

ASTELL WYDN – WHITEBOARD

De Merth an êthves mis Whevrel

Tuesday the eighth of February

MORE WAYS TO SAY ‘WANT TO DO’

We already know **me a garsa gwil** ‘I want to do’ (literally, ‘I should like to do’). Now we have learned the verbal adjective, we can add two more common expressions: **me yw whensys dhe wil** (literally, ‘I am wishing to do’) and **me yw plegys dhe wil** (literally, ‘I am pleased to do’), which mean much the same thing. These can be made more emphatic by fronting the adjective: so also **whensys ov vy dhe wil** and **plegys ov vy dhe wil**.

SAYING ‘INTEND TO DO’

This is **me yw porposys dhe wil**. Or more emphatically **porposys ov vy dhe wil**.

‘PREDICATIVE’ USE OF YN

An adverb made with particle **yn** can be used to express an adjectival idea predicatively when otherwise that idea could not be expressed unambiguously.

For example

Me a wrug paintya an fos rudh could mean ‘I painted the red wall’ or ‘I painted the wall red’ – it is ambiguous, and is much more likely to be understood in the first sense than the second

Me a wrug paintya an fos yn rudh literally means ‘I painted the wall redly’, which can only be taken to mean ‘I painted the wall red’

But there is no need to resort to this device when there is no ambiguity: that is, when the adjective does *not* follow immediately after a *noun* with which it would more naturally be understood attributively than predicatively.

For example (in the context of Zoom)

Te yw desedhys omlavar, literally ‘You are set mute’, i.e. ‘You are on mute’

But sometimes the construction with **yn** is used pleonastically, so you might also hear **Te yw desedhys yn omlavar**.

EXERCISE 30

Clemens ha Lowda a wrug checkya euryow an train **yn êsy**. Yma an kyttrynyow ow mos inter Austol ha Pensans **yn fenowgh** mès **yn lent**. Yma an trainys ow viajya **yn uskys**. Ytho Lowda a wrug dôwys an train. An tremenyas esedhys ryb Lowda o codhys dhe gùsk **yn town**. Yth esa an howl ow spladna wàr an powdir **yn tobm** i’n jèdh-na. Yth esa buhas ha deveres ow pory wàr an parcow **yn cosel**.

Yth esa an dremeneyades adâl Lowda ow pory wâr hy herdhfôn **yn fysy**. Gwas an train a wrug gwertha coffy dhe Lowda **yn cuv**. An train a wrug dos dhe Bensans **yn scon**.

SAYING EVEN

‘Even’ is an word adding emphasis that crops up in different grammatical situations in English. Don’t try to *translate* it. Instead, learn how Cornish adds emphasis in its own different ways.

The Cornish equivalent of ‘even’ with a comparative is **whath** or **vêth**. The coursebook illustrates the use of **vêth**. If you use **whath**, this word usually comes *before* the comparative. If it is put after the comparative, it may be ambiguous – ‘I am still better than you’ and ‘I am better still than you’ are not the same thing, but either meaning can be understood when **whath** *follows* a comparative. On the other hand, we *cannot* put **vêth** in front, but with this word there is no ambiguity anyway. So we say **whath brâssa eglos** (or **eglos vrâssa whath**, but this one is ambiguous) or **eglos vrâssa vêth**.