

Lesson 50

First Declension Emotions

In English and other male-identified languages, emotions are given cursory treatment at best. If you've ever had the unfortunate experience of trying to describe an emotional state and your conversation partner (of either gender) loses interest half-way through the description of what the emotional state *is*, not to mention even discussing what to *do* with or about it, you have some inkling of how useful a more explicit way to discuss emotions could be.

First Declension Forms

The first declension of emotional states represents “happy” emotions; its various forms discuss various reasons for the emotion. The forms generally presented—as in the Vocabulary section below—are the most general forms, translated as “X for good reason(s).” This and the rest of the forms are presented here with their meanings.

- ena
for good reason(s)
- ona
for foolish reason(s)
- una
for bad reason(s)
- íina
for no reason
formerly “-ina”
- ehena
despite negative circumstances

In the early days of Láadan, the First Declension form meaning “for no reason” was given the ending “-ina.” This was ambiguous because the Second Declension (we’ll learn about the Second Declension in the very next lesson) also has a suffix “-ina.” The second generation developing Láadan disambiguated these two suffixes by changing the “for no reason” First Declension suffix to “-íina.” We will use only the revised form, but if you happen upon “-ina” forms in the First Declension, you will now be able to understand them.

First Declension Emotions

dena

friendliness

also: appreciation; liking; admiration

hithena

happiness [hi- (MINI) + thena (joy)]

also: being pleased; gladness; exhilaration; cheerfulness

seen before in Lesson 34

ihena

eagerness

also: enthusiasm; excitement

lena

trust

also: loyalty; acceptance

lolena

confidence [lo- (INT) + lena (trust)]

also: empowerment; optimism; hopefulness

mena

compassion

also: generosity

formerly irregular: *ména*, etc.

nena

contentment

also: satisfaction; fulfillment; completion

seen before in Lesson 35

ohena

respect

seen before in Lesson 34

thena

joy

also: ecstasy

seen before in Lesson 34

uhena

tenderness

also: softness; kindness; being "touched"; sympathy; warm-heartedness; intimacy; lovingness

wena

gratitude

also: appreciation

seen before in Lesson 41

formerly irregular: *wéná*, etc.

Due to accidents during the early days of new words being formed for Láadan, two of the First Declension nouns had irregular declensions. The "e" in "mena" was inadvertently given high tone; its declensions were: "ména", "móna", "múna", "mína" and "méhéna". Both vowels in "wena" were inadvertently given high tone; its forms were: "wéná", "wóná", "wúná", "wíná" and "wéhená". The second generation developing Láadan has regularized them; we will not be using the irregular forms, but it would be good to be able to recognize them if you happen across them.

The additional English emotion-words listed after "also:" above may be rendered by Degree Markers (as in "ecstasy," which is generally considered an extreme or extraordinary degree of joy: "thenahul" or "thenaháalish"). Then again, your perception of where an emotion that you're feeling or discussing aligns may be different than the above; feel free to use the emotion base-word that feels right to you and add a Degree Marker as needed to express what you're feeling.

An event or situation that *causes* an emotional response ought to be rendered in Cause case (-wáan). On the other hand, a person or situation *toward/at which/whom* the emotional response is directed ought to be rendered in Goal case (-dim)—just as would the person to whom speech is directed.

Examples

Bíi loláad le dena wa.

I feel friendliness (good reason).

Bíi loláad le ihona wa.

I feel excitement (foolish reason).

Bíi loláad le luna wa.

I feel trust (bad reason).

Bíi lohil le lolíina wa.

I pay attention (internally) to confidence (no reason).

Bíi lohil le mehena wa.

I pay attention (internally) to compassion (despite neg circ).

Bíi lohil le nena wa.

I pay attention (internally) to contentment (good reason).

Bíi dam be ohona wa.

S/he manifests respect (foolish reason).

Bíi dam be thuna wa.

S/he manifests joy (bad reason).

Bíi dam be hithíina wa.

S/he manifests happiness (no reason).

Báa di ne uhehenanal ledim bebáawáan?

Why do you speak to me tenderly (despite neg circ)?

Báa di ne wenanal ledim bebáawáan?

Why do you speak to me gratefully (good reason)?

Báa di ne donanal ledim bebáawáan?

Why do you speak to me friendly (foolish reason)?

Bóo den ne ábedáth ihunawáan.

Prithee help the farmer because of eagerness (bad reason).

Bóo den ne ábedáth líinawáan.

Prithee help the farmer out of trust (no reason).

Bóo den ne ábedáth lolehenawáan.

Prithee help the farmer from confidence (despite neg circ).

Bíi loláad le mena eshádim wa.

I'm feeling compassion (good reason) toward the sailor.

Bíi dam behid nona eshádim wáa.

He is showing contentment (foolish reason) toward the sailor.

Bíi lohil behizh ohuna eshádim wóo.

I may be totally wrong, but she's paying attention (internally) to respect (bad reason) toward the sailor.

Bíi loláad le thíina eshádim biniwáan wa.

I'm feeling joy (no reason) toward the sailor because of a gift.

Bíi dam behid hithehena eshádim biniwáan wáa.

He is feeling happiness (despite neg circ) toward the sailor because of a gift.

Bíi lohil behizh uhena eshádim biniwáan wóo.

I may be totally wrong, but she's paying attention (internally) to tenderness (good reason) toward the sailor because of a gift.

Other Vocabulary

wihi

emotion

Exercises

Translate the following into English.

1 Báa loláad ne díina Wílem bedim?

E: _____

2 Bíli meyime i medithed i mehada háawith woho ihenanal elahelawáan wa.

E: _____

3 Bíi eril dóhéthe Therísha beth héenatho bethoth uhonawáan wáa.

E: _____

4 Bóo dí ra ne lohil yáawith míinaháadim.

E: _____

5 Bíi aril baneban Elízabeth then hedethuth eba bethodim wehenawáan wa.

E: _____

6 Báa eril dam Másha bebáath ebaládim?

E: _____

Just in case it slipped your mind: the verb “baneban” (to forgive) is a communication verb; this means that, in #5, the transgression being forgiven (then hedethu: breaking of a glass) is rendered in the Object case, and the person being forgiven (eba betho: her husband) is presented in the Goal case.

Did you notice that emotions, since they cannot “feel people,” do not require the Object suffix? On the other hand, when using a pronoun in place of any noun (even in place of one that would not require the Object suffix, as in #6), the pronoun does require the suffix because it is no longer transparent which is the Object.

Change the emotion, and the reason for it, to that presented; translate into English before and after.

7 Bíi eril meloláad onida thena shonewáan wáa.

contentment/despite neg. circ.

E: _____

L: _____

E: _____

8 Bé eril dashobe zháawith thuzheth hithenanal wa.

trust/foolish

E: _____

L: _____

E: _____

9 Bíi dam wehehá ohehena amedarahádim wáa.

gratitude/no reason

E: _____

L: _____

E: _____

10 Báa ril dathim hothul netha wunawan?

friendliness/despite neg. circ.

E: _____

L: _____

E: _____

11 Bóo wida na dosh lethoth monawáan.

respect/no reason

E: _____

L: _____

E: _____

12 Bíi eril lohil wothá ihíina háasháaleya wum obe wáa.

confidence/foolish reason

E: _____

L: _____

E: _____

Translate the following into Láadan.

13 Prithee ask your assistant whether she's feeling tenderness (no reason) or trust (good reason).

L: _____

14 Margaret is old, but she still has her teeth; she chews her meat happily (foolish reason).

L: _____

15 [Warning, obvious] Confidence for bad reasons is dangerous.

L: _____

16 The traveler is returning to his country joyfully (despite neg circ) by way of the airport.

L: _____

17 Will Matthew permit the householder to pay attention (internally) to her contentment (bad reason).

L: _____

18 Which emotion is the baby manifesting because of the milk?

L: _____

Answers

- 1 Are you friendly (do you feel friendliness) (no reason) toward William?
- 2 [Loving] All the children are running and calling and laughing eagerly (good reason) due to the celebration.
- 3 Theresa cleaned her heart-sibling's home out of tenderness (foolish reason).
- 4 Prithee do not speak to the youth who is paying attention internally to compassion (no reason).
- 5 Elizabeth will forgive her husband for breaking the glass (lit: breakage of the glass) because of gratitude (despite neg circ).
- 6 What did Marsha demonstrate toward the baker?
- 7 The families were joyous (good reason) at peace.
Bíi eril meloláad onida nehena shonewáan wáa.
The families were contented (despite neg circ) with peace.
- 8 I swear, the senior bit the cake happily (good reason).
Bé dashobe zháawith thuzheth lonanal wa.
I swear, the senior bit the cake trustingly (foolish reason).
- 9 The shopkeeper is respectful (manifests signs of respect) (despite neg circ) to the dancer (skeptical).
Bíi dam wehehá wíina amedarahádim wáa.
The shopkeeper is grateful (shows signs of gratitude) (no reason) to the dancer (skeptical).
- 10 Is your grandparent needleworking for the purpose of gratitude (bad reason)?
Báa ril dathim hothul netha dehenawan?
Is your grandparent needleworking for the purpose of friendliness (despite neg circ)?
- 11 Prithee, beloved, carry my burden because of compassion (foolish reason).
Bóo wida na dosh lethath ohíinawáan.
Prithee, beloved, carry my burden because of respect (no reason).
- 12 The sage paid attention internally to eagerness (no reason) through the entire morning.
Bíi eril lohil wothá lolona háasháaleya wum obe wáa.
The sage paid attention internally to confidence (foolish reason) through the entire morning.
- 13 Bóo dibáa ne dená nethodim loláad behizh uhíina e lenahée.
- 14 Bíi balin Mázhareth, izh náthi be dash bethath; dashobin be deheni bethoth hithonanal wa.
- 15 Bée rayom loluna wi.
- 16 Bíi nésháad imá shishidebeth bethodim thehenanal hozhazhesha ob wáa.
- 17 Báa aril non Máthu lohil lodá nuna bethothehé?
- 18 Báa dam áwith bebáath lalewáan? Wihi nedaba?