

ASTELL WYDN

Whiteboard

lovinglivingcornish, dalathoryon
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De Lun 24 Hedra 2022

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Mos dhe Folen Udnek in Lyver an Cors mar pleg. An gewar.

Please go to Page Eleven in the Coursebook. The weather.

Dâ lowr.

Okay (*literally* good enough)

Geryow rag kewar:

Words for weather:

cloudys *pl* clouds, **gwyns** *m* wind, **howl** *m* sun(shine)

comolek *adj* cloudy, **gwynsak** *adj* windy, **howlek** *adj* sunny

Kewar originally meant bad weather. But nowadays it is used to refer to weather of any kind, good or bad. This parallels the sense-development of the English word 'weather'. Another bad-weather word that can now refer to weather of any kind is **awel** (original sense 'gale'). **Ebron** is a truly neutral word you can use as well – this means 'sky'. So, **an ebron yw du** 'it's gloomy weather, it's overcast'. All these weather words are feminine.

Ken geryow vas:

Other useful words:

glëb *adj* wet, damp; **sëgh** *adj* dry; **tobm** *adj* hot, warm; **yëyn** *adj* cold, cool

ha 'with; and'; **pò** 'or'; **mès** 'but'; **saw** 'but'

ha usually becomes **hag** when the next word begins with a vowel

Spellyans

Spelling

Cornish spelling is less fixed than the spelling of English.

(1) -ek, -er > -ak, -ar

We noted that the weak vowel (called 'schwa') in an unstressed final syllable ending in **k** or **r** has a tendency to be spelled **a** instead of **e**, but this varies a lot from individual to individual, or even from time to time for the same individual. So I usually spell **gwynsak** and **kewar**, whereas many spell **gwynsek** and **kewer** just as in our Coursebook. Take your pick!

(2) ë versus ÿ

We noted these are interchangeable. Some speakers, especially those in West Cornwall, always say and spell **ë**. Some, especially those *not* in West Cornwall, always say and spell **ÿ**. Some just mix them, even for the same word depending on how they are feeling! Those in West Cornwall consider **ÿ** to be a bit 'posh'. Those not in West Cornwall think **ë** sounds a bit 'down-market'.

(3) Words beginning **yê**

We noted that in West Cornwall these words are often pronounced without the initial **y**-consonant. So **yêyn** can sound like *eyn*. A few would even write it this way, but most agree we should spell the **y** even when we don't say it.

Verb 'bos'

Verb 'to be'

Amser bresent / *present tense 'is': yw*

Amser worfednek / *past tense 'was': o*

Amser dhevedhek / *future tense 'will be': vëdh*

Temygen wovydnek

Interrogative particle

We generally start a closed (yes/no) question with the interrogative particle **a**. But the particle is always omitted before **yw** and **o**.

HOW TO SAY 'yes' and 'no'

(1) For 'yes' we can always say **eâ**. For 'no' we can always say **nâ**.

(2) Alternatively, we can repeat the verb, saying **yw** or **o** or **bëdh** for 'yes'. Note how **vëdh** (which is in Second State for grammar reasons) goes back to First State **bëdh** when it is used to mean 'yes'. For 'no' using this method we put negative particle **na** in front of the verb: **nag yw** or **nag o** or **na vëdh**. Note how **na** becomes **nag** in front of **yw** and **o**.