Æleńa torch

Cuettí tua cansi

Ti–ğe'stôr semossa yccoughbe hvin rerzin índaln roen áiğ ŕygan augğin ğil.

Bærnse yesw ay hao cans óceilaydhbe ceic.

Yesse "Derz si ta daiğs, enx si ta male loerr men; yesisay mao sáinboɸigaŕmeś."

'Ti cluinit ćen hvins eti zvaraydhbe: "Tó enx egi ta male loerr men?

"Tó miin zì ta dégğ sáinboɸigaŕai? Tani, tod!

"Nì tane yeses tre geiren asse annin egi! Æls tans toili!"

Aunx yesse cans "Tani yesei annen si yte tre geiren."

Yesse hvins ayğɸ "Bayesæ ayğge!"

Coicossa yesse "Tani yesei stamai "hvaz si 'ti setig egi"; tó dynes si?"

"Dynes egi asìn" – scian hi gǽrws irra sexins xanśe recice.

Twllseh sciɸ 'ti eiħerseh cri fi áynte dwrèn augğin ğil

Indossa scannith etyre cans yesws éin augğeu "Tó asìn?"

Forcenn.

A short excerpt of Æleńa grammar

Word Order

The basic Æleńa word order is SOV. Yet placement is rather free. The only close relation is between verb and object: VO. The subject can take its place in between (VSO), but focus can put the verb in front (SVO) and a heavy subject is often placed at the end (VOS). Copula has as basic word order S_1VS_2.

Mutations

The Æleńa system of initial mutations is (like of all Celtic languages) quite complex. For simplicity I will only highlight the mutations used in this Relay:
- a noun ending in a nasal changes the initial consonant of a following adjective: **d-** > **r-**, **s-** > **z-**
- a noun ending in a sibilant (t, ɸ, d, x, z, s, ħ, ź, ś) changes the initial letter of a following relative pronoun (if a bilabial/labiodental or velar/uvular): **c-** > **x-**

Verbs are never subject to, and never cause, mutation, except in some standing expressions.

Conjugated prepositions

Another aspect of the Celtic languages is that some prepositions combine with pronouns to form conjugated prepositions. Examples are **dy**+**eg**=**dégǧ**, **ay**+**ɸi**=**ayǧɸ**, **ay**+**eg**=**ayǧge**.

Another change to the otherwise indeclinable prepositions is that they can be made 'dynamic' (movement added): by palatising the first vowel and adding an **-n** at the end stative prepositions are made dynamic. Example: **aig** = at a location, **áiǧ** = to a location (Note: **g**+**n**= **ǧ** /ŋ/).

Cases

Æleńa has a rich declension system with 6 cases. The specifics are:

Case	Use	Example
default/ intentional	default case for intransitive; intentional case for transitive	**He** hits someone
incidental/ ablative	used for unintentional actions and passive 'by'-phrases	**He** accidentally pushes someone
experiental/ beneficial	human & definite animal recepients of actions	**He** falls
non-affected/ theme	for non-human reciepients and non-affected/ non-aware human recipients of actions	**He** is (unaware that he is) followed; **It** falls
instrumental/ locative	speaks for itself	He goes by **car** to **Rome**
partitive/ genitive	partitive is used when no result of an action is (yet) known or available	**His** book; He runs **the marathon** (don't know whether he'll finish)

Case endings depend on the 'case ending' of the vowel. In the default ('absolute') case this vowel isn't shown, but in the glossary it is (by a raised/superscripted letter). Here's an overview (mark than many prepositions 'govern' a case). Only single case endings are given:

Case: words ending in	**-a**	**-i**	**-o**	**(single) -n**	**-e / other consonant**
default/ Intentional	**(none)**	**(none)**	**(none)**	**-n**	**-e***
incidental/ Ablative	**-ao**	**-wy**	**-ou**	**-nau**	**-eu**
Experiental/ beneficial	**-a**	**-i**	**-o**	**-ne**	**-ei**
non-affected/ Theme	**-an**	**-en**	**-on**	**-n**	**-èn**
instrumental/ Locative	**-agǧ**	**-egǧ**	**-ogǧ**	**-gǧ**	**-egǧ**
partitive/ Genitive	**-á**	**-é**	**-i**	**-ń**	**-in**

* may be omitted (and if it helps speaking, omitted final vowels may be pronounced)

Mark that with genitive/partitive the palatal accent (e.g. á) can move to the preceding letter if that is a **c**, **n**, **s**, **r** or **z**.
Adjectives are placed after the noun they belong to and are not declined. But many nouns are also used as adjective, when declined as genitive.

The definite article follows the same pattern, but with all single case endings except Theme and Genitive the article shows only as a suffix **-s**. There is no indefinite article.

Mark that many dynamic prepositions rule Theme in stead of Locative.

Verbs

Æleńa has three conjugations.

- The first (**Ŕehdámw Cinnħe** - ŔC) houses intentional verbs (or intentional uses of verbs) (where the subject(s) is/are actively pursiung or doing things). Passive ŔC forms are often actually middles (where the subject(s) intentionally let(s) things happen) or reflexive verbs. The citation form of ŔC verbs is the 3s presens form, which ends in **-e**. The Verbal Noun of ŔC verbs often ends in **-w**, placed after the verb stem. Verbal nouns in Celtic languages fulfil tasks that other languages use the infinitive or present participle for.

- The second (**Ŕehdámw Dæeħe** - ŔD) conjugation has absorbed many passives of ŔC. It is used when the subject is experiencing things (like falling, dying, seeing etc.) and not actively does something. Also stative verbs are ŔD.
  The citation form of ŔD verbs is the 3s presens form, which ends in **-a**. The Verbal Noun of ŔC verbs often ends in **-aydh**.

All three above forms can only be used with humans and definite ('the') animals, able to intentionally do or experience.

- The third (**Ŕehdámw Ŧhriɸ** - ŔŦ) is used with non-intentional meanings of ŔC verbs (e.g. with inanimate subjects or accidental actions of humans etc.). Its passives are real passives. Grown out of the old class of dependent verbs.
  The citation form of ŔD verbs is the 3s presens form, which ends in **-o**. The Verbal Noun of ŔC verbs is very irregular, but sometimes looks like **-ough**, then again sometimes like the bare verb form.

- Then there is a small closed class (**Ŕehdámw Mirreúltá** - ŔM) of irregular verbs.

Important verb prefixes are **á-** (used with all non-indicative verb forms except Evocative), **s-** (makes a static verb dynamic (state-of-change), makes a dynamic verb inchoative (change-of-state) and **ó-** (introduces a dependent verb, that is a verb in a subclause, which is true/real, as opposed to á- verb forms).

Æleńa differentiates between Imperfect (past imperfective) and Narrative (perfective, commonly but not exclusively, past). A special form is Evocative, used for law, recipes, incantations, polite requests etc. – a 'future as it should be'. Contrary to other non-indicative verb forms (Futire, Past future, Subjunctive), Imperative and Evocative aren't preceded by the non-indicative **á-**.

3rd single verb forms are, when not followed or preceded by a subject noun (phrase), often 'gendered' by suffixing it with a **-ɸ** (masc.), **-h** (fem.) or **-f** (neutral/inanimate or at least non-definite). **-ś** is the reflexive ending (denoting a reflexive verb).
When, despite no following specification, the 3rd person is stated just by a single vowel, the gender is not known, not relevant or the intention is to make a general statement (e.g. **core** – there is love - lit: 'someone loves'). 1st plural has two forms: we excluding you or including you.

The copula

Celtic languages like Elanian use a separate form of 'to be' for identities like "*I am John*", "*John is my father*", "*I am tired*", "*The sea is blue*" and "*God is love*". This form is the copula. It has a quite simple form, the more as it is not conjugated for person. The forms are:

present	**ta**	*'is'*	**sta**	*'becomes'*
past	**to**	*'was'*	**sto**	*'became'*
future	**tamai**	*'will be'*	**stamai**	*'will become'*
subjunctive	**tomei**	*'may/would be'*	**stomei**	*'may/would become'*

The Relay only uses a subset of verb forms. The relevant endings are explained below:

		Two irregular verbs (RM)	
Presens (present imperfective)	**Active ŔC**	**Pres tane 'can'**	**Pres toile 'will'**
1st sing. – I	**-ei**	**tani**	**toili**
2nd sing. – you	**-es**	**tans**	**toils**
3rd sing. – common	**-e**	**tane**	**toile**
1st pl. – we excl	**-ive**	**tave**	**tolave**
1st pl. – we incl	**-ime**	**tame**	**tolame**
2nd pl. – you	**-ette**	**tate**	**tolte**
3rd pl. – they	**-ennt**	**tante**	**toilant**
Imperfect (past imperfective)	**Active ŔC**	**ŔD**	**Active ŔX**
1st sing. – I	**-wm**	**-aydhbem**	**-oughbem**
2nd sing. – you	**-wŕ**	**-aydhbes**	**-oughbes**
3rd sing. – common	**-ws**	**-aydhbe**	**-oughbe**
1st pl. – we excl	**-wves**	**-aydhvim**	**-oughvim**
1st pl. – we incl	**-wmes**	**-aydhbim**	**-oughbim**
2nd pl. – you	**-wste**	**-aydhbean**	**-oughbean**
3rd pl. – they	**-wch**	**-aydhbou**	**-oughbou**
Narrative (past perfective)	**Active ŔC**	**ŔD**	**Active ŔX**
1st sing. – I	**-o**	**-oi**	
2nd sing. – you	**-ese**	**-(i)**	
3rd sing. – common	**-se**	**-it**	
1st pl. – we excl	**-eseu**	**-wy**	
1st pl. – we incl	**-eseme**	**-im**	
2nd pl. – you	**-eseste**	**-is**	
3rd pl. – they	**-esent**	**-int**	
Evocative (invoked future)	**Active ŔC**	**ŔD**	**Active ŔX**
1st sing. – I	**-imay**		
2nd sing. – you	**-isay**		
3rd sing. – common	**-itay**		
1st pl. – we excl	**-ivei**		
1st pl. – we incl	**-emei**		
2nd pl. – you	**-ittei**		
3rd pl. – they	**-intei**		
Future (+ á-)	**Active ŔC**	**ŔD**	**Active ŔX**
1st sing. – I		**-aŕam**	
2nd sing. – you		**-aŕai**	
3rd sing. – common		**-aŕa**	
1st pl. – we excl		**-aŕve**	
1st pl. – we incl		**-aŕme**	
2nd pl. – you		**-aŕatte**	
3rd pl. – they		**-aŕant**	
Imperative	**Active ŔC**		
2nd sing. – you	**-æ**		
1st pl. – we incl	**-emæ**		
2nd pl. – you	**-etæ**		

Glossary

Adj = adjective   P = pronoun   VB = verb
Adv = adverb   Pcple = participle   VN = verbal noun
Conj = conjuction   PP = preposition
N = noun   RA = relative pronoun

Æleńa basic word form	Type	Meaning
á-	prefix	indicates verb form is not indicative (future, incertain, subjunctive etc.)
aig	PP	at (location), with (rules Locative case)
æls	Conj.	if (incertainty)
ann^e	N	name
asìn	RP	this
asse	PP	(part) of, belonging to (rules Genitive)
augğ^a	N	river
aunx	RP	then, subsequently
ay	PP	to (direction)
áynte	PP	into (rules Theme case)
ba-	prefix	adds a necessity to a verb's meaning ('must, ought'); replaces **á-**
bærn-e	VB	decide
cann-a	VB	be ready, finished
cans^i	N	hare
ceil-a	VB	hide, conceal
ćen	RP	that
cluin-a	VB	hear
coicossa	Adv.	then, at that moment
cr^i	N	body
cuettí^o	N	story, fairytale
daiğs^e	N	dance
derz^e	N	beauty
dwr	N	water(mass)
dy	PP	with (rules Locative case)
dynes	N	answer (VN from **dyn-yese**: counter-say)
eg (gen. **egi**) (exp. **mao**)	P	I, me, to me
ei	PP	from (rules Ablative case)
eiþer-e	VB	throw, put away (fiercefully)
enx^o	N	eye
eti, 'ti	Conj	and
(e)tyre	Adv.	while, still, continuing (from **eti-yre**: 'and beyond')
fi (gen. **fei**) (exp. **fuon**)	P	it, its, to it
forcenn^e	N	end, final limit, what is destined
gǽr-e	VB	to cut
gair^e, pl. geir^i	N	word, uttering
ğil	Adj.	wild, untamable

Æleńa basic word form	Type	Meaning
ha (gen. **hi**) (exp. **hao**)	P	she, her, to her
hvaz[i], cel[i]	N	husband
hvin[a]	N	woman
inboɸig-e	VB	be married
indal	PP	besides, near (rules Locative)
indossa	Adv.	as, when, now (lit: 'in-that-hour')
irra	PP	through (rules Theme case)
loerr[a]	N	moon
male	Adv./PP/Adj.	like, resembling, in the manner/way of
men	Adj.	little, small, tiny
miin[a]	N	wish
nì	Pcple	negative participle
ó-	RP	that, this, which (starts a dependent sentence)
recice	Adv	repeatedly, intermittently
roen	N	trail, road
ŕyg[a]	N	well, source
-ś	reflexive P	(with) (my-, your- etc.)-self
s-	prefix	makes a static verb dynamic (state-of-change), makes a dynamic verb inchoative (change-of-state)
scian	N	knife
sciɸ	Adj.	swift, quickly
se (gen. **si**) (exp. **seu**)	P	you, your, to you
semossa	Adv.	some time, once (no fixed time)
setig[a]	N	wife (in marriage)
sexin	N	hide, skin (of animals)
tan-o	VB	can, be able to
ti-ğe'stôr	verbal expression	there was, it happened
tó	Pcple	interrogative participle
tod	Adv/Interjection	indeed, sure, of course, OK
toil-a	VB	be prepared, be willing
tua	PP	about (rules Expierental case)
twll-o	N	pierce, perforate
ɸi (gen. **ei**) (exp. **ɸao**)	P	it, its, to it
ycc-o	VB	come
yes-e	VB	speak
yte	PP	by
zvar-o	VB	laugh