

Past tense of Gwil, Mydnas and Gallos

We have previously looked at the above mentioned “helper” verbs in the present tense, it is now time to look at the past tense.

In Kernowek there are two forms of past tense:

Preterite – Past completed

Imperfect – Past continuous

Below are the paradigms for the verbs in both preterite and imperfect.

Preterite

Gwil

Gwrug / Gwrugaf vy – I did

Gwrussys ta / Gwrusta – You did

Gwrug ev – he did

Gwrug hy – she did

Gwrussyn ny – We did

Gwrussowgh why – You did

Gwrussons y – They did

Mydnas

Mydnys vy - I wished

Mynsys ta – You wished / wanted

Mydnas ev – He wished / wanted

Mydnas hy – She wished / wanted

Mynsyn ny – We wished / wanted

Mynsowgh why – You wished / wanted

Mynsons y – They wished / wanted

Gallos

There is no attested preterite paradigm for Gallos

Imperfect

Gwil

Gwren vy – I did

Gwres ta – You did

Gwre ev – He did

Gwre hy – She did

Gwren ny – We did

Gwrewgh why – You did

Gwrêns y – They did

Mydnas

Mydnen vy – I wished / wanted

Mydnes ta – You wished / wanted

Mydna ev – He wished / wanted

Mydna hy – She wished / wanted

Mydnen ny – We wished / wanted

Mydnewgh why – You wished / wanted

Mydens y – They wished / wanted

Gallos

Gyllyn vy – I could

Gyllys ta – You could

Gylly ev – He could

Gyllyn ny – We could

Gyllewgh why – You could

Gyllens y – They could

Question Form

As is normal in Kernowek to add the question form you place the “a” particle before the verb, which creates a second mutation e.g.

A wrugaf vy? – Did I?

A vydnen vy? – Did I want/ wish

A yllyn vy? – Could I?

Obviously there is a lot here to commit to memory so initially I suggest you try to learn the preterite version of “Gwil” and impersonal versions of “Mydnas & Gallos”

Remember when using the verbs with personal pronouns the third person singular form is used on all occasions;

Me a wrug – I did

Te a vydna – You wished / wanted

Ev a ylly – He could

Hy a wrug – She did

Ny a vydnas – You wished / wanted

Why a ylly – You could

Y a wrussions – They did

You can also add “na” to make a negative statement;

Me na wrug – I didn’t

Te na vydnas – You did not want

Ev na ylly – He couldn’t

Examplys dhe trelya;

Me a wrug mos dhe'n scol-na rag dyw vledhen

.....

A vydnes ta desky Kernowek

.....

Gyllens y gweles an gorhal de

.....

A wrussowgh why cana in eglos seythen dewetha

.....

Mydna ev dhethy pedn bloodh lowen pub bledhen

.....

A ylly hy marhogeth dewros kyns

.....

Te a wrug pyskessa seythen dewetha oll

.....

Gyllewgh why cōwsel Frynkek kyns an class-ma

.....

Did I read the book yesterday?

.....

Could you eat breakfast with them?

.....

We wanted to go to the beach

.....

Did you chat together before today?

.....

You could read everyday on summer holiday

.....

They could come with us before

.....

He did not want to eat the apple

.....

Did they want to row on the water yesterday

.....

Using Past Tense “Helper” Verbs with Personal Pronouns

Gwil – did / made

Mydnas – wanted? wished

Gallos – was able / could

<u>Personal Pronouns</u>	<u>Gwil (Preterite)</u>	<u>Mydnas (Preterite)</u>	<u>Gallos (Imperfect)</u>
Me (me)	Me a wrug	Me a vydnas	Me a ylly
Te (you)	Te a wrug	Te a vydnas	Te a ylly
Ev (he)	Ev a wrug	Ev a vydnas	Ev a ylly
Hy (she)	Hy a wrug	Hy a vydnas	Hy a ylly
Ny (we)	Ny a wrug	Ny a vydnas	Ny a ylly
Why (you)	Why a wrug	Why a vydnas	Why a ylly
Y (they)	Y a wrug	Y a vydnas	Y a ylly

<u>Personal Pronouns</u>	<u>Gwil (Imperfect)</u>	<u>Mydnas (Imperfect)</u>
Me (me)	Me a wre	Me a vydna
Te (you)	Te a wre	Te a vydna
Ev (he)	Ev a wre	Ev a vydna
Hy (she)	Hy a wre	Hy a vydna
Ny (we)	Ny a wre	Ny a vydna
Why (you)	Why a wre	Why a vydna
Y (they)	Y a wre	Y a vydna

Using personal pronouns and the third person singular of the helper verb will allow you to include tenses in a sentence without knowing the past tense (preterite or imperfect) for other elements of your sentence.

Examplys;

Me a wrug redya an paper nowodhow de – I read the newspaper yesterday

Me a wre marhogeth ow dewros pùb dedh in hav – I did ride my bicycle every day in summer

Me a vydnas redya an paper nowodhow de – I wanted to read the newspaper yesterday

Me a vydna marhogeth ow dewros pùb dedh in hav – I wished to ride my bicycle every day in summer

Me a ylly redya an paper nowodhow de – I could read the newspaper yesterday

Me a ylly marhogeth ow dewros pùb dedh in hav – I could ride my bicycle every day in summer

Below are some more verbs for you to practice using with personal pronouns and helper verbs in this way;

Debry – eat

Eva – Drink

Crambla – climb

Kerdhes – walk

Ponya – run

Golya – sail

Pyskessa – fish

Sewya – follow

Pobas – bake

Cana – sing

Drîvya – drive

Desky – learn

Screfa – write

Glanhe – clean

Metya – meet

Revya – row

Cùsca – sleep

Dyfuna – wake (up)

Gwysca – dress

Neyja – fly / swim

Wherthyn – laugh

Examplys moy;

Yth esof ve ow redya an lyver nowyth i'n lyverva – I am reading the new book in the library

Yth esen ve ow redya an lyver nowyth i'n lyverva – I was reading the new book in the library

Me a wra redya an lyver nowyth traweythyow – I do / I will read the new book sometimes

Me a wrug redya an lyver nowyth de – I (did) read the new book yesterday

Me a vydn redya an lyver nowyth yn scon- I will / I wish to read the new book soon

Me a vydna redya an lyver nowyth – I wanted to read the new book

Me a yll redya an lyver nowyth – I can read the new book

Me a ylly redya an lyver nowyth seythen dewetha – I could read the new book last week

Nyns esof ve ow redya an lyver nowyth i'n lyverva – I am not reading the new book in the library

Nyns esen ve ow redya an lyver nowyth i'n lyverva – I was not reading the new book in the library

Me na wra redya an lyver nowyth traweythyow – I do not / will not read the new book sometimes

Me na wrug redya an lyver nowyth de – I did not read the new book yesterday

Me na vydn redya an lyver nowyth – I will not / do not wish to read the new book

Me na vydna redya an lyver nowyth – I did not want to read the new book

Me na yll redya an lyver nowyth – I cannot read the new book

Me na ylly redya an lyver nowyth seythen dewetha – I could not read the new book last week

Bos (to be)

In the previous examples we have used the long form of bos (continuous actions or relating to position), if short form Bos is applicable using the same format with personal pronouns we use the following;

Me a veu ow redya an lyver rag udn eur de – I was reading the book for one hour yesterday (preterite of bos)

Me na veu ow redya an lyver de – I was not reading the book yesterday

Me a vëdh ow redya an lyver hedhyw – I will be reading the book today

Me na vëdh ow redya an lyver hedhyw – I will not be reading the book today