

# Qevesa Grammar

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# Preface

*to be written...*

## List of Glossing Abbreviations

1DU First person dual	EXP Experiential aspect
1PL First person plural	GEN Genitive case
1SG First person singular	HAB Habitual aspect
2DU Second person dual	IMP Imperative mood
2PL Second person plural	INANIM Inanimate
2SG Second person singular	INC Inclusive
3DU Third person dual	INS Instrumental case
3PL Third person plural	IPFV Imperfective aspect
3SG Third person singular	LOC Locative case
ABS Absolutive case	MED Medial
ACC Accusative case	MIR Admirative mood
ADV Adverbial case	MOMT Momentane aspect
AGT Agent trigger	OPT Optative mood
ANIM Animate	PART Partitive
COND Conditional mood	PAT Patient trigger
DAT Secundative case	PERF Perfect
DEF Definite	PL Plural number
DIR Direct case	PROG Progressive aspect
DIST Distal	PROX Proximal
DU Dual number	SG Singular number
DUR Durative aspect	SGV Singulative number
ERG Ergative case	SUBJ Subjunctive mood
ESS Essive case	VOC Vocative case
EXC Exclusive	





# ***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.

*to be written...*



# 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
<b>Close</b>	i i:	y y:	u u:
<b>Mid</b>	e e:		o o:
<b>Open</b>		a a:	

**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 [ɛ] and [ɔ].

In addition to the plain vowels, there are eight diphthongs, /aᵢ eᵢ oᵢ uᵢ yᵢ aᵤ eᵤ oᵤ iᵤ/.

### 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 [ɪ]. 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
<b>Nasal</b>	m	<u>n</u>		ɲ		
<b>Plosive</b>	p	t̪		c	k	
<b>Fricative</b>	f v	θ ð s z	ʃ ʒ	ç [j~z]	x	h [ɦ]
<b>Affricate</b>		ts [dz]	tʃ [dʒ]	[tɕ]		
<b>Approximant</b>	[w] [ʋ]	[ɕ ɣ]		j		
<b>Lateral</b>		l				
<b>Rhotic</b>		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 [mat:a] 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 ɲ n/. /ɲ/ 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: [c̟]. In some regional dialects [c] and the former phoneme [c<sup>h</sup>] have completely merged into [t̪c] (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 ʃ z̥ x h/. /v/ and /ð/ are commonly realised as approximants. Before front vowels /x/ and /h/ may be realised as [ç], and an intervocalic /h/ may be realised as /ɦ/. Unique amongst the consonantal sounds, /h/ cannot be geminated—a long /h/ induces lengthening of the previous vowel and is realised as /ɦ/.

The postalveolar fricatives /ʃ/ and /z̥/ are realised as laminal retroflex fricatives, and are transcribed as such.

There are four affricate consonants, /ts t̪ʃ t̪c dz dz̥/, the latter three of which are in free variation of the phonemes /ç z z̥/. 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 [ɭ]. 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 ʃ z/, /r/ is usually realised as an approximant [ɹ], and after /n ɲ/ it may be realised as [z]. Adjacent to a lateral, the rhotic assimilates such that /rl lr/ are pronounced [l:] or [ɭ] depending on the following vowel.

The glide is the palatal glide /j/, which alternates between [j~j~ɰ]. 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 [v] and [ø].

## 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 ʃ t/: [rs rʃ ls lt]
- /m n ɲ p t c k/ + /s ʃ/: [ms mʃ ns nʃ ɲç ps pʃ ts tʃ cç~tç ks kʃ]
- /s ʃ/ + /p t c k/: [sp ʃp st ʃt çc sk ʃk]
- /mp nt ɲc nk/

Though there are a large number of permissible 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:

<b>A a</b>	<b>Á á</b>	<b>C c</b>	<b>Č č</b>	<b>Ch ch</b>	<b>D d</b>	<b>E e</b>
/a/	/a:/	/ts/	/tʃ/	/ç/	/ð/	/e/
<b>É é</b>	<b>F f</b>	<b>H h</b>	<b>I i</b>	<b>Í í</b>	<b>J j</b>	<b>K k</b>
/e:/	/f/	/h/	/i/	/i:/	/j/	/k/
<b>Kh kh</b>	<b>L l</b>	<b>M m</b>	<b>N n</b>	<b>Ň ň</b>	<b>O o</b>	<b>Ó ó</b>
/x/	/l/	/m/	/n/	/ɲ/	/o/	/o:/
<b>P p</b>	<b>Q q</b>	<b>R r</b>	<b>S s</b>	<b>Š š</b>	<b>T t</b>	<b>Th th</b>
/p/	/c/	/r/	/s/	/ʃ/	/t/	/θ/
<b>U u</b>	<b>Ú ú</b>	<b>V v</b>	<b>Y y</b>	<b>Ý ý</b>	<b>Z z</b>	<b>Ž ž</b>
/u/	/u:/	/v/	/y/	/y:/	/z dz/	/ʒ dz/

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 /ç/, /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.



# ***Morphological Typology***



# 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 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.

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  $*C_1VC_2u C_3$ . 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 onomatopoeic. 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 quadrilateral 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 trilaterally in some forms and bilaterally in others. As with the biliteral roots, there are some irregular trilateral 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*<sup>1</sup>). 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

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<sup>1</sup>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 exceedingly 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  $aC_1C_2V_2:C_3V_1$ , 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.

		<i>rocut</i> “write”		<i>vesuk</i> “lay down”	
Aspect		Indicative	Modal	Indicative	Modal
<b>Perfective</b>	PERF	rocut	roktu	vesuk	vesku
<b>Experiential</b>	EXP	rokat	rokta	vesak	veska
<b>Momentane</b>	MOMT	rokit	rokti	vesik	veski
<b>Progressive</b>	PROG	arkúto	arkúte	avsúke	avsúke
<b>Durative</b>	DUR	arkáto	arkáte	avsáke	avsáke
<b>Habitual</b>	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  $C_1uC_2eC_3e$ ; the active participle with the pattern  $eC_1áC_2iC_3$ ; and the passive participle with the pattern  $šeC_1C_2éC_3y$ .

Table 4.3 lists the non-finite stems of *rocut* “write”.

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
<b>Stem</b>	<i>rukete</i>	<i>erákit</i>	<i>šerkéty</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	write	writing	written

**Table 4.3.** Pattern I trilateral 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 trilateral 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.



		<i>mór</i> “see”	<i>šél</i> “love”	<i>chív</i> “be cold”
Aspect		Stem	Stem	Stem
<b>Perfective</b>	PERF	móru	šélu	chívu
<b>Experiential</b>	EXP	móra	šéla	chíva
<b>Momentane</b>	MOMT	móri	šéli	chívi
<b>Progressive</b>	PROG	amúro	ašúle	achúvy
<b>Durative</b>	DUR	amáro	ašále	achávy
<b>Habitual</b>	HAB	amíro	ašíle	achívy

(a) Aspect stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
<b>Stem</b>	<i>kéte</i>	<i>ekáti</i>	<i>šekéty</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	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 trilateral 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		<i>sepp</i> “turn”	<i>temm</i> “finish”
		Stem	Stem
<b>Perfective</b>	PERF	seppu	temmu
<b>Experiential</b>	EXP	seppa	temma
<b>Momentane</b>	MOMT	seppi	temmi
<b>Progressive</b>	PROG	aspúpe	atmúme
<b>Durative</b>	DUR	aspápe	atmáme
<b>Habitual</b>	HAB	aspípe	atmíme

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
<b>Stem</b>	<i>supepe</i>	<i>esápip</i>	<i>šespépy</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	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 *\*j* 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 *-i-* 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.

		<i>hevur</i> “be good”		<i>pohut</i> “speak”		<i>zokú</i> “tie, bind”	
Aspect		Indicative	Modal	Indicative	Modal	Indicative	Modal
<b>Perfective</b>	PERF	hevur	hevrú	pohut	pótu	zotú	zotthu
<b>Experiential</b>	EXP	hevar	hevra	pohat	póta	zotá	zottha
<b>Momentane</b>	MOMT	hevir	hevri	pohit	póti	zotí	zotthi
<b>Progressive</b>	PROG	ávure	ávure	affúto	affúte	aztúho	aztúhe
<b>Durative</b>	DUR	ávare	ávare	affáto	affáte	aztáho	aztáhe
<b>Habitual</b>	HAB	ávire	ávire	affíto	affíte	aztího	aztíhe

(a) Aspect stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
<b>Stem</b>	<i>huvere</i>	<i>ehávir</i>	<i>šévery</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	good	(being) good	(been) good
<b>Stem</b>	<i>puhete</i>	<i>epáhit</i>	<i>šefféty</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	speak	speaking	spoken
<b>Stem</b>	<i>zuté</i>	<i>ezátí</i>	<i>šeztéhy</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	bind	binding	bound

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.6. Pattern I aspirate defective roots

		<i>jotú</i> “know”		<i>kojur</i> “read”		<i>voluj</i> “rise (sun, moon)”	
Aspect		Indicative	Modal	Indicative	Modal	Indicative	Modal
<b>Perfective</b>	PERF	jotú	jotthu	kojur	koiru	voluj	volju
<b>Experiential</b>	EXP	jotá	jottha	kojar	koira	volaj	volja
<b>Momentane</b>	MOMT	jotí	jotthi	kojir	koiri	volí	volí
<b>Progressive</b>	PROG	ažtúho	ažtúhe	akjúro	akjúre	avlújo	avlúje
<b>Durative</b>	DUR	ažtáho	ažtáhe	akjáro	akjáre	avlájo	avláje
<b>Habitual</b>	HAB	ažtího	ažtíhe	akíro	akíre	avlíjo	avlíje

(a) Aspect stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
<b>Stem</b>	<i>juté</i>	<i>ejátí</i>	<i>šežtéhý</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	know	knowing	known
<b>Stem</b>	<i>kujere</i>	<i>ekájir</i>	<i>šekjéry</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	read	reading	read
<b>Stem</b>	<i>vuleje</i>	<i>eválí</i>	<i>ševléjy</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	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.

### 4.4.1. Triliteral Roots

The perfective indicative uses a stem of the form  $*C_1VC_2VC_2uC_3$ , where ‘V’ is the inherent vowel. The experiential and momentane aspects replace the *-u-* with *-a-* or *-i-*.

The imperfective aspects use the pattern  $*aC_1V_1C_1C_2V_2:C_3V_1$ , 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  $*C_1uC_1eC_2C_3e$ ; the active participle with the pattern  $*eC_1áC_1C_2iC_3$ ; and the passive participle with the pattern  $*šeC_1C_1éC_2C_3y$ .

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.

		<i>sosoput</i> “remind, exhort”	<i>leletum</i> “shrink, reduce, make small”
Aspect		Stem	Stem
<b>Perfective</b>	PERF	sopoput	letetum
<b>Experiential</b>	EXP	sopopat	letetam
<b>Momentane</b>	MOMT	sopopit	letetim
<b>Progressive</b>	PROG	asoppúto	alettúme
<b>Durative</b>	DUR	asoppáto	alettáme
<b>Habitual</b>	HAB	asoppító	alettíme

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
<b>Stem</b>	<i>supepte</i>	<i>esáppit</i>	<i>šespépty</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	remind	reminding	reminded

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.8. Pattern II trilateral 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 trilateral 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 trilateral 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.

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

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
<b>Stem</b>	<i>mumóše</i>	<i>emámší</i>	<i>šemméšy</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	heat	heating	heated
<b>Stem</b>	<i>cucóve</i>	<i>ecácví</i>	<i>šeccévy</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	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

		<i>zanzen</i> “annoy”	<i>parzem</i> “translate, interpret”
Aspect		Stem	Stem
<b>Perfective</b>	PERF	zenaznu	perazmu
<b>Experiential</b>	EXP	zenazna	perazma
<b>Momentane</b>	MOMT	zenazni	perazmi
<b>Progressive</b>	PROG	azenzúna	aperzúma
<b>Durative</b>	DUR	azenzána	aperzáma
<b>Habitual</b>	HAB	azenzína	aperzíma

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
<b>Stem</b>	<i>zunezne</i>	<i>ezánzin</i>	<i>šeznézny</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	annoy	annoying	annoyed

(b) Non-finite stems

**Table 4.10.** Pattern II quadrilateral 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 ??.



## 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”
- *két* “go” → *sakétu* “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 4.11.

### 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.

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

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
<b>Stem</b>	<i>sakepše</i>	<i>eskápiš</i>	<i>šesképšy</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	feed	feeding	fed

(b) Non-finite stems

**Table 4.11.** Pattern III trilateral stems

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 pattern  $šesC_1éC_2y$ .

Some examples are listed in Table 4.12.

### 4.5.3. Quadriliteral roots

Quadriliteral roots form Pattern III similarly to Pattern III. 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  $*saC_1uC_2eC_3C_4e$ , the active participle by the pattern  $*esaC_1C_2áC_3iC_4$ , and the passive participle by the pattern  $*šesaC_1C_2éC_3C_4y$ .

The conjugation of quadriliteral roots in Pattern III is given in Table 4.13.

		<i>sakétu</i> “send”	<i>samóru</i> “show”
Aspect		Stem	
<b>Perfective</b>	PERF	sakétu	samóru
<b>Experiential</b>	EXP	sakéta	samóra
<b>Momentane</b>	MOMT	sakéti	samóri
<b>Progressive</b>	PROG	astúke	asmúro
<b>Durative</b>	DUR	astáke	asmáro
<b>Habitual</b>	HAB	astíke	asmíro

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
<b>Stem</b>	<i>sakéte</i>	<i>estáki</i>	<i>šeskéty</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	send	sending	sent

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.12. Pattern III biliteral stems

#### 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-* for the perfective, experiential, and momentane aspects.

The imperfective aspects use the pattern  $*asaC_1V_2:C_2C_2V_1$ , 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. 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  $*saC_1uC_2C_2e$ , the active participle with  $*esaC_1áC_2C_2i$ , and the participle with  $*šesC_1éC_2C_2y$ .

Example geminate stems are listed in Table 4.14.

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

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
<b>Stem</b>	<i>sazurekle</i>	<i>esazrákil</i>	<i>šesazrékly</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	centre	centring	be centred

(b) Non-finite stems

**Table 4.13.** Pattern III quadrilateral stems

#### 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-*.

An example of a defective trilateral conjugation is given in Table 4.15.

<i>sasyppu</i> “cause, bring about”		
Aspect		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	<i>sasuppe</i>	<i>esasáppi</i>	<i>šesséppy</i>
Meaning	cause	causing	caused

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.14. Pattern III geminate stems

<i>sajotthu</i> “inform”			
Aspect		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	<i>sajetthe</i>	<i>eššátí</i>	<i>šeššétthy</i>
Meaning	inform	informing	informed

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.15. 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 III. 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 V 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  $*naC_1C_2V_1C_3V_2$ , 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  $*anaC_1V_2:C_2C_3V_1$ , 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  $*nuC_1C_2eC_3e$ ; the active participle with the pattern  $*enáC_1C_2iC_3$  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		<i>narkotu</i> “copy (sth)”		<i>navronu</i> “dress oneself”	
		Indicative	Modal	Indicative	Modal
<b>Perfective</b>	PERF	narkotu	narkotu	navronu	navronu
<b>Experiential</b>	EXP	narkota	narkota	navrona	navrona
<b>Momentane</b>	MOMT	narkoti	narkoti	navroni	navroni
<b>Progressive</b>	PROG	anarúкто	anarúkte	anavúrno	anavúrne
<b>Durative</b>	DUR	anaráкто	anarákte	anavárno	anavárne
<b>Habitual</b>	HAB	anaríkto	anaríkte	anavírno	anavírne

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
<b>Stem</b>	<i>nurkete</i>	<i>enárkit</i>	<i>šenrikty</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	copy	copying	copied

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.16. Pattern IV trilateral 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

Pattern IV quadriliteral roots are rare.

Quadriliteral roots form Pattern IV similarly to Pattern III. 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.

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

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
<b>Stem</b>	<i>namóre</i>	<i>enmóri</i>	<i>šenmóry</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	introspect	introspecting	introspected

(b) Non-finite stems

**Table 4.17.** Pattern IV biliteral stems

The infinitive is marked by the pattern  $*naC_1C_2eC_3C_4e$ , the active participle by the pattern  $*enaC_1C_2áC_3iC_4$ , and the passive participle by the pattern  $*šenaC_1C_2éC_3C_4y$ .

#### 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  $*naC_1V_1C_2V_2C_2$ , 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  $*anC_1V_2:C_2C_2V_1$  in the indicative, replacing the final vowel with  $-e$  to form the modal stem.

The infinitive is formed with the pattern  $*nuC_1C_2eC_2e$ , the active participle with  $*enáC_1C_2iC_2$ , and the participle with  $*šenC_1éC_2C_2y$ .



#### 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)”
- *kétu* “go” → *katétu* “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 4.18.

### 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		<i>ratoktu</i> “correspond (with)”		<i>šatopru</i> “buy (from)”	
		Indicative	Modal	Indicative	Modal
<b>Perfective</b>	PERF	ratoktu	ratoktu	šatopru	šatopru
<b>Experiential</b>	EXP	ratokta	ratokta	šatopra	šatopra
<b>Momentane</b>	MOMT	ratokti	ratokti	šatopri	šatopri
<b>Progressive</b>	PROG	aratúkto	aratúkte	ašatúpro	ašatúpre
<b>Durative</b>	DUR	aratákto	aratákte	ašatápro	ašatápre
<b>Habitual</b>	HAB	aratíkto	aratíkto	ašatípro	ašatípre

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
<b>Stem</b>	<i>ratukete</i>	<i>erátkit</i>	<i>šeratikty</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	correspond	corresponding	corresponded

(b) Non-finite stems

**Table 4.18.** Pattern V trilateral stems

Examples of biliteral stems are given in Table 4.19.

#### 4.7.3. Quadriliteral roots

Quadriliteral roots form Pattern V similarly to Pattern III. The infix *at-* is inserted immediately after  $C_1$ .

The perfective indicative aspect takes the form  $*C_1ateC_2aC_3C_4u$ . The experiential and momentane aspects replace the *-u-* with *-a-* or *-i-*.

The imperfective aspects use the pattern  $*aC_1atC_2eC_3V:C_4y$ , where V is *-ú-*, *-á-* or *-í-* for the progressive, durative and habitual aspects.

The infinitive is marked by the pattern  $*C_1atuC_2eC_3C_4e$ , the active participle by the pattern  $*eC_1atC_2áC_3iC_4$ , and the passive participle by the pattern  $*šeC_1atC_2éC_3C_4y$ .

		<i>katétu</i> “go together (with)”	<i>katéru</i> “ask for (sth)”
Aspect		Stem	Stem
<b>Perfective</b>	PERF	katétu	katéru
<b>Experiential</b>	EXP	katéta	katéra
<b>Momentane</b>	MOMT	katéti	katéri
<b>Progressive</b>	PROG	akatúte	akatúre
<b>Durative</b>	DUR	akatáte	akatáre
<b>Habitual</b>	HAB	akatíte	akatíre

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
<b>Stem</b>	<i>katére</i>	<i>ektári</i>	<i>šekatéry</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	ask for (sth)	asking (for)	asked (for)

(b) Non-finite stems

**Table 4.19.** Pattern V biliteral stems

#### 4.7.4. Geminate roots

Geminate roots form Pattern V similarly to Pattern III. The perfective aspects 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 III 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:

- *satorkut* “not procrastinate” (literally “make oneself write”)
- *satovrun* “deserve”
- *satopphut* “make oneself speak”
- *satolsut* “learn”
- *satotuk* “curse oneself, curse own luck”
- *satolkuj* “deceive oneself”

It is marked by the prefix *sut-* 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  $*sutV_1C_1C_2V_2C_3$ , 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  $*astaC_1V_2:C_2C_3V_1$ , 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. The modal conjugations are formed by replacing the final vowel 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  $*šestiC_1C_2éC_3y$ .

Examples of triliteral stems in Pattern VI are given in Table 4.18.

### 4.8.2. Biliteral Roots

Biliteral roots form the perfective aspects by the pattern  $*satV_1C_1V_2C_2$ , where  $V_1$  is the short inherent vowel and  $V_2$  is one of *-u-*, *-a-* or *-i-*. The imperfective stems use the pattern  $*astV_2:C_1V_1C_2$ , 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*.

<i>sutolsut</i> “learn”			
Aspect		Indicative	Modal
<b>Perfective</b>	PERF	sutolsut	sutolsute
<b>Experiential</b>	EXP	sutolsat	sutolsate
<b>Momentane</b>	MOMT	sutolsit	sutolsite
<b>Progressive</b>	PROG	astalústo	astalúste
<b>Durative</b>	DUR	astalásto	astaláste
<b>Habitual</b>	HAB	astalísto	astalíste

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
<b>Stem</b>	<i>istulsete</i>	<i>estálsit</i>	<i>šestilséty</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	learn	learning	learned

(b) Non-finite stems

**Table 4.20.** Pattern VI trilateral stems

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  $*šestiC_1éC_2y$ .

Examples of biliteral stems are given in Table 4.21.

### 4.8.3. Quadriliteral roots

Quadriliteral roots form Pattern VI similarly to Pattern III. The prefix *sat-* 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  $*istV_1C_1V_2C_2$ , where  $V_1$  is the short inherent vowel and  $V_2$  is one of *-u-*, *-a-* or *-i-*. The imperfective

<i>istamur</i> “reflect”			
Aspect		Indicative	Modal
<b>Perfective</b>	PERF	satomur	satomure
<b>Experiential</b>	EXP	satomar	satomare
<b>Momentane</b>	MOMT	satomir	satomire
<b>Progressive</b>	PROG	astúmor	astúmore
<b>Durative</b>	DUR	astámor	astámore
<b>Habitual</b>	HAB	astímor	astímore

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
<b>Stem</b>	<i>istamóre</i>	<i>estámir</i>	<i>šestiméry</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	reflect	reflecting	reflected

(b) Non-finite stems

**Table 4.21.** Pattern VI biliteral stems

stems use the pattern  $*astV_2:C_1V_1C_2C_2$ , 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  $-C_2e$ .

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  $*šestiC_1éC_2C_2y$ .

Examples of geminate stems are given in Table 4.22.

#### 4.8.5. Defective Roots

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

<i>istysup</i> “come into being, appear, turn up”			
Aspect		Indicative	Modal
<b>Perfective</b>	PERF	satesupp	satesuppe
<b>Experiential</b>	EXP	satesapp	satesappe
<b>Momentane</b>	MOMT	satesipp	satesippe
<b>Progressive</b>	PROG	astúsepp	astúseppe
<b>Durative</b>	DUR	astásepp	astáseppe
<b>Habitual</b>	HAB	astísepp	astíseppe

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
<b>Stem</b>	<i>istasuppe</i>	<i>estáspip</i>	<i>šestiséppy</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	appear	appearing	appeared

(b) Non-finite stems

**Table 4.22.** 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  $*nitV_1C_1C_2V_2C_3$ , 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  $*antaC_1V_2C_2C_3V_1$ , 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  $*intuC_1C_2eC_3e$ ; the active participle with the pattern  $*entáC_1C_2iC_3$  and the passive participle with the pattern  $*šentiC_1C_2éC_3y$ .

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

<i>intorkut</i> “subscribe”			
Aspect		Indicative	Modal
<b>Perfective</b>	PERF	nitorkut	nitorkute
<b>Experiential</b>	EXP	nitorkat	nitorkate
<b>Momentane</b>	MOMT	nitorkit	nitorkite
<b>Progressive</b>	PROG	antarúkto	antarúkte
<b>Durative</b>	DUR	antarákto	antarákte
<b>Habitual</b>	HAB	antaríkto	antaríkte

(a) Aspectual stems

	Infinitive	Active Participle	Passive Participle
<b>Stem</b>	<i>inturkete</i>	<i>entárkit</i>	<i>šentirkéty</i>
<b>Meaning</b>	subscribe	subscribing	subscribed

(b) Non-finite stems

Table 4.23. Pattern V 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 zekétuns.*  
Kessel-ost veki ze-két-u-ns  
Kessel-LOC to 1PL;EXC-go-PERF-AGT.PL  
We went to Kessel.
- (3) *Ni peks lamiztivaš mór-un.*  
Ni-Ø 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 meséhitevid zevatesnuš.*  
 kori meséhít-ev-id ze-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 rekátiniš hakojurin.*  
 A rekát-in-iš 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 mórán.*  
 Ni-Ø 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) *Nikost sehátost véra mórín še matokhrunésaš jotún.*  
nik-ost sehát-ost véra mór-i-n še matokhr-u-nés-aš jotú-n  
3SG.GEN-LOC watch-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) *Veráninoš havrúnon.*  
verán-in-oš h-avráno-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) *Veráninoš havránon.*  
verán-in-oš 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
<b>Subjunctive</b>	SUBJ	-nés-
<b>Mirative</b>	MIR	-lá-
<b>Conditional</b>	COND	-zod-
<b>Optative</b>	OPT	-pe-

**Table 4.24.** 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 4.25. 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
<b>Perfective</b>	PERF.IMP	-úm
<b>Imperfective</b>	IPFV.IMP	a- -ím

**Table 4.25.** 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 4.26.

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

Table 4.26. Pronominal agent marking patterns

- (14) *Jaffúton.*  
j-affúto-n  
3SG-speak\PROG-3SG.AGT  
She is speaking.
- (15) *Rekátos̃ harokutin.*  
rekát-oš̃ h-arokut-in  
book-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 4.27.

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

**Table 4.27.** Pronominal patient marking patterns

- (16) *Rekáta jem kojuroš.*  
rekát-a jem kojur-oš  
book-DIR 1SG.ERG read\PERF-3SG;INANIM.PAT  
A book was read by me.
- (17) *A sekátevi sanálušo.*  
A sekát-ev-i sanál-u-šo  
DEF letter-DU-DIR deliver\PERF-3SG;INANIM.PAT  
[Both of] the letters were delivered.
- (18) *Ni nášoruš.*  
Ni-Ø 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 4.28.

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

**Table 4.28.** Pronominal oblique marking patterns

## 4.13. Preverbal Markers

*To be written...*



# ***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 pronominal 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 well 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.

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 singulative suffix is *-r*. If the noun stem ends in a vowel, different epenthetic vowels occur between the suffix and the stem depending on whether the noun is animate, inanimate, or possessed: animate nouns use *-a-*; inanimate nouns use *-o-*; and nouns preceded by a possessive pronoun use *-e-*.

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, or an incompleteness of the verb, especially with the perfective aspect.

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

Number		Suffix
<b>Singulative</b>	SGV	-(a)r, -(o)r, -(e)r
<b>Dual/Quantitative</b>	DU	-(e)v
<b>Plural</b>	PL	-(e)s
<b>Partitive</b>	PART	-(i)n

**Table 5.1.** Grammatical number suffixes

### 5.2.2. Case

Qevesa possesses seven cases: direct, ergative, accusative, instrumental, genitive, essive, and locative. The case suffixes are listed in Table 5.2; the main distinguishing feature between animate and inanimate nouns is that animate nouns generally use *-a-* as an epenthic vowel inserted after a consonant stem, whereas inanimate nouns use *-o-* instead.

Noun Case		Suffixes			
		ANIM		INANIM	PL
<b>Direct</b>	DIR	-a, -Ø			-i
<b>Ergative</b>	ERG	-m	-am	—	-im
<b>Accusative</b>	ACC	-š	-aš	-oš	-iš
<b>Instrumental</b>	INS	-t	-at	-ot	-it
<b>Genitive</b>	GEN	-k	-ak	-ok	-ik
<b>Essive</b>	ESS	-d	-ad	-od	-id
<b>Locative</b>	LOC	-st	-ast	-ost	-ist

**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 is only marked if the noun ends with a consonant.

#### *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—the recipient of a ditransitive verb is treated the same as the patient of a monotransitive verb. The instrumental 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 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. 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 Pronominal 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. Personal pronouns refer only to animate referents: demonstrative pronouns refer to inanimate referents. There are two first person plural pronouns, an inclusive, which includes the listener, and an exclusive, which does not.

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

#### 5.3.2. Demonstrative Pronouns

Qevesa has three degrees of demonstrative pronouns. The basic demonstrative pronouns also act as inanimate personal pronouns.

- 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.

The demonstrative pronouns are listed in Table 5.4.

	Stem		Cases					
	Root	DIR	ERG	ACC	INS	GEN	ESS	LOC
1SG	me	ma	mem	meš	met	mek	med	mest
2SG	tá	tá	tám	táš	tát	ták	tád	tást
3SG	ni	ni	nim	niš	nit	nik	nid	nist
1DU;INC	vi	vi	vim	viš	vit	vek	vid	vist
1DU;EXC	ze	za	zem	zeš	zet	zek	zed	zest
2DU	kav	káva	kávam	kávaš	kávet	kávek	káved	kávest
3DU	niv	niva	nivam	nivaš	nivet	nivek	nived	nivest
1PL;INC	sa	sa	sam	saš	set	sek	sed	sest
1PL;EXC	zes	zesa	zesam	zesaš	zeset	zesek	zesed	zesest
2PL	kás	kása	kásam	kásaš	káset	kásek	kásed	kásest
3PL	nis	nisa	nisam	nisaš	niset	nisek	nised	nisest

**Table 5.3.** Personal pronouns

## 5.4. Postpositions

As a left-branching language, Qevesa tends to use postpositions almost exclusively. Most postpositions require the head noun to be declined to a particular case.



Category	Proximal	Medial	Distal
	PROX	MED	DIST
<b>Basic</b>	an	ko	iši
<b>Person</b>	nimu	nikomu	nišamu
<b>Animate</b>	antan	kotan	ištan
<b>Inanimate</b>	anno	kono	išano
<b>Location</b>	anist	kost	išast
<b>Direction</b>	anvera	kovera	išvera
<b>Origin</b>	anuri	kouri	išauri
<b>Manner</b>	antu	kontu	išintu
<b>Quantity</b>	amiden	konaden	išaden
<b>Quality</b>	amizan	konuzan	išazan
<b>Type</b>	amneri	koneri	išaneri
<b>Size</b>	ammeli	koneli	išaheli

Table 5.4. Demonstrative pronouns

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
<i>evit</i>	in	Locative
<i>kamo</i>	because of, on account of	Instrumental
<i>kastis</i>	along	Locative
<i>kirev</i>	down, below	Locative
<i>methi</i>	except for	Instrumental
<i>mita</i>	after	Essive, Locative
<i>sapa</i>	at, near	Locative
<i>šesal</i>	about, concerning	Instrumental, Essive
<i>ukan</i>	behind	Locative
<i>veki</i>	to	Locative
<i>vileš</i>	above	Locative
<i>véra</i>	towards	Locative

**Table 5.5.** List of Postpositions

# ***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:



# 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
$A_{12}$	ζ	meži
$B_{12}$	ε	tuva
$10_{12}$	10	veša

**Table 7.1.** Basic numerals

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

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

Numerals from 100<sub>12</sub> to B00<sub>12</sub> are suffixed with *-tus*:

100 <sub>12</sub>	<i>ertus</i>
200 <sub>12</sub>	<i>víttus</i>
300 <sub>12</sub>	<i>kortus</i>
409 <sub>12</sub>	<i>qesetus-jukka</i>
752 <sub>12</sub>	<i>kuštus-peksvešy-vít</i>

Numerals from 1000<sub>12</sub> to B000<sub>12</sub> use the suffix *-mazi*:

1000 <sub>12</sub>	<i>ermazi</i>
2000 <sub>12</sub>	<i>vítmazi</i>
4000 <sub>12</sub>	<i>qesemazi</i>
8603 <sub>12</sub>	<i>soppimazi-zustitus-kor</i>
10,000 <sub>12</sub>	<i>vešamazi</i>
17,029 <sub>12</sub>	<i>vešakušmazi-vítvešy-jukka</i>
50,000 <sub>12</sub>	<i>pekstusmazi</i>
93,487 <sub>12</sub>	<i>jukkavešy-kormazi qesetus-soppivešy-kuš</i>
100,000 <sub>12</sub>	<i>ertusmazi</i>
582,196 <sub>12</sub>	<i>pekstus-soppivešy-vítmazi ertus-jukkavešy-zusti</i>

# Derivational Morphology

As a highly synthetic language, derivation plays a major role in the formation of words in Qevesa. Due to its trilateral 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
<i>foruk</i>	cut [wood, etc]	→	<i>farrak</i>	carpenter
<i>kolun</i>	heal	→	<i>kallan</i>	doctor
<i>losut</i>	study, teach	→	<i>lassat</i>	teacher
<i>rocut</i>	write	→	<i>rakkat</i>	scribe
<i>sotur</i>	govern	→	<i>sattar</i>	governor, lord
<i>zomur</i>	guard, watch	→	<i>zammur</i>	guard

The pattern  $*C_1áC_2iC_3an$  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
<i>jonuv</i>	steal	→	<i>jánivan</i>	thief
<i>lokuj</i>	trick	→	<i>lákijan</i>	trickster
<i>mosul</i>	think	→	<i>másilan</i>	philosopher
<i>satuk</i>	send, travel	→	<i>sátikan</i>	messenger, envoy
<i>sonuš</i>	count	→	<i>sánišan</i>	accountant

The pattern  $*taC_1C_2eC_3$  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
<i>hoquv</i>	sit	→	<i>táqev</i>	resident
<i>losut</i>	learn	→	<i>talset</i>	student
<i>rovud</i>	work	→	<i>tarved</i>	worker, employee
<i>toruz</i>	come	→	<i>tatrez</i>	guest
<i>šél</i>	love	→	<i>tašle</i>	lover

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
<i>khonus</i>	get up, stand	→	<i>zekhnós</i>	place, location
<i>losut</i>	learn	→	<i>zelsót</i>	school
<i>rosuq</i>	bathe	→	<i>zersóq</i>	bath, bathtub
<i>vesuk</i>	lay down	→	<i>zevsék</i>	bed

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

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



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
<i>choput</i>	open	→	<i>mochpet</i>	key
<i>jakun</i>	boil	→	<i>mažken</i>	kettle
<i>rocut</i>	write	→	<i>morket</i>	pen
<i>sonut</i>	weigh	→	<i>mosnet</i>	scale
<i>šomú</i>	shave	→	<i>mošmé</i>	razor
<i>šovuq</i>	burn	→	<i>mošveq</i>	lighter

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
<i>rocut</i>	write	→	<i>rekát</i>	book
<i>sakut</i>	send	→	<i>sekát</i>	letter, message
<i>vorun</i>	wear	→	<i>verán</i>	garment
<i>zotú</i>	bind, tie	→	<i>zetá</i>	belt, sash

A related pattern is  $*šeC_1C_2éC_3$ , 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
<i>cícavu</i>	freeze	→	<i>šeccév</i>	ice
<i>rocut</i>	write	→	<i>šerkét</i>	document
<i>zotú</i>	bind, tie	→	<i>šezté</i>	knot

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
<i>korum</i>	wish luck	→	<i>mekórim</i>	luck
<i>ñevuq</i>	new	→	<i>meñéviq</i>	age
<i>rovud</i>	work	→	<i>meróvid</i>	work

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

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

# Historical Phonology and Morphology

To be written...

## A.1. The Phonology of Proto-Teranean

Proto-Teranean is reconstructed to have had twenty-seven consonants, and three vowels, which could be either short or long, listed in Table A.1.

	Labial	Coronal	Dorsal		Pharyngeal	Glottal
			Palatal	Plain		
Nasal	*m	*n	*ɲ	*ŋ		
Voiceless Plosive	*p	*t	*k	*k		*ʔ
Glottalised Plosive	*pʰ	*tʰ	*kʰ	*kʰ		
Voiced Plosive	*b	*d	*g	(*g)		
Central Fricative		*s *ts			*ħ	*h
Lateral Fricative		*ɬ *tɬ *ɮ				
Liquid		*r *l				
Approximant	*w		*j			

(a) Consonants

	Front	Central	Back
Close	*i ɨ		*u ʉ
Mid	*e *e:		*o *o:
Open		*a *a:	

(b) Vowels

Table A.1. Proto-Teranean phonemic inventory

The phonemes /\*ǵ/ and /\*g/ were in complimentary distribution, with /\*ǵ/ only occurring before front vowels and /\*g/ only occurring before back vowels; in all descendant languages these two phonemes merged into either /j/ or /g/. All of the consonants, with the exception of the glottalised consonants and glottal stop, could be geminate when intervocalic. A geminate glottalised consonant was realised as a sequence of plain stop followed by the glottal stop, and the geminate glottal stop induced lengthening of the previous vowel.

The close vowels /\*i̥/ and /\*u̥/ appear to have been in free variation with the semivowel phonemes /\*j/ and /\*w/. There are six diphthongs consisting of the short vowels and the semivowels: /\*ej \*ew \*oj \*ow \*aj \*aw/.

To aid in consistency and readability, the phonetic representation will be modified slightly as follows:

- The lateral fricatives /\*ɬ/ and /\*ɮ/ will be represented as \*š and \*ž
- The affricates /\*ts/ and /\*tɬ/ will be represented as \*c and \*č
- The palatal approximant /\*j/ will be represented as \*y

## A.1.1. Eastern Phonological Developments

The phonological history of the Teranean languages tends to be quite regular, primarily due to the analogical pressures exerted by their morphology. Conditional sound changes are quite rare, and those that do occur tend to be levelled by analogy.

### A.1.1.1. Collapse of Dorsal Series

The two dorsal series of consonants were the among the first sounds to be lost throughout the Teranean language family. In every branch the two series differentiated to adjacent points of articulation: in the Eastern grouping, of which Qevesa is a member, the palatal series became true palatal consonants (and subsequently alveolar-palatal affricates), and the plain series became velar consonants; in the Western grouping, the plain dorsal consonants became uvular, and the palatal series became plain velars. In no descendent family were the nasal pair /\*ń \*ŋ/ maintained as separate phonemes, collapsing into /ɲ/ in the Eastern branches and /ŋ/ in the Western branch.

### A.1.1.2. Loss of Glottalised Consonants

The glottalised plosives /\*p' \*t' \*k' \*k'/ are generally believed to have been ejectives, as this realisation is found in the Western Teranean languages. At some point after the split between the Eastern and Western branches, a shift occurred in the Eastern branch in which the glottalised plosives became aspirated plosives:

- /\*p' / > /\*p<sup>h</sup> /
- /\*t' / > /\*t<sup>h</sup> /
- /\*c' / > /\*c<sup>h</sup> /
- /\*k' / > /\*k<sup>h</sup> /

This loss of glottalised consonants is considered to be the main defining feature of the non Western Teranean languages. The Central Steppe branch was particularly innovative in that the glottalised plosives became voiced plosives, triggering a chain shift:

- /\*p' / > /\*b / > /\*p / > /\*p<sup>h</sup> /
- /\*t' / > /\*d / > /\*t / > /\*t<sup>h</sup> /
- /\*tɕ' / > /\*dʒ / > /\*tɕ / > /\*tɕ<sup>h</sup> /
- /\*k' / > /\*g / > /\*k / > /\*k<sup>h</sup> /

The Highland branch, closely related to the Eastern branch, also lost the glottalised plosives via a chain shift, but the glottalised plosives became unaspirated plosives instead of aspirated plosives as in the Eastern branch:

- /\*p' / > /\*p / > /\*p<sup>h</sup> /
- /\*t' / > /\*t / > /\*t<sup>h</sup> /
- /\*tɕ' / > /\*tɕ / > /\*tɕ<sup>h</sup> /
- /\*k' / > /\*k / > /\*k<sup>h</sup> /

### A.1.1.3. Loss of Lateral Fricatives

The lateral fricatives were the next sounds to be lost in the Eastern and Highlands branches. In both these branches, /\*ɭ / became the laminal retroflex fricative /ʂ /; both distinguished this fricative from the affricated nature of /\*c /, which by this point had developed into /tɕ / in the Highland branch.

#### **A.1.1.4. Loss of the Pharyngeals**

*To be written...what happened?*

/ħ, ʕ/ > /h/ > /:Ø/

#### **A.1.1.5. First Palatalisation**

The next stage in the development of the Eastern Teranean languages was the first palatalisation, though this is somewhat of a misnomer as the end result was often the *loss* of the palatal approximant when it followed another consonant. An unaspirated plosive followed by a palatal approximant saw the approximant assimilate towards the point of articulation of the plosive, occasionally followed by the reduction of the resulting affricate to a simple fricative.

- /\*pjV/ > /\*pçV/ > /psV/
- /\*bjV/ > /\*bj̥V/ > /bzV/
- /\*tjV/ > /\*tsV/ > /sV/
- /\*djV/ > /\*dzV/ > /zV/
- /\*cjV/ > /\*cçV/ > /çV/
- /\*j̥jV/ > /\*j̥j̥V/ > /ʒV/
- /\*kjV/ > /\*c<sup>h</sup>V/ > /tçV/
- /\*gjV/ > /\*j̥j̥V/ > /ʒV/

#### **A.1.1.6. Simplification of Diphthongs**

Concurrent with the palatalisation was the reduction and simplification of the diphthongs inherited from Proto-Teranean.

- /aj/ > /ai/ > /e:/
- /aw/ > /ɔu/ > /o:/
- /ej/ > /ei/ > /i:/
- /ew/ > /eu/ > /y:/
- /oj/ > /oi/ > /ui/ > /y:/
- /ow/ > /ou/ > /u:/

#### A.1.1.7. Second Plosive Shift

Old Qevesa had a three way distinction between voiced, unaspirated, and aspirated plosives. During the Middle Qevesa period, a second shift occurred in which the aspirated plosives became unvoiced fricatives and the voiced plosives became voiced fricatives.

- */\*b/* > */v/*, */\*p<sup>h</sup>/* > */f/*
- */\*d/* > */ð/*, */\*t<sup>h</sup>/* > */θ/*
- */\*ʃ/* > */j/* > */ʒ j/*, */\*c<sup>h</sup>/* > */ç tç/*
- */\*k<sup>h</sup>/* > */x/*

The palatal series diverged slightly from this scheme, as intervocalic aspirated plosives had become affricates instead of plain fricatives by this point.

#### A.1.1.8. Environment-Driven Vowel Shifts

*To be written...*

### A.1.2. Western Phonological Developments

The Western Teranean languages underwent a different series of shifts. The dorsal series in the Western branch underwent a backwards shift, in which the plain dorsal consonants became uvular, and the palatal series became plain velars:

- */\*k/* > */k/*, */\*k/* > */q/*
- */\*k'/* > */k'/*, */\*k'/* > */q'/*
- */\*ǵ \*g/* > */g/*

In addition, the voiced uvular stop became a voiced uvular fricative when word initial, and an unvoiced uvular fricative before unvoiced plosives. The second consonant of the root became geminated if it was intervocalic.

Further detail on the Western branch of the Teranean languages is outside the scope of this document.

## A.2. The Morphology of Proto-Teranean

Proto-Teranean had verbs and nouns as distinct lexical categories. Adjectival roots were typically derived from stative verbs.

### A.2.1. Verbal Morphology

Proto-Teranean verbs had two intersecting sets of paradigms: one set of affixes encoded the subject person-number-gender agreement; and another which encoded the tense-aspect-mood.

#### A.2.1.1. Personal Affixes

The subject was indicated by a series of prefixes and suffixes, listed in Table A.2, which agreed to a varying extent with the person, number, and occasionally gender of the verbal subject. The first person plural had a separate exclusive prefix, and the third person was often not marked.

Person	Prefix	Suffix
<b>1SG</b>	?a-	-Ø
<b>2SG</b>	to-	-Ø
<b>3SG</b>	i-, Ø-	-Ø
<b>1DU</b>	we-	-i
<b>2DU</b>	tē-	-a
<b>3DU</b>	ye-, Ø-	-a
<b>1PL</b>	sē-	-is
<b>1PL;EXC</b>	dye-	-is
<b>2PL</b>	tē-	-as
<b>3PL</b>	ya-, Ø-	-as, -os

**Table A.2.** Proto-Teranean person affixes



## A.2.1.2. Tense, Mood, and Aspect

There were four basic verbal stems in Proto-Teranean which primarily indicated aspectual distinctions, as shown in Table A.3. The stative was used as a verbal adjective/participle, generally describing the state or condition resulting from the action of the verb, and ranged from passive to resultative to descriptive. The perfective or past stem was used to indicate completed actions occurring in the past, and developed into a range of past tenses in daughter languages. The imperfective or non-past stem was used to indicate ongoing or future actions, and developed into various non-past tenses in daughter languages.

Stem Class	Stative	Perfective	Imperfective	Subjunctive
<b>B-o</b>	sop'it	sop'at-a	?a-sp'ot-ow	?a-sop't-ey
<b>B-e</b>	lebiń	lebań-a	?a-lbeń-ow	?a-lebń-ey
<b>B-a</b>	ħapiš	ħapaš-a	?a-ħpaš-ow	?a-ħapš-ey

Table A.3. Proto-Teranean verb stems

*To be written...weak roots*

## A.2.1.3. Valency, Transitivity and Derived Verbal Patterns

Proto-Teranean had a split-ergative alignment, with the ergative-absolutive alignment in certain circumstances and a nominative-accusative alignment in others. Inanimate subjects always received the ergative marking, and animate subjects showed a split-S alignment loosely based around volition, with some verbs marked as voluntary, or agentive, and others as involuntary, or patientive.

This split was also indicated by the verbal morphology, with separate conjugation classes for both transitive and intransitive verbs. A number of regular derived stems expanded upon the basic, usually intransitive meaning, producing a variety of verbal patterns that expressed changes in the valency (passive, causative) or other properties in the verbal scenario (intensive, frequentative, benefactive). Each of these stem patterns is labelled using a mnemonic characteristic of the derivational pattern.

**B-Stem** This is the basic, underived and simplest pattern, and was often intransitive in nature.

- D-Stem** This stem, formed by duplication of the second root consonant, frequently yielded a transitive from a base intransitive stem. Most transitive verbs used this stem, and verb roots could generally increase or decrease their valency by alternating between this stem and the B-stem.
- L-Stem** A rarer variation on the D-Stem, this stem also marked an increase in valency of the basic verb. Few, if any verbs could possess both a D-Stem and an L-Stem.
- N-Stem** This stem is mainly passive in function, and typically reduces the valency of a verb by one. Intransitive verbs following this pattern always receive the ergative-absolutive agreement with their subject. It was formed by addition of a prefix *n-*.
- S-Stem** This stem increases the valency by one, and typically ascribes a causative meaning to the verb. This stem has the most variation in daughter languages, indicated by a prefixed *š-*, *s-*, *h-* or *l-*, all of which can be traced back to a Proto-Teranean *š-*. This stem is believed to derive from an older prefix that also indicated an increase in valency, as demonstrated by a number of triliteral verbs whose second and third consonants are biliteral roots in their own right, and whose meaning is a transitive or causative variant of the biliteral root.
- T-Stem** This stem is mediopassive in origin, and typically indicates a reflexive or reciprocal action. It is formed by the addition of a *-t-* infix, usually after the first consonant. Uniquely among the stem types, the T-stem could be combined with the D-, L-, N-, and S-Stems, resulting in reflexive or reciprocal variants of those derived verbs, though these were later subjected to a considerable amount of semantic drift in the daughter languages.

In addition to the derivational patterns, valency-changing operations may also have been marked with suffixes on the verb that occurred after the tense and aspect marking. The three most common suffixes are *-n*, *-š*, and *-k*, which indicate active, passive, and mediopassive voices. This marking is considerably rarer, and doesn't occur at all in daughter languages in the Western branches, leading to some speculation that it is a later innovation in the Eastern branches developing after lexicalisation of the prefix derived patterns.

### A.2.2. Nominal Morphology

Proto-Teranean nouns were marked for case, number, and possessed an innate animacy specific to each noun. There was no grammatical gender, though some derivational forms did exist to differentiate between male and female entities.

#### A.2.2.1. *Animacy and Gender*

Nouns were categorised according to animacy, with two broad classes, animate and inanimate. Animate nouns include all human beings, most animals (with the notable exceptions of insects and other invertebrates), deities and their corresponding natural phenomena; all other nouns were inanimate. Animacy was a fixed property of the noun, so nouns could not switch between animate and inanimate.

Gender marking of nouns was optional and largely derivational in nature, though a large number of nouns displayed no overt marking of gender despite referring to male or female entities. The most common derivational affixes to indicate male entities were the suffixes *-k*, *-r*, and a lengthened final vowel; female entities were usually unmarked, but the suffixes *-yV*, *-t* and *-ss* were occasionally used.

#### A.2.2.2. *Number*

Proto-Teranean nouns had a three-way distinction between singular, dual, and plural. The dual number was always marked by the suffix *-eb*, but the plural may be formed by the addition of suffixes, internal vowel changes, or in rare cases, both. The most common plural suffix was *-ty*.

#### A.2.2.3. *Case*

Proto-Teranean had seven cases: absolutive, ergative, dative, genitive, instrumental, adverbial, and vocative. The suffixes were agglutinative in nature, with an *-e-* inserted after a dual or plural suffix. These suffixes are listed in Table A.4.

*To be written...*

### A.3. **Development of the Verbal System**

*To be written...*

Noun Case		Suffixes	
		SG	DU, PL
<b>Absolutive</b>	ABS	-Ø	-e
<b>Ergative</b>	ERG	-ma	-ema
<b>Dative</b>	DAT	-ša	-eša
<b>Instrumental</b>	INS	-at	-et
<b>Genitive</b>	GEN	-ak	-ek
<b>Adverbial</b>	ADV	-da	-eda
<b>Vocative</b>	VOC	-o	-Ø

**Table A.4.** Proto-Teranean noun cases

### A.3.1. Tense, Mood, and Aspect

The Eastern branch retained the underlying aspectual indications of the Proto-Teranean verb stems, expanding them by the addition of suffixes which indicated finer variations in meaning.

*To be written...*

### A.3.2. Valency, Transitivity and Derived Verbal Patterns

*To be written...*

### A.3.3. Personal Affixes

*To be written...*

## A.4. Development of the Nominal System

*To be written...*

#### A.4.1. Animacy

*To be written...*

#### A.4.2. Number

*To be written...*

#### A.4.3. Case

*To be written...*

#### A.4.4. Adjectives and Numerals

*To be written...*

#### A.4.5. Pronouns

*To be written...*