

Quenya- Learn LotR Elvish!

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These are short lessons based off the Quenya Elvish (LotR) course on Ardalambion.com. Rather than 40 pages a chapter, I got them down to 4. I don't have all lessons like this yet. All material belongs to Tolkien and was compiled by that site.

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http://www.fanart-central.net/stories/user/Jailcrow_of_Mandos/4916/Quenya--Learn-LotR-Elvish

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1 - Chapter One -Sounds

Hello, I am Jailcrow_of_Mandos. All of the information used in these newsletters comes from the site "Ardalambion" at <http://www.uib.no/People/hnohf/index.html> where more in depth lessons can be found. All Lord of the Rings related material belongs, of course, to J.R.R. Tolkien.

Quenya was the first real language used by the Elves of Middle-Earth, though 'Primitive Elvish' did come before it. By the Third Age of Middle-Earth, it was really only used as a formality- like people singing opera in Latin. King Thingol of Doriath outlawed the use of Quenya later on, but in the beginning, even the Valar, or 'powers' / gods used the language rather than their own because they liked it better. Compare the name A3ulez (agh-oo-lez) to Aulë. To start, we have to learn how to pronounce what Tolkien wrote. (But there are luckily no '3s in Quenya J)

An accent on top of a letter shows that it is a 'long vowel' the two dots above certain letters only mean that they are pronounced. 'Diphthongs' are the only verb combos that have their own sounds.

DIPHTHONG PRONUNCIATION PRACTICE

Ai

"I" as in "aisle"

Vairë (a Vala)

Oi

"Oy" as in "oil"

Oira (eternal)

Uj*

"ooy" as in "too young"

Huinë (shadow)

Au

"ow" as German "Augen"

Aulë (a Vala)

Eu

"oh" as in "so"

Peu (a pair of lips)

Iu

"yu" as in "Yule"

Piuta (spit)

*letter 'q' is a more elegant way of writing 'kw'– but 'qui' sounds like 'kwi' not 'kwooy'

If a verb group isn't a diphthong, then each vowel is pronounced by itself. 'Ea' in "Eärendil" is pronounced (eh-ar-en-dil) not (eer-in-del)

VOWEL

PRONUNCIATION

PRACTICE

a

Not as in 'father' or 'cat' – more like 'hand'

aran (king), Anar (sun)

e

'eh' – as in 'end'

metta (end), morë (black)

i

'ih' – as in 'pit'

titta (tiny) imbë (between)

o

(unclear) most likely as in 'or'

olos (dream), tolto (8)

u

Not as in 'fun' or 'fool' more like 'foot'

ulya (pour), cu (dove)

á,

'ah' as in 'father'

mà (hand), nàrë (flame)

é,

Short 'e' but more gruff like German 'mehr'

Etècië (has written)

í,

'ee' as in 'machine'

Irìcië (has twisted)

ó,

Longer and tighter than short 'o' – like 'sore'

Onòtië (has counted)

ú

'oo' as in 'Fussball'

Utùvië (has found)

Consonants different from the English language

CONSONANT

PRONUNCIATION

PRACTICE

C

Like a 'k'

Celeborn (Lord of Lòrien)

Hl, hr

Whispered 'h's- basically just 'l' with

a huff at the beginning

Hlòcë (snake)

Hrìvë (winter)

Hw

Like “witch”, sort of “hwitch”

Hwesta (breath)

Hy

As in “human” weaker than hard ‘h’

Hyalma (shell)

N

Makes ‘ng’ before certain consonants

Anca = angca (jaw)

R

Trilled as in Spanish and Italian

Parma (book), Mordor

S

NEVER like a ‘z’ – always an ‘s’

Olos (dream) Nausë (imagin.)

Good clusters

ld, mb, mp, nc, nd, ng, ngw, nqu, nt, ps, ts, x (for **cs**)

Ana (towards) vs. anna (gift): These, though it is easier to rely on context to tell the two apart, there is a difference in sound! Just hold the ‘n’ in ‘anna’ longer like the ‘n’ in pen vs. the ‘nn’ in penny. This isn’t very important ;)

Stress is what makes Italian sound the most different from English. It is where you put the most ‘umph’ into your word. For Harry Potter fans, this is like “It’s LeviOsa, not LevioSAH”

These can be confusing rules. I have simplified them as much as possible. If anyone needs help figuring them out—just ask ^^

If the word has one syllable, the stress is on the 1st syllable

2 syllables: 1st syllable

3+ syllables: In polysyllabic words, the *stress* falls on the second-to-last syllable when that is *long* (containing either a long vowel (à) , a diphthong (au), or a vowel followed by a consonant cluster (mb) or a double consonant (nn)). If the second-to-last syllable is short, the stress falls on the third syllable from the end, regardless of how it looks.

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Other Rules: - I keep cheat sheets of all the grammar rules and will send them when we have more rules to deal with

To make nouns plural- (one bird vs. many birds)-

For all nouns ending in ‘a,’ ‘i,’ ‘o,’ ‘u,’ or ‘ië,’ add ‘r’ to the end (parma > parmar)

For nouns ending in ‘e’ – the ‘e’ becomes an ‘i’ instead. (aiwë > aiwi)

Stress and pronunciation Practice

All answers will be on the last page

Exercise: Practice saying these words with the proper pronunciation and underline where the stress should lie in the word.

A. **Alcar**("glory")

B. **Alcarë** (longervariant of the above)

C. **Alcarinqua**("glorious")

D. **Calima**("bright")

E. **Oronti**("mountains")

F. **Únotimë**("uncountable, numberless")

G. **Envinyatar**("renewer")

H. **Ulundë**("flood")

I. **Eäruilë**("seaweed")

J. **Ercassë** ("holly")

K. **Nai yarvaxëa rasselya taltuva notto-carinnar!**(**Saruman's:** "may your bloodstained horn collapse upon enemyheads!" from the first movie. Don't cheat- Christopher Lee isn't an Elf, and he didn't do it perfectly!)

Vocab:

i – "the" the article('a' does not exist. i rocco means 'the horse.' Rocco means 'a horse.')

minë -one

Anar- sun / the sun

Isil - moon / the moon

ar – and

Elda– one of the many words for 'Elf'

lië –people (as in a race of people)

vendë -maiden

rocco -horse

aran -king

tári -queen

tasar –willow (this is not the plural form of tasa)

nu –under

EXERCISES1. Translate into English

A. **Roccor**

B. **Aran** (two possible English translations!)

C. **I rocco.**

D. **I roccor.**

E. **Arani.**

F. **Minë lië nu minëaran.**

G. **I aran ar i tári.**

H. **Vendi.**

2. Translate into Quenya:

I. Willows.

J. Elves.

K. The kings.

L. Peoples.

M. The horse under (*or, below*) the willow.

N. A maiden and a queen.

O. The queen and the maidens.

P. The Sun and the Moon

Answers!!

A. Alcar

B. Alcarë

C. Alcarinqua

D. Calima

E. Oronti

F. Úótimë

G. Envinyatar

H. Ulundë

I. Eäruile

J. Ercassë

As for Christopher Lee's accentuation **naiyarVAXëa RASSelya TALTuva notto-CARinnar**, the words **yarvaxëa** and **taltuva** are correctly pronounced. However, **rasselya** should have been accented **rassELYa** rather than **RASSelya**, and **notto-carinnar** should have been **notto-carINNar** rather than **notto-CARinnar**. Perhaps we are to assume that "Saruman" in this scene uses some special meter employed in magical invocations, discarding the normal stress rules?

Nai yarvaxëa rasselya taltuva notto-carinnar

1.

A. Horses

B. Either just "king", or "a king" with an indefinite article, depending on what English grammar demands in the context where the word occurs.

C. The horse

D. The horses

E. Kings

F. One person under one king.

G. The king and the queen.

H. Maidens

2.

I. Tasari

J. Eldar

K. I arani

L. Lier

M. I rocco nu itasar.

N. Vendëar tári.

O. I tári ar ivendi.

P. Anarar Isil (*probably not **i Anar ar i Isil**, since in Quenya the words denoting these celestial bodies seem to count as proper names, requiring no definite article*)

2 - Chapter 2 - Duals

The Dual

'Dual' is another way to make something plural in Elvish, where rather than there being many things- there are only two. These two must usually be a natural pair to receive the dual ending, though.

To make something 'dual' you can add a 'u' or a 't' to the end. Euphony, or what sounds best, is usually used to determine which letter to use. 'u' is used to show natural pairs.

Atta ciryar (two ships) or Ciryat (a pair of ships) vs. Ciryu

When the 'u' is added to the end of a word, an 'a' at the end is dropped.

Aldu (the pair of trees in Valinor) – This could not be aldau or aldaru.

Some other natural pairs- also notice how sometimes stresses drop or letters are added to help the word fit the language better. These changes often occur because of rules in Primitive Elvish that made certain endings drop. When necessary, I'll tell you how to change certain words like that. See 'hen':

'peu' (a pair of lips / kiss) from 'pè' (lip)

'rancu' (pair of arms) from 'ranco' (arm)

'verno'/'vessë' (husband, wife) = veru (a married couple)

(Remember what Legolas said at Helm's Deep about shooting below the arm? You can see the connection between Sindarin and Quenya already! I believe he said something like 'nu i ranc'-but I don't know Sindarin well yet.)

talú (a pair of feet) from 'tál' (foot)

*hen (hand) 'hendi' (hands)... 'hendu' (pair of hands)

This will always be shown by 'hen(d-)' which shows that a 'd' must be added before adding any ending to the word. These sorts of words happen when Primitive Elvish rules only allowed certain letters to end a word.

Stem Variation!!

Words like 'hen':

Talan (talam-) (floor) Talami (floors)

Filit (filic-) (small bird) filici (small birds)

Stem variations that make you shorten words. These are very very rare, and I (and the dictionary at ardalambion) will always say how to make weird words like these plural.:

Sindel (grey elf) is short for sindelda– the plural becomes sindeldi, rather than sindeli or even sindeldar. This should probably apply to all elf types ending with 'el.'

Silmaril (jewel crafted by Fëanor) was shortened from Silmarille. The plural becomes Silmarilli rather than Silmarili.

Feren (beech tree) has the plural ferni

Laman (animal) has the plural lamni

Just like when making plurals, when adding endings to certain vowels, they sometimes change. The two changes are 'e' to 'i' and 'o' to 'u'.

Lòmë (a night) = lòmit (a pair of nights) rather than lòmu

Rusco (a fox) = ruscut (a couple of foxes)

Luckily, all of this craziness is not very common! Tolkien didn't even finish planning much of the dual pluralizing rules. I wouldn't blame you for just sticking 'atta' in front of every thing that needed to be a pair. In any case, here are the exercises.

Vocabulary **atta** "two" **hen (hend-)** "eye"

ranco "arm"

ando "gate"

cirya "ship"

aiwë "bird"

talán(talam-) "floor"

nér(ner-) "man" (adult male of any race)

nís(niss-) "woman" (adult female of any race)

sar(sard-) "stone" (a small rock – not material)

alda "tree"

oron(oront-) "mountain"

Exercises

1. Translate into English:

A. **Hendu**

B. **Atta hendi** (and answer: what is the difference between this and **hendu** above?)

C. **Aldu**

D. **Atta aldar** (and answer again: what is the difference between this and **Aldu** above?)

E. **Minë nér ar minënis.**

F. **I sardi.**

G. Talami.

H. Oronti.

2. Translate into Quenya:

I. Two ships (*just any two ships that happen to be seen together*)

J. Two ships (*that happen to be sister ships*)

K. Arms (*the two arms of one person*)

L. Two mountains (*within the same range; Twin Peaks, if you like – use a dual form*)

M. Double gate (*use a dual form*)

N. Two birds (*that have formed a pair*)

O. Two birds (*just any two birds*)

P. Men and women

Answers!!

1.

A. (Two) eyes, (natural pair of) eyes.

B. Two eyes (= **attahendi**, referring to "two eyes" only casually related, like two eyes of two different persons, one eye from each. The dual form **hendu**, on the other hand, refers to a natural pair of eyes.)

C. Two trees.

D. Two trees (= **attaaldar**, referring to any two trees. **Aldu**, on the other hand, refers to some kind of closely related pair of trees, like the Two Trees of Valinor in Tolkien's mythos.)

E. One man and one woman.

F. The stones.

G. Floors.

H. Mountains.

2.

I. **Atta ciryar**.

J. **Ciryat**.

K. **Rancu** (if the example **peu** "pair of lips" holds, the dual ending **-u** rather than **-t** is always used in the case of body parts occurring in pairs, even where there is no **d** or **t** in the noun)

L. **Orontu** (since **oron** "mountain" has the stem **oront-**, a **t** turning up in the word, the dual ending would be **-u** rather than **-t**)

M. **Andu** (ending **-u** rather than **-t** because of the **d** occurring in this word)

N. **Aiwet**.

O. **Atta aiwi**.

P. **Neri ar nissi**.

3 - Chapter 3 -Adjectives

Adjective-describes a noun –Tolkien designed language to have definite European styles.

q “red book” – using adj. attributively.

q Wholepoint of sentence is the trait “the book is red” using predicatively. The adjective is the predicate.

q Many languages use “the book red” to emphasize this- in Quenya, use is/are- it couples the subject to the adjective, so is/are is called a copula. (ye)

q Adjectives end in –a or –ë, but the latter is less common- usually only occurring in colors. Ninque (white) more (black) carne (red) varne (brown).

q If they do not end in the other two, it ends in –in : firin (dead) hwarin (crooked) melin (dear)- latin (open) though is also reported as latina- rare adj. in any other form- teren (slender)- also terene

q Adjectives in –a – may appear by itself but more often part of a group: -ya, -wa, -da/-na/-ma Vanya (beautiful), Helwa (blue), Melda (dear) Quenya=Elvish J

q Adjectives in Quenya can be used either way. “linte yuldar” swift draughts or “I yuldar nar linte”

q Luini tellumar (blue vaults) quante tengwi (full signs) fána cirya (white ship) practice

q Also permissible is adj. following noun to emphasize the adjective. Anar púrea (a sun bleared) Malle téra –straight road as opposed to a bent one

q Noun+Adj also used in titles like Elendil Voronda – Elendil the Faithful (Mahatma Gandhi)

q “the book red is” order is also permissible but not as commonly attested for.

q Lá caritas alasaila ná (not to do it, unwise is) (usaila)

q Noword for ‘brighter’ say “A ná calimalá B” A is bright beyond B

Using no copula Ilu vanya (the world is fair) maller raicar (roads are bent)

-A calmialá B –form usually used in poetry to save a syllable

Adjectival agreement in number:

Quenya adjectives agree in number with the nouns they describe-like our nouns+Adj.

“2 horses” – “2 brown horses” < English “2 brownshorses” < Quenya

q In older Quenya, adjectives were changed just like plural nouns

q Exilic Quenya- Noldor return- quanta (full) quantai

q LOTR time

· -a = -e (for older ai)

· -ea = -ie (to avoid –ee)

· -e = -i

· in = -i

q Raica- raicë

q archaic quenya- laurea- laureai- lauree- Exilic/LOTR (Namarie)= laurie

q luinë- blue luinī tellumar

Vocabulary-

Except for the two first items, all of these are adjectives

neldë"three"

ná"is" (**nar** "are")

vanya"beautiful, fair"

alta"great" (physical size)

calima"bright"

taura"mighty"

saila"wise" (archaic *saira*)

úmëa"evil"

carnë"red"

ninquë"white"

morë"black" (Mordor!)

firin"dead"

Exercises 1. Translate into English:

A. Morë rocco.

B. Calimë hendu.

C. Neldë firini neri.

D. Vanyë aiwi.

E. Tári ná taura nís.

F. I oronti nar altë.

G. Aran taura (*two possible translations!*)

H. I nér ar i nísnar sailë.

2. Translate into Quenya:

I. The white gate.

J. A great ship.

K. The floor is red.

L. One black stone and three white stones.

M. Wise kings are mighty men.

N. The mighty man and the beautiful woman are evil.

O. Elves are beautiful.

P. The Elves are a beautiful people.

Answers!!

1.

A. A black horse.

B. Bright eyes (**hendu** = a natural pair of eyes).

C. Three dead men.

D. Beautiful birds.

E. A queen is a mighty woman.

F. The mountains are great.

G. Best interpreted "a king [is] mighty", the copula being left out and understood, but it could also mean "a mighty king" with a somewhat unusual word-order (an attributive adjective would more often come *before* the noun it describes: **taura aran** rather than **aran taura**).

H. The man and the woman are wise.

Theoretically at least, exercises A, C, and D could also be interpreted "black [is] a horse", "bright [are] eyes", "beautiful[are] birds", the copula being left out just as in Exercise G. But when the adjective comes immediately in front of the noun it describes, it must normally be assumed that it is used attributively and not predicatively. On the other hand, when the order is noun + adjective, as in G, a copula "is/are" may well be left out.

2.

I. I ninquë ando.

J. Alta cirya.

K. I talan ná carnë.

L. Minëmorë sarar neldë ninqui sardi.

M. Sailëarani nar taurë neri.

N. I taura nér ari vanya nísar úmië.

O. Eldarnar vanyë.

P. Eldarnar vanya lië. (Notice that here, the adjective agrees in number with the singular noun **lië** "a people", which it describes attributively. It does not agree with the plural noun "Elves", as in the previous exercise.)

(In exercises K, M, N, O, P, the copula **ná/nar** may be left out and understood.)

4 - Verbs - Present Tense

The Verb: Present Tense- Subject/Object –Superlative form of adjectives

- q Only touched on ná/nar- doesn't provide much info. Most other verbs = action
- q The Elf dances- danced, will dance, is dancing, has danced, will have danced, will have been dancing, will not have been dancing

- q **-a stem verbs- derived verbs-** not just roots, endings (-ya, -ta, -na,-a) to root.
- o Calya- to illuminate (KAL)
- o Tulta- to summon (TUL)
- o Harna- to wound (SKAR)
- o Mapa- to seize (MAP) **Primary verbs**, non derived words- have no added ending
- o Mat- to eat
- o Tac- to fasten
- o Tul- to come
- o Mel- to love
- o Sir- to flow (sirion)
- o Car- to make

- **Present tense-** add an 'a' to the end, lengthen stem vowel. A endings = ëa

- **Stem vowel-** vowel of the root - Ex. in present tense

- o Mat(MAT) Mátëa
- o Mel(MEL) Méla
- o Sil (SIL) Síla shines
- o Quet (KWET) Quéta

A rule in Quenya prohibits a long vowel in front of a consonant cluster or in diphthong.

So what about Calya and Tulta? -stress rules
According to rule Tulta= Tultëa, Pusta= Pustëa, Calya= Calyëa

Practice: Lanta, Harna, faina (emit light), auta (pass)

Lómë = night – what is “the night is passing?” Lala= laugh – what is “the elf is laughing?” “the moon is shining”?

The Object- the [noun] is [verb] ing what? Once again, English style

i Elda máta massa “the elf is eating bread” –the bread is the target/obj. i Elda cenë massa “the elf sees bread” German- ‘Ich kaufe den Rock’ vs. ‘Der Rock passt gut.’ i Elda máta (massa) – can work with or

w/o an object. i Elda mápea (???) – must have an object- what does the elf seize?
Ciryá= ciryá(plurals in –r change to –i = ciryai) as an object (plotzletter) Latin *accusative* case. This was supposedly used in archaic Quenya but feel out of LOTR style Quenya

Verbs agree in number too!!!!

Because all verbs end in a vowel, all make their plurals with -r
“i atta hallë Eldar mátar massa.” “the two tall(s)elves eat(s) bread.”
Laurie lantarlassi “golden fall the leaves”
Laurëa=golden pl.= laurië lanta=fall pl.=lantar las=leaf pl.=lassi (legolas)
Lantarvs. Lantear *arist* tense to be later discussed.
“Golden fall the leaves” vs. “Golden are falling the leaves.”

Multiple subjects also = plural

The *king* and the *queen* are eating i aran ari tári matar

Multiple Objects are still singular with the verb

The king is eating bread and meat i aran mata massa ar apsa
Aldu sílaṭ vs. Aldu sílar - possible dual-form plural, hardly attested for. Word Order Subject + Verb (+ Object)
Lantar lassi “fall the leaves” Namárië Auta i lómë- “passes the night” Fingon/Silmarillion
Words are only put in a different order to, as in Namárië, stress that the leaves are falling. English word order appears to be more common in simple text.
Mornië caita “darkness lies” Namárië

More about Adjectives:

-
Comparative: -er (taller) - only attested form= “A ná (adj.) lá B”

Superlative: -est (tallest) = an- prefix anvanya vende (fairest maiden)

An- = exceedingly ____ not most. Like saying “very” but

Aiya Eärendil Elenion Ancalima. No translation is given in the LotR itself, but Tolkien later stated that this means “hail Eärendil *brightest* of stars”

an+ alta “great (in size)” = **analta** “greatest”

an + calima “bright” = **ancalima** “brightest”

an + norna “tough” = **annorna** “toughest”

an + quanta “full” = **anquanta** “fullest”

an + vanya “beautiful” = **anvanya** “most beautiful”

an + wenya “green” = **anwenya** “greenest”

an + yára “old” = **anyára** “oldest”

an+ fána “white” = ?**anfána** “whitest”

an + halla “tall” = ?**anhalla** “tallest”

Ancalima (añcalima) (remember that before a c, the ‘n’ makes a ‘ng’ sound)

With l, r, s, m (an-) = al-, ar-, as-, am-

Anpitya (np=ill.) = ampitya (smallest)
an+ lauca "warm" = **allauca** "warmest"
an+ ringa "cold" = **arringa** "coldest"
an+ sarda "hard" = **assarda** "hardest"
an+ moina "dear" = **ammoina** "dearest"
Elen + mírë= Elemmírë Númen + lótë= Númellótë

Vocabulary

canta "four"**Nauco** "Dwarf"
parma "book"
tiuca "thick, fat"
mapa- verb "grasp, seize"
tir- verb "watch, guard"
lala- verb "laugh" (**lala-** also has the meaning "deny")
caita- verb "lie" (physical)
tulta- verb "summon"
linda- verb "sing"
mat- verb "eat"
cenda- verb "read"

Exercises

1. Translate into English:

- A. I nís lálëa.
- B. I antiuca Nauco máta.
- C. I tári tíra i aran.
- D. I analta oron ná taura.
- E. I nér tultëa i anvanyavendë.
- F. I aiwë lindëa.
- G. I Naucormápëar i canta Eldar.
- H. I antaura aran ná saila.

2. Translate into Quenya:

- I. The woman is watching the greatest (/biggest) ship.
- J. The most evil (/evilest) men are dead.
- K. The Elf is seizing the book.
- L. Four men are lying under a tree.
- M. The wisest Elf is reading a book (*careful*: what probably happens to the superlative prefix when it is added to a word like **saila** "wise"?)
- N. The king and the queen are reading the book.
- O. The birds are singing.
- P. The four Dwarves are watching a bird.

Answers!!

1.

- A. The woman is laughing.
- B. The fattest Dwarf is eating.
- C. The queen is watching the king.
- D. The greatest mountain is mighty.
- E. The man is summoning the most beautiful maiden.
- F. The bird is singing.
- G. The Dwarves are seizing the four Elves.
- H. The mightiest king is wise.

2.

- I. I nís tíra ianalta cirya.
- J. I anúmië nerinar firini.
- K. I Elda mápëa i parma.
- L. Cantaneri caitëarnu alda.
- M. I assaila Elda cendëa parma (*an-saila* becoming *assaila* by assimilation)
- N. I aran ar itári cendëar i parma.
- O. I aiwi lindëar.
- P. I canta Naucor tírar aiwë.

5 - Cheat Sheet 1-3

One Chapter Late CheatSheet

Vocabulary and important rules up to this point =>

Rules:

-

-

Stress: 1. 1 syllable = first syllable stress

2. 2 syllable = first syllable stress

3. 3+ syllables = Stressed on second to last word if it has one of the following:

- A long vowel á, é, ì, ò, ù
- A diphthong: ai, au, eu, oi, ui, iu
- A consonant cluster

Plural nouns: 1. consonants – add 'i' to the end

2. ending in '-e' (not ie) – change the 'e' to 'i'

3. ending in any other vowel- add 'r' to the end

Adjective Plurals: 1. endings in -a = -ë

2. endings in -ëa = -ië (to avoid -ëe).

3. endings in -ë = -i;

4. endings in -in = +i

Duals: add '-u'/'-t' to the end – add '-u' if 'd' or 't' are already in the word

Vocab:

minë "one"

Anar "(the) Sun"

Isil "(the) Moon"

ar "and"

Elda "Elf"

lië "people" (sc. an entire ethnic group/race)

vendë "maiden"

rocco "horse"

aran "king"

tári "queen"

tasar "willow"

nu "under"

atta"two"
hen (hend-)"eye"
ranco"arm"
ando"gate"
cirya"ship"
aiwë"bird"
talan(talam-) "floor"
nér(ner-) "man" (adult male of any race)
nís(niss-) "woman" (adult female of any race)
sar(sard-) "stone" (not as a substance)
alda"tree"
oron(oront-) "mountain"

neldë"three"
ná"is" (**nar** "are")
vanya"beautiful, fair"
alta"great" (physical size)
calima"bright"
taura"mighty"
saila"wise"
úmëa"evil"
carnë"red"
ninquë"white"
morë"black" (Mordor)
firin"dead"
varne "brown"
tulca "yellow"
laica "green"
luinë "blue"

6 - Present Tense Practice

Translate each phrase and fill in the proper verb in its present tense. The verbs may be found all over the page. Sorry if some words are not there. I'm just introducing you to new ones that you will see later.

I. Mapa- to seize Car-to make Tul-to come Mel- to love Calya- to illuminate

1. i aran _____ (is summoning) i vendë, ar ivendë _____. (*is coming*)
2. i aiwë là nàcarnë. itàri _____ i aiwë calima arvanya. (*is making*)
(là nà is used as "is not" you will see this again. Sorry! Là used in front of a verb can negate it.)
3. i tiuca Nauco _____ (loves) roccor. I Eldar _____ (are laughing). i Nauco là nàhalla vë (as) i rocco.
4. i vanyë vendi _____ (are lying- caita) nu ialdar. icanta vendi cendëar i parmar. Minë vendë, i anvanya vendë, _____ i lòmë. (*is illuminating*)
5. i ùmëa tàri _____ i neldë Naucor. I ùmëa tàri là _____ canta Naucor. (*is seizing*)

II. Tulta- to summon Harna- to wound Lala- to laugh Lanta- to fall Quet- to speak

1. i alda-arani nar hallë vë ioronti. Minë rè (day), i analataalda _____ "à lanta, oron!" (*is speaking*) (*putting a long a in front of a verb in its root form shows it is a command*)
2. "i orontilà _____," quentë (this is past tense, but you can recognize the verb) i assaila alda. "i oron-arannà saila là i alda-aran." (*is falling*)
3. i antaura alda _____ i oron-aran. "à cenda, oron, ar ioronti nar sailë." (*is summoning*)
4. "i oron-aranlà _____ (is coming)," quentëi anhallà alda. "elà (behold), i oronti _____!" (are laughing)
5. Ar i oronti lantanëar lalanë (past tense again). i oronti _____ i aldar. (are wounding)

III. Cen – to see Mat-to eat Sil- to shine Cenda- to read Tir- to watch Linda-to sing Mar- to abide/live

i Eldar _____ (are saying) "i ninqui (white) eleni, tulca (yellow) Anar, ar, luinë (blue) Isil _____ (are shining) or (over) Ambar"

i Naucor là _____ (are seeing) i eleni. i Nauco _____ (are living) nu i mori oronti.

i nèr _____ (is watching) i vanya nìs. i nìs _____ (is eating), ar i nìs là nà tiuca. i nèr _____ (loves) i nìs.

Canta aiwi _____ (are singing) nu i altë laicë aldar. I aiwi _____ (are living) nu i oronti.

"I Eldar nar vanyë là I Naucor," Roccondil (name meaning horse-friend) _____ (is saying) "I Eldar là _____ (are reading). I Eldar oio (always/forever) _____ (are singing)."

Answers!!

I. Mapa- to seize Car-to make Tul-to come Mel- to love Calya- toilluminate

1. the king tultëa the maiden, and the maiden tùla
2. The bird is notred. The queen càra the bird bright and beautiful
(là nà is used as “isnot” you will see this again. Sorry! Là used in frontof a verb can negate it.)
3. the fat Dwarf mèla horses. TheElves làlëar.The Dwarf is not tall as the horse.
4. the lovely maidens caitëarunder the trees. The four maidens read the book. One maiden, the loveliestmaiden, calyëa the night
5. the evil queen màpëa the threeDwarves. The evil queen màpëa not four Dwarves.

II. Tulta- to summon Harna- to wound Lala- to laugh Lanta- tofall Quet-to speak

1. The tree kings aretall as the mountains. One day the tallest tree quëta“fall, mountain!”
2. “The mountains lantëar not,” said the wisest tree. “themountain king is wise beyond the tree king.”
3. The mightiesttree tultëa the mountain king. “read,mountain, and the mountains are wise.”
4. “the mountain king tùla not,” saidthe tallest tree. “behold, the mountains làlëar!”
5. And the mountainsfell and laughed. The mountains harnëar the trees.

**III. Cen – to see Mat-to eat Sil- to shine Cenda- to read
Tir- to watch Linda-to sing Mar- to abide/live**

The Elves quëtar “the white stars, yellow sun, and blue moon silar over the Earth”
The Dwarves cënar not. The Dwarves màrar under the black mountains.
the man tìra the beautiful woman. The woman màta, and the woman is not fat. The man loves the woman.
Four birds lindëar under the great green trees. The birds màrar under the mountains.
“The Elves are lovely beyond the Dwarves,” Roccondil quëta “The Elves cendëar not. The Elves always lindëar.”

7 - The Past Tense

The Regular Past Tense

add -ne to the end-Plurals still the same

a- stems verbs

-

Orta=rise –ortanë=rose

Lala=laugh – Lalanë= laughed

Caïta= lie – Caitanë= lay

Ulya= pour – Ulyanë=poured

Primary verbs

R, m, n

Cen= cennë

Tam= tamnë(tapped)

But what about illegal consonants?

-

t— Mat= mantë

c— Tac= tancë (nc- is always pronounced ñc or 'gc')

p— Top = tompë

l—vil = villë

-matne (maybe at one time) - mante-When letters move like this in linguistics, the change is called metathesis

Importance of Language Rules, Roots, and Similarities

Vil-“to fly” pa.t = ville -**ll** represents some combination of **l** and **n**. Older **wilnë** with the normal past tense ending (v < WIL), the group **ln** turning into **ll** in Quenya.

In *Telerin*, the sister language of Quenya, a verb formed from a root *DEL* ("go") = past tense *delle*. It probably descends from older *denle*. If it came from *delne*, it would have gone unchanged in Telerin. The cluster *lnis* permitted in that language (ex. *eln*"stars").

Practice:

-

ora- “urge” = **oranë** “urged” = **órea** “is urging”

hehta- “exclude” = **hehtanë** “excluded” = **hehtëa** “is excluding”

ulya- “pour” = **ulyanë** “poured” = **ulyëa** “is pouring”

sinta- “fade” = **sintanë** “faded” = **sintëa** “is fading”

lanta- “fall” = **lantanë** “fell” = **lantëa** “is falling”

cap- “jump” = **campë** “jumped” = **cápëa** “is jumping”

tul- “come” = **tullë** “came” = **túlëa** “is coming”

Alternative" Past Tense

Simply involves the roots. 'D' exists only in clusters: ld, nd, rd

In Primitive Quenya, if a root had the ending 'd,' since that language didn't permit the letter at the end, it became 'r' instead. This is still visible in the past tense.

Rer "sow" = pa.trende (from RED)

Practice:

-
Hyar-(cleave) < (SYAD)= pa.t Hyandë

Nir-(press,force)< (NID)= pa.t Nindë

Ser-(rest)<(SED)=pa.t Sendë

Nyar-(tell, relate)<(NAR(old Nad))=pa.t Nyarnë/Nyandë

Irregularities:

Lav- "lick" = pa.t lávë stem vowel lengthened, 'n' left out-irregular

Úmë- "not do/not be" *Firiel's song*- method in poem no longer common.

-Lav =Lambe

-Av(depart)/Ambe (departed) – but Lambe clashes with "language"

-In early QL, all '-v' words have mb- pa.t probably could be formed either way.

Some drop longer endings to have a much shorter pa.t

-Mapa = Mampe or Mapane?

-Tolkien wrote Orane and orne for Ora, so use whichever fits your need

If it acts as a primary verb-

Lala (laugh) < LADA = pa.t Lande or Lalane

Lala (deny) (from LALA, never contained 'd') = pa.t Lalle or Lalane

Farya < PHAR = pa.t Farne

Vocabulary:

lempë"five"

elen"star"

harma"treasure" (noun)

sil- verb "shine" (with white or silver light, like star-shine or moon-shine)

hir- verb "find"

cap- verb "jump"

tec- verb "write"

quet- verb "speak, say"

mel- verb "love" (as friend; no Quenya word referring to erotic love between the sexes has been published)

cen- verb "see" (related to **cenda**- "read", which word is derived from a strengthened form of the same stem and meaning, basically, to watch closely).

orta- verb "rise", also used = "raise, lift up".

harya- verb "possess; have" (related to the noun **harma** "treasure", referring to a "possession")

Exercises

1. *Translate into English*

A. **I nér cendanë iparma.**

B. **I Naucormanter.**

C. **I aran tultanë i tári.**

D. **Nís lindanë.**

E. **I vendi tirner i Elda.**

F. **I lempë roccor caitaner nu i alta tasar.**

G. **I eleni siller.**

H. **I Nauco cennë rocco.**

2. *Translate into Quenya:*

I. A Dwarf found the treasure.

J. The Elf spoke.

K. The horse jumped.

L. The king loved the Elves.

M. A man wrote five books.

N. The queen rose.

O. The kings possessed great treasures.

P. The king and the queen summoned four Elves and five Dwarves.

Answers:

1.

A. The man read the book.

B. The Dwarves ate.

C. The king summoned the queen.

D. A woman sang.

E. The maidens watched the Elf.

F. The five horses lay (/?were lying) under the big willow.

G. The stars shone.

H. The Dwarf saw a horse.

As suggested in F), it may be that it is also permissible to translate Quenya past tenses using the "was/were...-ing" construction, e.g. B) "the Dwarves *were eating*", D) "a woman *was singing*", F) "the five horses *were lying*". However, Quenya may well have distinct verb forms for this meaning. Published material provides no clues in this matter.

2.

I. **Naucohirnë i harma.**

J. **I Elda quentë.**

K. **I rocco campë.**

*L. I aran mellë Eldar (or ...**i Eldar** with the article if the phrase "the Elves" is taken as referring to some particular Elves rather than the Elvish race in general)*

M. Nértencë lempë parmar.

N. I tári ortanë.

O. I arani haryaner altë harmar.

P. I aran ar itári tultaner canta Eldar ar lempë Naucor.

9 - Elvish Tense Table 1

These are some extraverbs to expand your vocabulary, each put in there infinitive, English, presenttense, and past tense => These verbs are used in someof the later exercises. Based on the rules you know, try to find out thepresent and past tenses first, then the full table will be listed below it =>

Elvish Tense Table!

Verb	Meaning	Present	Past
Orta	to rise		
Lala	to laugh		
Cen	to see		
Cenda	to read		
Caïta	to lie		
Ser	to rest		
Mat	to eat		
Ulya	to pour (t.)		
Ulya	to pour (i.t.)		
Tec	to write		
Hir	to find		
Cap	to jump		
Sil	to shine		
Tam	to tap		
Vil	to fly		
Ora	to urge		
Hehta	to exclude		
Sinta	to fade		
Lanta	to fall		
Tul	to come		
Tulta	to summon		
Hyar	to wound		
Nir	to press		
Nyar	to tell		
Rer	to sow		
Lav	to lick/cover		
Papa	to tremble		
Pata	to 'rap tap'		
Mapa	to seize		
Quet	to say		
Mel	to love		
Harya	to have		
Lala	to deny		

Verb	Meaning	Present	Past
Orta	to rise	Ortëa	Ortanë
Lala	to laugh	Làlëa	Landë / lalanë
Cen	to see	Cëna	Cennë
Cenda	to read	Cendëa	Cendanë
Caita	to lie	Caitëa	Caitanë
Ser	to rest	Sëra	Sendë
Mat	to eat	Màta	Mantë
Ulya	to pour (t.)	Ulyëa	Ullë
Ulya	to pour (i.t.)	Ulyëa	Ulyanë
Tec	to write	Tëca	Tencë
Hir	to find	Hira	Hirnë
Cap	to jump	Càpa	Campë
Sil	to shine	Sila	Sillë
Tam	to tap	Tàma	Tamnë
Vil	to fly	Vila	Villë
Ora	to urge	Òrëa	Oranë
Hehta	to exclude	Hehtëa	Hehtanë
Sinta	to fade	Sintëa	Sintanë
Lanta	to fall	Lantëa	Lantanë
Tul	to come	Tùla	Tullë
Tulta	to summon	Tultëa	Tultanë
Hyar	to wound	Hyàra	Hyandë
Nir	to press	Nira	Nindë
Nyar	to tell	Nyàra	Nyandë
Rer	to sow	Rëra	Rendë
Lav	to lick/cover	Làva	Làvë
Papa	to tremble	Pàpëa	Pampë
Pata	to 'rap tap'	Pàtëa	Pantë
Mapa	to seize	Màpëa	Mampë/mapanë
Quet	to say	Quëta	Quentë
Mel	to love	Mëla	Mellë
Harya	to have	Haryëa	Haryanë
Lala	to deny	Làlëa	lalanë

10 - Past Tense Practice

These exercises are to help with your past tense practice, include a lot of the vocabulary, and also give an introduction to tenses, which will pop up again later.

-
Quenya Elvish Past Tense Practice!

-
English to Elvish

One Elf slept beneath the great willow

The leaves fell and covered the Elf

A maiden came and found the Elf.

The maiden sang and told a story (canta)

Beneath the three black mountains, the four Dwarves found treasure.

The Dwarves made things (engwir- from engwë) for the king (i aranen)

The Dwarves are not a bird people. Dwarves are a stone people. (adding the word là in front of a verb makes it negative)

The evil king urged the Dwarves to have (aorist harya) the treasure.

The king summoned and told the queen "Seize the four Dwarves! The Dwarves seized the brightest, loveliest treasure!" (add the word 'à' in front of a verb to make it an order)

The Dwarves jumped and flew out the two biggest gates. (out = et)

The Elf beneath the tree awoke (cuivië= to awaken) on the floor. (add -nna to the end of a word for the word 'on')

The Elf saw the maiden and rose. The maiden illuminated the night. (calya = to illuminate. Night = lómë)

The woman loved the Elf and laughed.

The man had five red and yellow leaves in his hair (fineryassë =) – sorry, liked it)

The Dwarves faded over the hills (ambor) (over = or)

The beautiful queen pressed the king, and the king went. (went =lendë irregula.)

The sun faded. The bright stars and moon shone white on the stones. (-nna)

The Dwarves rested and ate bread and meat. The two Dwarves saw and seized four horses. (bread and meat = massa ar apsa)

The horses possessed the biggest eyes.

The bright sun rose, and the king watched the dwarves. The king tapped the fattest Dwarf on the arm (-nna = on).

Two Dwarves rested. The two horse-Dwarves rap-tapped (with an axe!!- don't translate this) and wounded the king.

The king trembled. The king urged the Dwarves to have the treasure.

The Dwarves loved the king and read a book.

The Dwarves left on the mightiest ship to the sea. (to = -nna)

The Dwarves and the King wrote a book

The Elf and woman rested under the willow and read the book.

Answers:

Mine Elda sendë nu i alta tasar I lassi lantaner ar làver i Elda Vendë tülë ar hira i Elda i vendë lindanë ar nyandë centa Nu i neldë mori oronti, i canta Naucor hìrar harma i Naucor carner engwir i aranen i Naucor là nar aiwë lië. Naucor nar sar lië i umëa aran oranë i Naucor harya i harma i aran tultanë ar nyandë i tàri “à mapa i canta Naucor. i Naucor mapaner I ancalima, anyanva harma i Naucor camper ar viller et i atta analtar andor i Elda nu i alda cuivienë i talamenna i Elda cennë i vendë ar ortanë. I vendë calyanë i lómë I nís mellë i Elda ar landë I nér haryanë lempë carni ar tulcë lassi fineryassë I Naucor sintaner or i ambor I vanya tári nindë i aran, ar i aran lendë Anar sintanë. I calimë eleni ar Isil siller ninqui i sardinna I Naucor sender ar manter massa ar apsa. I atta Naucor cenner ar mapaner canta roccor I roccor haryaner i analtë hendi Calima Anar ortanë, ar i aran tirnë i Naucor. I aran tamnë i antiuca naucor i rancunna (ranco changes to rancu- we'll get more into that later) Atta Naucor sender. I atta rocco-Naucor panter ar hyander i aran. I aran pampë. I aran oranë i Naucor harya i harma I Naucor meller i aran ar cendaner parma. I Naucor lender i antaura círyanna eärenna I Naucor ar i aran tencer parma I Elda ar i nís sender nu i tasar ar cendaner i parma

11 - The Future and Aorist Tenses

The Future and Aorist Tenses English has no real future tense, just as German has no real past tense, relying instead on words like “shall” and “will” in English and “haben/have” in German. Elvish future tense, like English past tense involves changing the verb itself with the suffix ‘-uva’

Rules:

- o a-stem verbs lose ending ‘a’ when ‘-uva’ is added (‘au’ is illegal!)
- o If the a is the only vowel in the verbal stem, it doesn’t get cut out
- o ná – “is” = f.t. nauva “will be” – not nuva
- o The old version of future tense – anta = antáva ??
- o Quantuva from quat?? KWATA < quanta? Pat < Panta “open”
- o Pa.t with nasal infixions = f.t. with nasal infixions??
- o Plurals are still formed with –r at the end
- o Eleni Siluvar (stars will shine)

Practice:

Hir- “find” = f.t. Hiruva “will find”

Cen- “see” = f.t. Cenuva “will see”

Tulta- “summon” = f.t. Tultuva “will summon”

Ora- “urge” = f.t. Oruva “will urge”

Hlar- “hear” = f.t. Hlaruva “will hear”

Anta- “give” = f.t. Antuva

Man tárë antávanin llúvatar, llúvatar, enyárë tar i tyel írë Anarinya **queluva**?=

What will lluvatar, O lluvatar give me in the day beyond the end, when my sun shall fail?

Elvish also has an aorist tense that covers our use of words like “comes” vs p.t “is coming,” where English labels both as the present tense. The aorist tense is used for ongoing actions or general truths. “Atani firir” = “[mortal] Men die” – it could mean that a certain group of Men are presently dying or the undeniable truth of their mortality. From Greek past tense of something that “was being done” over a period of time- not just a momentary action, and for general truths like “sheep eat grass”

Rules:

If the *a-stem verb* is singular, and no endings are going to be added to it, the verb remains unchanged (tha a.t. of auta (singularly) = auta For *primary verbs*, the ending ‘-i-’ is added, **but it changed to ‘-e’ if no ending is to be added.** Mat = “to eat” Mate = sing. “eats” Matir = pl. “eat” A-stems do not drop their a when endings are added, they are still obviously not present tense, after all. Lanta = “to fall” Lanta = sing. “falls” Lantar = pl. “fall”

Practice:

Polin quetë = “I can speak”

i *carir* quettar ómanien = “those who make words with their voices”

sindanóriellocaita mornië = “out of a grey country darkness *lies*”

laurië *lantar* lassi = “golden *fall* the leaves”

auta i lómë! “the night passes”

mámar *matir* salquë (singular “sheep” = máma, “grass” = salquë).

i máma *matë* salquë = “the sheep *eats* grass”

Vocabulary **enquë** "six"

ilya, noun/adjective "all, every" ("every" before a singular noun, e.g. **ilya Elda** "every Elf", but **ilya** occurring by itself would rather mean "all"). Note that before a plural noun, this word also signifies "all" and is inflected for plural as a common adjective, hence becoming **ilyë** for older **ilyai** (cf. **ilyëtier** "all paths" in *Namárië* and **ilyë mahalmar** "all thrones" in *Cirion's Oath*)

rimba, adjective "numerous", here used for "many" (presumably becoming **rimbë** when used in conjunction with plural nouns, if it is inflected like any other adjective – hence e.g. **rimbë rávi** "many lions")

Atan "Man" (not "sentient male", which is **nér**, but Mortal Man as opposed to Immortal Elf, or Dwarf.)

ohtar "warrior"

rá(ráv-) "lion"

Ambar "the world" (Does not require the article **i**; it is capitalized and treated as a proper name)

hrávë "flesh"

macil "sword"

fir-, verb "die, expire"

tur-, verb "govern, control, wield"

or, preposition "over, above"

Exercises *1. Translate into English:*

A. **Rimbë Naucor haryar harmar.**

B. **Anar ortuva ar iaiwi linduvar.**

C. **Enquë neri tiruvari ando.**

D. **Ilya Atan firuva.**

E. **Ilyë Atani firir.**

F. **Saila nér cenda rimbëparmar.**

G. **Ilya elen silë or Ambar.**

H. **I Eldamapa i Nauco.**

2. Translate into Quenya:

I. Every Elf and every Man.

J. The Elf will find the Dwarf.

K. The horse jumps over the Dwarf.

L. The king controls many warriors and will control(/rule) all the world.

M. The king and the queen will read the book.

N. The warrior wields a sword.

O. All lions eat flesh.

P. Six lions are eating flesh.

Answers:

1.

A. Many Dwarves possess treasures.

B. The sun will rise and the birds will sing.

- C. Six men will watch(/guard) the gate.
- D. Every Man (= *non-Elfhuman*) will die.
- E. All Men die.
- F. A wise man reads manybooks.
- G. Every star shines abovethe world.
- H. TheElf seizes the Dwarf.

In A, B, E, F, and G, the aorist tense is used to describe various "general truths" that are more or less timeless. In H, the aorist is used to describe a momentary, duration-less action.

2.

I. Ilya Elda ar ilya Atan.

J. I Elda hiruva i Nauco.

K. I rocco capë or i Nauco.

L. I aran turë rimbëohtari ar turuva ilya Ambar.

M. I aran ar i táricenduvar i parma.

N. I ohtar turë macil.

O. Ilyërávi matir hrávë.

P. Enquërávi mátar hrávë.

In K, the aorist describes a momentary, duration-less action. In L and N, the aorist (**turë**) describes a general characteristic or "habit" of an individual: the king (always) controls many warriors, the warrior (generally, habitually) wields a sword. In O, the aorist describes a "general truth" about lions, contrasting with the present (continuative) tense in P (**mátar** = "are eating"), describing the *ongoing* activity of some *particular* lions instead.

12 - Aorist and Future Tense Practice

Elvish Aorist and Future Tense Practice

Again, there are some words or structures you might not be familiar with yet. Try to translate those sentences as well as you can, and then check your answers at the bottom.

Every man is a wise warrior.

Bright white swords wound flesh.

Numerous Elves have horses.

The mighty woman will sing, and the world will fall and fade.

Numerous Dwarves will read a book.

Elves are wise beyond Dwarves.

Dwarves are fatter than Elves.

All Dwarves eat.

All Elves exclude men.

The Dwarf will seize the brown bread and the red meat.

The people will laugh.

The King will summon the evil people.

The gold sun rises, and the white moon falls under the world.

All silver stars shine.

Green birds fly, and horses gump.

The man pressed the great sword. The sword covered the arm.

The warrior is evil. The man will cleave the arm.

The king slept, and the evil queen will tap him.

The two kings will summon the four maidens, and the maidens will come.

A man will deny to love a woman.

The woman will say to tell, and the man will die.

The six races will write many books.

The three Dwarves will find many treasures, and the Dwarves will not love.

The man will sow the seeds, and the woman will pour the water.

I (-nye-) now will urge you (-l) to rest. (Add the given suffixes to the end of the corresponding verbs!)

Answers!!

Ilya aran ná saila ohtar.

Calimë ninqui macili hyarë hравë.

Rimbë Eldar haryar roccor.

I taura nís linduva, ar Ambar lantuva ar sintuva.

Rimbë Naucor cenduvar parma.

Eldar nar saila lá Naucor.

Naucor nar tiuca lá Eldar.

Ilyë Naucor matir.
Ilyë Eldar hehta Atani.
I Nauco mapuva i varnä massa ar carnë apsa.
I lië laluva.
I aran tultuva i úmëa lië.
Laurëa Anar orta or Ambar, ar ninquë Isil lanta nu Ambar.
Ilyë telpi eleni silir.
Laicë aiwi vilir, ar roccor capir.
I nér nindë atta macil. I macil lávë i ranco.
I ohtar ná úmëa. I nér hyaruva i ranco.
I aran sindë, ar i úmea tári tamuvar.
I atta arani tultuvar i canta vendi, ar i vendi tuluvar.
Nér laluva melë nís.
I nís quetuva nyarë, ar i nér firuva.
I enquë lier tecuvar rimbë parmar.
I neldë Naucor hiruvar rimbë harmar, ar I Naucor lá meluvar.
I nér reruva i erdi, ar i nís uluva i nén.
Sí Oranyel serë.

13 - Elvish Tense Table 2

Elvish Tense Table!

Verb
Meaning
Future
Aorist

Orta
to rise
Ortuva
Orta
Lala
to laugh
Laluva
Lala
Cen
to see
Cenuva
Cenë (Ceni-)
Cenda
to read
Cenduva
Cenda
Caita
to lie
Caituva
Caita
Ser
to rest
Seruva
Serë (Seri)
Mat
to eat
Matuva
Matë (Mati-)

Ulya
to pour (t.)
Uluva
Ulya
Ulya
to pour (i.t.)
Uluva
Ulya
Tec
to write
Tecuva
Tecë (Teci-)
Hir
to find
Hiruva
Hirë (Hiri-)
Cap
to jump
Capuva
Capë (Capi)
Sil
to shine
Siluva
Silë (Sili-)
Tam
to tap
Tamuva
Tamë (Tami-)
Vil
to fly
Viluva
Vilë (Vili-)
Ora
to urge
Oruva
Ora
Hehta
to exclude
Hehtuva
Hehta
Sinta
to fade
Sintuva
Sinta
Lanta
to fall
Lantuva

Lanta
tul
to come
Tuluva
Tulë (Tuli-)
Tulta
to summon
Tultuva
Tulta
Hyar
to wound
Hyaruva
Hyarë (Hyari-)
Nir
to press
Niruva
Nirë (Niri-)
Nyar
to tell
Nyaruva
Nyarë (Nyari-)
Rer
to sow
Reruva
Rerë (Reri-)
lav
to lick/cover
Lavuva?Luva?
Lavë (Lavi-)
papa
to tremble
Papuva
Papa
pata
to 'rap tap'
Patuva
Pata
mapa
to seize
Mapuva
Mapa
quet
to say
Quetuva
Quetë (Queti-)
mel
to love

Meluva
Melë (Meli-)
harya
to have
Haruva
Harya
lala
to deny
Laluva
Lala

14 - The Perfect Tense

Perfect tense. Pronominal endings -n(yë), -l(yë), -s.

Perfect tense:

In English, this is made by adding 'have' to the beginning of a verb phrase, then usually altering the second verb. Began becomes '**have begun**.' The perfect tense thus describes an action that itself is past, but by using the perfect tense one emphasizes that this past action is somehow still directly relevant for the present moment: "Peter *has left* [and he is still gone]", "the guests *have eaten* [and they are hopefully still satiated as we speak]"

How to form it in Quenya:

Add the stem vowel to the beginning of the word, then extend the stem vowel to be long / accented, then add 'ië' to the end. The prefix seen in the perfect tense is usually referred to as the *augment*. It may also be noted that the process of "copying" or "repeating" a part of a word, like the prefixing of stem-vowels seen here, is by a linguistic term called *reduplication*. So to use as many fancy words as possible, one feature of the Quenya perfect tense is that it includes a *reduplicated stem-vowel* that is *prefixed* as an *augment*.

Tul 'to come' becomes utúlië 'have come'

Et Eärello Endorena utúlien = "Out of the Great Sea to Middle-earth *I have come*
Aragorn finds the sapling of the White Tree: **Utúvienyes!** "I have found it!" (tuvu)

- In A-stem verbs, the final 'a' drops out in favor of the 'ië'—
lala- "laugh" and **mapa**- "seize" are **alálië** "has laughed", **amápië** "has seized"
- Verbs with long stem vowels keep their long vowels, but the augment stays short.
móta- "toil" may have the perfect tense **omótië** "has toiled"
- Verbs with consonant clusters after the stem vowel do not receive long vowels.
Harna "to wound" would be **aharnië**, not ahárnië
- **-ya** endings drop out in favor of 'ië'
vanya "to go/depart" becomes **avánië** or irregular **vánië** or **auta**
- Diphthongs are not extended
taita- "prolong" or **roita**- "pursue" would probably be **ataitië**, **oroitië**
- Plurals formed in '-r' : Eldar utúlier (Elves have come)
- Verbs beginning in vowels:
 - o Put augment after prefix: enyal = enayalië (remember)
 - o Anta = a'antië (give)
 - o Ora = orórië (urge)
 - o Onot = onótië (count up)

Practice:

A: **mat-** "eat" vs. **amátië** "has eaten"

E: **cen-** "see" vs. **ecénië** "has seen"

I: **tjir-** "watch" vs. **itírië** "has watched"

O: **not-** "reckon" vs. **onótië** "has reckoned"

U: **tur-** "govern" vs. **utúrië** "has governed"

- **hanya-** "understand", perfect **ahánië** "has understood"
- **hilya-** "follow", perfect **ihílië** "has followed"
- **telya-** "finish", perfect **etélië** "has finished"
- **tulya-** "lead", perfect **utúlië** "has led"

Context: **utúlië** would be the perfect not only of **tulya-** "lead", but also of **tul-** "come". Same with the perfect **ahárië**: this form would mean "has possessed" if it is formed from **harya**, but "has sat, has been sitting" if it is the perfect of **har**

PRONOUNS

English:

α **FIRSTPERSON** (referring to oneself or one's own group): Singular *I*, as object *me*, of ownership *my* and *mine*; plural *we*, as object *us*, of ownership *our* and *ours*.

α **SECOND PERSON** (directly addressing another person or another group): Singular and plural both *you*, which is also the object form; of ownership *your* and *yours*. Archaic English also has distinct singular pronouns: *Thou*, as object *thee*, of ownership *thy* and *thine*.

α **THIRDPERSON** (referring to another person or group): Singular *he*, *she*, or *it* depending on the gender and/or nature of what is being referred to; as object *him*, *her*, or *it* (the latter being the same as the subject form), of ownership *his*, *her* (the latter happens to coincide with the object form, but there is also *hers*) and *its*. In the plural we have *they*, as object *them*, of ownership *their* and *theirs*.

In Quenya:

- First person: add 'n' or 'nyë' to the end of a verb
- Second person: add 'l' or 'lyë' to the end of a verb
- o 'llë' is the plural you (German Ihr)
- When using a subject and an object, the object comes second.
- o "I have you." = "Haryanyel(yë)."
- -Third Person: add 's' add to verb end as a subject or object.

Practice:

carin "I make, build"

nyarin "I tell"

sucin "I drink"

tulin "I come"

vilin "I fly"

lirin "I sing/chant"

rerin "I sow"

tamin "I tap"

turin "I wield"

umin "I do not"

nutin "I tie"

serin "I rest"

tucin "I draw"

tyavin "I taste"

polin "I can"

VOCABULARY

-
otso "seven"

seldo "boy" (actually Tolkien didn't provide an explicit gloss, but the word is cited in a context where he is discussing Quenya words for "child", and **seldo** seems to be a masculine form. See the entry *SEL-D* in the *Etymologies*.)

mól "thrall, slave"

an "for" (or "since, because", introducing a sentence giving a *reason*, as in "I rely on him, for he has often been of help to me".)

tul- verb "come"

lanta- verb "fall"

nurta- verb "hide" (cf. the **Nurtalë Valinórevaor** "Hiding of Valinor" referred to in the *Silmarillion*)

lerya- verb "release, (set) free, let go"

metya- verb "end" = "put an end to"

roita- verb "pursue"

laita- verb "bless, praise"

imbë preposition "between"

EXERCISES

-
A. I nér ihirië i harma.

B. I ráviamátier i hrávë.

C. I aranutultië i tári.

D. I nissieciendier i parma.

E. I úmëatári amápië i otso Naucor.

F. Etécielyëotso parmar.

G. Equétien.

H. Ecénielyes.

2. Translate into Quenya:

I. The man has come.

J. The seven Dwarves have eaten.

K. The boys have seen a lion between the trees.

L. The six Elves have pursued the seven Dwarves.

M. The Dwarf has hidden a treasure.

N. I have praised the king, for the king has released all thralls.

O. You have fallen, and I have seen it.

P. I have put an end to it [I have ended it].

Answers:

1.

A. The man has found the treasure.

- B.* The lions have eaten the flesh.
- C.* The king has summoned the queen.
- D.* The women have read the book.
- E.* The evil queen has seized the seven Dwarves.
- F.* You have written seven books.
- G.* I have spoken.
- H.* You have seen it.

2.

I. **I nér utúlië.**

J. **I otso Naucor amátier.**

K. **I seldor ecénier rá imbë ialdar.**

L. **I enquë Eldar oroitieri otso Naucor.**

M. **I Nauco unurtië harma.**

N. **Alaitien [or, alaitienyë] i aran, an iaran elérië ilyë móli.**

O. **Alantiel [or, alantielyë], ar ecénienyes.**

P. **Emétienyes.**

15 - Infinitive, Negative Verb, Active Participles

The infinitive, negative verb, and active participles

-
-

The infinitive in existing languages

This is the form in which verbs are listed: *mat* is 'to eat.' So in a sentence like 'The man loved to love bread' two different tenses of love would be used- the past first, then the infinitive. 'i nér mellë melë massa.' This allows several verbs to exist in the same sentence easily, where as in German, even with infinitives, it simply continues piling verbs to the end of a sentence. 'Der Mann habe bröt geliebet lieben.' The Elvish infinitive uses the same method as English.

How to form it in Quenya- Identical to the stem, but add an 'ë' to the end.

- A-stem vowels stay how they are.
- Never receives a plural ending

Examples:

- I Elda polë **cenë** i Nauco "the Elf can **see** the Dwarf"
- I Naucor merner **matë** "the Dwarves wanted **to eat**"
- I seldo pollë **hlarë** ilya quetta "the boy could **hear** every word"
- Polilyë **carë** ilqua "you can **do** everything"
- I nissi meruvar **tulë** "the women will want **to come**"
- I vendi merner **linda** "the maidens wanted **to sing**"
- I norsa polë **orta** i alta ondo "the giant can **lift** the big rock"
- Merin **cenda** i parma "I want **to read** the book"

The Negative Verb The verb 'to be' is notoriously odd in all languages. Tolkien succeeded in doing the same by creating a negative verb 'umë' – 'to not be' or 'to not do.'

umin (aorist 1st person) – I am not/do not

úmë (past tense) - was not/ did not

umir (plural aorist) - are not/ did not

úmer (plural past) – were not/ did not

úva (future) – will not be / will not do

úma (present tense) is not/does not

úvar (future plural) –will not be/will not do

umar (present plural) are not /does not

Using the negative verb with infinitives:

I Elda úmëmerë cenë i Nauco. "The Elf did not want to see the Dwarf."

I Nauco úvamë cenda i parma. "The Dwarf will not want to read the book."

Active Participles:

A participle is when a verb takes the form of an adjective. An active participle is also called a present participle. Usually English active participles end in –ing. For example, a person who loves Elves might be

described as a person loving Elves.

Watch the verb 'to kill':

- I will kill you. (verb)
- The killing must stop. (noun)
- It was a killing experience. (adjective) ***!!

How to form it in Quenya:

- Add -la to the end of the verb stem
- Lengthen the stem vowel if a consonant cluster doesn't follow
- These do not agree in number (don't change when plural)

--The possible aorist participle.

Rather than *ítala*, Tolkien lists a participle form of 'glittering' as *ítala*, from the aorist of 'it,' which is 'iti-'. This may be considered an aorist participle, so that there are different forms for "doing" (habitually or momentarily) and "doing" (continuously): perhaps something like **carila** and **cárala**, respectively (from the verb **car-** "to do"). This is speculation from the author of ardalambion.com.

So what is the active participle of the verb 'lala'- 'to laugh'? --- *lálala*!

VOCABULARY

tolto "eight"

pol- "to be (physically) able to", normally translated "can"

um- negative verb "not to do" or "not to be", past tense **úmë**, future tense **úva**

mer- "to wish, want"

hlar- "to hear" (related to Sindarin *lhaw* as in *Amon Lhaw*, the Hill of Hearing mentioned in LotR)

verya- "to dare" (from the same root as the Sindarin name *Beren*, meaning bold or daring one)

lelya- "to go, proceed, travel", past tense **lendë**, perfect **[e]lendië**

pusta- "to stop"

ruhta- "to terrify, to scare" (ultimately related to **Urco** or **Orco**, the Quenya words for "bogey, Orc")

coa "house" (building only, not "house" = "family")

mir preposition "into"

ter preposition "through" (a longer variant **terë** also exists, but I have used **ter** in the exercises below)

EXERCISES Translate into English:

A. Síla Isil ortëaor Ambar.

B. I cápala Nauco lantanë ter i talan.

C. Polin hlarë lindala vendë.

D. Minë nér túrala minë macil úva ruhta i toltotaurë ohtari.

E. Mól mápala taura nér umë saila.

F. I tolto rávi caitala nu i aldar ortaner, an irávi merner matë i neri.

G. Rá umë polë pusta matë hrávë.

H. I ruhtala ohtar pustanë tirë i lië, an i ohtarúmë saila.

Translate into Quenya:

I. The man pursuing the Dwarf is a warrior.

J. The king wanted to go.

K. The maiden did not dare to see the queen.

L. The laughing women went into the house.

M. The eight traveling Dwarves can find many treasures.

N. You did not praise the Elf, you do not praise the Man [**Atan**], and you will not praise the Dwarf.

O. I want to travel through the world and free all peoples.

P. A daring man went through the gate and into the mountain.

16 - Adverbs, 3rd Person, Past Participles

Adverbs. Pronominal endings *-ntë* and *-t*. Infinitives with object pronouns. Past tense of intransitive verbs in *-ya*. Passive participles.

-
-

Adverbs:

In English: Usually word ending in *-ly*. When, where and how the verbal action occurs. Basic adverbs give more description but are not derived from adjectives, like swiftly. Now and here are basic. (They left *swiftly*, She is singing *now*, They are *here*.)

How to form it in **Quenya**:

- Add *-vë* to the end of the adjective (and a “long” *andavë* “long, for long, longly”)
- Endings in *-ë* become *-ivë* instead, the *ë* dropping.
- Adjectives in ‘*-in*’ have four possible solutions (melin)
 - o Melinvë
 - o Melimbë (*-vë* descends from Primitive Quenya *-be*)
 - o Melinavë (*-in* is shortened from *-ina*)
 - o Find a synonym! (melda, moina)

Some basic Quenya adverbs: **Sí** (now), **aqua** (completely, fully), **ando** (long [another form!]), **voro** (continually), **ento** (next), **rato** (soon), *oi* (ever), *háya* (far off)

Other strange instances:

- ‘Oialë’ is derived from a noun instead (OY -everlastingage)
- ‘Tennoio’ (literally ‘up to an endless period’ / ‘forever’) Phrases with prepositions often have an adverbial function already, and adverbs may come from them.

-

Pronominal Endings *-nte* and *-t*:

-

- *-nte* ‘they’
- *-t* ‘them’ (used as an object for when it’s at the end of the word- see ex. 3)

Examples:

- Matintë apsa “They eat meat.”
- Matintes “They eat it”
- Matuvantet “They will eat them”

Translate These Phrases:

- Tiruvantes
- Pustantë
- Pustëantë

- Pustanentë
- Pustuvantë
- Upustientë
- Tirnenyet
- Melilyet
- Hiruvanyet
- Pustanentet

Infinitives With Object Pronouns:

Infinitives like *cenë* 'to see' become 'cenita-' before taking an ending.

i mól veryanë cenë i aran ar i tári, "the thrall dared to see the king and the queen".

Changing the above sentence to have an 'object pronoun' – 'them'- yields: "the thrall dared to see them" = **i mól veryanë cenitat** It is uncertain whether or not a-stem verbs take the –ta- middle, but we can avoid it by using the independent pronoun 'te' (them). **mernelyë mapa te** instead of the uncertain construction **mernelyë mapatat**

Transitive and Intransitive Verbs:

- A verb is *transitive* if it can have an object
- The verb 'to fall' is *intransitive*. The subject can fall, but the subject cannot fall something else.
- Some verbs form pairs where one is transitive and the other intransitive: rise/raise, lay/lie.
- Some verbs can act both ways: sink, Elvish 'orta'(rise/raise)

Past Tense of Intransitive Verbs in –ya

The –ya ending drops Transitive verbs keep the –ya ending

Farya (to suffice) becomes farnë Vanya (to go, depart, disappear) becomes vannë or irregular auta

Lelya (comes from ledya>led->lednê>lendê) lendë Ulya (intransitive) becomes ullë, transitive is ulyanë

Passive Participles

Verbs acting as adjectives These are adjectives that describe the subject based on an earlier action.

The Dwarf hid the treasure; therefore, the treasure was *hidden*

How to form it in Quenya:

- Add –na to the end if it's legal
- Add –ina if it ends in 'a' or if the –na ending makes an illegal cluster
- o Primary verbs in 'c,' 'p,' and 't' also take –ina
- o These also have extended stem vowels.
- For –l endings mel>melna>melda (Melda is already glossed as 'beloved'!)
- Most likely agree in number (**change final a to 'ë'**)

Exceptions

- Aistaina? Rather than repeating 'ai,' Tolkien used Aistana (blessed)
- –ya endings also take on the –ina ending, though they often have adjectives with basically the same meaning. The passive participle only shows that the nature of the adjective on the subject is inflicted.

Examples:

- **Nótina** (counted)
- **Peryaina** (halved)
- **Yeryaina** (worn out)
- **Tópina** (covered)
- **Hastaina** (marred)
- **Anta** (given)
- **Merna** (wanted, like in a wanted poster)

VOCABULARY

nertë "nine"

núra "deep"

anwa "real, actual, true"

nulda "secret"

telda "final" (adjective derived from the same root as the name of the *Teleri*, the Third Clan of the Eldar, so called because they were always the *lastor* hindmost during the March from Cuiviénen – far behind the Vanyar and the Noldor, who were more eager to reach the Blessed Realm)

linta "swift" (pl. **lintë** in *Namárië*, which poem refers to **lintëyuldar** = "swift draughts")

hosta- "to assemble, gather"

nórë "land" (a land associated with a particular people, WJ:413)

lambë "tongue = language" (not "tongue" as a body part)

car- "to make, to do"

farya- "to suffice, to be enough", pa.t. **farnë** (NOT **faryanë** – because the verb is intransitive?)

ve preposition "as, like"

EXERCISES

Translate into English:

A. **Melinyet núravë.**

B. **Lindantë vanyavë, ve Eldar lindar.**

C. **I nurtaina harma úva hirna [or, hírina].**

D. **Merintë hiritas lintavë.**

E. **Haryalyë atta parmar, ar teldavë ecendielyet.**

F. **Anwavë ecénien Elda.**

G. **Ilyë nertë andor nar tirnë [or, tírinë].**

H. **Úmentë merë caritas, an cenitas farnë.**

Translate into Quenya:

I. They have traveled [/gone] secretly through the land.

J. The assembled Elves wanted to see it.

K. Written language is not like spoken language.

L. Five ships were not enough [/did not suffice]; nine sufficed.

M. I will really stop doing it [/truly cease to do it].

N. They swiftly gathered the nine terrified Dwarves.

O. Finally you will see them as you have wanted to see them.

P. They don't want to hear it.

1.

A. I love them deeply.

B. They sing beautifully, like (the) Elves sing.

C. The hidden treasure will not be found. (Possibly, the Quenya wording **úva hirna** / **úvahírina** would suggest: "...will not have been found", referring to some future situation.)

D. They want to find it swiftly.

E. You have two books, and finally you have read them.

F. I have really [/truly/actually] seen an Elf.

G. All nine gates are watched.

H. They did not want to do it, for seeing it was enough [/sufficed].

2.

I. **Elendientë nuldavë ter i nórë.** (Surely you understood that "have gone" was to be rendered by the perfect form of the verb **lelya-**, or did you start messing with **lelyaina** or something, desperate to bring in a separate word for "gone"? No need...)

J. **I hostainë Eldar merner cenitas.**

K. **Técina lambë umë ve quéтина lambë.**

L. **Lempë ciryar úmer farya; nertë farner.**

M. **Anwavë pustuvan** [or, **pustuvanyë**] **caritas.**

N. **Lintavë hostanentë i nertë ruhtainë Naucor.**

O. **Teldavë cenuvalyet ve emériel(yë) cenitat.**

P. **Umintë merë hlaritas.**

The word order is certainly somewhat flexible; the adverbs in *M*, *N*, and *O* could probably also follow the verb (e.g. **hostanentë lintavë** for "they swiftly gathered"). Cf. my own key to *I*. But when an object or an infinitive is to follow, I find it slightly awkward to separate it from the finite verb by inserting an adverb between them. Of course, you can always have the adverb at the *end* of the sentence as well.

17 - The Genitive Case

Cases help determine the relationship between the words in a sentence.

The Genitive Case

In English: There are only two cases in English, nominative and genitive. In the Nominative case, which we have already learned, the nouns or subjects in a sentence remain unchanged. In the genitive case, it is usually formed by adding a 's to the end of the subject to show **ownership**. "The woman's horse"

It can also be used to show that the object is the source of the subject, "the architect's drawing."

In Quenya: The described English case in Elvish is split between ownership and origination. The genitive case covers only **origination**, and possession will be covered in the next lesson. This would be more like the English use of the preposition 'of'

"Wings of trees" becomes "**rámaraldaron**" (leaves ^.^)

It can also show the relationship of place, as in Britain's finest artists.

Calaciryó mírifor

"Calaciryá's jewels = the jewels of Calaciryá"

It also shows family relation or between the ruler and the ruled
beautiful children"

vanimálion nostari, "parents of

Indis i-Ciryamo "the Mariner's Wife"

Elwë, Aran Sindaron "Elwë [= Thingol], King of the Sindar [Grey-elves]"

The Genitive can also cover the abstract "of" / "about" relation
the Noldorin Kings"

Lairi Noldoron Arani "Poems about

How to form it:

Add '-o' to the end of the subject noun Words already ending in 'o' will remain so. -a stems drop the 'a' and then add '-o'

Plurals are made by adding the ending '-on' instead **Quenta Silmarillion**, "The History of the Silmarils"

Duals are made by adding the ending '-to' instead Nouns with duals in 'u' either add '-uo' or more likely '-uto.' It was not specified.

Think about how the Genitive works in these examples:

Rávion

i calaAlduo

Varda...ortanëmáryat Oiolossëo, "Varda...raised her hands from Oiolossë"

Vardotellumar "Varda's domes" (domes originating from Varda)

EärendilElenion Ancalima "Eärendil brightest of stars" (among the stars)

Hínillúvataro "Children of Ilúvatar"

AmillëEruva lissëo "Mother of divine grace"

AranLestanórëo "King of Doriath"

Heru iCormaron "Lord of the Rings"

nyarneni Eldo "I told about the Elf"

i Naucorquetir altë harmaron"the Dwarves speak of great treasures"

When something is "full of" something- you also use the genitive case, as in this:

Tolkien rendered the phrase "full of grace" as **quanta Eruanno** "full of water" can be rendered **quanta neno**

It is also likely that the Genitive can act as the predicate of a sentence:

"the ring is Sauron's" could be rendered **i corma ná Saurondo**

Word order:

§ As seen by the above examples, most of the words receiving the genitive end go after the thing that they are relating to / possess. They usually only come first for poetic flow, so it is all right to put them that way.

Nórëo alcar "(the) land's glory"

§ A Quenya noun connecting with a following genitive is always determined, whether or not the article **i** is used.

You can say **I lambë Quendion** "the language of the Elves" or **i lambë Quendion**

§ The article can also appear in the middle of the phrase

Indis i-Ciryamo does mean "the Mariner's Wife"

A few prepositions govern the genitive case. It is said that **ú** "without" is normally followed by genitive, Tolkien mentioning the example **ú calo** "without light." This **calo** would seem to be the genitive form of a noun **cala** "light."

VOCABULARY

cainen "ten"

laman (lamn-) "animal" (the stem-form may also simply be **laman-**, but we will use **lamn-** here)

yulma "cup"

limpë "wine" (within Tolkien's mythos, **limpë** was some special drink of the Elves or of the Valar – but in the *Etymologies*, entry *LIP*, Tolkien also provided the parenthetical gloss "wine", and we will use the word in that sense here)

rassë "horn" ("especially on living animal, but also applied to mountains" – Etym., entry *RAS*)

toron (torn-) "brother"

Menel "the firmament, sky, heaven, the heavens" (but the Quenya word is singular. It is apparently not used in a religious sense, but refers to the physical heavens only. Cf. **Meneltarma** "Pillar of Heaven" as the name of the central mountain in Númenor. The word **Menel** is capitalized and apparently treated as a proper name, hence not requiring any article.)

ulya- "to pour" (transitive past tense **ulyanë**, intransitive **ullë**)

sírë "river"

cilya "cleft, gorge" (also **ciryä**, as in **Calaciryä** "Pass of Light" or "Light-cleft", which name actually appears as **Calacilya** in some texts – but since **ciryä** also means "ship", we will use **cilya** here)

anto "mouth" (possibly representing earlier *amatô*, *amto*; if so it likely comes from the same root as the verb **mat-** "to eat")

ú preposition "without" (normally followed by genitive)

EXERCISES

1. Translate into English:

- A. Hirnentë i firin ohtaro macil.
- B. Menelo eleni sílar.
- C. Tirnen i nisso hendu.
- D. Cenuvantë Aran Atanion ar ilyënórion.
- E. Coa ú talamion umë anwa coa.
- F. I tário úmië torni merir turëAmbaro lier.
- G. I rassi i lamnion nar altë.
- H. I cainen rávi lintavë manter i roccohrávë.

2. Translate into Quenya:

- I. The birds of heaven will see ten warriors between the great rivers.
- J. The king's thrall poured wine into the biggest of the cups. ("*Biggest, greatest*" = **analta**. *Timeto repeat Lesson Five, where we discussed superlatives?*)
- K. The Elf's brother gathered (together) the ten books about stars.
- L. The great river of the land poured into a gorge.
- M. A man without a mouth cannot speak.
- N. I have seen the greatest of all mountains under the sky.
- O. I want to find a land without great animals like lions.
- P. You will see an animal without horns (*dual: a couple of horns*)

Answers!

1.

- A. They found the dead warrior's sword. (*Genitive of former possessor.*)
- B. The stars of heaven are shining. (*Genitive of location: the stars are in heaven.*)
- C. I watched the woman's eyes (*dual*). (*Partitive genitive: the woman's eyes are physically part of her.*)
- D. They shall see the King of Men and (of) all lands. (*Genitive describing the relationship between a ruler and the ruled – people or territory.*)
- E. A house without floors is not a real house. (*The preposition ú "without" is followed by genitive, hence ú talamion in Quenya.*)
- F. The queen's evil brothers want to rule the peoples of the world. (**Itáριο úmië torni**: *genitive of family relationship. Ambaro lier*: *genitive of location – the peoples are in the world.*)
- G. The horns of the animals are big. (*Partitive genitive, as in Exercise C above.*)
- H. The ten lions quickly ate the flesh of the horse. (**I rocco hrávë** "the horse's flesh" – *genitive of source, the flesh coming from the horse. Notice that the noun rocco "horse" is unchanged in the genitive singular, since it ends in -o already.*)

2.

- I. **Menelo aiwi** [or, (i) **aiwi Menelo**] **cenuvar cainen ohtari imbë ialtë síri**. (**Menelo aiwi** "the birds of heaven" – *genitive of location.*)
- J. **Iarano mól** [or, (i) **mól i arano**] **ulyanë limpë mir (i) analta i yulmaron** [or, **mir i yulmaron analta**]. (**Iarano mól** "the king's thrall" – *genitive denoting the relationship between the ruler and the ruled, or various relationships between people in general. Notice ulyanë as the past tense "poured" in the transitive sense. [I] analta i yulmaron or i yulmaron analta*: "the biggest of the cups", *partitive genitive – the biggest cup being one of all the cups mentioned. Cf. Tolkien's elenionancalma "brightest of [among]*

stars".)

K. **IEldo toron** [or, (i) **toron i Eldo**] **hostanë (i)cainen parmar elenion**. (***IEldo toron** "the Elf's brother": genitive of family relationship. Notice that when the genitive ending -o is added to a noun like ending in -a, like **Elda**, it displaces this final vowel. (I)**cainen parmar elenion** "the ten books about stars": the genitive being used in the sense "about, concerning". Perhaps the word order **elenioncainen parmar** is also possible, but it feels less natural.*)

L. **(I)alta sîrë i nórëo** [or, **i nórëo alta sîrë**] **ullë mir cilya**. (*[I]**alta sîrë i nórëo** "the great river of the land" – genitive of location. Notice **ullë** as the past tense "poured" in the intransitive sense; contrast transitive **ulyanë** in Exercise J above.*)

M. **Nérú anto umë polë quetë**. (*The preposition **ú** is followed by genitive, but here it the genitive ending is "invisible", since the noun **anto** "mouth" ends in -o already.*)

N. **Ecénien(i) analta ilyë orontion nu Menel**. (*Partitive genitive; cf. Exercise J above.*)

O. **Merinhirë nórë ú altë lamnion ve rávi**. (*The preposition **ú** is followed by genitive; hence **lamnion** here.*)

P. **Cenuval(yë)laman ú rasseto**. (*Genitive after **ú**; **rasseto** dual genitive of **rassë** "horn". If dual forms denoting body-parts always take the ending -u – cf. Tolkien's **peu** "pair of lips" or **hendu** "two eyes" – perhaps the dual of **rassë** should rather be **rassu**, the genitive of which is perhaps **rassuo**. Tolkien's intentions cannot be reconstructed with full certainty. Unlike lips or eyes, horns do not necessarily come in pairs, so it is unclear whether a fossilized form like **rassu** rather than **rasset** is justifiable.*)

18 - Cheat Sheet 5-8

Rules:

The Future Tense: add '-uva' to the end of the verb. A-stems drop. Plurals in '-r'

The Aorist Tense: (continuing action or natural truth) A-stems receive no end. For primary verbs, the ending '-i-' is added but is changed to '-e' if no ending is to be added.

The Perfect Tense: Add the stem vowel to the beginning of the verb. Extend the stem vowel. Add the ending '-ië.' A-stems drop. Mat becomes amátië.

Infinitive: A-stems stay the same as root. Primary verbs add an '-ë' to the end. (not plural) When taking Object pronouns, the ending changes to '-ita.'

Negative Verb: not to do, not to be

umin (aorist 1st person) – I am not/ do not

úmë (past tense) - was not/ did not

umir (plural aorist) - are not/ did not

úmer (plural past) – were not/ did not

úva (future) – will not be / will not do

úma (present tense) is not/ does not

úvar (future plural) – will not be/ will not do

umar (present plural) are not / does not

Pronouns: 1st person = '-n(yë)' 2nd = 'l(yë)' 3rd = 'ntë' (they) '-t' (them) '-s' (it)

Active Participle: Lengthen stem vowel, add '-la.' (not plural)

Passive Participle: Extend stem-vowel, add '-na' if it's not illegal. Add '-ina' if it ends in a, c, p, or t

Adverbs: add '-vë.' E endings become '-ivë.'

Intransitive verbs in -ya: in the past tense, the 'ya' drops

Vocabulary:

enquë "six"

ilya, noun/adjective "all, every"

rimba, adjective "numerous", here used for "many"

Atan "Man" (Mortal Man)

ohtar "warrior"

rá(ráv-) "lion"

Ambar"the world"
hrávë"flesh"
macil"sword"
fir-,verb "die, expire"
tur-, verb "govern, control,wield"
or,preposition "over, above"

otso"seven"
seldo"boy"
mól"thrall, slave"
an"for" ("since, because")
tul- verb "come"
lanta- verb "fall"
nurta- verb "hide"
lerya- verb "release, (set) free,let go"
metya- verb "end" = "putan end to"
roita- verb "pursue"
laita- verb "bless, praise"
imbëpreposition "between"

tolto "eight"
pol- "to be(physically) able to", normally translated "can"
um-negative verb "not to do" or "not to be", past tense úmë, future tense úva
mer- "to wish,want"
hlar- "to hear"
verya- "to dare"
lelya- "to go, proceed,travel", past tense lendë, perfect [e]lendië
pusta- "to stop"
ruhta- "to terrify, toscare
coa "house" (building only)
mir preposition "into"
ter preposition "through" (also terë)

nerhtë"nine"
núra"deep"
anwa"real, actual, true"
nulda"secret"
telda"final"
linta"swift"
nórë"land" (a land associated witha particular people)
lambë"tongue = language" (not bodypart)
car- "to make, todo"
farya- "to suffice, to be enough", pa.t.**farnë** (NOT ****faryanë**)
vepreposition "as, like"