

Lesson 3

Vocabulary Practice 1

In the third of each set of seven lessons, we'll have a lesson with no grammar at all. These will be times to rehearse what we've learned so far and to add some new vocabulary with which to play.

Vocabulary

ána	sleep	rana	drink; beverage
áath	door	shum	air
bud	clothing	thal	to be good
ede	grain	tham	circle
héeya	to fear	thili	fish
hesh	grass	thom	pillow
i	and	u	to be open
laya	to be red	ud	stone
lom	song	wíi	to be alive; to be living
muda	pig	zháadin	to menopause

Examples

Bíi áya hesh wa. The grass is beautiful.
Bíi áya lom wa. The song is beautiful.
Bíi áya thili wa. The fish is beautiful.

Bíi áya wíi wa. Being alive is beautiful.

Did you notice, in the last example, that a word that had been introduced as a verb, “wíi” (to be alive), was used as a noun, “wíi” (being alive).

English does the same thing (known grammatically as “nominalization”), forming “abandonment” from “to abandon,” “carelessness” from “to be careless,” and so on; any English verb can be used as a noun if “-ing” is added, as in “Swimming is good exercise.”

This process, which is common to all human languages, is very easy in Láadan. Simply use the verb in the noun's place in the sentence and add a case suffix to it (in this case that's the Subject Case suffix, which is a “null suffix”); this will become clear in subsequent lessons.

Bíi hal with wa. The person works.
Bíi óoha with wa. The person is weary
Bíi hal i óoha with wa. The person works and is weary.

Notes

Exercises

Translate the following into English.

- 1 Bii u áath wa.
- 2 Bii laya bud wa.
- 3 Bii áana muda wa.
- 4 Bii wii ede wa.
- 5 Bii thal hesh wa.
- 6 Bii laya tham wa.
- 7 Bii thal ud wa.
- 8 Bii zháadin muda wa.
- 9 Bii wii thili wa.
- 10 Bii thal lom wa.

Note, in #8, that “zháadin” (to menopause) is done exclusively by females. Therefore, we could be more specific and translate “muda” (pig) in this sentence as “sow.”

1 En:

2 En:

3 En:

4 En:

5 En:

6 En:

7 En:

8 En:

9 En:

10 En:

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Translate the following into Láadan.

- 11 The circle is open.
- 12 The pig is alive.
- 13 The beverage is red.
- 14 The air is good.
- 15 The fish menopauses.
- 16 The clothing is open.
- 17 The grass is alive.
- 18 The pillow is red.
- 19 The grain is good.
- 20 The fish is afraid.

11 La:

12 La:

13 La:

14 La:

15 La:

16 La:

17 La:

18 La:

19 La:

20 La:

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1 The door is open. 2 The clothing is red. 3 The pig sleeps. 4 The grain is alive. 5 The grass is good. 6 The circle is red. 7 The stone is good. 8 The sow menopauses. 9 The fish is alive. 10 The song is good.
11 Bli u tham wa. 12 Bli wii muda wa. 13 Bli laya rana wa. 14 Bli thal shum wa. 15 Bli zhadin thili wa. 16 Bli u bud wa. 17 Bli wii hesh wa. 18 Bli laya thom wa. 19 Bli thal ede wa. 20 Bli hēeya thili wa.