

# Lesson 66

## Vocabulary Practice 10: Calendar

We'll be looking at more vocabulary than usual this lesson. We're going to cover two related lists of words: days of the week and months of the year.

### Vocabulary: Days of the Week

|           |                          |
|-----------|--------------------------|
| Monday    | Henesháal: East Day      |
| Tuesday   | Honesháal: West Day      |
| Wednesday | Hunesháal: North Day     |
| Thursday  | Hanesháal: South Day     |
| Friday    | Rayilesháal: Above Day   |
| Saturday  | Yilesháal: Below Day     |
| Sunday    | Hathamesháal: Center Day |

### Vocabulary: Months

|           |                          |
|-----------|--------------------------|
| January   | Anede: One Month         |
| February  | Ashin: Two Month         |
| March     | Aboó: Three Month        |
| April     | Abin: Four Month         |
| May       | Ashan: Five Month        |
| June      | Abath: Six Month         |
| July      | Ahum: Seven Month        |
| August    | Anib: Eight Month        |
| September | Abud: Nine Month         |
| October   | Athab: Ten Month         |
| November  | Anedethab: Eleven Month  |
| December  | Ashinethab: Twelve Month |

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|------------------------|
| Alél: Seaweed Month    |
| Ayáanin: Tree Month    |
| Ahesh: Grass Month     |
| Athil: Vine Month      |
| Amahina: Flower Month  |
| Athesh: Herb Month     |
| Ameda: Vegetable Month |
| Adalatham: Berry Month |
| Ahede: Grain Month     |
| Ayu: Fruit Month       |
| Athon: Seed Month      |
| Adol: Root Month       |

When Suzette Haden Elgin first formed Láadan words for the months of the year, she naturally chose poetic forms that conformed to the growing season. Regrettably, the growing season she chose was that of the northern hemisphere, which is offset by six months from that in the southern hemisphere (eg, winter begins in June in the southern hemisphere and in December in the north).

This did not sit well with the second generation working with Láadan, who felt that Láadan should not present a calendar that fails so dramatically to reflect the life experience of the speakers of such a large segment of the population of the planet. The second generation took the decision to use the words for the numbers (this scheme is not at all poetic, but is easy to understand—and is reminiscent of the English month names September through December, which reflect the Latin words for “seven” through “ten”).

We will not be using the poetic forms in these lessons, but you should be able to recognize them if you should happen upon them in older texts.

## Examples

Bíi thi híyahath sháaleth um wi.

A week has seven days, obviously.

Bíi thi hathóoletham hathóoleth shinethab wi.

A year has twelve months, obviously.

Bíi methi hathóol nedebe sháaleth thabeboó wa.

Several months have thirty days.

Bíi methi hathóol menedebe sháaleth thabeboó i nede wa.

Many months have thirty-one days.

Bíi thi hathóol nede neda, Ashin, sháaleth e thabeshin i nib e thabeshin i bud wa.

Only one month, February, has either twenty-eight or twenty-nine days.

Bíi thi hathóoletham sháaleth e debeboó i thabebath i shan e debeboó i thabebath i bath wa.

A year has either three hundred sixty-five or three hundred sixty-six days.

Bíi merahahí hathóol i hathóoletham wi; hesho hathóoletham.

A month and a year clearly are long; a year surpasses.

A year is clearly longer than a month.

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## Exercises

Translate the following into English.

- 1 Béli aril éthe le beth nathoth Henesháaleya barada wa.
- 2 Báa eril meróo onida dalathameth thil nizhethode Anibeya eril?
- 3 Bíid benem duthahá shod bethosha nil Rayilesháaledim wa.
- 4 Bíi en obeth letho úwanú el le ódon belidesha yil Anedethabeya baradan wa.
- 5 Báa aril thi Anede Hathamesháaleth bim e shan hathóolethameya aril?
- 6 Bíidi meban with menedebe binith hin hinedim Ashinethabeya wi.
- 7 Báadi thoneth merumadonishub ábedunesha Aboóya? Bíi em, hunesha; hanesha Abudehóoya wi.
- 8 Bíi aril sháad Leyaneshem Méri Yáabe Bo Líithisha raheb Yilesháaleya shin aril wáa.
- 9 Bíith eril loláad ril ulanin sháawithizh ezhubetheháa hishima Ashinede nede eril Abimedim wa.
- 10 Bé eril bel Shósho mewowíi woléeli menedebe habelid le yedehóoshaháadim Ashaneya wa.

Did you note, in #1, that the stative verb (in English, an adjective) “éthe” (be clean) would be understood to be an active verb (to clean) when supplied with an Object? The more formal form “dóhéthe” (cause to be clean; to clean) is another option.

Did you note, in #6, that the quantifier “menedebe”, while formally correct, is unnecessary? The information that “many” people give is clearly represented by the duplicated pronoun “hin” (these/those, many) in the construction “hin hinedim” (to each other).

- 1 E: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 E: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 E: \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 E: \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 E: \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 E: \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 E: \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 E: \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 E: \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 E: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Translate the following into Láadan.**

- 11 Baker Margaret begins to work before sunrise every day except Tuesday.
- 12 Last Thursday, a bird flew alone above the forest that was on the island.
- 13 The farm where the the wild animal sleeps is thriving this August.
- 14 [Angry] The unusually rude shopkeeper smirked at the child who loves tart fruit last Wednesday.
- 15 My suitcases will remain at the hotel until June.
- 16 Clergyman Matthew interpreted the big-and-little story for his many contented (no reason) students last winter.
- 17 During which month and season is the holiday?
- 18 Which is sooner: October or December?
- 19 Elizabeth will begin learning chefig (cooking science) in the autumn.
- 20 The young man who fell off my boat into the deep lake on Thursday shows trust (despite neg circ) toward me.

There are two different strategies for presenting the information in #13. In one we use a subordinating conjunction, in the other we use an embedded relative clause. If you'd like, try your hand at both; one version of each is in the answers.

Did the word "tart" in #14 pose a problem for you? Did you consider that "tart" means "a little bit sour?"

And the word "remain" in #15? We know "benem" (stay); however, "stay" and "remain" aren't quite synonyms; "stay" has a component of volition that isn't necessarily present in "remain", which means merely "to continue to be (somewhere);" try "náham."

- 11 L: \_\_\_\_\_
- 12 L: \_\_\_\_\_
- 13 L: \_\_\_\_\_
- 14 L: \_\_\_\_\_
- 15 L: \_\_\_\_\_
- 16 L: \_\_\_\_\_
- 17 L: \_\_\_\_\_
- 18 L: \_\_\_\_\_
- 19 L: \_\_\_\_\_
- 20 L: \_\_\_\_\_

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