**ASTELL WYDN – WHITEBOARD**

**De Lun an peswora mis Hedra**

Monday the fourth of October

**Gordhuwher dâ! Lowena dhywgh!**

*We say* **dhis** *to one person,* **dhywgh** *to more than one*

***This our fifth lesson – already! So let’s expand our conversation openers to five.***

1 **Lavar** [**dhybm**] **dha hanow, me a’th pÿs.**

*We noted the rhythmic effect that is very typical of good Cornish*

2 **Pleth esta tregys?**

3 **Peur whrusta dallath desky Kernowek?**

4 **Pyw yw dha dhescador?**

5 **Fatla genes?**

**Building first sentences**

**yw** ‘is’

**hebma** ‘this [one]’ (masculine or indeterminate)

**hedna** ‘that [one]’ (masculine or indeterminate)

**hobma** ‘this [one]’ (feminine)

**hodna** ‘that [one]’ (feminine)

*Abbreviated before* **yw**

**hèm yw**, **hòm yw** ‘this is’

**hèn yw**, **hòn yw** ‘that is’

**Affirmative statements**

Word order as in English:

**Hèm yw den.**

Or ‘fronting’ – putting the most important word first:

**Den yw hebma.**

**Questions**

Word order as in English:

**Yw hebma den?**

**Affirmative replies** (in order of increasing formality)

*Using fixed word for ‘yes’*

**Eâ.**

**Eâ. Hèm yw den.**

**Eâ. Den yw hebma.**

*Using repetition of verb for ‘yes’*

**Yw.**

**Yw. Hèm yw den.**

**Yw. Den yw hebma.**

**Negative replies** (in order of increasing formality)

*Using fixed word for ‘no’*

**Nâ.**

**Nâ. Nyns yw hebma den.**

**Nâ. Den nyns yw hebma.**

*But note that fronting is much rarer (and much stronger in its emphasis) in a negative context.*

*Using repetition of verb with negative particle* **nag** *for ‘no’*

**Nag yw.**

**Nag yw. Nyns yw hebma den.**

**Nag yw. Den nyns yw hebma.**

Note that negative particle **nag** is only used before **yw** in a reply, while **nyns** is only used before **yw** in a negative statement. There is no *universal* word for ‘not’ in Cornish. For example, we say:

**Fatla genes? Heb hos re dhrog.** ‘How are you? Not too bad.’ *Literally* ‘Without being too bad.’

**Hòn yw cath, adar davas.** ‘That is a cat, not a sheep.’ *Literally* ‘That is a cat, apart from a sheep.’

**More on saying goodbye**

**Duw genes.** *Literally* God [be] with you.

**Farwèl dhis** / **genes.** *Literally* Farewell to / with you.

**Oll an gwella.** *Literally* All the best.

*This can be used in speech, and is also the commonest way of ending an email. In a text it is regularly abbreviated to* **oag**.