

THE NEWLYN CORNISH LANGUAGE CLASS

Weekly lessons by Zoom

For your diary: Monday **3 May** 2021, 19:30; Monday **10 May** 2021; Monday **17 May** 2021; Monday **24 May** 2021; further lessons to be announced. For each lesson the Zoom joining details will be emailed several days beforehand.

MONDAY 3 MAY 19:30

Lesson plan 19:30 Welcome, 19:40 Higher numerals and telling the time, 20:00 Simple story, 20:30 Chat (in English, with a little Cornish thrown in) about Cornish language and culture

First, note you can use Lesson 8 of the coursebook for your own revision.

On pages 42-43 of the coursebook we find the numerals 11 to 20. Just like the numerals 1-10 these are followed by a singular noun. None of them causes any mutation.

Modern Cornish makes most numerals higher than 19 according to a decimal system. For example:

20	dew dheg (though ugans is just as common)
31	try deg onen
42	peswar deg dew
53	pymp deg try
64	whe deg peswar
75	seyth deg pymp
86	eth deg whegh
97	naw deg seyth

Each decimal numeral is invariable. It is followed by preposition **a²** 'of' and a plural noun. Here are some plurals to practise with: **edhnaw** 'birds', **hanavow** 'cups', **kellyl** 'knives', **rosow** 'wheels', **tycky Duwas** 'butterflies', **rostellow** 'skateboards', **loyow** 'spoons', **logas** 'mice', **fergh** 'forks', **eskyjyow** 'shoes'.

A few higher numerals retain their traditional form, and are followed either by a singular noun or by **a²** and a plural noun. 50 is commonly **hanter-cans**. 100 is **cans**. 200 is **dew cans**. 300 is **try cans** or **tryhans**. 1,000 is **mil**. A noun directly after **mil** must be changed to Second State.

TELLING THE TIME (PART 1)

Cornish uses a numeral + the feminine noun **eur** to say time o'clock. So we get **udn eur**, **dyw eur**, **teyr eur**, **peder eur**, **pymp eur**, **whegh eur**, **seyth eur**, **eth eur**, **naw eur**, **deg eur**, **udnek eur**, **dêwdhek eur**.

'What time is it?' is **py eur yw?** After a time o'clock we can optionally add **myttyn** 'in the morning', **dohajëdh** 'in the afternoon', **gordhuwher** 'in the evening', **i'n nos** 'at night'.

Note that **myttyn** is only appropriate for the relatively *early* morning: say, before ten o'clock. So for ten o'clock, eleven o'clock and twelve o'clock we naturally say **'i'n jëdh'** when we need to make clear we do not mean 'at night'. For 'midday' we can optionally say **hanter-dëdh**, and for 'midnight' we may say **hanter-nos**.

SIMPLE STORY

In preparation for the lesson, check the grammar above, then read the story quietly until you think you've got the hang of it. Use the Vocabulary at the back of the coursebook to look up words. Read the story aloud as well, to practise your pronunciation.

Tôny yw descador. I'n degolyow scol yma ev ha coweth Harry ow checkya oll an taclow in rom class Tôny.

- TÔNY Py lies copy a *Jane Eyre* eus wâr an estyllen-na?
HARRY Try deg pypm.
TÔNY Try deg pypm? A nyns eus peswar deg?
HARRY Nâ. Yma try deg pypm a gopioiw. Eus cudyn?
TÔNY Cudyn vëth. Pypm copy yw gyllys wâr stray, dell hevel.
HARRY Hag yma kysten obma a bluednow plobm. Comptya oll an pluednow?
TÔNY Ogh nâ. Nyns eus otham a hedna. Ot obma eth pad paper A4 i'n trog tedna. Eus paper i'n amary inwedh?
HARRY Eâ. I'n amary yma packet a baper rag an pryntyor, pypm cans folen.
TÔNY My a vydn erhy moy. Nyns yw lowr ma's dhe dhyw seythen.
HARRY (*sqwith a'n lavur*) Py eur yw lebmyn?
TÔNY Udnek eur.
HARRY Scon my a vydn dyberth. Rag metya gans cothman dêwdhek eur in cres an dre.
TÔNY Soweth! Whath nyns yw an ober gorfednys m'ân.
HARRY Ny a yll pêsyâ avorow martesen.
TÔNY (*ow c'owssel in lev isel*) My a wra pêsyâ hedhyw heb gweres ...

VOCABULARY NOT IN THE COURSEBOOK OR THE PREVIOUS WORKSHEETS

checkya *v* check

copy *m* *copioiw* copy

cudyn *m* snag, problem **cudyn vëth** *phr* no problem

gyllys wâr stray *phr* missing (literally, 'gone on stray')

dell hevel *phr* apparently (literally, 'as it seems')

comptya *v* count

otham *m* need

amary *m* cupboard

packet *m* packet

pryntyor *m* printer

folen *f* sheet, page

moy *quant* more

marnas / ma's *prep* except **nyns ... ma's** is a common way of saying 'only'

scon *adv* soon

dyberth *v* separate, depart, leave

in cres *prep* in the middle of

soweth *interj* what a pity, oh dear

gorfedna *v* finish

lev *m* voice

isel *adj* low

gweres *m* help