Qevesa Grammar

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Preface

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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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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 ɪᴘᴀ 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

	Bilabial	Labiodental	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			[dz]	[dʐ]	[tɕ]		
Approximant	[w]	[ʋ]	[ð̞ ɹ]		j		
Lateral			l				
Rhotic			r				

Table 2.2. Consonants

Qevesa possesses twenty-two 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: [cç]. 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.

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

2.2.3. Fricatives and affricates

Qevesa has eleven fricative consonants: /f v θ ð s z ʂ ʐ 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.

The only affricates are allophones of /z ʐ ɕ/: [dz dʐ tɕ]. These only occur in geminates and (occasionally) when intervocalic.

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" [ɫ].

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 [ʐ]. Adjacent to a lateral, the rhotic assimilates such that /rl lr/ are pronounced [lː] or [ɫ] depending on the following vowel.

The glide is the palatal glide /j/, which alternates between [j~j̝~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/: /rs rʂ ls lʂ/
- /m n ɲ p t c k/ + /s ʂ/: /ms mʂ ns nʂ ɲɕ ps pʂ ts tʂ cɕ~tɕ ks kʂ/
- A fricative + affricate at the same point of articulation: /sts ʂtʂ/

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)V: or (C)VC
- Superheavy syllables are (C)V: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	Á á	C c	Ch ch	D d	E e	É é
/a/	/a:/	/c/	/ɕ tɕ/	/ð/	/e/	/e:/
H h	**I i**	**Í í**	**J j**	**K k**	**Kh kh**	**L l**
/h/	/i/	/i:/	/j/	/k/	/x/	/l/
M m	**N n**	**Ň ň**	**O o**	**Ó ó**	**P p**	**Ph ph**
/m/	/n/	/ɲ/	/o/	/o:/	/p/	/f/
Q q	**R r**	**S s**	**Š š**	**T t**	**Th th**	**U u**
/c/	/r/	/s/	/ʂ/	/t/	/θ/	/u/
Ú ú	**V v**	**Y y**	**Ý ý**	**Z z**	**Ž ž**	
/u:/	/v/	/y/	/y:/	/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 *n*, *s* and *z*, producing *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*, *ph* and *th* represent the phonemes /tɕ/, /x/, /f/ and /θ/. These phonemes were originally pronounced as aspirated stops in Common Therasa, and became fricatives or affricates in Qevesa. The letter *q* is an alternative archaic letter for /c/ that is primarily used in names and some older spellings.

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

3. Morphological Typology

4. Verbal Morphology

4.1. Features

Qevesa verbs are traditionally described in terms of a *triliteral root system*, in which verb roots consist of an abstract pattern of three consonants (e.g. *R-K-T* "write"), with actual verb forms created by inserting various vowel patterns between these consonants and adding various prefixes and suffixes. This discontinuous system is used 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.

However, this is a very simplified interpretation. 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 either /e/ or /o/, with a strong tendency for /e/ to occur in roots with a stative meaning, and /o/ in all others. 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 /a:/ 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 /a/. 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 $C_1yC_2C_2$.

4.2. The Verbal Patterns

Qevesa has a set of eight *verbal patterns*, also known as constructions (*mimdotes*[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–VIII and are listed in Table 4.1.

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

Table 4.1. Verb root patterns

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 to mark the indicative mood, and a modal stem to which modal suffixes are appended. If both the indicative and modal

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[1]From *modut* "build, construct"

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.

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 $*C_1VC_2uC_3$. The experiential aspect uses the pattern $*C_1VC_2aC_3$, and the momentane aspect uses the pattern $*C_1VC_2iC_3$. The modal stems take the form $*C_1V_1C_2C_3V_2$, 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 $jaC_1C_2V{:}C_3$, where 'V' is *-ú-* for the progressive aspect, *-á-* for the durative, and *-í-* for the habitual. The modal stem appends an *-e* to the indicative stem.

In general, regardless of the root pattern, perfective aspects will always contain the inherent vowel as the first vowel, and imperfective aspects are always prefixed with *ja-*.

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	jarkút	jarkúte	javsúk	javsúke
Durative	DUR	jarkát	jarkáte	javsák	javsáke
Habitual	HAB	jarkít	jarkíte	javsík	javsíke

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 $C_1uC_2eC_3e$; the active participle with the pattern $eC_1áC_2iC_3$; and the passive participle with the pattern $šeC_1C_2ýC_3$.

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

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*rukete*	*erákit*	*šerkýt*
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 *ja-* and switch the final two vowels; that is, they take the form *$jaC_1V_2{:}C_2V_1$, 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 suffix *-e*, the active participle by the pattern *$eC_1áC_2i$, and the passive participle by the prefix *še-*.

Table 4.4 lists some example biliteral conjugations.

		máru "see"	*šélu* "love"
Aspect		**Stem**	**Stem**
Perfective	PERF	máru	šélu
Experiential	EXP	mára	šéla
Momentane	MOMT	mári	šéli
Progressive	PROG	jamúra	jašúle
Durative	DUR	jamára	jašále
Habitual	HAB	jamíra	jašíle

(a) Aspect stems

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

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.4. Pattern I biliteral stems

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 $^*C_1yC_2C_2u$, and the experiential and momentane aspects replace the final *-u* with *-a* or *-i*.

The imperfective aspects prefix *ja-* and switch the final two vowels; that is, they take the form $^*jaC_1C_2V{:}C_2y$, 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 $^*šeC_1C_2ýC_2$ (passive participle).

Example conjugations of geminate roots are given in Table 4.5.

		vass "flow"	*tamm* "finish"
Aspect		**Stem**	**Stem**
Perfective	PERF	vyssu	tymmu
Experiential	EXP	vyssa	tymma
Momentane	MOMT	vyssi	tymmi
Progressive	PROG	javsúsy	jatmúmy
Durative	DUR	javsásy	jatmámy
Habitual	HAB	javsísy	jatmímy

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*vusese*	*evásis*	*ševsýs*
Meaning	flow	flowing	flowed

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.5. Pattern I geminate 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.

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.

Aspect		*hevur* "be good" Indicative	Modal	*pohut* "speak" Indicative	Modal	*žoruh* "tie, bind" Indicative	Modal
Perfective	PERF	hevur	hevru	pohut	pótu	žorú	žorru
Experiential	EXP	hevar	hevra	pohat	póta	žorá	žorra
Momentane	MOMT	hevir	hevri	pohit	póti	žorí	žorri
Progressive	PROG	jávur	jávure	japphút	japphúte	jažrú	jažrúhe
Durative	DUR	jávar	jávare	japphát	jappháte	jažrá	jažráhe
Habitual	HAB	jávir	jávire	japphít	japphíte	jažrí	jažríhe

(a) Aspect stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*humese*	*ehámis*	*šémys*
Meaning	send	sending	sent
Stem	*puhete*	*epáhit*	*šepphýt*
Meaning	speak	speaking	spoken
Stem	*žuré*	*ežárí*	*šežrý*
Meaning	bind	binding	bound

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.6. Pattern I aspirate defective roots

4.3.4.2. Soft Roots

Soft roots (those with *$\textit{J}$ as a root consonant) are fairly regular. 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 *-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.

Aspect		*jotuh* "know"		*kojur* "read"		*voluj* "rise (sun, moon)"	
		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	jažtú	jažtúhe	jakjúr	jakjúre	javlúj	javlúje
Durative	DUR	jažtá	jažtáhe	jakjár	jakjáre	javláj	javláje
Habitual	HAB	jažtí	jažtíhe	jakír	jakíre	javlí	javlíje

(a) Aspect stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*juté*	*ejátí*	*šežtý*
Meaning	know	knowing	known
Stem	*kujere*	*ekájir*	*šekjýr*
Meaning	read	reading	read
Stem	*vuleje*	*eválí*	*ševlýj*
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.

Adjectival roots often use Pattern II to form superlative roots; some examples include *hevvur* "best" (from *hevur* "good") and *velluš* "tallest" (from *veluš* "tall").

4.4.1. Triliteral Roots

The perfective indicative uses a stem of the form $^*C_1VC_2C_2uC_3$, where 'V' is the inherent vowel. The experiential and momentane aspects replace the *-u-* with *-a-* or *-i-*. The modal stem appends a *-y* to the indicative stem.

The imperfective aspects use the pattern $^*jaC_1C_1V_2{:}C_2C_3V_1$, where V_1 is the inherent vowel and V_2 is *-ú-*, *-á-* or *-í-* for the progressive, durative and habitual aspects. The modal stems replace the final vowel with *-e*; those roots whose inherent vowel is *-e-* do not have a distinct modal stem.

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 $^*C_1uC_2C_2eC_3e$; the active participle with the pattern $^*eC_1\acute{a}C_2C_2iC_3$; and the passive participle with the pattern $^*\check{s}eC_1iC_2C_2\acute{u}C_3$.

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

		sovvut "remind, exhort"		*leccum* "shrink, reduce, make small"	
Aspect		**Indicative stem**	**Modal stem**	**Indicative stem**	**Modal stem**
Perfective	PERF	sopput	soppute	leccum	leccume
Experiential	EXP	soppat	soppate	leccam	leccame
Momentane	MOMT	soppit	soppite	leccim	leccime
Progressive	PROG	jassúpto	jassúpte	jallúcme	jallúcme
Durative	DUR	jassápto	jassápte	jallácme	jallácme
Habitual	HAB	jassípto	jassípte	jallícme	jallícme

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	**Active Participle**	**Passive Participle**
Stem	*suppete*	*esáppit*	*šesippýt*
Meaning	remind	reminding	reminded

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.8. Pattern II triliteral stems

4.4.2. Biliteral Roots

Biliteral roots in Pattern II, like Pattern I, also lack distinct modal stems. The perfective indicative is formed by the pattern $^*C_1V{:}C_2C_2u$, and the experiential and momentane aspects replace the final *-u* with *-a* or *-i*.

The imperfective aspects prefix *ja-* and switch the final two vowels; that is, they take the form $^*jaC_1V_2{:}C_2C_2V_1$, 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 $^*C_1uC_2C_2éne$, the active participle by the pattern $^*eC_1VC_2C_2í$, and the passive participle by the pattern $^*šeC_1aC_2C_2ú$.

Table 4.9 lists some example biliteral conjugations.

		kérru "request"	*mácchu* "heat, make hot"
Aspect		**Stem**	**Stem**
Perfective	PERF	kérru	mácchu
Experiential	EXP	kérra	máccha
Momentane	MOMT	kérri	mácchi
Progressive	PROG	jakúrre	jamúccha
Durative	DUR	jakárre	jamáccha
Habitual	HAB	jakírre	jamíccha

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*mucchéne*	*emacchí*	*šemacchý*
Meaning	heat	heating	heated

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.9. Pattern II biliteral stems

4.4.3. Quadriliteral Roots

The base form of quadriliteral roots is Pattern II; they cannot conjugate into Pattern I.

The perfective indicative aspect takes the form $^*C_1aC_2C_3uC_4$. The experiential and momentane aspects replace the *-u-* with *-a-* or *-i-*. The modal stem appends a *-y* to the indicative stem.

The imperfective aspects use the pattern $^*jaC_1eC_2C_3V{:}C_4y$, where V is *-ú-*, *-á-* or *-í-* for the progressive, durative and habitual aspects. The modal stems replace the final *-u* with *-e*.

The non-finite stems are formed similarly to those for triliteral roots, with the geminated second consonant replaced with C_2C_3. The infinitive is formed with the pattern $^*C_1uC_2C_3eC_4e$; the active participle with the pattern $^*eC_1áC_2C_3iC_4$; and the passive participle with the pattern $^*šeC_1iC_2C_3úC_4$.

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

Aspect		Indicative stem	Modal stem
		zanzen "annoy"	
Perfective	PERF	zanzun	zanzune
Experiential	EXP	zanzan	zanzane
Momentane	MOMT	zanzin	zanzine
Progressive	PROG	jazenzúny	jazenzúne
Durative	DUR	jazenzány	jazenzáne
Habitual	HAB	jazenzíny	jazenzíne

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*zunzene*	*ezánzin*	*šezinzýn*
Meaning	annoy	annoying	annoyed

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.10. Pattern II quadriliteral stems

4.4.4. Geminate roots

Geminate roots conjugate as triliteral roots in Pattern II, with the geminate consonant being split into two single consonants. Example conjugations of geminate roots are given in Table 4.11.

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 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 4.12.

| | | *vassús* "flood" | |
Aspect		Indicative	Modal
Perfective	PERF	vyssus	vyssuse
Experiential	EXP	vyssas	vyssase
Momentane	MOMT	vyssis	vyssise
Progressive	PROG	javsússy	javsússe
Durative	DUR	javsássy	javsásse
Habitual	HAB	javsíssy	javsísse

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*vusse*	*evássis*	*ševissýs*
Meaning	flood	flooding	flooded

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.11. Pattern II geminate stems

Aspect		*jonnur* "plunder" Indicative	Modal	*volluj* "soar" Indicative	Modal	*žorrú* "fasten" Indicative	Modal
Perfective	PERF	jonnur	jonnuru	volluj	volluju	žorrú	žorrú
Experiential	EXP	jonnar	jonnaru	vollaj	vollaju	žorrá	žorrá
Momentane	MOMT	jonnir	jonniru	vollí	volliju	žorrí	žorrí
Progressive	PROG	jaižúnro	jaižúnre	javvúljo	javvúlje	jažžúrro	jažžúrre
Durative	DUR	jaižánro	jaižánre	javváljo	javválje	jažžárro	jažžárre
Habitual	HAB	jaižínro	jaižínre	javvíljo	javvílje	jažžírro	jažžírre

(a) Aspect stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*junnese*	*ejánnis*	*šejinnys*
Meaning	plunder	plundering	plundered
Stem	*vullei*	*evállí*	*ševillý*
Meaning	soar	soaring	soared
Stem	*žurré*	*ežárrí*	*šežirrý*
Meaning	fasten	fastening	fastened

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.12. 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 *sakopsu* "feed", *saroktu* "dictate", *sadostu* "teach", and *sapesku* "fell sth (e.g. a tree)".

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*.

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 *$jasaC_1C_2V_2{:}C_3V_1$*, 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 *$saC_1C_2uC_3e$*; the active participle with the pattern *$esC_1áC_2iC_3$*; and the passive participle with the pattern *$šesaC_1C_2úC_3$*.

Example triliteral conjugations are given in Table 4.13.

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.

The infinitive is marked by the pattern *$saC_1V{:}C_2e$*, the active participle by the pattern *$esC_1V{:}C_2i$*, and the passive participle by the prefix *šes-*.

Some examples are listed in Table 4.14.

Aspect		*sakospu* "feed"		*sadostu* "teach"	
		Indicative	Modal	Indicative	Modal
Perfective	PERF	sakospu	sakospu	sadostu	sadostu
Experiential	EXP	sakospa	sakospa	sadosta	sadosta
Momentane	MOMT	sakospi	sakospi	sadosti	sadosti
Progressive	PROG	jasaksúpo	jasaksúpe	jasadsúto	jasadsúte
Durative	DUR	jasaksápo	jasaksápe	jasadsáto	jasadsáte
Habitual	HAB	jasaksípo	jasaksípe	jasadsíto	jasadsíte

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*saksupe*	*eskásip*	*šesaksýp*
Meaning	feed	feeding	fed

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.13. Pattern III triliteral stems

Aspect		*sutéku* "send"
		Stem
Perfective	PERF	satéku
Experiential	EXP	satéka
Momentane	MOMT	satéki
Progressive	PROG	jastúke
Durative	DUR	jastáke
Habitual	HAB	jastíke

(a) Aspectual stems

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

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.14. Pattern III biliteral stems

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 $^{*}saC_1C_2uC_3eC_4$, the active participle by the pattern $^{*}esC_1V{:}C_2C_3iC_4$, and the passive participle by the pattern $^{*}šesC_1iC_2C_3úC_4$.

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 $^{*}saC_1V_1C_2C_2V_2$, where V_1 is the inherent vowel and V_2 is one of *-u-*, *-a-* or *-i-*.

The imperfective aspects use the pattern $^{*}jasaC_1V_2{:}C_2C_2V_2$ in the infinitive, replacing the final vowel with *-e* to form the modal stem.

The infinitive is formed with the pattern $^{*}saC_1uC_2C_2e$, the active participle with $^{*}esaC_1áC_2C_2i$, and the participle with $^{*}šesC_1iC_2úC_2$.

As with all Pattern III stems, the infix *-s-* assimilates to an immediately following fricative. Table 4.15 lists the Pattern III stems for the verb *savyssu* "melt".

		savyssu "melt"	
Aspect		Indicative	Modal
Perfective	PERF	savyssu	savyssu
Experiential	EXP	savyssa	savyssa
Momentane	MOMT	savyssi	savyssi
Progressive	PROG	jasavússy	jasavússe
Durative	DUR	jasavássy	jasavásse
Habitual	HAB	jasavíssy	jasavísse

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*savusse*	*esavássi*	*ševvisýs*
Meaning	melt	melting	molten

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.15. Pattern III geminate stems

4.5.5. Defective Roots

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

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: *náchoru* "sneeze"
- Forming verbs with unpredictable semantics: *narkotu* "copy (sth)", *nakjoru* "read aloud, recite", *namáru* "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.

4.6.1. Triliteral Roots

Triliteral roots form the perfective aspects with the pattern $*naC_1C_2V_1C_3V_2$, 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 $*janaC_1V_2{:}C_2C_3V_1$, 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 $*naC_1uC_2eC_3e$; the active participle with the pattern $*enC_1áC_2iC_3$ and the passive participle with the pattern $*šenC_1iC_2C_3u$.

Examples of triliteral stems in Pattern IV are given in Table 4.16.

Aspect		*narkotu* "copy (sth)"		*navronu* "dress oneself"	
		Indicative	Modal	Indicative	Modal
Perfective	PERF	narkotu	narkotu	navronu	navronu
Experiential	EXP	narkota	narkota	navrona	navrona
Momentane	MOMT	narkoti	narkoti	navroni	navroni
Progressive	PROG	janarúkto	janarúkte	janavúrno	janavúrne
Durative	DUR	janarákto	janarákte	janavárno	janavárne
Habitual	HAB	janaríkto	janaríkte	janavírno	janavírne

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*narukete*	*enrákit*	*šenrikty*
Meaning	copy	copying	copied

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.16. 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 *$naC_1V{:}C_2e$*; the active participle with the pattern *$enC_1áC_2i$* and the passive participle with the pattern *$šenC_1V{:}C_2y$*.

Examples of biliteral stems are given in Table 4.17.

4.6.3. Quadriliteral roots

Quadriliteral roots form Pattern IV similarly to Pattern II. The prefix *na-* or the infix *-n-* is inserted immediately before C_1.

The infinitive is marked by the pattern *$naC_1uC_2C_3eC_4e$*, the active participle by the pattern *$anC_1V{:}C_2C_3iC_4$*, and the passive participle by the pattern *$šenC_1iC_2C_3úC_4$*.

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

| | | *namáru* "introspect" | *natévu* "sense, feel within" |
Aspect		Stem	Stem
Perfective	PERF	namáru	natévu
Experiential	EXP	namára	natéva
Momentane	MOMT	namári	natévi
Progressive	PROG	janmúra	jantúve
Durative	DUR	janmára	jantáve
Habitual	HAB	janmíra	jantíve

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
Stem	*namáre*	*enmári*	*šenmáry*
Meaning	introspect	introspecting	introspected

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.17. Pattern IV biliteral stems

indicative aspects are formed with the pattern *$naC_1V_1C_2V_2C_2$, 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 *$naC_1V_1C_2C_2V_2$.

The imperfective aspects use the pattern *$janC_1V_2{:}C_2C_2V_1$ in the indicative, replacing the final vowel with *-e* to form the modal stem.

The infinitive is formed with the pattern *$naC_1C_2uC_2e$, the active participle with *$enC_1áC_2iC_2$, and the participle with *$šenC_1iC_2úC_2$.

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.

The general form of Pattern V verbs is inserting the infix *-at-* immediately after the first consonant.

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 $^*jaC_1atV_2{:}C_2C_3a$, 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 *-a* 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 4.18.

		ratoktu "correspond (with)"		*šatopru* "buy (from)"	
Aspect		**Indicative**	**Modal**	**Indicative**	**Modal**
Perfective	PERF	ratoktu	ratoktu	šatopru	šatopru
Experiential	EXP	ratokta	ratokta	šatopra	šatopra
Momentane	MOMT	ratokti	ratokti	šatopri	šatopri
Progressive	PROG	jaratúkta	jaratúkte	jašatúpra	jašatúpre
Durative	DUR	jaratákta	jaratákte	jašatápra	jašatápre
Habitual	HAB	jaratíkta	jaratíkte	jašatípra	jašatípre

(a) Aspectual stems

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

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.18. Pattern V triliteral stems

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 $^*šeC_1atV{:}C_2y$.

Examples of biliteral stems are given in Table 4.19.

		tatéku "go together (with)"	*katéru* "ask for (sth)"
Aspect		**Stem**	**Stem**
Perfective	PERF	tatéku	katéru
Experiential	EXP	tatéka	katéra
Momentane	MOMT	tatéki	katéri
Progressive	PROG	jatatúke	jakatúre
Durative	DUR	jatatáke	jakatáre
Habitual	HAB	jatatíke	jakatíre

(a) Aspectual stems

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

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.19. Pattern V biliteral stems

4.7.3. Quadriliteral roots

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

The infinitive is marked by the pattern $^*C_1atC_2uC_3eC_4e$, the active participle by the pattern $^*eC_1atáC_2C_3iC_4$, and the passive participle by the pattern $^*šeC_1atiC_2C_3úC_4$.

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 $^*jaC_1atV_2{:}C_2C_2V_1$ 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.

It is marked by the infix *-st-* in all forms.

4.8.1. Triliteral Roots

Triliteral roots form the perfective indicative aspects with the pattern $^{*}istV_1C_1C_2V_2C_3$, 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 $^{*}jastV_1C_1V_2{:}C_2C_3a$, 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 $^{*}istuC_1C_2eC_3e$; the active participle with the pattern $^{*}estáC_1C_2iC_3$ and the passive participle with the pattern $^{*}šestiC_1C_2uC_3$.

Examples of triliteral stems in Pattern VI are given in Table 4.20.

4.8.2. Biliteral Roots

Biliteral roots form the perfective aspects by the pattern $^{*}istV_1C_1V_2C_2$, where V_1 is the short inherent vowel and V_2 is one of *-u-*, *-a-* or *-i-*. The imperfective stems use the pattern $^{*}jastV_2{:}C_1V_1C_2$, 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*.

The infinitive is formed with the pattern $^{*}istaC_1V{:}C_2e$; the active participle with the pattern $^{*}estáC_1iC_2$ and the passive participle with the pattern $^{*}šestiC_1yC_2$.

Examples of biliteral stems are given in Table 4.21.

		istodsut "learn"	
Aspect		**Indicative**	**Modal**
Perfective	PERF	istodsut	istodsute
Experiential	EXP	istodsat	istodsate
Momentane	MOMT	istodsit	istodsite
Progressive	PROG	jastodústa	jastodúste
Durative	DUR	jastodásta	jastodáste
Habitual	HAB	jastodísta	jastodíste

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	**Active Participle**	**Passive Participle**
Stem	*istudsete*	*estádsit*	*šestidsyt*
Meaning	learn	learning	learned

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.20. Pattern VI triliteral stems

		istamur "reflect"	
Aspect		**Indicative**	**Modal**
Perfective	PERF	istamur	istamure
Experiential	EXP	istamar	istamare
Momentane	MOMT	istamir	istamire
Progressive	PROG	jastúmar	jastúmare
Durative	DUR	jastámar	jastámare
Habitual	HAB	jastímar	jastímare

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	**Active Participle**	**Passive Participle**
Stem	*istamáre*	*estámir*	*šestimyr*
Meaning	reflect	reflecting	reflected

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.21. Pattern VI biliteral stems

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 $*istaC_1uC_2C_3eC_4$, the active participle by the pattern $*istaC_1C_2V{:}C_3iC_4$, and the passive participle by the pattern $*šestiC_1C_2C_3úC_4$.

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 $*istV_1C_1V_2C_2C_2$, where V_1 is the short inherent vowel and V_2 is one of *-u-*, *-a-* or *-i-*. The imperfective stems use the pattern $*jastV_2{:}C_1V_1C_2C_2$, 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*.

The infinitive is formed with the pattern $*istaC_1uC_2C_2e$; the active participle with the pattern $*estáC_1C_2iC_2$ and the passive participle with the pattern $*šestiC_1C_2yC_2$.

Examples of biliteral stems are given in Table 4.22.

		istavsus "(begin to) flow"	
Aspect		**Indicative**	**Modal**
Perfective	PERF	istyvuss	istyvusse
Experiential	EXP	istyvass	istyvasse
Momentane	MOMT	istyviss	istyvisse
Progressive	PROG	jastúvyss	jastúvysse
Durative	DUR	jastávyss	jastávysse
Habitual	HAB	jastívyss	jastívysse

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	**Active Participle**	**Passive Participle**
Stem	*istavusse*	*estávsis*	*šestivsys*
Meaning	(begin to) flow	(beginning to) flow	(begun to) flow

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.22. Pattern VI biliteral stems

4.8.5. Defective Roots

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

4.9. Pattern VII: Passive Reflexive

Pattern VII is the *passive reflexive* stem, and commonly used to form anticausative verbs. It also has a number of irregular uses *to be written...such as...?*

It is marked by the infix *-nt-* in all forms.

4.9.1. Triliteral Roots

Triliteral roots form the perfective aspects with the pattern $*intV_1C_1C_2V_2C_3$, 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 $*jantV_1C_1V_2C_2C_3a$, 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*.

4.10. Pattern VIII: Stative

Pattern VIII is the *stative* stem, used to form stative verbs and verbs that describe attributes and qualities. Most adjective-like words are formed from this pattern, such as *ivlešu* "tall" (from *veluš* "grow").

4.10.1. Triliteral Roots

Triliteral roots form the perfective aspects with the pattern $*iC_1C_2V_1C_3V_2$, where V_1 is the inherent root vowel and V_2 is one of *-u*, *-a* or *-i* for the various subtypes. The perfective aspects lack a distinct modal stem.

The imperfective aspects are formed with the pattern $*jeC_1V_2{:}C_2C_3a$, where 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 $*iC_1C_2eC_3e$ and the passive participle with the pattern $*šeiC_1C_2uC_3$; Pattern VIII verbs lack an active participle.

Examples of triliteral stems in Pattern VIII are given in Table 4.23.

Aspect		*iksetu* "be ready" Indicative	Modal
Perfective	PERF	iksetu	iksetu
Experiential	EXP	ikseta	ikseta
Momentane	MOMT	ikseti	ikseti
Progressive	PROG	jekústa	jekúste
Durative	DUR	jekásta	jekáste
Habitual	HAB	jekísta	jekíste

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Passive Participle
Stem	*iksete*	*šeiksyt*
Meaning	ready	readied

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.23. Pattern VIII triliteral stems

4.10.2. Biliteral Roots

Biliteral roots form the perfective aspects with the pattern $^*C_1iC_2V_2$, where V_2 is one of *-u*, *-a* or *-i* for the various subtypes. The perfective aspects lack a distinct modal stem.

The imperfective aspects are formed with the pattern $^*jeC_1V_2{:}C_2V_1$, where V_1 is the inherent 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 vowel of the indicative stems with *-e*.

4.10.3. Geminate Roots

Geminate roots behave like biliteral roots in Pattern VIII. The perfective aspects are formed with the pattern $^*C_1iC_2C_2V_2$, where V_2 is one of *-u,* *-a* or *-i* for the various subtypes.

The imperfective aspects are formed with the pattern $^*jeC_1V_2{:}C_2C_2i$, where V_1 is the inherent 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 vowel of the indicative stems with *-e*.

The infinitive is formed with the pattern $^{*}iC_1eC_2C_2e$ and the passive participle with the pattern $^{*}\check{s}iC_1yC_2C_2$.

		zillu "green"	
Aspect		**Indicative**	**Modal**
Perfective	PERF	zillu	zillu
Experiential	EXP	zilla	zilla
Momentane	MOMT	zilli	zilli
Progressive	PROG	jezúlli	jezúlle
Durative	DUR	jezálli	jezálle
Habitual	HAB	jezílli	jezílle

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	**Passive Participle**
Stem	*izelle*	*šizyll*
Meaning	green	green

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.24. Pattern VIII geminate stems

4.10.4. Defective Roots

Defective roots in Pattern VI follow the same phonological assimilation rules as have been previously described. Some examples are listed in Table 4.25.

		íveru "be good"	
Aspect		**Indicative**	**Modal**
Perfective	PERF	íveru	íveru
Experiential	EXP	ívera	ívera
Momentane	MOMT	íveri	íveri
Progressive	PROG	jehúvra	jehúvre
Durative	DUR	jehávra	jehávre
Habitual	HAB	jehívra	jehívre

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	**Passive Participle**
Stem	*ívere*	*šévyr*
Meaning	good	good

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.25. Pattern VIII defective stems

4.11. Aspect

Qevesa verbal morphology indicates aspect instead of tense, to the extent that there is no means to indicate tense on the verb phrase; the closest approximation is periphrastically by means of adverbial phrases referring to time.

4.11.1. 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.

(1) *Kesselanti tékujen*
    Kessel-anti ték-u-jen
    Kessel-ALL go-PERF-1SG.AGT
    I went to Kessel.

(2) *Mi kori lamiztivaš márun.*
    Mi-∅ kori lamizti-v-aš már-u-n
    3SG-DIR three ballgame-DU-ABS see-PERF-3SG.AGT
    He has watched three ballgames.

4.11.2. Experiential

The experiential aspect ascribes to a subject the property of having experienced the event. There is some overlap between the perfective and experiential aspects, but the experiential carries connotations of 'completeness' that the perfective does not.

(3) *Mi kori lamiztivaš máran.*
    Mi-∅ kori lamizti-v-aš már-a-n
    3SG-DIR three ballgame-DU-ABS see-EXP-3SG.AGT
    He has watched three ballgames [in his entire life].

(4) *Kovelnapalli a póriš máratan.*
    ko-velnapa-lli a póri-š már-a-tan
    PROX-tomorrow-ESS DEF city-ABS see-EXP-2SG.AGT
    Tomorrow you will have seen [everything in] the city.

4.11.3. Momentane

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

4.11.4. Progressive and Durative

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

(5)   *Veráninaš javrúnen.*
      verán-in-aš   *javrún-en*
      clothes-PART-ABS wear\PROG-1SG.AGT
      I am putting on clothes.

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

(6)   *Veráninaš javránen.*
      verán-in-aš   *javrán-en*
      clothes-PART-ABS wear-DUR-1SG.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.

4.11.5. Habitual

The habitual aspect describes actions that occur habitually or intermittently

4.12. 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. These suffixes are listed in Table 4.28.

The imperative mood is marked on the infinitive verb stem rather than the modal verb stem. There is a perfective imperative and an imperfective imperative, both marked with suffixes and prefixes listed in Table 4.27. The *-t-* is epenthetic and inserted if the infinitive stem ends with a vowel. If the infinitive stem begins with a vowel, this vowel is dropped and the imperfective prefix becomes *já-*.

Mood		Suffix
Mirative	MIR	-l-
Conditional	COND	-z-
Optative	OPT	-t-
Potential	POT	-r-

Table 4.26. Verbal mood suffixes

Aspect		Prefix	Suffix
Perfective	PERF.IMP		-(t)um
Imperfective	IPFV.IMP	ja-	-(t)om

Table 4.27. Imperative affixes

4.12.1. Indicative Mood

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

4.12.2. 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.

4.12.3. Conditional Mood

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

4.12.4. Optative Mood

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

4.12.5. 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.

4.12.6. Imperative Mood

The imperative mood is used for commands and requests.

4.13. Person Marking

Person marking in Qevesa is somewhat complicated by the unusual morphosyntactic alignment. It broadly functions as a *trigger system*, in which the thematic role (agent, patient, or oblique) of the noun marked by the direct case is encoded in the verb.

The personal suffixes mark for first, second and third person in singular, dual and plural numbers, with the first person plural also making a distinction between inclusive and exclusive. The inanimate suffixes do not indicate number, nor are there inanimate suffixes for the agent trigger. These suffixes are listed in Table 4.28; the left columns list suffixes that follow a consonant, and the right columns those that follow a vowel.

| | Agent Trigger | | Patient Trigger | | Oblique Trigger | |
	AGT		PAT		OBL	
1SG	-en	-jen	-eš	-ješ	-ek	-jek
2SG	-tan	-tan	-taš	-taš	-tak	-tak
3SG	-yn	-n	-yš	-š	-yk	-k
1DU	-evyn	-vyn	-evyš	-vyš	-evyk	-vyk
2DU	-avtin	-vtin	-avtiš	-vtiš	-avtik	-vtik
3DU	-yván	-ván	-yváš	-váš	-yvák	-vák
1PL;INC	-isen	-sen	-iseš	-seš	-isek	-sek
1PL;EXC	-ecen	-cen	-eceš	-ceš	-ecek	-cek
2PL	-astin	-stin	-astiš	-stiš	-astik	-stik
3PL	-imsen	-msen	-imseš	-mseš	-imsek	-msek
INANIM			-oš	-š	-ok	-k

Table 4.28. Person marking suffixes

4.13.1. 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.

(7) *Japphútin.*

japphút-in

speak\PROG-3SG.AGT

She is speaking.

(8) *Rekáteš jarkúten.*

rekát-e-š   jarkút-en

book-INDEF-ABS write\PROG-1SG.AGT

I am writing 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.

4.13.2. 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.

(9) *Rekáte jem kojuroš.*

rekát-e-∅   jem   kojur-oš

book-INDEF-DIR 1SG.ERG read\PERF-3SG;INANIM.PAT

A book was read by me.

(10) *Rekáte kojuroš.*

rekát-e-∅   kojur-oš

book-INDEF-DIR read\PERF-3SG;INANIM.PAT

A book was read.

(11) *Mi náchoruš.*

mi-∅   náchoru-š

3SG-DIR sneeze\PERF-3SG.PAT

He sneezed.

4.13.3. 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.

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 fourteen cases in the standard written language: direct, nominative, absolutive, secundative, genitive, essive, instrumental-commitative, inessive, adessive, illative, allative, elative, ablative and comparative.

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:

(12)   *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.

The definite singular suffix is usually *-ja*, and is not used before a pronomial possessor. Definiteness may also be indicated by the prepositional articles *a* or *az*.

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 (and definiteness) 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.

5.2.2. Case

Qevesa possesses fourteen cases, which are divided into two groups. The primary cases, of which there are four, indicate morphosyntactic roles of the noun with respect to the verb; the remaining ten cases are the secondary cases, and these are mostly locative and adverbial cases.

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		Suffix	
Direct	DIR	-a, -n, -∅	
Nominative	NOM	-m	-am
Absolutive	ABS	-š	-aš
Secundative	SDT	-t	-at
Genitive	GEN	-k	-ak
Comparative	CMPR	-d	-ad
Essive	ESS	-l	-alli
Instrumental	INS	-chi	-achi
Inessive	INE	-ssi	-assi
Adessive	ADE	-zi	-azi
Illative	ILL	-sti	-asti
Allative	ALL	-nti	-anti
Elative	ELA	-spi	-aspi
Ablative	ABL	-mpi	-ampi

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, or a consonant followed by *u*; *-n* occurs after a diphthong ending in *u*, or when the direct case is stacked onto a secondary case; elsewhere, the direct case is unmarked.

5.2.2.2. Nominative

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

5.2.2.3. Absolutive

The absolutive case marks the involuntary experiencer of an intransitive verb, the patient of a transitive verb or the recipient of ditransitive verb.

5.2.2.4. Secundative

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 secundative case marks the theme of a ditransitive verb.

5.2.2.5. Genitive

The genitive case indicates the possessor of another noun. Animate pronominal 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.

5.2.2.7. Instrumental

The instrumental case indicates the means by which the action is performed. Inanimate agents of verbs are also marked with the instrumental case.

5.2.2.8. Inessive

The inessive case indicates internal location.

5.2.2.9. Adessive

The adessive case indicates external location.

5.2.2.10. Illative

The illative case indicates motion from the exterior to the interior.

5.2.2.11. Allative

The allative case indicates motion towards the noun.

5.2.2.12. Elative

The elative case indicates motion from the interior to the exterior.

5.2.2.13. Ablative

The ablative case indicates motion away from the noun. It can also be used in expressions of time and emotion to indicate the beginning of the event or state.

5.2.2.14. Comparative

The comparative case indicates a likeness to something, or the standard to which something is compared.

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, and the cases with personal suffixes are given in Table 5.4.

	Stem		Cases					
	Root	Suffix	DIR	NOM	ABS	SDT	GEN	CMPR
1SG	je	-(a)i, -e	je	jem	ješ	jet	jek	jed
2SG	tá	-(u)tt	tá	tám	táš	tát	ták	tád
3SG	my	-(i)my	my	mym	myš	myt	mek	myd
1DU;INC	vy	-(e)vy	vy	vym	vyš	vyt	vek	vyd
1DU;EXC	ce	-(e)ce	ca	cem	ceš	cet	cek	ced
2DU	tav	-(e)ttu	táva	távam	távaš	távet	távek	táved
3DU	myv	-(u)mi	myva	myvam	myvaš	myvet	myvek	myved
1PL;INC	jys	-(i)sá	jysa	jysam	jysaš	jyset	jysek	jysed
1PL;EXC	ces	-(e)ce	cesa	cesam	cesaš	ceset	cesek	cesed
2PL	tás	-(a)ttá	tása	tásam	tásaš	táset	tásek	tásed
3PL	mys	-(a)mi	mysa	mysam	mysaš	myset	mysek	mysed
INANIM;SG	han		hana	hanam	hanaš	hanet	hanek	haned
INANIM;DU	hava		hava	havam	havaš	havet	havek	haved
INANIM;PL	hasa		hasa	hasam	hasaš	haset	hasek	hased

Table 5.3. Personal pronouns

		Cases							
		ESS	INS	INE	ADE	ILL	ALL	ELA	ABL
		el-, l-	*ech-, ch-, che-*	*ess-*	*ez-*	*est-*	*ent-*	*esp-*	*emp-*
1SG	*-ai*	elai	echai	essai	ezai	estai	entai	espai	empai
2SG	*-utt*	alutt	achutt	assutt	azutt	astutt	antutt	asputt	amputt
3SG	*-imy, -my*	elimy	echimy	essimy	ezimy	estimy	entimy	espimy	empimy
1DU;INC	*-ivy*	elivy	echivy	essivy	ezivy	estivy	entivy	espivy	empivy
1DU;EXC	*-eci*	eleci	echeci	esseci	ezeci	esteci	enteci	especi	empeci
2DU	*-ettu*	elettu	echettu	essettu	ezettu	estettu	entettu	espettu	empettu
3DU	*-umy*	lumy	chumy	essumy	ezumy	estumy	entumy	espumy	empumy
1PL;INC	*-ísa, -isa*	lísa	cheisa	essísa	ezísa	estísa	entísa	espísa	empísa
1PL;EXC	*-ices*	lices	chices	essices	ezices	estices	entices	espices	empices
2PL	*-attás*	lattas	chattas	essattas	ezattas	estattas	entattas	espattas	empattas
3PL	*-mys, -emys*	lemys	chemys	essemys	ezemys	estemys	entemys	espemys	empemys
		-lla	*-chi*	*-ssi*	*-zi*	*-sti*	*-nti*	*-spi*	*-mpi*
INANIM;SG	*ha-*	halla	hachi	hassi	hazi	hasti	hanti	haspi	hampi
INANIM;DU	*hav-*	havalla	havachi	havassi	havazi	havasti	havanti	havaspi	havampi
INANIM;PL	*has-*	hasalla	hasachi	hasassi	hasazi	hasasti	hasanti	hasaspi	hasampi

Table 5.4. Cases with personal suffixes

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.

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 5.5.

		Proximal	Medial	Distal	Interrogative
		PROX	MED	DIST	INT
		to-	*ko-*	*ša-*	*ve-*
Person	*-icu*	toicu	koicu	šaicu	veicu
Animate	*-re*	tore	kore	šare	vere
Inanimate	*-ku*	toku	koku	šaku	veku
Location	*-ze*	toze	koze	šaze	veze
Direction	*-chira*	tochira	kochira	šachira	vechira
Manner	*-:du*	tódu	kódu	šádu	védu

Table 5.5. Demonstrative pronouns

5.4. Postpositions

As a left-branching language, Qevesa tends to use postpositions almost exclusively. Many postpositions are inflected for case, and require the complement after which they are placed to adopt a particular case form as well.

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:

7. Numerals

Numerals form a separate class in Qevesa, … The counting system is fundamentally duo-decimal

		Cardinal
0_{12}	0	en
1_{12}	1	jara
2_{12}	2	vít
3_{12}	3	kor
4_{12}	4	qesa
5_{12}	5	peci
6_{12}	6	zusti
7_{12}	7	kuš
8_{12}	8	soppi
9_{12}	9	jukka
A_{12}	↊	meži
B_{12}	↋	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}	*pecvešy*
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-pecvešy-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*

$50,000_{12}$ *pectusmazi*

$93,487_{12}$ *jukkavešy-kormazi qesetus-soppivešy-kuš*

$100,000_{12}$ *ertusmazi*

$582,196_{12}$ *pectus-soppivešy-vítmazi ertus-jukkavešy-zusti*

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 $^*C_1aC_2C_2aC_3$ 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
dosut	study, teach	*dassat*	teacher
kolun	heal	*kallan*	doctor
nokur	cut [wood, etc]	*nakkar*	carpenter
rokut	write	*rakkat*	scribe
sotur	govern	*sattar*	governor, lord
zomur	guard, watch	*zammar*	guard

The pattern $^*C_1eC_2iC_3in$ is the most common pattern used to form professions (as well as many other role-like agentives) in modern-day Qevesa.

Root/Base	Meaning	Profession	Meaning
homus	send	*hemisin*	messenger, envoy
lokuj	trick	*lekín*	trickster
monuš	count	*menišin*	accountant
mosul	think	*mesilin*	philosopher
jonuv	steal	*jenivin*	thief

The pattern $^*miC_1C_2eC_3$ 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
rovud	work	*mirved*	worker, employee
toruz	come	*mitrez*	guest
šél	love	*mišle*	lover
hocuv	sit	*mícev*	resident
lomut	learn	*milmet*	student

The pattern $^*zeC_1C_2VC_3$, 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
rosuc	bathe	*zersóc*	bath, bathtub
lomut	learn	*zelmót*	school
vesuk	lay down	*zevsék*	bed

The pattern $^*C_1eC_2C_3i$ is also used to form nouns of place or location.

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

The pattern $^*mVC_1C_2eC_3$, 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
šomú	shave	*mošmé*	razor
rokut	write	*morket*	pen
šovuc	burn	*mošvec*	lighter
sonuth	weigh	*mosneth*	scale

The pattern $^*C_1eC_2áC_3$ 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
vorun	wear	*verán*	garment
žorú	bind, tie	*žerá*	knot
homus	send	*hemás*	letter, message

The pattern $^*meC_1V{:}C_2iC_3$, 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
ňevuc	new	*meňévic*	age
rovud	work	*meróvid*	work

A. List of Glossing Abbreviations

1 First person

2 Second person

3 Third person

ABL Ablative case

ABS Absolutive case

ABST Absolute state

ACC Accusative case

ADE Adessive case

ADJ Adjective/Adjectival

ADU Animate dual

ADV Adverb(ial)

AFF Affirmative

AGT Agent trigget

ALL Allative case

ANIM Animate

AOR Aorist

APL Animate plural

ASG Animate singular

ASM Assumptive

ASS Associative

CARD Cardinal

CESS Cessative aspect

CMPR Comparative case

COL Collective

COND Conditional

CONT Continuative aspect

COP Copula

DEF Definite state

DEL Delimitative aspect

DEST Destination

DIR Direct case

DIST Distal

DU Dual number

DUR Durative aspect

ELA Elative case

ELECT Elective

ERG Ergative case

ESS Essive case

EXAG Exaggerated

EXC Exclusive

EXIST Existential

EXP Experiential aspect

F1 Root Form 1

F2 Root Form 2 ("intensive")

F3 Root Form 3 ("passive")

F4 Root Form 4 ("causative")

F5 Root Form 5 ("reciprocal")

F6 Root Form 6 ("reciprocal causative")

F7 Root Form 7 ("attributive")

FOC Focal case (topic marker)

FRAC Fraction

FREQ Frequentative aspect

FUT Future

GEN Genitive case

HAB Habitual aspect

HUM Human

HYP Hypothetical

IDU Inanimate dual

ILL Illative case

IMP Imperative

INANIM Inanimate

INC Inclusive

INCH Inchoative aspect

IND Indicative

INDEF Indefinite

INE Inessive

INF Infinitive

INF1 First Infinitive

INF2 Second Infinitive

INF3 Third Infinitive

INFR Inferential

INS Instrumental (-comitative) case

INT Interrogative

IPF Imperfect

IPFV Imperfect

IPL Inanimate plural

ISG Inanimate singular

LOC Location

MAN Manner

MED Medial

MIR Admirative

MOMT Momentane aspect

MULT Multiplicative

NAT Natural number

NEG Negative

NH Non-Human

NOM Nominative case

OBL Oblique case

OPT Optative

ORD Ordinal

PART Partitive

PAT Patient trigger

PERF Perfect

PFV Perfective aspect

PL Plural number

PLUP Pluperfect

POL Polite register

POS Possessor

POT Potential

PROG Progressive aspect

PROX Proximal

PRS Present

RECP Reciprocal

RSN Reason

SDT Secundative case

SG Singular number

SGV Singulative number

SRC Source

STAT Stative (Imperfective) aspect

SUPL Superlative

TIME Time

UNIV Universal

VOC Vocative case