

TEXT:

Bêinixi ešéla

Jánø nü séttadi taj ualéjou fõngeslouhãu máčvájy. Bêinj, akkájðittesloihãu, jyešêilesoihãu, njē čõptøluvoi.

Ollólevoihãu: “Đníváivóihãu kouúvau. Twóvátvieúthãu Attúettázēizo. Mjésóiči m-újelasou.”

Vájy dólj ýžalvouhãu li šéittalkou: “Nwóvátvie ántorløy Attúettázēizo? Žnísóiči v-újerosou? Tjáu, sévra! Ollólaveivón mjóklásau činêvaziašoimmã! Váme hónoj, ta éslajari.”

Bêinj ollólevoihãu: “Ollólavaivó činêvaziašoda ðníklásau, újelaseu.”

Vájy ollólevouhãu: “Híjaerei!”

Ollólevoihãu: “Snísóič u mjésóiči t-ollólajovó, l-áis ât! Sél ihtíolaseu?”

Ollólevouhãu: “Ihtíolasau dólj!” Žjõŋkot nýittelvouhãu ujá umí bêinunnã cãwada. Nýttelvouhãuvã, êkvol síltolesøyhãu treâišla ualéinny.

Mãilevouhãu, târe Bêinj sãnji p-ollólevoinnihãu: “Meóí póli nãř?”

GRAMMAR:

I tried to include only a short and simple grammar to ease your work, and I included only information relevant for the text above. If there's anything left unclear or I've forgotten something, please e-mail me. For more detailed grammatical information you can visit my FrathWiki page or you can go here <http://wiki.langwiki.info/Conlang:Laefeveshi> for more up-to-date information, especially regarding verbs.

Phonology:

I won't focus on the phonology much since it's not very important for the text, apart from a few things mentioned in each section specifically. I'll just mention the stress here.

The stress is always marked by a diacritic: acute (´), circumflex (^) or as trema (only as <ä>). Nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, some pronouns, prepositions and conjunctions (the last three usually only when they're more than two syllables) have a fixed stress and even when combined to form a compound, they retain the stress. Where a word has more than one stress (marked by one of the ways above), it means that it is a compound.

Morphophonology:

There's just one thing worth mentioning here. When adding a verbal suffix to the verb stem (after the removal of the indefinite suffix) and if the verbal stem ends on a single consonant, the consonant lengthens (gemination), however, only some consonants can be geminate, in relation to the text, these are: -l → -ll, -t → -tt.

Nouns

Nouns are marked by case, gender and number, there are 26 cases total but not all of them appear in the text. Nominal genders are two, masculine and feminine; numbers are three: singular, dual and plural. The gender of a noun is determined by its last letter(s) in the nominative case singular.

Feminine: any vowel; consonants -b, -d, -g, -x, -v, -z and -ð

Masculine: any consonant not mentioned above; and -tva

Below is a table showing case suffixes:

Case	Masculine			Feminine		
	sg.	du.	pl.	sg.	du.	pl.
Nominative	-Ø, (-tva)	-ie	-as	-Ø	-sk	-š
Genitive	-au	-iau	-ās	-de	-ske	-ðe
Accusative	-eu	-ieu	-es	-da	-ska	-ša
Illative	-el	-iel	-est	-la	-sla	-šla
Instrumental	-ou	-iou	-os	-du	-sku	-šu
Intrumental- commitative	-ot	-iot	-ust	-ku	-snø	-šnø
Equative	-an	-ian	-ans	-zo	-dzo	-co

Masculine nouns ending of -tva lose the final -a when declined, the case suffix is added to the stem normally.

Partitive case:

Partitive case works a bit differently as it can be used to replace number. A suffix is added marking a specific number.

Suffixes used in the text:

- 3ēi “two”
- 3ia “three”

Adjectives:

There are three types of adjectives, qualitative, relational (not used in the text) and possessive. Each type of adjectives has a different ending, adjectives agree with the noun they modify in gender, case and number. There are three adjectival genders: masculine (used for animate nouns of masculine gender), feminine (used for animate nouns of feminine gender) and neuter (used for inanimate nouns of both masculine and feminine gender).

	Neuter gender			
	singular		plural	
	long	short	long	short
Qualitative	-idi	-i	-ida	-i
Possessive	-ixi	-u	-ixa	-u
<i>Case</i>				
Nominative	<i>(the above)</i>		<i>(the above)</i>	
Genitive	-kø	-mmā	-kø	-mmy
Accusative	-nø	-nnā	-nø	-nny

Many adjectives also have a so-called clitic form, which is attached to the noun as a prefix (it retains the stress). These clitic forms do not decline. When adjectives are formed from a noun, the last letter of the noun is omitted and replaced by the adjectival ending (-idi/a, -ixi/a, -i, -u).

Case hierarchy:

Cases in the language are divided into a so-called case hierarchy. This is because the adjectives do not decline for all the cases like nouns, but rather they decline for a much smaller number, and one has to know how which case to use for an adjective when the noun is in a certain case. There's only one example of this in the text: when the noun is in illative (a sub-case), the adjective is in accusative (main case).

Numerals:

The idea of certain numerals can be expressed by using the special suffixes of the partitive case to replace the numerals. However, there's another type of numerals used in the text, the collective numerals which are expressed by the suffix: **-šo** (neuter gender).

Verbs:

Verbs are inflected by mood, tense, person, gender, number and type of the verb and they agree with the subject in number and gender. There are 3 types of verbs, -vij, -laj and -vaj verbs, there are several moods and tenses, not all used in the text so I won't list them, there are three persons (1st, 2nd and 3rd), 4 verbal genders: common (animate subject, masculine or feminine), masculine (animate masculine subject), feminine (animate feminine subject) and neuter (inanimate subject, masculine or feminine), and three numbers, singular, dual and plural. Each of these categories is expressed by a specific filament which, when put together, form a full verbal suffix.

The full suffix is formed by a standard formula, there are two variants:

a) variant 1 is used when the verbal stem ends on a vowel, formed as:

mood	tense	number + type	person	gender + polarity
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b) variant 2 is used when the verbal stem ends on a consonant (the consonant lengthens).

tense	mood	number + type	person	gender + polarity
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Moods:

- indicative: -l
- optative III: -r

Tense:

- present: -a
- past: -e
- non-past: -o
- future-in-the-past: -u

Number and class filaments

<i>Number</i>	<i>Filament</i>		
	<i>-VIJ</i>	<i>-LAJ</i>	<i>-VAJ</i>
Singular	-k	-s	-v
Dual	-t	-k	-j
Plural	-n	-m	-p

Person:

- 1st person: -a
- 2nd person: -e
- 3rd person: -o

Gender and polarity

<i>Gender</i>	<i>Affirmative</i>
Common	-/
Masculine	-i
Feminine	-u
Neuter	-y

Optative III is used to express, among other things, doubt in regards to the text.

There's another mood used in the text, the inferential or renarative mood. The suffixes used in the text above is **-hǎu** which expresses heresy or reported evidentiality.

Modal verbs and a small amount of other verbs can be used as clitics, in such cases the main verb fully conjugated whereas the auxiliary or secondary verb is added to the main verb as a suffix.

Verbs can be either perfective or imperfective.

Pronouns:

Substantival personal pronouns have short forms (unstressed). When in the role of the object of a transitive verb, some pronouns have unbound clitic forms which are placed before the verb but connected with the verb by a hyphen. The case of the pronoun is evident from the verb (usually it's accusative).

Adjectival possessive pronouns have clitic forms which are added to the noun as a prefix.

Other forms of pronouns are separate words and are declined for all cases.

Prepositions:

Prepositions require different cases, which exactly, is marked in the gloss.

Adverbs:

Adverbs do not change their forms, however, some of them do have a clitic form, which when used with verbs, can be added to the verb as the final suffix.

Syntax:

The basic word order is SVO, however, due to the high synthetic nature of the language, the word order can be changed and virtually all combinations are possible.

Adjectives usually precede nouns they modify, unless a sub-case is used (see Case hierarchy above) in which case the adjective is declined in the main case and follows the noun.

Subjects of verbs can often be omitted as they are expressed or implied by the verbal form.

GLOSS:

Morpheme	Type	Gloss
-n	<i>adv.</i>	not (negation of verbs)
-nnî	<i>perf.</i>	manage, can, be able to
-óí	<i>imperf.</i>	is ("to be": 3 rd p. sg. indicative, present tense, neuter gender.)
-út	<i>imperf.</i>	are ("to be": 3 rd p. dual, indicative, present tense, neuter gender)
-vǎ	<i>adv.</i>	quickly
-vó	<i>imperf.</i>	can, be able to
áis	<i>pron.</i>	I (1 st p. sg. nominative, masculine)
ájǎitlaj	<i>imperf.</i>	hide
akk-	<i>pron.</i>	that, which, who
ât	<i>adv.</i>	too, as well
attú-	<i>adj.</i>	small

ćáwa	<i>n.f.i.</i>	skin
ćinêva	<i>n.f.i.</i>	word
ćóptovaj	<i>perf.</i>	speak, say
đní-	<i>pron.</i>	your (possessive, 2 nd p. sg. neuter)
dólj	<i>pron.</i>	that (demonstrative, accusative, singular, neuter)
êkvol	<i>n.m.a.</i>	body
ešéla	<i>n.f.</i>	tale, story
éslojvij	<i>perf.</i>	say, tell
Ettá	<i>n.f.i.</i>	moon
fõnglaj	<i>imperf.</i>	walk
híjalaj	<i>imperf.</i>	speak, talk
hónoj	<i>adv.</i>	can, be able to (adverbial form)
ihtíolaj	<i>imperf.</i>	say
jánø	<i>adv.</i>	outside
jyešêilaj	<i>perf.</i>	decide
klás	<i>n.m.i.</i>	name
koútva	<i>n.m.i.</i>	dancing
l-	<i>conj.</i>	and
li	<i>conj.</i>	and
m-	<i>pron.</i>	you (2 nd p. sg., accusative)
máč-	<i>adj.</i>	beautiful
mâivaj	<i>perf.</i>	finnish, end, stop
mántjalaj	<i>imperf.</i>	be (non-indicative stem: <i>ánt-</i>)
mántjalaj-nãř	<i>imperf-adv.</i>	to like, to please, to appeal (“to be” + like(d))
me	<i>pron..</i>	you (2 nd p. sg. dative)
mjë-	<i>pron.</i>	my (possessive, 1 st p. sg. feminine)
mjó-	<i>pron.</i>	my (possessive, 1 st p. sg. neuter)
njē	<i>conj.</i>	that
nü	<i>prep.</i>	on, along (+ locative)
nwó-	<i>pron.</i>	my (possessive, 1 st p. dual, neuter)
nýitvaj	<i>perf.</i>	cut
nýtvaj	<i>imperf.</i>	cut
ollóvaj	<i>perf.</i>	say
p-	<i>pron.</i>	her (3 rd p. sg. dative)
póli	<i>pron.</i>	this (demonstrative, nominative, singular, neuter)
sáñi	<i>adv.</i>	still, yet
šéitvij	<i>perf.</i>	laugh
sél	<i>pron.</i>	what (interrogative, nominative)
sétta	<i>n. f. I.</i>	road

sévra	<i>adv.</i>	of course, indeed, definitely
síltolaj	<i>perf.</i>	fall
sní-	<i>pron.</i>	your (possessive, 2 nd p. sg. masculine)
sóič	<i>n.m.a.</i>	partner, husband
sóiči	<i>n.f.a.</i>	female partner, wife
t-	<i>pron.</i>	it, him (3 rd p. sg. accusative)
ta	<i>pron.</i>	it, him (3 rd p. sg. accusative)
taj	<i>prep</i>	above (+ instrumental)
târe	<i>adv.</i>	but, however, nonetheless, yet, still
tjáu	<i>adv.</i>	yes, yeah
treâi	<i>n.f.i.</i>	water
twó-	<i>pron</i>	your (possessive, 2 nd p. dual, neuter)
u	<i>conj,</i>	and
ualéj	<i>n.m.i.</i>	river
ujá	<i>adv.</i>	right
újelaj	<i>imperf.</i>	want
umí	<i>prep.</i>	through (+accusative)
v-	<i>pron.</i>	I (1 st p. sg, accusative)
váiv	<i>n.f.i.</i>	beauty
vájy	<i>n.f.a.</i>	woman
vátva	<i>n.m.i.</i>	eye
vme	<i>conj.</i>	if
ýižvaj	<i>perf.</i>	hear
žní-	<i>pron.</i>	your (possessive, 2 nd p. sg. feminine)
žjôŋk	<i>n.m.i.</i>	knife
Ĥêinj	<i>n.m.a.</i>	deer

Abbreviations:

adj. = adjective

adv. = adverb

conj. = conjunction

n.f. = feminine noun

n.m. = masculine noun

prep. = preposition

pron. = pronoun

p. = person

sg. = singular

pl. = plural