

Lesson 14

Your Turn 2

Vocabulary

beye	Indefinite Pronoun (someone, somebody, something)
esh	boat
eshá	sailor [esh (boat) + -á (DOER)]
-hal	Degree Marker: to an unusual degree
-hil	Degree Marker: to a minor degree; rather; somewhat
ili	water
ilisháad	to swim [ili (water) + sháad (to go/come)]
im	to travel
íthi	to be tall; to be high
líithi	to be white
líithin	to be grey
lili	to be wet
mela	ocean [me- (aggrandizer) + ili (water)]
melamid	dolphin, porpoise [mela (ocean) + mid (creature)] {CH}
réele	harbor
shumáad	to fly [shum (air) + sháad (to go/come)]

Here we see two more of the set of Degree Markers. The first, “-hal,” (to an unusual degree) is less strong than “-hul” (to an extreme degree) which we’ve seen before. The second, “-hil,” (to a minor degree) denotes that the action is less intense than neutral.

Indefinites

“Beye” is known grammatically as an “indefinite pronoun” and means “someone” or “something.” As it is a pronoun, it also has the forms “beyezh” and “beyen” meaning “some(ones)” or “some(things)”—few/several (2 to 5) and many (more than 5), respectively. Whether the item/items to which “beye/beyezh/beyen” refers is/are people or things is subject to interpretation for the purposes of translation into English.

The various forms of “beye” can also be used to signify a non-specific subset of the available set of a given noun is (are) under discussion—as in the examples below:

Bíi melaya mahina wa.	Flowers are red. The flowers are red.
Bíi melaya mahina beyen wa.	Some-many flowers are red.
Báa íthi bo?	Is a mountain tall? Is the mountain tall?
Báa íthi bo beye?	Is some mountain tall?

In both of these examples, the item(s) being discussed are (is) many (or one) of the possible flowers (or mountains), but we’re not specifying which one(s). Notice that when used in this way, the “beye/beyezh/beyen” is postpositional to (immediately follows) the noun it modifies.

English Text

The Harbor

The day is beautiful. The stiff breeze is cool and moist. The sky is fleecy-clouded and blue; the clouds are high and white. The sea is green. Some-many seabirds are flying; fish and dolphins swim.

There are boats; some-few are large, and some-many are small. Some-many are white; some-few are gray; some-many are green and yellow. These-many boats are fast. The sailors are strong and beautiful, and they travel widely and are blessed.

Your Láadan Translation & Retranslation into English

The Harbor

L: _____

E: _____

The day is beautiful. The stiff breeze is cool and moist. The sky is fleecy-clouded and blue; the clouds are high and white. The sea is green. Some-many seabirds are flying; fish and dolphins swim.

L: _____

E: _____

There are boats; some-few are large, and some-many are small. Some-many are white; some-few are gray; some-many are green and yellow. These-many boats are fast. The sailors are strong and beautiful, and they travel widely and are blessed.

L: _____

E: _____

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My Láadan Translation with Morphemic Analysis & Retranslation into English

The Harbor

Réele

Réele

HARBOR

Harbor

The day is beautiful. The stiff breeze is cool and moist. The sky is fleecy-clouded and blue; the clouds are high and white. The sea is green. Some-many birds are flying; fish and dolphins swim.

Bíi háya sháal wa. Rahowahil i lilihil yulehal. Bol i leyi thosh; mehíthi i melíithi boshum. Liyen mela. Meshumáad babí beyen; mehilisháad thili i melamid.

Bíi háya sháal wa.
DECL BEBEAUTIFULTIME DAY MYPERC

Rahowahil i lilihil yulehal.
NON + BEWARM = BECOLD + DEGMINOR AND BEWET + DEGMINOR WIND + DEGUNUSUAL

Bol i leyi thosh; mehíthi i melíithi boshum.
BEFLEECYCLOUDEDAND BEBLUE SKY PL + BEHIGH AND PL + BEWHITE CLOUD

Liyen mela.
BEGREEN OCEAN

Meshumáad babí beyen; mehilisháad thili i melamid.
PL + AIR + COMEGO = FLY BIRD INDEF>5 PL + WATER + COMEGO = SWIM FISH AND DOLPHIN

The day is beautiful. The unusually strong wind is cold and wet, both to a minor degree. The sky is fleecy-clouded and blue; the clouds are high and white. The ocean is green. Some-many birds are flying; fish and dolphins are swimming.

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There are boats; some-few are large, and some-many are small. Some-many are white; some-few are gray; some-many are green and yellow. These-many boats are fast. The sailors are strong and beautiful, and they travel widely and are blessed.

Bíi meham esh wa; merahíya beyezh, i mehíya beyen. Melíithi beyen; melíithin beyezh; meliyen i meléli beyen. Meralóolo esh hin. Medo i meháya eshá, i mehimehal i mehothel ben.

Bíi	meham	esh	wa;	merahíya	beyezh	i	mehíya	beyen.
DECL	PL + BEPRESENT	BOAT	MYPERC	PL + NON + BESMALL = BELARGE	= INDEF2-5	AND	PL + BESMALL	INDEF>5

Melíithi	beyen;	melíithin	beyezh;	meliyen	i	meléli	beyen.
PL + BEWHITE	INDEF>5	PL + BEGRAY	INDEF2-5	PL + BEGREEN	AND	PL + BEYELLOW	INDEF>5

Meralóolo	esh	hin.
PL + NON + BESLOW = BEQUICK	BOAT	DEMO>5

Medo	i	meháya	eshá,
PL + BESTRONG	AND	PL + BEBEAUTIFUL	BOAT + DOER = SAILOR

i	mehimehal	i	mehothel	ben.
AND	PL + TRAVEL + DEGUNUSUAL	AND	PL + BEBLESSED	X>5

There are boats; some-few are large and some-many are small. Some-many are white; some-few are gray; some-many are yellow and green. These-many boats are quick. The sailors are strong and beautiful, and they travel to an unusual degree and are blessed.

My Láadan Text

Réele

Bíi háya sháal wa. Rahowahil i lilihil yulehal. Bol i leyi thosh; mehíthi i melíithi boshum. Liyen mela. Meshumáad babí beyen; mehilisháad thili i melamid.

Bíi meham esh wa; merahíya beyezh, i mehíya beyen. Melíithi beyen; melíithin beyezh; meliyen i meléli beyen. Meralóolo esh hin. Medo i meháya eshá, i mehimehal i mehothel ben.

Comments

We've used the new Degree Markers in some routine, normative ways: **rahowahil** (cool, a minor degree of coldness); **lilihil** (moist, a minor degree of wetness). We also use them in some more advanced ways: **yulehal** (stiff breeze, an unusual degree of wind); **mehimehal** (travel widely, an unusual degree of traveling). These are good examples of perfectly acceptable uses for any of the Degree Markers.

At the beginning of the second paragraph, we use the Indefinite pronouns postpositionally to specify a non-specific subset of the available boats; however, having declared that we're talking about boats in the first clause, we repeatedly use the Indefinite pronouns to modify that noun—but never restate the noun. Human languages avoid the frequent repetition of identical information, so this use of the modifier without the modified noun is perfectly acceptable.

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