoting social interactions or accompaniment, or to form transitive verbs from intransitive roots. This pattern is also subject to some semantic and metaphorical drift, though not as severe as in Pattern IV. Some examples include:

- *pohut* "speak" → *patótu* "converse (with)"
- *rokut* "write" → *ratoktu* "correspond (with)"
- *šopur* "buy" → *šatopru* "buy (from)"
- *téku* "go" → *tatéku* "go together, go with" (accompaniment)
- *kéru* "ask" → *katéru* "ask for (sth)" (intransitive → transitive)

The general form of Pattern V verbs is inserting the infix *-at-* immediately after the first consonant, and as a result it may also be referred to as the *T-stem*.

4.7.1 Triliteral Roots

Triliteral roots form the perfective aspects with the pattern **$C_1atV_1C_2C_3V_2$*, where V_1 is the inherent root vowel and V_2 is one of *-u*, *-a* or *-i* for the various subtypes.

The imperfective aspects are formed with the pattern **$aC_1atV_2{:}C_2C_3V_1$*, where V_2 is the *-ú-* for the progressive aspect, *-á-* for the durative aspect, and *-í-* for the habitual aspect. Perfective aspects lack a distinct modal form in Pattern V, but imperfective aspects form it by replacing the final vowel with *-e*.

The infinitive is formed with the pattern **$C_1atuC_2eC_3e$*; the active participle with the pattern **$aC_1átC_2iC_3$* and the passive participle with the pattern **$šeC_1atiC_2C_3y$*.

Examples of triliteral stems in Pattern V are given in Table 4.19.

4.7.2 Biliteral Roots

Biliteral roots form the aspects by inserting the infix *-at-* immediately after C_1 on the Pattern I stem. Like their Pattern I counterparts, biliteral roots in this pattern also lack distinct modal stems.

The infinitive is formed with the pattern **$C_1atV{:}C_2e$*; the active participle with the pattern **$eC_1táC_2i$* and the passive participle with the pattern **$šeC_1atV{:}C_2y$*.

Aspect		*ratoktu* "correspond (with)" Indicative	Modal	*šatopru* "buy (from)" Indicative	Modal
Perfective	PERF	ratoktu	ratoktu	šatopru	šatopru
Experiential	EXP	ratokta	ratokta	šatopra	šatopra
Momentane	MOMT	ratokti	ratokti	šatopri	šatopri
Progressive	PROG	aratúkto	aratúkte	ašatúpro	ašatúpre
Durative	DUR	aratákto	aratákte	ašatápro	ašatápre
Habitual	HAB	aratíkto	aratíkte	ašatípro	ašatípre

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*ratukete*	*erátkit*	*šeratikty*
Meaning	correspond	corresponding	corresponded

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.19 Pattern V triliteral stems

Examples of biliteral stems are given in Table 4.20.

4.7.3 Quadriliteral roots

Quadriliteral roots form Pattern IV similarly to Pattern II. The infix *at-* is inserted immediately after C_1.

The perfective indicative aspect takes the form **C_1ateC$_2$aC$_3$C$_4$u*. The experiential and momentane aspects replace the *-u-* with *-a-* or *-i-*.

The imperfective aspects use the pattern **aC$_1$atC$_2$eC$_3$V:C$_4$y*, where V is *-ú-*, *-á-* or *-í-* for the progressive, durative and habitual aspects.

The infinitive is marked by the pattern **C$_1$atuC$_2$eC$_3$C$_4$e*, the active participle by the pattern **eC$_1$atC$_2$áC$_3$iC$_4$*, and the passive participle by the pattern **šeC$_1$atC$_2$éC$_3$C$_4$y*.

Aspect		*tatéku* “go together (with)” Stem	*katéru* “ask for (sth)” Stem
Perfective	PERF	tatéku	katéru
Experiential	EXP	tatéka	katéra
Momentane	MOMT	tatéki	katéri
Progressive	PROG	atatúke	akatúre
Durative	DUR	atatáke	akatáre
Habitual	HAB	atatíke	akatíre

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*katére*	*ektári*	*šekatéry*
Meaning	ask for (sth)	asking (for)	asked (for)

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.20 Pattern V biliteral stems

4.7.4 Geminate roots

Geminate roots form Pattern V similarly to Pattern III. The perfective apects are formed with the pattern **$C_1atV_1C_2C_2V_2$*, where V_1 is the inherent vowel and V_2 is one of *-ú-*, *-á-* or *-í-*.

The imperfective aspects use the pattern **$aC_1atV_2{:}C_2C_2V_1$* in the indicative, replacing the final vowel with *-e* to form the modal stem.

The infinitive is formed with the pattern **$C_1atC_2uC_2e$*, the active participle with **$eC_1atáC_2iC_2$*, and the participle with **$šeC_1atiC_2úC_2$*.

4.7.5 Defective Roots

Defective roots in Pattern V follow the same phonological assimilation rules as have previously described.

4.8 Pattern VI: Causative Reflexive

Pattern VI is the *causative reflexive* stem, and generally functions as the reflexive counterpart to Patterns II and III. However, it is often subject to large amounts of unpredictable semantic and metaphorical drift. Verbs in this pattern often have an inchoative sense associated with them. Some examples from this pattern include:

- *istorkut* "not procrastinate" (literally "make oneself write")
- *istovrun* "deserve"
- *istoffut* "make oneself speak"
- *istolsut* "learn"
- *istótuk* "curse oneself, curse own luck"
- *istolkuj* "deceive oneself"

It is marked by the infix *-st-* in all forms, leading to its referral as the *ST-stem*.

4.8.1 Triliteral Roots

Triliteral roots form the perfective indicative aspects with the pattern **istV₁C₁C₂V₂C₃*, where V_1 is the inherent root vowel and V_2 is one of *-u-*, *-a-* or *-i-* for the various subtypes. The modal perfective aspects append the suffix *-e*.

The imperfective aspects are formed with the pattern **astV₁C₁V₂:C₂C₃a*, where V_1 is the inherent root vowel and V_2 is *-ú-* for the progressive aspect, *-á-* for the durative aspect, and *-í-* for the habitual aspect. The modal conjugations are formed by replacing the final *-a* of the indicative stems with *-e*.

The infinitive is formed with the pattern **istuC₁C₂eC₃e*; the active participle with the pattern **estáC₁C₂iC₃* and the passive participle with the pattern **šestiC₁C₂éC₃y*.

Examples of triliteral stems in Pattern VI are given in Table 4.21.

4.8.2 Biliteral Roots

Biliteral roots form the perfective aspects by the pattern **istV₁C₁V₂C₂*, where V_1 is the short inherent vowel and V_2 is one of *-u-*, *-a-* or *-i-*. The imperfective stems use the pattern **astV₂:C₁V₁C₂*, again with V_1 as the short inherent vowel and V_2 one of *-ú-*, *-á-* or *-í-*. Both aspects form the modal stem by suffixing with *-e*.

		istolsut "learn"	
Aspect		**Indicative**	**Modal**
Perfective	PERF	istolsut	istolsute
Experiential	EXP	istolsat	istolsate
Momentane	MOMT	istolsit	istolsite
Progressive	PROG	astolústa	astolúste
Durative	DUR	astolásta	astoláste
Habitual	HAB	astolísta	astolíste

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	**Active Participle**	**Passive Participle**
Stem	*istulsete*	*estálsit*	*šestilséty*
Meaning	learn	learning	learned

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.21 Pattern VI triliteral stems

The infinitive is formed with the pattern **istaC₁V:C₂e*; the active participle with the pattern **estáC₁iC₂* and the passive participle with the pattern **šestiC₁éC₂y*.

Examples of biliteral stems are given in Table 4.22.

4.8.3 Quadriliteral roots

Quadriliteral roots form Pattern VI similarly to Pattern II. The prefix *ista-* is inserted immediately before C_1.

The infinitive is marked by the pattern **istaC₁uC₂C₃eC₄*, the active participle by the pattern **istaC₁C₂V:C₃iC₄*, and the passive participle by the pattern **šestiC₁C₂C₃úC₄*.

4.8.4 Geminate roots

Geminate roots form Pattern VI similarly to biliteral roots, albeit with the geminated final root consonant. The perfective aspects are formed with the pattern **istV₁C₁V₂C₂*, where V_1 is the short inherent vowel and V_2 is one of *-u-*, *-a-* or *-i-*. The imperfective

Aspect		*istamur* "reflect" Indicative	Modal
Perfective	PERF	istomur	istomure
Experiential	EXP	istomar	istomare
Momentane	MOMT	istomir	istomire
Progressive	PROG	astúmor	astúmore
Durative	DUR	astámor	astámore
Habitual	HAB	astímor	astímore

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*istamóre*	*estámir*	*šestiméry*
Meaning	reflect	reflecting	reflected

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.22 Pattern VI biliteral stems

stems use the pattern **astV₂:C₁V₁C₂C₂*, again with V_1 as the short inherent vowel and V_2 one of *-ú-*, *-á-* or *-í-*. Both aspects form the modal stem by suffixing with *-C₂e*.

The infinitive is formed with the pattern **istaC₁uC₂C₂e*; the active participle with the pattern **estáC₁C₂iC₂* and the passive participle with the pattern **šestiC₁éC₂C₂y*.

Examples of geminate stems are given in Table 4.23.

4.8.5 Defective Roots

Defective roots in Pattern VI follow the same phonological assimilation rules as have previously described.

		istysup “come into being, appear, turn up”	
Aspect		**Indicative**	**Modal**
Perfective	PERF	istesupp	istesuppe
Experiential	EXP	istesapp	istesappe
Momentane	MOMT	istesipp	istesippe
Progressive	PROG	astúsepp	astúseppe
Durative	DUR	astásepp	astáseppe
Habitual	HAB	astísepp	astíseppe

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	**Active Participle**	**Passive Participle**
Stem	*istasuppe*	*estáspip*	*šestiséppy*
Meaning	appear	appearing	appeared

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.23 Pattern VI geminate stems

4.9 Pattern VII: Passive Reflexive

Pattern VII is the *passive reflexive* stem,

It is marked by the infix *-nt-* in all forms, and may also be known as the *NT-stem*.

4.9.1 Triliteral Roots

Triliteral roots form the perfective aspects with the pattern **intV₁C₁C₂V₂C₃*, where V_1 is the inherent root vowel and V_2 is one of *-u-*, *-a-* or *-i-* for the various subtypes. The modal perfective aspects append the suffix *-e*.

The imperfective aspects are formed with the pattern **antV₁C₁V₂C₂C₃a*, where V_1 is the inherent root vowel, and V_2 is one of *-ú-*, *-a-* or *-i-* for the progressive, durative or habitual aspects. The modal imperfective aspects replace the final *-a* with *-e*.

The infinitive is formed with the pattern **intuC₁C₂eC₃e*; the active participle with the pattern **entáC₁C₂iC₃* and the passive participle with the pattern **šentiC₁C₂éC₃y*.

Examples of triliteral stems in Pattern VII are given in Table 4.24.

		intorkut "subscribe"	
Aspect		**Indicative**	**Modal**
Perfective	PERF	intorkut	intorkute
Experiential	EXP	intorkat	intorkate
Momentane	MOMT	intorkit	intorkite
Progressive	PROG	antorúkta	antorúkte
Durative	DUR	antorákta	antorákte
Habitual	HAB	antoríkta	antoríkte

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	**Active Participle**	**Passive Participle**
Stem	*inturkete*	*entárkit*	*šentirkéty*
Meaning	subscribe	subscribing	subscribed

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.24 Pattern VI triliteral stems

4.9.2 Biliteral Roots

To be written...

4.9.3 Quadriliteral Roots

To be written...

4.9.4 Geminate Roots

To be written...

4.10 Aspect

Qevesa lacks a means to indicate tense, exclusively using aspectual stems instead. The six morphological aspects are the *perfective*, *experiential*, *momentane*, *progressive*, *durative*, and *habitual*.

4.10.1 Perfective

The perfective aspect indicate activities viewed as a single whole. It is typically used to speak of singular events completed in the past, but may also be used to speak of actions without internal structure, or events that are bounded temporally, spacially, or conceptually.

(2) *Kesselost veki žetékuns.*
Kessel-ost veki že-ték-u-ns
Kessel-LOC to 1PL;EXC-go-PERF-AGT.PL
We went to Kessel.

(3) *Ni peks lamiztivaš mórun.*
Ni-∅ peks lamizti-v-aš mór-u-n
3SG-DIR five ballgame-DU-ACC see-PERF-3SG.AGT
He has watched five ballgames.

The bounded nature of the perfective is often indicated by specifying a duration:

(4) *Kori meséhitvod ževatesnuš.*
kori meséhit-v-od že-vatesn-u-š
three hour-DU-ESS 1DU;EXC-sleep.together-PERF-PAT
We slept together for three hours.

When used with an object that has a partitive number, the perfective aspect conveys an atelic sense:

(5) *A rekátoš hakojurin.*
A rekát-oš ha-kojur-in
DEF book-ACC 1SG-read\PERF-AGT
I read the book.

(6) *A rekátinoš hakojurin.*
A rekát-in-oš ha-kojur-in
DEF book-PART-ACC 1SG-read\PERF-AGT
I read [some of] the book [and have not finished it].

4.10.2 Experiential

The experiential aspect expresses that the situation has been experienced before. There is some overlap between the perfective and experiential aspects, but the experiential carries connotations of 'completeness' that the perfective does not.

(7) *Ni peks lamiztivaš móran.*
Ni-∅ peks lamizti-v-aš mór-a-n
3SG-DIR five ballgame-DU-ACC see-EXP-AGT
He has watched five ballgames [in his entire life].

(8) *Velnapad a párisoš tumóran.*
Velnapa-d a páris-oš tu-mór-a-n
tomorrow-ESS DEF city-ACC 2SG-see-EXP-AGT
Tomorrow you will have seen [everything in] the city.

(9) *A rekátoš hakojarin.*
A rekát-oš ha-kojar-in
DEF book-ACC 1SG-read\EXP-AGT
I read the book [and finished it].

4.10.3 Momentane

The momentane aspect indicates brief single-time activities or states.

(10) *A vurecen zóqin.*
A vurece-n zóq-i-n
DEF lightning-DIR flash-MOMT-AGT
The lighting flashed.

(11) *Sehátinist véra mórin če matokhrunésaš jotún.*
sehát-ini-st véra mór-i-n če matokhr-u-nés-aš jotú-n
watch-3SG-LOC towards see-MOMT-AGT and late-PERF-SUBJ-PAT know\PERF-AGT
She glanced at her watch, and knew she would be late.

4.10.4 Progressive and Durative

The progressive aspect indicates ongoing actions with a change of state.

(12) *Veráninaš havrúnon.*
verán-in-aš h-avrúno-n
clothes-PART-ACC 1SG-wear\PROG-AGT
I am putting on clothes.

The durative aspect indicates ongoing actions without a change of state, or actions which last some time.

(13) *Veráninaš havránon.*
verán-in-aš h-avráno-n
clothes-PART-ACC 1SG-wear\DUR-AGT
I am wearing clothes.

There are a number of verb patterns that imply either the progressive or the durative as their imperfective aspect, or have subtly different meanings depending on which is used. Adjectival verbs use the progressive aspect to indicate a change to the quality described by the adjective, and the durative is used to indicate a more-or-less continuous state.

4.10.5 Habitual

The habitual aspect describes actions that occur habitually or intermittently.

4.11 Verb Mood

Qevesa inflects verbs for five basic moods: *indicative*, *mirative*, *conditional*, *optative*, *potential*, and *imperative*. The indicative mood is marked by separate stems described in the previous section, and with the exception of the imperative mood, the others are marked by suffixes appended to the modal stem of the verb.

Mood		Suffix
Subjunctive	SUBJ	-nés-
Mirative	MIR	-lá-
Conditional	COND	-zod-
Optative	OPT	-če-

Table 4.25 Verbal mood suffixes

The imperative mood is marked on the infinitive verb stem rather than the modal verb stem, using the suffixes listed in Table 4.26. The final vowel of the infinitive is dropped before appending the suffix, although diphthongs ending in *-i* replace that vowel with a *-j*.

Aspect		Prefix	Suffix
Perfective	PERF.IMP		-úm
Imperfective	IPFV.IMP	a-	-ím

Table 4.26 Imperative affixes

4.11.1 Indicative Mood

The indicative mood is used for factual statements and positive beliefs, and as such is the default mood.

4.11.2 Mirative Mood

The mirative mood is used to express surprise and also doubt, irony, sarcasm. It is used to express statements contrary to the speaker's expectations or state of mind.

4.11.3 Conditional Mood

The conditional mood is used to speak of an event whose realization is dependent upon another condition.

4.11.4 Optative Mood

The optative mood is used to express hopes, wishes and desires.

4.11.5 Potential Mood

The potential mood indicates that, in the opinion of the speaker, the action or occurrence is considered likely. It can also be used to express that one has the ability to do something.

4.11.6 Imperative Mood

The imperative mood is used for commands and requests.

4.12 Pronomial Markers

The Qevesa verb uses a combination of prefixed pronomial markers and suffixed trigger markers. Both prefixes and suffixes are accompanied by epenthetic vowels that are inserted before or after a consonant.

4.12.1 Agent Trigger

The agent trigger indicates that the noun phrase in the direct case is the voluntary experiencer of an intransitive verb or the agent of a transitive verb. This trigger is equivalent to the active voice in other languages, and the prefixes and suffixes are given in Table 4.27.

(14) *Jaffúton.*
j-affúto-n
3SG-speak\PROG-3SG.AGT
She is speaking.

	Prefix		**Suffix**
	PERF	IPFV	SUFFIX
1SG	h(a)-	h-	-(i)n
2SG	t(u)-	t-	-(u)n
3SG	∅-	j-	-(a)n
1DU;INC	v(i)-	v-	-(i)n
1PL;EXC	ž(e)-	ž-	-(i)n
2DU	t(e)-	t-	-(a)n
3DU	∅-,	j-	-(a)n
1PL;INC	s(e)-	s-	-(i)ns
1PL;EXC	ž(e)-	ž-	-(i)ns
2PL	t(e)-	t-	-(a)ns
3PL	∅-,	j-	-(a)ns

Table 4.27 Pronomial agent marking patterns

(15) *Rekáteš harokutin.*
rekát-e-š h-arokut-in
book-INDEF-ACC 1SG-write\PERF-AGT
I wrote a book.

Generally only animate nouns may be agents; to describe an action involving an inanimate noun as agent, a construction using the oblique trigger and the instrumental case is used instead.

4.12.2 Patient Trigger

The patient trigger indicates that the noun phrase in the direct case is the involuntary experiencer of an intransitive verb; the patient of a transitive verb; and the recipient of a ditransitive verb. This trigger is roughly equivalent to the passive and mediopassive voices in other languages.

Only animate nouns may be voluntary agents of intransitive verbs; inanimate nouns are always marked as involuntary experiencers of intransitive verbs. Furthermore, some intransitive verbs are always involuntary, regardless of animacy. The prefixes and suffixes for the patient trigger are given in Table 4.28.

	Prefix		Suffix
	PERF	IPFV	SUFFIX
1SG	m(e)-	m-	-(i)š
2SG	k(e)-	k-	-(u)š
3SG	∅-	j-	-(a)š
1DU;INC	v(i)-	v-	-(i)š
1PL;EXC	ž(e)-	ž-	-(i)š
2DU	k(e)-	k-	-(a)š
3DU	∅-	j-	-(a)š
1PL;INC	s(e)-	s-	-(i)št
1PL;EXC	ž(e)-	ž-	-(i)št
2PL	k(e)-	k-	-(a)št
3PL	∅-	j-	-(a)št
INANIM	∅-	∅-	-(o)šo

Table 4.28 Pronomial patient marking patterns

(16) *Rekáte jem kojuroš.*
rekát-e-∅ jem kojur-oš
book-INDEF-DIR 1SG.ERG read\PERF-3SG;INANIM.PAT
A book was read by me.

(17) *Rekáte kojuroš.*
rekát-e-∅ kojur-oš
book-INDEF-DIR read\PERF-3SG;INANIM.PAT
A book was read.

(18) *Ni nášoruš.*
Ni-∅ nášoru-š
3SG-DIR sneeze\PERF-3SG.PAT
He sneezed.

4.12.3 Oblique Trigger

The oblique trigger indicates that the noun phrase in the direct case is something other than the agent or patient of a transitive verb. For ditransitive verbs it normally indicates the theme or direct object.

Another common use of the oblique trigger is to express an inanimate agent of a verb. In this case, the noun will be double-marked with both the instrumental case and the direct case. The prefixes and suffixes for the patient trigger are given in Table 4.29.

	Prefix		**Suffix**
	PERF	IPFV	SUFFIX
1SG	m(e)-	m-	-(i)k
2SG	k(e)-	k-	-(u)k
3SG	∅-	j-	-(a)k
1DU;INC	v(i)-	v-	-(i)k
1PL;EXC	ž(e)-	ž-	-(i)k
2DU	k(e)-	k-	-(a)k
3DU	∅-	j-	-(a)k
1PL;INC	s(e)-	s-	-(i)ks
1PL;EXC	ž(e)-	ž-	-(i)ks
2PL	k(e)-	k-	-(a)ks
3PL	∅-	j-	-(a)ks
INANIM	∅-	∅-	-(o)ko

Table 4.29 Pronomial oblique marking patterns

4.13 Preverbal Markers

To be written...

Chapter 5

Nominal Morphology

5.1 Definitions and Features

Qevesa nouns, like verbs, are highly regular in their declension. They inflect for two non-inherent features: number and case. They are also occasionally marked for animacy, though this is inherent in the noun, and thus is usually only indicated by the declension affixes.

Unlike in some languages, there is no grammatical gender. Instead, Qevesa uses natural gender, and this is an inherent feature of the noun that is neither marked nor affects declension. Explicit constructions to distinguish gender may be used when necessary.

Most nouns have three numbers, a singular, dual or quantitative, and plural, although a small, closed set have a natural number and receive inverse marking.

There are seven cases in the standard written language: direct, ergative, accusative, instrumental, genitive, essive, locative. Nouns can also be marked for four states, which are different types of determinateness.

The citation form of all nouns is the unmarked form, that is, with no suffixes or prefixes.

5.1.1 Animacy

Nouns in the Teranean family of languages display a property known as animacy, in which nouns referring to humans, animals and other things perceived as having consciousness or life decline differently to other nouns in some forms. The animacy of a noun must be known in order to properly decline it to the primary cases and to indicate pronomial forms.

Animate nouns refer to humans, animals, spirits, some plants, and some meteorological and geological phenomena. This includes personal names, possessions, and some body parts. Most living but inanimate life forms are not included, such as the majority of plants, as wells as microbial life forms. Animacy is a fixed feature, so nouns may not

switch between animate and inanimate declensions. Exceptions to this include named objects as well as some towns and cities.

5.2 Nominal Declension

Qevesa noun words consist of the stem, followed by number, possessor and case marking:

(19) *stem*-NUMBER-POSSESSOR-CASE

5.2.1 Number

Qevesa nouns have four numbers, singular, dual, plural and partitive, which are typically indicated by the suffixes listed in Table 5.1. A small, closed set of nouns has suppletive plural forms; these may be so-called *broken plurals* or separate roots entirely.

The indefinite suffix is marked with an *-e* after a consonant, and is unmarked on nouns that end with a vowel, except if the vowel is *-i* in which case the indefinite suffix replaces it.

An epenthetic *-e-* is inserted after a consonant for the dual and plural suffixes; the partitive uses an *-i-* instead.

Number		**Suffix**
Indefinite	INDEF	-∅, -e
Dual/Quantitative	DU	-(e)v
Plural	PL	-(e)s
Partitive	PART	-(i)n

Table 5.1 Grammatical number suffixes

Number marking in Qevesa functions in a somewhat unusual manner in that every noun has an inherent "natural" number, which is its default, unmarked form. The suffixes are appended to indicate that the quantity differs from what is expected. Most nouns default to the implicit singular; some nouns, such as body parts and items of clothing that come in pairs are implicitly dual (*méri* "eyes"); and other nouns may be implicitly plural or partial (particularly uncountable nouns).

The dual number functions to indicate exact quantities. By itself, it indicates exactly two of the noun; however, it is also used when the noun is preceded by a modifier that indicates an exact quantity, such as a number word.

In contrast to the dual, the plural number is used for unspecified quantities greater than the singular. The plural suffix may also encode definiteness, especially for those nouns whose unmarked form has an implicit number.

The partitive is used to express partialness or inexact quantities. It may also be used to indicate telicity

5.2.2 Case

Qevesa possesses seven cases: direct, ergative, accusative, instrumental, genitive, essive, locative.

The case suffixes are listed in Table 5.2. The left column lists suffixes that follow a vowel, and the right column lists suffixes that follow a consonant.

Noun Case		**Suffixes**		
		ANIM		INANIM
Direct	DIR	-a, -n, -∅		
Ergative	ERG	-m	-am	—
Accusative	ACC	-š	-aš	-oš
Instrumental	INS	-t	-at	-ot
Genitive	GEN	-k	-ak	-ok
Essive	ESS	-d	-ad	-od
Locative	LOC	-st	-ast	-ost

Table 5.2 Case suffixes

5.2.2.1 Direct

The direct case marks the topic of the verb phrase. This may be the experiencer (both voluntary and involuntary) of an intransitive verb, the agent or patient of a transitive verb, or (less commonly) some other argument of the verb. In this latter case, the direct suffix is stacked onto the other case suffix.

Typically, animate nouns in the direct case are the voluntary experiencers or agents of verbs, and inanimate nouns in the direct case are experiencers or patients.

The direct case suffix takes several forms: *-a* only occurs after a consonant; *-n* occurs after *e* when that vowel does not indicate the indefinite suffix; elsewhere, the direct case is unmarked.

5.2.2.2 Ergative

The ergative case marks the agent of a transitive verb. Inanimate nouns cannot be marked with the ergative case, because an inanimate entity is considered incapable of acting of its own accord.

5.2.2.3 Accusative

The accusative case marks, the patient of a transitive verb or the recipient of ditransitive verb.

5.2.2.4 Instrumental

Qevesa is a secundative language, that is, the recipient of a ditransitive verb is treated the same as the patient of a monotransitive verb. The instrumental case case marks the theme of a ditransitive verb, as well as indicating the means by which the action is performed. Inanimate agents of verbs are also marked with the instrumental case.

To be written...

5.2.2.5 Genitive

The genitive case indicates the possessor of another noun. Animate pronomial possessors are usually indicated by means of a suffix on the possessed noun.

5.2.2.6 Essive

The essive case is used to indicate duration and time, as well as temporary states of being or existence. It is also used to form adverbs from adjectival nouns.

5.2.2.7 Locative

The locative case is used to denote location, and may be used before certain postpositions with meanings other than location. It is the only case that cannot be used without a postposition.

5.3 Pronouns and Pronomial forms

Pronouns are roughly equivalent to nouns in terms of syntax and morphology. They serve as substitutes for other nouns or noun phrases that have previously been mentioned or can be inferred from context. There are a number of types of pronouns in Qevesa, including personal pronouns, demonstrative pronouns and interrogative pronouns.

5.3.1 Personal Pronouns

The personal pronouns stand in for other nouns, indicating that noun's person, number and case. Most personal pronouns refer only to animate referents: a separate inanimate pronoun is used for inanimate referents. There are two first person plural pronouns, an inclusive, which includes the listener, and an exclusive, which does not.

Personal pronouns are declined to the some of the cases by suffixation; other case constructions use a stem derived from the case ending combined with the suffix form of the pronoun. The suffix form is generally preferred over the genetive case to indicate posession, but inanimate pronouns lack a suffix form so always use the genetive pronoun.

The base forms of the pronouns are given in Table 5.3.

5.3.1.1 Possessive Suffixes

Pronomial genetive forms are rarely used when the possessor is animate; instead, nouns are marked with suffixes that indicate the possessor. These suffixes also influence whether the vowel or consonant form of the following case suffix is used.

	Stem		Cases						
	Root	Suffix	DIR	ERG	ACC	INS	GEN	ESS	LOC
1SG	he	-(a)i, -e	he	hem	heš	het	hek	hed	hest
2SG	tá	-(u)tt	tá	tám	táš	tát	ták	tád	tást
3SG	ni	-(i)ni	ni	nim	niš	nit	nik	nid	nist
1DU;INC	vi	-(e)vi	vi	vim	viš	vit	vek	vid	vist
1DU;EXC	že	-(e)že	ža	žem	žeš	žet	žek	žed	žest
2DU	kav	-(e)ttu	káva	kávam	kávaš	kávet	kávek	káved	kávest
3DU	niv	-(u)ni	niva	nivam	nivaš	nivet	nivek	nived	nivest
1PL;INC	sa	-(i)sá	sa	sam	saš	set	sek	sed	sest
1PL;EXC	žes	-(e)že	žesa	žesam	žesaš	žeset	žesek	žesed	žesest
2PL	kás	-(a)ttá	kása	kásam	kásaš	káset	kásek	kásed	kásest
3PL	nis	-(a)ni	nisa	nisam	nisaš	niset	nisek	nised	nisest
INANIM;SG	an		ano	(anom)	anoš	anot	anok	anod	anost
INANIM;DU	ava		avo	(avom)	avoš	avot	avok	avod	avost
INANIM;PL	asa		aso	(asom)	asoš	asot	asok	asod	asost

Table 5.3 Personal pronouns

5.3.2 Demonstrative and Correlative Pronouns

Qevesa has three degrees of demonstrative pronouns, as well as an interrogative series.

- The **proximal** series refers to things closer to the speaker than the listener;
- The **medial** series refers to things closer to the listener than the speaker; and
- The **distal** series refers to things that are far from both speaker and listener.

Demonstrative pronouns must agree in number and case with their antecedent, unlike all other types of modifiers, such as adjectives.

The demonstrative pronouns are are listed in Table 5.4.

		Proximal	**Medial**	**Distal**	**Interrogative**
		PROX	MED	DIST	INT
		to-	*ko-*	*ša-*	*le-*
Person	*-iku*	toiku	koiku	šaiku	leiku
Animate	*-re*	tore	kore	šare	lere
Inanimate	*-mo*	tomo	komo	šamo	lemo
Location	*-ze*	toze	koze	šaze	leze
Direction	*-vira*	tovira	kovira	šavira	levira
Manner	*-ːdu*	tódu	kódu	šádu	lédu

Table 5.4 Demonstrative pronouns

5.4 Postpositions

As a left-branching language, Qevesa tends to use postpositions almost exclusively.

Postposition	Meaning	Cases
	(together) with	Instrumental, Locative
	around	Locative
	away	Locative
	before	Essive, Locative
	by, beside	Locative
	from	Locative
	inside	Locative
	into	Locative
	like, as	Essive
	on	Locative
	onto	Locative
	outside	Locative
	without	Instrumental
evit	in	Locative
kamo	because of, on account of	Instrumental
kastis	along	Locative
kirev	down, below	Locative
methi	except for	Instrumental
mita	after	Essive, Locative
sapa	at, near	Locative
šesal	about, concerning	Instrumental, Essive
ukan	behind	Locative
veki	to	Locative
vileš	above	Locative
véra	towards	Locative

Table 5.5 List of Postpositions

CHAPTER 6

Adjectival Morphology

Qevesa does not possess adjectives in the syntactic sense, though there are words that function as adjectives in the semantic sense. These are distributed into two morphological classes, with some overlap between them:

- Adjectival verbs have verbal roots and conjugate as stative verbs.
- Adjectival nouns are nouns that combine with the intransitive copula.

Unlike adjectives in languages like English, adjectival verbs in Qevesa inflect for aspect, mood and person. Every adjective can be used in an attributive position, and nearly every adjective can be used in a predicative position. Both the predicative and attributive forms can be reanalysed as verb phrases, making the attributive forms of adjectival verbs and adjectival nouns relative clauses.

6.1 Adjectival Inflection

Adjectival words do have additional inflections that aren't used with non-adjectival verbs and nouns. primarily inflect for degree. The structure of an adjective is:

CHAPTER 7

Numerals

Numerals form a separate class in Qevesa, … The counting system is fundamentally duodecimal

		Cardinal
0_{12}	0	en
1_{12}	1	jara
2_{12}	2	vít
3_{12}	3	kor
4_{12}	4	qesa
5_{12}	5	peks
6_{12}	6	zusti
7_{12}	7	kuš
8_{12}	8	soppi
9_{12}	9	jukka
A_{12}	ƶ	meži
B_{12}	ɋ	tuva
10_{12}	10	veša

Table 7.1 Basic numerals

Numerals from 10_{12} to $B0_{12}$ are suffixed with *-vešy*:

10_{12} *javešy*
20_{12} *vítvešy*
30_{12} *korvešy*
40_{12} *qesavešy*
50_{12} *peksvešy*
70_{12} *kušvešy*
$A0_{12}$ *mežavešy*
BB_{12} *tuvavešy-tuva*

Numerals from 100_{12} to $B00_{12}$ are suffixed with *-tus*:

100_{12}	*ertus*
200_{12}	*víttus*
300_{12}	*kortus*
409_{12}	*qesetus-jukka*
752_{12}	*kuštus-peksvešy-vít*

Numerals from 1000_{12} to $B000_{12}$ use the suffix *-mazi*:

1000_{12}	*ermazi*
2000_{12}	*vítmazi*
4000_{12}	*qesemazi*
8603_{12}	*soppimazi-zustitus-kor*
$10{,}000_{12}$	*vešamazi*
$17{,}029_{12}$	*vešakušmazi-vítvešy-jukka*
$50{,}000_{12}$	*pekstusmazi*
$93{,}487_{12}$	*jukkavešy-kormazi qesetus-soppivešy-kuš*
$100{,}000_{12}$	*ertusmazi*
$582{,}196_{12}$	*pekstus-soppivešy-vítmazi ertus-jukkavešy-zusti*

Chapter 8

Derivational Morphology

As a highly synthetic language, derivation plays a major role in the formation of words in Qevesa. Due to its triliteral roots, the majority of words are in fact derived by productive transfixes, suffixes, and prefixes, as well as compounding operations.

8.1 Nominalisation

8.1.1 Discontinuous Patterns

A large number of nouns in Qevesa are derived from the root + vowel pattern framework of the verbal system.

The pattern **C₁aC₂C₂aC₃* is commonly used to form professions from verbal roots. It is no longer highly productive, so most nouns with this pattern represent professions that have existed for a very long time.

Root/Base	Meaning	→	Profession	Meaning
foruk	cut [wood, etc]	→	*farrak*	carpenter
kolun	heal	→	*kallan*	doctor
losut	study, teach	→	*lassat*	teacher
rokut	write	→	*rakkat*	scribe
sotur	govern	→	*sattar*	governor, lord
zomur	guard, watch	→	*zammar*	guard

The pattern **C₁áC₂iC₃an* is the most common pattern used to form professions (as well as many other role-like agentives) in modern-day Qevesa. It actually consists of the active participle without the initial *e*, suffixed with the third person agentive suffix.

Root/Base	Meaning	→	Profession	Meaning
jonuv	steal	→	*jánivan*	thief
lokuj	trick	→	*lákijan*	trickster
mosul	think	→	*másilan*	philosopher
satuk	send, travel	→	*sátikan*	messenger, envoy
sonuš	count	→	*sánišan*	accountant

The pattern **taC₁C₂eC₃* creates agentives from activities that are social in nature, that is, typically involve more than one person and are not done on their own.

Root/Base	Meaning	→	Agentive	Meaning
hoquv	sit	→	*táqev*	resident
losut	learn	→	*talset*	student
rovud	work	→	*tarved*	worker, employee
toruz	come	→	*tatrez*	guest
šél	love	→	*tašle*	lover

The pattern **zeC₁C₂VC₃*, where 'V' represents the long root vowel, typically forms nouns of place or location, such as physical features or buildings.

Root/Base	Meaning	→	Location	Meaning
khonus	get up, stand	→	*zekhnós*	place, location
losut	learn	→	*zelsót*	school
rosuq	bathe	→	*zersóq*	bath, bathtub
vesuk	lay down	→	*zevsék*	bed

The pattern **C₁eC₂C₃i* is also used to form nouns of place or location.

Root/Base	Meaning	→	Location	Meaning
khedus	be special	→	*khedsi*	temple
tosun	house, shelter	→	*tesni*	house
veluj	rise [sun, moon, etc]	→	*velí*	east
keruv	set [sun, moon, etc]	→	*kervi*	west

The pattern **mVC₁C₂eC₃*, where 'V' is the short root vowel, is used to form nouns describing tools or instruments used to perform an action.

Root/Base	Meaning	→	Instrument	Meaning
choput	open	→	*mochpet*	key
jakun	boil	→	*mažken*	kettle
rokut	write	→	*morket*	pen
sonut	weigh	→	*mosnet*	scale
šomú	shave	→	*mošmé*	razor
šovuq	burn	→	*mošveq*	lighter

The pattern **C₁eC₂áC₃* is similarly used to form names of tools and other physical objects. These nouns are typically, but not always, the resulting product of the action.

Root/Base	Meaning	→	Object	Meaning
rokut	write	→	*rekát*	book
satuk	send	→	*seták*	letter, message
vorun	wear	→	*verán*	garment
zokú	bind, tie	→	*zeká*	belt, sash

A related pattern is **šeC₁C₂éC₃*, or the passive participle without the final *-y*. It is used to form nouns resulting from the action, or nouns possessing qualities of the action.

Root/Base	Meaning	→	Object	Meaning
cícavu	freeze	→	*šeccév*	ice
rokut	write	→	*šerkét*	document
zokú	bind, tie	→	*šezké*	knot

The pattern **meC₁V:C₂iC₃*, where 'V' is the long root vowel, is used to form abstract nouns, primarily from adjectives and stative roots which denote physical or temporal characteristics.

Root/Base	Meaning	→	Noun	Meaning
korum	wish luck	→	*mekórim*	luck
ňevuq	new	→	*meňéviq*	age
rovud	work	→	*meróvid*	work

The pattern *$C_1iC_2C_3a$ also forms abstract nouns denoting physical quantities.

Root/Base	Meaning	→	Noun	Meaning
sonuc	measure, count	→	*sinca*	quantity
leput	be wide	→	*lipta*	area
móš	be hot	→	*mimša*	temperature
želut	be strong	→	*žilta*	iron