

THE NEWLYN CORNISH LANGUAGE CLASS

Weekly lessons by Zoom

This is the last lesson of this academic year. Here are two dates for your diary.

Complete beginners: first on-line lesson of next academic year **6 September**, 19:30

Intermediate beginners: first on-line lesson **7 September** 2021, 19:30

For each lesson the Zoom joining details will be emailed several days beforehand.

MONDAY 28 JUNE 19:30

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

To give a command to a single person with whom we are on ‘ty’ terms, use **gwra** + verb-noun. For a command to more than one person, or to a single person you address as ‘why’, use **gwrewgh** + verb-noun.

For example:

gwra fystena!	hurry!
gwrewgh ponya!	run!

The verb-noun may have a direct object in the usual way. So we might say **gwra prena dehen rew!** ‘buy an ice cream!’ or **gwrewgh aga gwertha!** ‘sell them!’

Another way of giving a command is to use the ‘imperative mood’ of the verb. For commands on ‘ty’ terms this is the bare stem of the verb. For commands on ‘why’ terms it is identical to the why-form of the inflected present-future tense. These forms are little used outside literary writing, except for a few common ones. Here are those you are most likely to encounter (including several irregular ones):

bëdh! bedhowgh!	be!
kê! kewgh / ewgh!	go!
deus! dewgh!	come!
gas! gesowgh!	let!
<i>e.g. in phrase gas ny dhe weles!</i>	<i>e.g. let's see!</i>
ro / roy! rewgh!	give!
dro / doroy! drewgh!	bring!
kebmer! kemerowgh!	take!
tan! tanowgh!	take!
sav! sevowgh!	stop!
mir! merowgh!	look!
gorta! gortowgh!	wait!
clôw!	listen! (literally, ‘hear!’)
<i>(why-form not common)</i>	

A fixed phrase is **gav dhybm!** ‘excuse me!’ or ‘I’m sorry!’ (literally, ‘forgive to me’) said to someone whom you would address as ‘ty’.

Finally, the old form **bedhens** ‘let it / them be’ occurs in fixed phrases: *e.g. bedhens indelha* ‘so be it’ ('let it be thus'), **bedhens govenek** ‘I hope so’ ('let there be hope').

SIMPLE STORY

In our story we shall also find out how to give **negative commands**.

Tôny yw parys, ogasty, in gordhuwher an performyans a'n gwary *Hunros in Nos Golowan*.

- TÔNY: Bottom, kebmer dha bedn asen ha gwra y witha yn saw.
BOTTOM: Titania, sav! Dha askel êth plegys unweyth arta.
TITANIA: Pandr'yw hedna dhyso? Na wra mellya pùb termyn!
TÔNY: A Jûlya, tan an folenygow-ma. Towlen an performyans yns y. Ro udn folen dhe bùb teylu i'n gwaryjy.
JÛLYA: Re boos yns y oll warbarth. A allama don hanter only?
TÔNY: Dâ lowr. Kê ha don hanter. Ha deus arta rag cafos an hanter aral.
BOTTOM: Me a yll don an hanter aral.
TÔNY: Gorta pols! Na vëdh fol. Ty yw gwarior. Res yw dhis remainya obma. A Myhal, dro an taclow-na ha'ga gorra in cres an waryva. Ymowns y ow longya dhe'n kensa golok.
MYHAL: Yw prës egery an dasarow ha dallath checkya an tòknys?
TÔNY: A verr spës. Pymthek mynysen whath. Ha gwra gwysca dha jerkyn kyns metya gans kerens. Ha composa dha golm codna mar pleg.
PENDHESCADOR: (*ow tos*) Yw pùutra parys, a bobel wheg? Prowt yw an scol a'gas ober dywysyk. Màl yw genef gweles performyans spladn. (*Hag ow mos*)
TÔNY: Na wra wherthyn, Bottom. Ny allama spia in dadn dha bedn asen. Mès clôwes me a yll byttele. Gwrewgh performyans spladn, why oll, ha prowt a vedhaf vy, ha'gas kerens heb mar, saw moyha prowt a vedhowgh agas honen.

VOCABULARY NOT IN THE COURSEBOOK OR PREVIOUS WORKSHEETS

ogasty <i>adv</i> almost	a verr spës <i>phr</i> shortly, soon
pandra <i>pron</i> what	jerkyn <i>m</i> jacket
mellya <i>v</i> interfere	colm codna <i>m</i> tie (for neck)
Jûlya <i>personal name</i> Julia	pendhescador <i>m</i> head teacher
folednyk <i>f</i> folenygw leaflet	pobel <i>f</i> people
towlén <i>f</i> programme	wheg <i>adj</i> sweet; dear
teylu <i>m</i> family	prowt <i>adj</i> proud
gwaryjy <i>m</i> theatre	dywysyk <i>adj</i> diligent, keen
pols <i>m</i> pulse; moment	màl yw genef <i>phr</i> I'm eager for, I'm looking forward to
fol <i>adj</i> silly	spladn <i>adj</i> splendid
gwarior <i>m</i> player; actor	spia <i>v</i> catch sight of (clipped form of aspia with same meaning)
remainya <i>v</i> remain	heb mar <i>phr</i> certainly, of course (literally, 'without an if')
Myhal <i>personal name</i> Michael	moyha <i>adv</i> most
gwaryva <i>f</i> stage	honen <i>pron</i> self
longya <i>v</i> belong	
egery <i>v</i> open	
tòkyn <i>m</i> tòknys ticket	