

Grammar of Zír

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INTRODUCTION

Zír is a constructed language – ConLang – made for a fantasy world called Żgmír (pronunciation: ʒgmí:r). It is the language of magic, as well as being spoken natively by one of several humanoid races.

I created Żgmír as a personal creative outlet, and one of my favorite parts of that is designing peoples – their cultures and their languages.

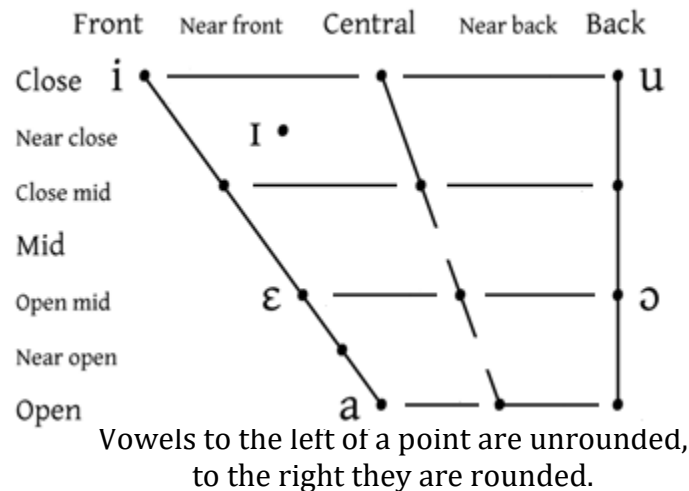
My familiarity with languages includes being a native speaker of English, with exposure to and some small study of French, some study of Latin and Japanese, a very little study of Hebrew, and being set to graduate December 2016 with an Bachelors of Arts degree in Linguistics.

PHONOLOGY

Phoneme Inventory

Vowels

Zír has six vowels: the front-close /i/; near-front near-close /ɪ/; near-front open-mid /ɛ/; near-front open /a/; back close /u/; and back open-mid /ɔ/.



Long Vowels

Zír's six vowels have phonemic lengthening: /i, ɛ, a, u, ɔ/ although /ɛ/ and /ɔ/ become more close in the process, with the long vowels being /iː, eː, aː, uː, oː/.

/ɪː/ does not appear anywhere, instead becoming /iː/. In Zír, the long vowels are written as a dot underneath the vowel. In glosses I have included the IPA symbol "ː" instead.

ʃa	or
ʃaː	four

Consonants

Zír has 19 phonemic consonants: bilabial, alveolar, and velar plosives /p, b, t, d, k, g/; bilabial and alveolar nasals /m, n/; labio-dental, alveolar, and velar fricatives /f, v, s, z, x/; postalveolar affricates /ʃ, ʒ/; labio-velar approximant /w/; alveolar approximants /l, r/; and palatal approximant /j/.

The glottal stop /ʔ/ also appears regularly, but is non-phonemic and has no minimal pairs.

	Bi-Labial	Labio-dental	Alveolar	Postalveolar	Palatal	Velar
Plosive	/p/ /b/		/t/ /d/			/k/ /g/
Nasal	/m/		/n/			
Fricative		/f/ /v/	/s/ /z/	/ʃ/ /ʒ/		/x/
Approximant	/w/		/r/		/j/	
Lateral			/l/			

Phonological Rules

A sample of the rules which govern phonological morphology in Zîr.

Stop Voicing

1. A stop occurring next to an affricate of different voice value will assimilate to the affricate's value of +/-voice. In cases of gemination, only the closest stop will assimilate voicing.
2. Stops occurring before a nasal assimilate to +voice

Word-Final Vowels

Only tense vowels may occur in word-final open syllables. If a lax vowel occurs at the end of a word, it assimilates into the nearest tense vowel until/unless suffixes are added. /ɛ/ becomes /a/, /ɔ/ becomes /u/, and /ɪ/ becomes /i/.

Postalveolar Affricatization

The velar fricative /x/ cannot be preceded by alveolar fricatives /s/ or /z/ - the alveolar fricatives will assimilate to post-alveolar /ʃ/ or /ʒ/.

Gemination

1. Gemination cannot occur directly preceding a stop.
2. In places where stops gaining voicing due to affricates, nasals, or fricatives would result in a voiced geminate consonant preceded by a nasal, the gemination instead becomes a glottal stop between the fricative, affricate, or nasal and stop.
3. The first voiced geminate consonant in a geminate pair is unreleased.

Diphthongs

A non-phonemic and reduced glottal stop is inserted whenever two vowels occur next to one another to prevent diphthongs.

The first exception to this is in cases where the final consonant of a word was historically /l/ preceded by /a/ or /a:/ - the /l/ has been dropped and the vowel shifted into the diphthong /au/.

Vowel Assimilation

Lax vowels when occurring next to a tense vowel in an adjacent syllable assimilate towards the tense, longer vowel, but are still shorter and more lax than the tense long vowel.

Stop Nasal Addition

Non-geminate voiced stops are preceded by a nasal at the same place of articulation. Any stop that becomes voiced through other phonemic changes does not have this preceding nasal and will still be identified as the same phoneme as the unvoiced variant by native speakers even while having +voice quality. These stop-nasal additions also do not affect vowels.

Vowel Restrictions

Long vowels cannot occur next to one another, even in separate syllables. Where this happens, the second vowel will become shortened.

Where two identical short vowels occur next to each other, the syllables merge and the vowels become a single, long vowel.

Syllable Structure

Syllables have a complex structure as follows.

(C1) (C2) (C3) (C4) V (C5)

C1 is restricted to fricatives and affricates

/f, v, s, z, ʃ, ʒ, x/

C2 is restricted to stops

/p, b, t, d, k, g/

possibility of being geminated

/b, d, g/ - usually preceded by a nasal with same place of articulation

C3 is restricted to nasals

/m, n/

C4 is restricted to approximants

/w, r, l, j/

V is any of the vowels, short or long

/i, i:, ɪ, ε, e:, a, a:, ɔ, o:, u, u:/

C5 is restricted to fricatives, affricates, liquids, and nasals

/f, v, s, z, ʃ, ʒ, x, l, r, n, m/

Tone

Zír has three tones – high, low, and mid. The mid-tone is considered neutral and is the standard for all words except for nouns, which take *either* the high or low tone (see determiners; proper nouns).

PRONOUNS

Pronouns are words that replace a noun phrase mentioned previously or inferred.

Personal Pronouns by Case

Personal pronouns are not required in Zír, but may be added for emphasis.

Absolutive

Wholative [whl]

Absolutive case marks the core argument of an intransitive verb, or the patient of a transitive verb that is completely affected, or is considered as a whole (“the entire staff” would be wholative rather than partitive, for example).

	Singular	Dual	Plural
1 st person incl.	vave	pana	mbaza
1 st person excl.	--	pjana	mbjaza
2 nd person	save	tɔni	ndaža
3 rd person	zove	kana	ɣgaža

zove mave sunna:kizɔvʒa
 zo:ve: mave: sunna:-ki-zɔ-v-ʒa-a
 3.whl.sg 1.erg.sg paint-3.whl.sg-1.erg.sg-conc-sgt-decl
 it.all I I painted it all.
 I painted it completely.

Partitive [prt]

Partitive case marks the core argument of an intransitive verb, or the patient of a transitive verb that is incompletely affected, or when considering parts of a whole (“some of the staff”, etc, would be partitive rather than wholative).

	Singular	Dual	Plural
1 st person incl.	vav	pan	mbaʒ
1 st person excl.	--	pjan	mbjaʒ
2 nd person	sav	tɔn	ndaʒ
3 rd person	zov	kan	ɣgaʒ

zov mave sunna:fɔzɔvʒa
 zo:v mave: sunna:-fɔ-zɔ-v-ʒa-a
 3.prt.sg 1.erg.sg paint-3.prt.sg-1.erg.sg-conc-sgt-decl
 it.some I I painted some of it.
 I painted some of it.

Ergative [erg]

Ergative case marks the agent of a transitive verb. (*She* painted it.)

	Singular	Dual	Plural
1 st person incl.	mave	naʒa	nana
1 st person excl.	--	nɔʒe	nne
2 nd person	mɔve	nɔʒa	nɔna
3 rd person	mive	nɔʒa	nina

zove mive sunna:kizɔvʒa
 zo:ve: mive: sunna:-ki-zɔ-v-ʒa-a
 3.whl.sg 3.erg.sg paint-3.whl.sg-1.erg.sg-conc-sgt-decl
 it.all she/he I painted it all.
 She/he painted it completely.

Possessive Pronouns [pos]

Possessive pronouns refer to the possessor of a noun.

	Singular	Dual	Plural
1 st person incl.	axo	axo	amə
1 st person excl.	--	ixə	imə
2 nd person	əvo	əvo	əno
3 rd person	ivo	ixə	ino

vrixa axo xřá:zxa sakirfua
vri-xa *axo:* *xřá:z-xa* *sa-ki-r-fu-a*
that.far- whl.spi.sg 1st.sg.pos *cat.def-whl.spi.sg* *copula-3.sg.whl-cont-gnrl-decl*
that *my* *the cat* *it is*
 That (over there) is my cat.

Demonstrative Pronouns [dem]

Zır includes three different spatial demonstrative levels: near the speaker (this/these), near the listener (that/those), and far away from both listener and speaker (that over there/those over there).

Demonstratives do not have separate forms for different cases and take standard noun case endings in agreement with the noun they modify.

	Singular	Dual	Plural
near speaker	is	isva	isva
near listener	nda	ndən	ndən
far away	vri	vris	vris

ifxa axo xřá:zxa sakirfua
is-xa *axo:* *xřá:z-xa* *sa-ki-r-fu-a*
this-whl.spi.sg 1.sg.pos *cat.def-whl.spi.sg* *copula-3.sg.whl-cont-gnrl-decl*
this *my* *the cat* *it is*
 This is my cat.

ndaxa axo xřá:zxa sakirfua
nda-xa *axo:* *xřá:z-xa* *sa-ki-r-fu-a*
that.near.you-whl.spi.sg 1.sg.pos *cat.def-whl.spi.sg* *copula-3.sg.whl-cont-gnrl-decl*
that *my* *the cat* *it is*
 That (by you) is my cat.

vrixa axo xřá:zxa sakirfua
vri-xa *axo:* *xřá:z-xa* *sa-ki-r-fu-a*
that.far- whl.spi.sg 1st.sg.pos *cat.def-whl.spi.sg* *copula-3.sg.whl-cont-gnrl-decl*
that *my* *the cat* *it is*
 That (over there) is my cat.

Indefinite Pronouns [indf]

Indefinite pronouns do not refer to a specific noun, but are rather more generalized. Indefinite pronouns do not have separate forms for the different cases and take the standard noun case endings.

	person	place	thing	whole	individual
negative (no)	asuf	axlɔ	aʃɔn	a	aɟe
positive (some)	ivsuf	ivxlɔ	ivʃɔn	iv	ivɟe
positive (every)	mɔsuf	mɔxlɔ	mɔʃɔn	mɔ	mɔɟe

mɔsufna zɪŋguxlə
mɔsuf-na *zi:r-ŋgu-x-le:-a*
everyone-whl.spi.pl *speak-3.pl.whl-cur-sense-decl*
everyone *speak they.all (I hear)*
 Everyone speaks.

Reflexive Pronouns [rflx]

Reflexive pronouns refer back to a noun or pronoun within the same clause.

Reflexive pronouns do not have separate forms for different cases and take standard noun case endings.

In the first and second person, reflexive pronouns are often dropped, as the information is also coded on the verb, although they may be included. In third person, they are required.

	Singular	Dual	plural
1 st person incl.	axɔkɪs	aʒɔkɪs	amɔkɪs
1 st person excl.	--	iʒɔkɪs	imɔkɪs
2 nd person	ɔvɔkɪs	ɔʒɔkɪs	ɔnɔkɪs
3 rd person	ivɔkɪs	iʒɔkɪs	inɔkɪs

ivɔkɪʃxa faʒakiɛxazɪfnɔfu
ivɔkɪs-xa *faʒa-ki-ɛx-aʒ-i-fnɔfu*
3.sg.reflexive-whl.spi.sg *hug-3.sg.whl-3.sg.erg-prog-int-tight*
himself *hug he him now tightly?*
 Is he hugging himself tightly?

Interrogative Pronouns [int]

Interrogative pronouns are used to ask questions, replacing requested information.

Interrogative pronouns do not have separate forms for different cases and take standard noun case endings.

how	smia	who	suf
which	ɟe	what	ʃɔn
why	kmu	where	xlɔ

sufxa faʒaɛxaʒi
suf-xa faʒa-e:x-aʒ-i
who-whl.spi.sg hug-3.sg.erg-prog-int
who hug he now?
 Who is he hugging?

In colloquial speech these pronouns may also be substituted for case agreement markers when replacing absolutive or ergative nouns.

faʒasufɛxaʒi
faʒa-suf-e:x-aʒ-i
hug-who-3.sg.erg-prog-int
who hug he now?
 Who is he hugging?

NUMERALS

Zír is a duodecimal system, meaning numbers are base 12.

Numbers

Cardinal Numbers

Cardinal numbers in Zír are free morphemes that occur in pre-nominal position.

Non-base numerals are formed in this manner:

<(number of 12s)(twelve)(number less than 12)>

Such that:

zʌvum ʒndɔ
zu:v-um ʒndo:
two-twelve seven
twenty four (+) seven
 thirty one

English	Zír	
one	vɔ	1
two	zʌv	2
three	ni	3
four	fʌ	4
five	ɔz	5
six	tu	6
seven	ʒndɔ	7
eight	fpa	8
nine	il	9
ten	fʌ	10
eleven	znɔx	11
twelve	um	12
twenty-four	zʌvum	2x12

thirty-six	nium	3x12
fourty-eight	ʃaum	4x12
sixty	ɔzum	5x12
seventy-two	tum	6x12
eighty-four	ʒnɔum	7x12
ninety-six	fpaum	8x12
one-hundred-eight	ɪlum	9x12
one-hundred-twenty	ʃaum	10x12
one-hundred-thirty-two	znɔxum	11x12
one-hundred-fourty-four	ʃiva	12x12
one-thousand-seven-hundred-twenty-eight	ndəzʊf	12x12x12

Ordinal Numbers

To create ordinal numbers (first, second, etc.) from regular numerals, -ɔt- is added to numerals that end in a consonant, and -t- to numerals which end in a vowel.

ʒndɔ	seven
ʒndɔt	seventh

Quantifiers

All nouns in Zír are countable, so there is no differentiation between quantifiers.

none	əuz
very few; not enough	ɪʒki
few	mɪ
some	ʒuri
enough	ɔmɪv
any	ɪv
many	kæx
most	kaiʒ
all	mɔ

Multiplicative Adverbs

Zír has four multiplicative adverbs (English has three – once, twice, thrice), corresponding to the numerals vɔ (one), zʊv (two), ni (three), and ʃa (four), although the one for ʃa is archaic and rarely, if ever, used. These adverbial numerals are formed from regular numerals by removing any final vowels and adding -ɪni.

once	vɪni
twice	zʊvɪni
thrice	nɪni
four times	ʃɪni

Counters

Zír contains a vast array of counters, which it is considered shameful to not know properly, however for the sake of brevity I have not included them here.

NOUNS

Noun Phrase Formation

Nouns

Nouns are formed in the following formula:

<word root + tone> <case>

Zírir	zìrkizɔxa
<i>zír-ir</i>	<i>zi:r-fɔ-zɔ-x-a</i>
<i>speak.def-prt.sg</i>	<i>speak-3.sg.prt-1.sg.erg-curr-decl</i>
<i>The language part of</i>	<i>speak some I do.</i>
I speak some Zír.	

Noun Phrases

Noun phrases have fewer elements in Zír compared to English, however, pronouns, numerals, and partitives may still be included in a noun phrase. Most pronouns include case agreement, but those that do not are required to be declined for it. Demonstrative forms remain static. Adjectives are a subclass of verb in Zír, and are not a part of the noun phrase. See Adjectives.

<(modification clauses) + (demonstrative) + (pronoun) + (quantifier) + (counter) + (numeral) + noun >

Nominalization

To turn any word into a noun, a Zír speaker may simply add either a high or low tone (see determiners) to the first vowel of the root word being nominalized. Additionally, nouns *must* have either a high or low tone, with the exception of pronouns (of any type).

For the difference between high and low tone, see Nouns> Determiners

zìr	zìr	zír
to speak	conversation, language	The Language

Compounds

Compound nouns are formed quite simply, and a speaker merely attaches as many noun stems together as they wish until they have reached the desired compound noun, adding case markings to the final stem. Tone is applied to the first syllable of the last root in compound nouns.

neazisùnnà
neazi-sùnnà:
house-paint.indef
 a house paint

Proper Nouns

Proper nouns are similar to definite nouns in taking a high tone, but may otherwise be any noun, or nominalized verb, including adverbs and adjectives. To indicate an indefinite proper noun (“Are there any Katie’s in here?”) the noun takes BOTH high and low tones, which often manifests as a falling tone. This is the only example of multiple tones being applied to a single word in Zír.

Determiners [def/indf]

In Zír, a definite noun is marked by a high tone, and an indefinite noun is marked by a low tone. Tone does not occur on pronouns or determiners. The tone always occurs on the first vowel in the root of the word. If there are multiple root words in a noun, the tone occurs on the last of them.

xrâz	the cat
xrâz	a cat

Gender [Ø/spi]

There are two noun genders in Zír, which reflect the spirituality of nouns: items that are imbued with spirit, magic, or close connection to the gods, and those of a more mundane nature. These are, however, more flexible than traditional genders as, for example, *ftí* (the axe) may normally be mundane, but if talking about *ftí* (the axe) that is a special totem of a god, it would become spiritual. Additionally, most animals are classed as Spirit nouns, but some are Mundane, as are all corpses - except those of mages and magical beings - and have subsequently received stigma accordingly.

Case

Absolutive

Wholative [whl]

Absolutive case marks the core argument of an intransitive verb, or the patient of a transitive verb that is completely affected, or is considered as a whole (eg “the entire staff” would be wholative).

	Singular	Dual	plural
Mundane	-za	-ve	-mō
Spiritual	-xa	-ka	-na

néaziza sunnākizōlevza
néazi-za *sunna:-ki-zō-l-εv-zō-a*
house.def-whl.sg *paint-3.whl.sg-1.erg.sg-neg-cncl-sgt-decl*
all of the house *paint it I not did*
 I did not paint the whole house.

Partitive [prt]

Partitive case marks the core argument of an intransitive verb, or the patient of a transitive verb that is incompletely affected, or when considering parts of a whole (“some of the staff”, etc, would be partitive rather than wholative).

	Singular	Dual	plural
Mundane	-ri	-nda	-ōn
Spiritual	-ki	-zu	-ngu

néaziri sunnaḟɔzɔvzɔa
néazi-ri *sunna:-ḟɔ-zɔ-v-zɔ-a*
house.def-prt.sg *paint-3.prt.sg-1.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl*
part of the house *paint it I did*
 I painted part of the house.

Ergative [erg]

Ergative case marks the agent of a transitive verb.

	Singular	Dual	plural
Mundane	-is	-re	-kɔ
Spiritual	-tu	-ŋge	-m

néaziza Flámitu sunnaḟkiexevŋgia
néazi-za *Flámi-tu* *sunna:-ki-ex-ev-ŋgi-a*
house.def-whl.sg *Flami.def-erg.spi.sg* *paint-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-cncl-hrsy-decl*
the whole house *Flami* *paint it she did heard*
 I heard Flami painted the whole house.

Dative [dat]

Marks the noun that is an indirect object of a verb.

	Singular	Dual	plural
Mundane	-va	-ra	-ɔm
Spiritual	-im	-ɔn	-ku

zòznere ivɔ ḟkámim izafkimavŋgia
zòznɛ-re *ivo:* *ḟkámi-im* *izaf-ki-ma-v-ŋgi-a*
flower.indf-erg.dl *3.pos.sg* *wôman.def-dat.spi.sg* *give-3.whl.sg-3.erg.dl-cncl-hrs-decl*
two flowers *he* *to his wife* *gave he it I heard*
 I hear he gave flowers to his wife.

Genitive [gen]

Genitive case marks a noun that is the possessor.

	Singular	Dual	plural
Mundane	-zɔ	-xɔ	-aʒ
Spiritual	-vɔ	-iʒ	-nde

vriʒa máriɔ néaziza sakirfua
vri-ʒa *mári-vo:* *néazi-za* *sa-ki-r-fu-a*
that.far-whl.sg *Mary.def-gen.sg.spi* *house.def-whl.sg* *copula-3.sg.whl-cont-gnrl-decl*
that *Mary's* *the house* *it is*
 That is Mary's house.

Benefactive [bnf]

Benefactive case marks the noun receiving or benefiting from the action of the verb.

	Singular	Dual	plural
Mundane	-zɔ	-fɔ	-pa
Spiritual	-ta	-nɔ	-se

Flámita néaziɜa sunnakiexevi
Flámi-ta *néazi-ɜa* *sunna:ki-ex-ev-i*
Flami.def-bnf.spi.sg *house.def-whl.sg* *paint-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-cncl-int*
for Flami *the whole house* *paint it she did?*

She painted the whole house for Flami?

Locatives

Enessive [en]

Marks location of a noun as outside the location.

	Singular	Dual	plural
Mundane	-im	-lɔ	-iz
Spiritual	-ex	-ma	-mbɔ

néazim sɛʃkiɜɜa
néazi-im *sa:ɛf-ki-ɜ-ɜɔ-a*
house.def-en.sg *stand-3.sg.whl-prg-sgt-decl*
outside the house *stand she is*

She is standing outside the house.

Inessive [in]

Marks location of a noun as inside the location.

	Singular	Dual	plural
Mundane	-pɔ	-ndi	-ɔx
Spiritual	-vi	-ŋɔ	-la

néazipɔ sɛʃkiɜɜa
néazi-po: *sa:ɛf-ki-ɜ-ɜɔ-a*
house.def-in.sg *stand-3.sg.whl-sgt-decl*
inside the house *stand she*

She is standing inside the house.

Erelative [el]

Marks the movement of a noun as moving from inside a location towards outside.

	Singular	Dual	plural
Mundane	-pa	-rɔ	-if
Spiritual	-af	-mba	-ti

néaziɛp *skjukilvmɔa*
néazi-pe *skju-ki-l-v-mɔ-a*
house.def-el.sg *run-3.sg.whl-neg-cncl-infrnc-decl*
out of the house *run she not did*
 She did not run out of the house.

Illative [il]

Marks the movement of a noun as moving from outside a location towards inside.

	Singular	Dual	plural
Mundane	-te	-an	-ir
Spiritual	-am	-iv	-mbe

néazite *skjukivɔa*
néazi-te *skju-ki-v-ɔ-a*
house.def-il.sg *run-3.sg.whl-cncl-sgt-decl*
into the house *run she did*
 She ran into the house.

Adessive [ad]

Marks action or existence *at* a specific location.

	Singular	Dual	plural
Mundane	-az	-an	-si
Spiritual	-ʃa	-xe	-al

néaziáz *səɛʃkiɔɔa*
néazi-áz *sa:ɛf-ki-ɔ-ɔ-a*
house.def-ad.sg *stand-3.sg.whl-prg-sgt-decl*
at the house *stand she is*
 She is standing at the house.

Allative [al]

Marks the movement of a noun as moving towards a location.

	Singular	Dual	plural
Mundane	-ɛv	-mbu	-fa
Spiritual	-ne	-iʃ	-iz

néaziɛv *skjukizɔa*
néazi-ɛv *skju-ki-ɔ-ɔ-a*
house.def-al.sg *run-3.sg.whl-prg-sgt-decl*
towards the house *run she is*
 She is running towards the house.

The Allative is often used in conjunction with the Edative to mark origin and destination, including for gift giving. Although “the book was given towards her away from him” may sound awkward in English, it makes perfect sense in Zír.

néazixu nókkošen skjukivzəa
néazi-xu nókkoš-ēv skju-ki-v-zə-a
house.def-ed.sg garden.def-al.sg run-3.sg.whl-cncl-sgt-decl
from the house to the garden run she did
 She ran from the house to the garden.

Edative [ed]

Marks the movement of a noun as moving away from a location.

	Singular	Dual	plural
Mundane	-xu	-ŋgi	-fu
Spiritual	-mu	-av	-fi

néazixu skjukivzəa
néazi-xu skju-ki-v-zə-a
house.def-ed.sg run-3.sg.whl-cncl-sgt-decl
away from the house run she did
 She ran away from the house.

The Edative is often used in conjunction with the Allative to mark origin and destination. (Including for gift giving. Although “the book was given towards her away from him” may sound awkward in English, it makes perfect sense in Zír.)

néazixu nókkošen skjukivzəa
néazi-xu nókkoš-ēv skju-ki-v-zə-a
house.def-ed.sg garden.def-al.sg run-3.sg.whl-cncl-sgt-decl
from the house to the garden run she did
 She ran from the house to the garden.

Circative [cr]

Marks the movement of a noun as moving around a location.

	Singular	Dual	plural
Mundane	-ze	-ŋga	-fo
Spiritual	-ix	-ta	-xi

néaziže skjukivzəa
néazi-ze: *skju-ki-v-zə-a*
house.def-cr.sg run-3.sg.whl-cncl-sgt-decl
around the house run she did
 She ran around the house.

Instrumentive [inst]

Marks the tool or instrument with which a task is accomplished. May be combined with other case markers as necessary.

	Singular	Dual	plural
Mundane	-pu	-in	-lu
Spiritual	-ta	-ke	-el

mbázza náɔʒpu vʉsakivmɔʒa
mbáz-za *náɔʒ-pu* *vu:sa-ki-v-mɔ-ɔʒa*
door.def-whl.sg *key.def-inst.sg* *open-3.sg.whl-cncl-infrnc-sub*
the door *with the key* *open she did could*
 She could have opened the door with the key.

Comitative [com]

Marks the noun that accompanies or is with the main argument of a clause.

	Singular	Dual	plural
Mundane	-ʒu	-am	-ʒi
Spiritual	-nu	-nde	-ndɔ

úɛndeɣ skjukinfua
ú:ne-nde: *skju-ki-n-fu-a*
friend.def-com.dl.spi *run-3.sg.whl-hbt-gnrl-decl*
with the two friends *run she habitually*
 She has a habit of running with her two friends.

Abessive [abs]

Marks an absence of something. Colloquially it is used to describe not having enough of something.

	Singular	Dual	plural
Mundane	-if	-ku	-vu
Spiritual	-εʒ	-ix	-ʒi

ivɔ xmízmbif skjukivɔʒa
ivo: *xmíz-mbi-if* *skju-ki-v-ɔʒ-a*
3.pos.sg *hat.def-gen.sg-abs.sg* *run-3.sg.whl-cncl-sgt-decl*
his/hers/its *without the hat* *run she did*
 She ran without her hat.

Translative [trns]

Marks the transition of a noun as changing from one distinct object to another, and is applied to both nouns. The initially placed noun always occurs prior to the destination noun within a clause.

	Singular	Dual	plural
Mundane	-li	-ɔʃ	-mɪ
Spiritual	-ʃɔ	-im	-ʒε

ifm̩mbʲaʒmɪ òttali vmbaŋguexixŋgiŋgə
ifmi:-mbʲ:aʒ-mi ò:*tta-li* *vmba:-ŋgu-ex-ix-ŋgi-a-ŋge:*
scrap-fabric.def-trns.pl *dress.indf-trns.sg* *sew-3.pl.whl-3.sg.erg-cur-hrsy-decl-skill*
the scrap fabric *into a dress* *sew it she is heard skillfully*
 I hear she is skillfully sewing the scrap fabrics into a dress.

VERBS

Behavior of Verb Stems

In Zír verb stems do not change form, except where illegal vowel/consonant clusters or combinations occur as dictated by the morphophonological and allophonic rules.

Verb Phrase Formation

The elements we would normally consider to be part of a verbal phrase in English are agglutinated into the verb itself in Zír, including most adverbs.

Verbs are formed with the following formula:

<verb stem + absolutive agreement + ergative agreement + polarity + aspect + (mood) + (manner) + (skill)>

ifm̩mbʲaʒmɪ òttali vmbaŋguexixŋgiŋgə
ifmi:-mbʲ:aʒ-mi ò:*tta-li* *vmba:-ŋgu-ex-ix-ŋgi-a-ŋge:*
scrap-fabric.def-trns.pl *dress.indf-trns.sg* *sew-3.pl.whl-3.sg.erg-cur-hrsy-decl-skill*
the scrap fabric *into a dress* *sew it she is heard skillfully*
 I hear she is skillfully sewing the scrap fabrics into a dress.

Verb Case Agreement

Verbs mark case agreement with agent and patient, but do not differentiate between spiritual and mundane.

Absolutive

Wholative [whl]

Absolutive case marks the core argument of an intransitive verb, or the patient of a transitive verb that is completely affected, or is considered as a whole (“the entire staff” would be wholative rather than partitive, for example).

	Singular	Dual	plural
1 st person inclusive	-ʒa	-vɛ	-iʒ
1 st person exclusive		-ka	-xa
2 nd person	-ri	-nda	-ɔn
3 rd person	-ki	-zu	-ŋgu

néaziza *sunḡakizɔlevzɔa*
néazi-za *sunna:-ki-zɔ-l-εv-zɔ-a*
house.def-whl.sg *paint-3.whl.sg-1.erg.sg-neg-cncl-sgt-decl*
all of the house *paint it I not did*
 I did not paint the whole house.

Partitive [prt]

Partitive case marks the core argument of an intransitive verb, or the patient of a transitive verb that is incompletely affected, or when considered a part of a whole (“some of the staff”, etc).

	Singular	Dual	plural
1 st person inclusive	-is	-rε	-kɔ
1 st person exclusive		-ηγε	-tu
2 nd person	-mbi	-pɪ	-ɔʒ
3 rd person	-fɔ	-am	-ɔs

néaziri *sunḡafɔzɔvzɔa*
néazi-ri *sunna:-fɔ-zɔ-v-zɔ-a*
house.def-prt.sg *paint-3.prt.sg-1.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl*
part of the house *paint it I did*
 I painted part of the house.

Ergative [erg]

Ergative case marks the agent of a transitive verb.

	Singular	Dual	Plural
1 st person inclusive	-zɔ	-ir	-ap
1 st person exclusive		-vɔ	-sε
2 nd person	-im	-lɔ	-iz
3 rd person	-εx	-ma	-mbɔ

néaziza *Flámitu* *sunḡakiεxevηgia*
néazi-za *Flámi-tu* *sunna:-ki-εx-εv-ηgi-a*
house.def-whl.sg *Flami.def-erg.spi.sg* *paint-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-cncl-hrsy-decl*
the whole house *Flami* *paint it she did heard*
 I heard Flami painted the whole house.

Polarity [∅/neg]

Positive polarity is unmarked. Negative verbs are marked with -al/-l-.

néaziza *sunḡakizɔlevzɔa*
néazi-za *sunna:-ki-zɔ-l-εv-zɔ-a*
house.def-whl.sg *paint-3.whl.sg-1.erg.sg-neg-cncl-sgt-decl*
all of the house *paint it I not did*
 I did not paint the whole house.

In colloquial speech, where a noun would be marked with negative existence (ex: “she is not here”), the negative polarity marker may be added to the noun instead of an existence verb.

Flámixau
Flámi.def-xa-l
Flami-3.sg.whl-neg
Flami not
 Flami isn’t here.

Aspect Marking

Verbs unmarked for aspect are infinitives.

Imperfective [imp]

The imperfective states is related to actions that are ongoing, habitual, repeated, or similar.

Continuative [cont]

The action is continuous over a significant amount of time; stative.

-r- / -ar-

rùmko	зweаzamborleа
<i>rùm-ko:</i>	<i>zwea:-za-mbɔ-r-le:-a</i>
<i>rum.indf-erg.pl</i>	<i>please-1.whl.sg-3.erg.pl-cont-otr-decl</i>
<i>rum</i>	<i>pleases I it</i>

I like rum.

Iterative [itr]

Something that happens at short regular intervals in a repeated fashion (one after another; again and again)

-nn- / -ann-

réixa	зdiekinmɔa
<i>réi-xa</i>	<i>zdie:-ki-nn-mɔ-a</i>
<i>dog.def-whl.sg</i>	<i>jump-3.whl.sg-itr-inf-decl</i>
<i>the dog</i>	<i>jump it</i>

The dog jumps all the time.

Habitual [hbt]

Is something a habit

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-n- / -in-

únende	skjukinfua
<i>ú:nε-nde:</i>	<i>skju-ki-n-fu-a</i>
<i>friend.def-com.dl.spi</i>	<i>run-3.sg.whl-hbt-gnrl-decl</i>
<i>with the two friends</i>	<i>run she habitually</i>

She has a habit of running with her two friends.

Currentive [cur]

Indicates an event that has begun but not finished at the relevant time. This does *not* mean that it is currently in motion.

-x- / -ix-

ixixlávεν	ndaζaxζα
<i>ixi:xláv-εν</i>	<i>nda-ζα-x-ζα-a</i>
<i>learn-place-al.sg</i>	<i>go-1.whl.sg-cur-sgt-decl</i>
<i>to school</i>	<i>go I</i>

I go to school.

Progressive [prg]

Indicates that an event is currently going on at the relevant time.

-3- / -a3-

nònzeζα	mínutu	uòndmìkixaxζα
<i>nònze-ζα</i>	<i>mínu:-tu</i>	<i>uo:ndmi:-ki-ex-a3-ζα-a</i>
<i>flower.indf-whl.sg</i>	<i>girl.def-erg.spi.sg</i>	<i>plant-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-prg-sgt-decl</i>
<i>a flower</i>	<i>the girl</i>	<i>planting it she I see</i>

The girl is planting a flower.

Perfective

The perfective speaks of an action that is viewed as a simple whole.

Conclusive [cncl]

An action that is considered concluded at time of relevance. (May be relevant to the statement. Ex.: "When I'm done eating, I will join you." "Done eating" would be considered conclusive.)

-v- / -εv-

nònzeζα	fátun	uòndmìkixεvζα
<i>nònze-ζα</i>	<i>fátu-in</i>	<i>uo:ndmi:-ki-ex-εv-ζα-a</i>
<i>flower.indf-whl.sg</i>	<i>boy.def-erg.spi.pl</i>	<i>plant-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl</i>
<i>a flower</i>	<i>the boys</i>	<i>planted it he I saw</i>

The boys planted a flower.

Prophetative [prf]

An action that is known to be completed, but has not yet begun at the time of relevance (and thus cannot be conclusive or currentive aspect). Used for prophecy and for statements about things that occur after the time of relevance to a statement, but where the speaker is certain of its happening.

-m- / -am-

məsufna	vriau	jaʃɛnŋgumʃua
<i>məsuf-na</i>	<i>vri-al</i>	<i>jaʃɛn-ŋgu-m-fu-a</i>
<i>everyone-whl.spi.pl</i>	<i>there.far-ad.pl.spi</i>	<i>die-3.whl.pl-prf-gnrl-decl</i>
<i>everyone</i>	<i>over there</i>	<i>die they all will</i>

Everyone over there will die.

Momentive [mom]

The action takes only a moment to be complete.

-s- / -is-

ʃɔnʒa	nìakiɛxazɔ	Ndgóxa	vɓankimise
<i>ʃɔn-ʒa</i>	<i>nìa-ki-ɛx-aʒ-ɔ</i>	<i>Ndgó:xa</i>	<i>vba:n-ki-im-is-e:</i>
<i>what-whl.sg</i>	<i>eat.indf-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-prg-des</i>	<i>Joe.def-whl.spi.sg</i>	<i>ask-3.whl.sg-2.erg.sg-mom-imp</i>
<i>what</i>	<i>eat it he wants</i>	<i>Joe</i>	<i>ask him you</i>

Ask Joe what he wants to eat.

Monumentive [mon]

The conclusion of this event is considered very important or to have major impact. It does not matter whether it has already been completed or not, but it must be viewed as a single unit.

-luʒ- / -uʒ-

ndja	Máritu	ŋgliɔfkiɛxluʒɔʒa	Márixaxa
<i>ndja</i>	<i>máry-tu</i>	<i>ŋgliɔf-ki-ɛx-luʒ-ɔʒa</i>	<i>mári-xa</i>
<i>if</i>	<i>mary.def-erg.sg.spi</i>	<i>attack-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-mon-sub</i>	<i>mary.def-whl.sg.spi</i>
<i>if</i>	<i>Mary</i>	<i>attack him she</i>	<i>Mary</i>

jaʃɛnkirmoʒa
jaʃɛn-ki-r-mɔ-ɔʒa-a
die-3.whl.sg-cont-inf-sub-decl
die she be would

If Mary attacked him, Mary would be dead.

Mood

It is grammatically acceptable to have only a primary mood, or a primary mood and a secondary mood, however the secondary mood always precedes the primary mood in the verb structure.

Epistemic mood is required for all declarative statements, but is optional or negatively required in all others.

Primary mood is required in independent clauses, and not allowed in dependent clauses.

Epistemic

Indicates the level of evidence the speaker has for the statement.

Sight [sgt]

The speaker knows from being there and seeing that they are saying has or has not happened.

-ʒɔ-

ixìxlávεν	ndaʒaxʒɔa
<i>ixi-xláv-εν</i>	<i>nda-ʒa-x-ʒɔ-a</i>
<i>learn-place-al.sg</i>	<i>go-1.whl.sg-cur-sgt-decl</i>
<i>to school</i>	<i>go I</i>

I go to school.

Other Senses [otr]

The speaker knows directly through any sense other than sight that what they are saying is true.

-le-

rùmko	ʒweʒambɔrleʒa
<i>rùm-ko:</i>	<i>ʒwea:-ʒa-mbɔ-r-le:-a</i>
<i>rum.indf-erg.pl</i>	<i>please-1.whl.sg-3.erg.pl-cont-otr-decl</i>
<i>rum</i>	<i>pleases I it</i>

I like rum.

Hearsay [hrs]

The speaker was not present and has instead heard the information from someone else.

-ŋgi-

mbìixkix	nɛxaʒ	asuftu	niaεixŋgiɔʒa
<i>mbi:ix-ki-x</i>	<i>ne:xaʒ</i>	<i>asuf-tu</i>	<i>nia-εx-ix-ŋgi-ɔʒa-a</i>
<i>swim-3.whl.sg-cur</i>	<i>before</i>	<i>no.person-erg.sg.spi</i>	<i>eat-3.erg.sg-cur-hrs-sub-decl</i>
<i>swimming they</i>	<i>before</i>	<i>nobody</i>	<i>eat they should</i>

They say nobody should eat before swimming.

Inference from Evidence [inf]

The speaker can examine evidence and be reasonably certain that what they are saying is true. This mood is used for declarative statements in which the speaker is declaring something that has not yet occurred (and for which they cannot have observed it, but which they assert will happen), and which they are not prophesying.

-mɔ-

ixìxlávεν	ndarilevmɔa
<i>ixi-xláv-εν</i>	<i>nda-ri-l-εν-mɔ-a</i>
<i>learn-place-al.sg</i>	<i>go-2.whl.sg-neg-cncl-inf-decl</i>
<i>to school</i>	<i>go you not did</i>

You did not go to school.

General Knowledge [gnrl]

The speaker assumes that something is true and that the listener will agree.

-fu-

vriza	márivø	néazimbi	sakirfua
vri-za	mári-vo:	néazi-za	sa-ki-r-fu-a
that.far-whl.sg	Mary.def-gen.sg.spi	house.def-whl.sg	copula-3.sg.whl-cont-gnrl-decl
that	Mary's	the house	it is

That is Mary's house.

Secondary Mood

Exclamatory [excl]

Exclamation. He ran 20 miles!

-afa-

safa,	xbwíev	tjaʃttanguzu	fwàfumamø
safa,	xbwí-εv	tja:ftta-ηgu-zø	fwà:fuma:-mø
exclamation,	dance.def-al.sg	wear-3.whl.pl-1.erg.sg	clothes.indf-whl.pl
Oh,	to the dance	to wear them I	clothes any

ʃaʃavηguzølarzøaʃa
 ʃa:ʃav-ηgu-zø-l-ar-zø-afa-a
 own-3.whl.pl-1.erg.sg-neg-cont-sgt-excl-decl
 own them I do not

Oh goodness, I not have any clothes to wear to the dance!

Subjunctive [sub]

Wishy-washy statements. "Might," "could," "would." "This might be a good idea..." Also used for potentialities that did not come to pass. The possibilities often require context to be understood.

-zøa-

mbázza	názpu	vusakivmøza
mbáz-za	náz-pu	vu:sa-ki-v-mø-zøa
door.def-whl.sg	key.def-inst.sg	open-3.sg.whl-cncl-infrnc-sub
the door	with the key	open she did could

She could have opened the door with the key.

ndja	Máritu	ηgliøfkiexluzøza	Márixaxa
ndja	máry-tu	ηgliøf-ki-ex-luz-øza	mári-xa
if	mary.def-erg.sg.spi	attack-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-mon-sub	mary.def-whl.sg.spi
if	Mary	attack him she	Mary

jaʃenkirmøza
 jaʃen-ki-r-mø-zøa-a
 die-3.whl.sg-cont-inf-sub-decl
 die she be would

If Mary attacked him, Mary would be dead.

Desirative [des]

Indicating desire for the verb to happen or not happen (in the case of a negative verb)

-lø-

ἵνα	νῆακιεαζλο	Ndgόxa	vbankimise
ἵνα-ζα	nia-ki-ex-az-lo	Ndgό:xa	vba:n-ki-im-is-e:
what-whl.sg	eat.indf-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-prg-des	Joe.def-whl.spi.sg	ask-3.whl.sg-2.erg.sg-mom-imp
what	eat it he wants	Joe	ask him you

Ask Joe what he wants to eat.

Primary Mood

Primary mood is only used with the main and final verb in an independent clause. In all other cases, primary mood is omitted.

Declarative [decl]

Statement. This is a statement.

-a-

ἰξῖλάνεν	ndaηguvmα
ixi:xláv-εν	nda-ηgu-v-mα-a
learn-place-al.sg	go-3.whl.pl-cncl-inf-decl
to school	went they

They went to school.

Interrogative [int]

Question. Is this a question?

-i-

μβύεζα	xlqaz	trivkiri
mbú:e-ζα	xlo:az	triv-ki-r-i
bathroom.def-whl.sg	where-ad	exist-3.whl.sg-cont-int
the bathroom	at where	exists it?

Where is the bathroom?

Imperative [imp]

Command or prohibition. Don't say that!

-e-

ἵνα	νῆακιεαζλο	Ndgόxa	vbankimise
ἵνα-ζα	nia-ki-ex-az-lo	Ndgό:xa	vba:n-ki-im-is-e:
what-whl.sg	eat.indf-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-prg-des	Joe.def-whl.spi.sg	ask-3.whl.sg-2.erg.sg-mom-imp
what	eat it he wants	Joe	ask him you

Ask Joe what he wants to eat.

Skill

Implies that the agent or subject of the verb has particular skill in regards to the action described by the verb.

- ηγε

ifmimbíazmı	òttali	vmbaᅇguexixᅇgiangeᅇ
<i>ifmi:-mbí:a3-mı</i>	<i>ò:tta-li</i>	<i>vmba:-ᅇgu-ex-ix-ᅇgi-a-ᅇge:</i>
<i>scrap-fabric.def-trns.pl</i>	<i>dress.indf-trns.sg</i>	<i>sew-3.pl.whl-3.sg.erg-cur-hrsy-decl-skill</i>
<i>the scrap fabric</i>	<i>into a dress</i>	<i>sew it she is heard skillfully</i>

I hear she is skillfully sewing the scrap fabrics into a dress.

PREPOSITIONS

Zı̄r uses noun cases instead of most prepositions, however there are still a few prepositions that may be included in the verb phrase similar to manner adjectives.

above	rɔ̄zɑ
across	tnı̄f
after	exɑ̄z
against	ᅇga3xnɔ̄
along	olnı̄
as	ab
because	3mbas
behind	kmı̄xnɑ̄
below	u3
between	ı̄fa
beyond	ɔ̄zku

but	xma
down	jānda
except	ixnnu3mi
like	nɔ̄z
near	vdni
next	u3gan
off	fi
on	su
until	mbnlɔ̄n
up	zav
versus	fmiɔ̄

ADJECTIVES

Adjectives are treated as a subclass of verbs in Zı̄r. To translate “She is tall” from English into Zı̄r, one would in essence be saying “She tall.” The same is true of color terms, and “The book is red” would be said “The book reds.”

vı̄vtta3a	fmwikır3ɔ̄a
<i>vı̄vtta-3a</i>	<i>fmwi-ki-r-3ɔ̄-a</i>
<i>book.def-whl.sg</i>	<i>red-3.whl.sg-cont-sgt-decl</i>
<i>the book</i>	<i>reds it</i>

The book is red.

ADVERBS

Adverbs of Manner

Adverbs of manner are not considered free morphemes, or even a part of speech, in Zı̄r, rather being an affix attached to the verb in a clause.

ı̄vɔ̄kı̄fxa	fazakiexazı̄fnɔ̄fu
<i>ı̄vɔ̄kis-xa</i>	<i>fazɑ̄-ki-ex-a3-a-fnɔ̄fu</i>
<i>3.sg.reflexive-whl.spi.sg</i>	<i>hug-3.sg.whl-3.sg.erg-prog-decl-tight</i>
<i>himself</i>	<i>hug he him now tightly.</i>

He is hugging himself tightly.

Temporal Adverbs

Unlike adverbs of manner, temporal adverbs are a distinct class in Zír. While they are not required, most speakers generally prefer to use them regularly in discourse. Words that convey a relationship in time “during,” “before,” “after” are not considered temporal adverbs.

Considered under temporal adverbs are: definitive time, and definite and indefinite frequencies.

dnùnza	mínutu	tji	ormi:ɔkiɛixɔa
<i>dnù:n-za</i>	<i>mínu:-tu</i>	<i>tji</i>	<i>o:rmi:ɔ-ki-ɛx-ix-ɔɔ-a</i>
<i>book.indf-whl.sg</i>	<i>girl.def-erg.spi.sg</i>	<i>yesterday</i>	<i>read-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-cur-sgt-decl</i>
<i>a book</i>	<i>the girl</i>	<i>yesterday</i>	<i>read it she</i>

The girl was reading a book yesterday.

Definitive Time

now	aris
then	ira
today	ilof
tomorrow	kaf
yesterday	tji
day after tomorrow	famis
day before yesterday	mɔav

Definite Frequency

hourly	tɔiz
daily	oʃiz
weekly	uʃiz
fortnightly	uvtmɔziz

monthly	wɛniz
seasonally	xlusiz
yearly	ndwɔʃniz

Indefinite Frequency

always/never	sai
often/rarely	nittux
sometimes	fjuf

When used with a positive verb, these frequency adverbs have a positive meaning, when used with a negative verb, they have a negative meaning.

nittux	safxɔnɛxalɛvɔa
<i>nittux</i>	<i>safxo:n-ɛx-al-ɛv-ɔɔ-a</i>
<i>little.freq</i>	<i>fight-3.erg.sg-neg-cncl-sgt-decl</i>
<i>rarely</i>	<i>fight she not did</i>

She rarely fought.

nittux	safxɔnɛxɛvɔa
<i>nittux</i>	<i>safxo:n-ɛx-ɛv-ɔɔ-a</i>
<i>little.freq</i>	<i>fight-3.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl</i>
<i>often</i>	<i>fight she did</i>

She often fought.

SIMPLE SENTENCES

A simple sentence constitutes a single independent clause.

Constituent Order

Simple declarative, hortative, imperative, exclamative, and interrogative clauses all have the same order of constituents within the phrase, although there is a minor difference with some interrogative clauses.

<(absolute noun phrase) + (ergative noun phrase) + (locative noun phrase) + (dative noun phrase) + (benefactive/commative/abessive/translative noun phrase) + (instrument noun phrase) + (temporal phrase) + verb phrase>

Interrogative Clauses

Content

The question word simply replaces the relevant content noun phrase in the standard constituent order.

sufxa	fazaɛxazi
<i>suf-xa</i>	<i>faza-e:x-az-i</i>
<i>who-whl.spi.sg</i>	<i>hug-3.sg.erg-prog-int</i>
<i>who</i>	<i>hug he now?</i>

Who is he hugging?

Yes/No

Normal constituent order. Marked only with interrogative mood and final upwards intonation.

zóznezi	nóafxá	ivə	ízmbəzxa	sakiri
<i>zózne-zi</i>	<i>nóa:f-xa</i>	<i>ivo:</i>	<i>ízmbə:z-xa</i>	<i>sa-ki-r-i</i>
<i>flower.def-com.pl</i>	<i>man.def-whl.spi.sg</i>	<i>3.pos</i>	<i>uncle.def-whl.spi.sg</i>	<i>copula-3.whl.sg-cont-int</i>
<i>the flowers</i>	<i>the man</i>	<i>her</i>	<i>the uncle</i>	<i>he is?</i>

Is the man with the flowers her uncle?

Disjunctive

There are two variations on the disjunctive “or” questions in Zír; one which allows choice of one of the list or whether you want something at all. (As in “would you like coffee or tea?” can be answered “no thank you” or “tea.”) However in either case, the structure is the same. Simply stick the appropriate morpheme between the options in the same way “or” is used in English.

Juri	dnùnɪm	pafiskkukìzɔfza	fa	tùruvzə
<i>ju:ri</i>	<i>dnù:n-in</i>	<i>pafiskku-kìzɔf-za</i>	<i>fa</i>	<i>tù:ruv-zo:</i>
<i>some</i>	<i>books.indf-erg.pl.spi</i>	<i>moss-log.indf-whl.sg</i>	<i>or</i>	<i>bowl.indf-gen.sg</i>
<i>some</i>	<i>books</i>	<i>a mossy log</i>	<i>or</i>	<i>a bowl of</i>
	əvpi:stɔfrùdmə		sakimbərleəɔivdi	
	<i>a:vpi:-sto:n-frù:t-mə</i>		<i>sa-ki-mbɔ-r-le:-a-o:i:vdi</i>	
	<i>overripe-stone-fruit.indf-whl.pl</i>		<i>copula-3.whl.sg-3.erg.pl-cont-otr-decl-permissable</i>	
	<i>overripe stone fruits</i>		<i>be it they permissable</i>	

Some books are permitted to be a mossy log, or a bowl of overripe stone fruit.

COMPLEX SENTENCES

Compound Sentences

In English a compound sentence consists of two or more independent clauses connected with a coordinating conjunction, but in Z̄ir a sentence may have only one independent clause. This means that even compound sentences are formed with only a single independent clause attached to dependent clauses. However, independent clauses are easy to turn into dependent clauses, simply by removing any verbal mood. The coordinating conjunction is suffixed to the last word in the dependent clause, which in a compound sentence always precedes the independent clause.

sakiv̄ngi	xma,	z̄ik̄im̄inḡux̄zu	z̄ir̄na
sa-ki-v-ηgi	xma	z̄ik̄imi-ηgu-x-ṣṣ	z̄i:r-na
<i>copula-3.whl.sg-cncl-inf</i>	<i>neg.conj</i>	<i>make-3.whl.pl-cur-sgt</i>	<i>language.indf-whl.pl.spi</i>
<i>it has been done,</i>	<i>but</i>	<i>making them</i>	<i>languages</i>
ḗṇammuf̄ηgur̄ṣṣa.			
<i>e:na:mmuf-ηgu-r-ṣṣ-a</i>			
<i>difficult-3.whl.pl-cont-decl</i>			
<i>is difficult</i>			

Making languages is difficult, but it has been done.

Coordinating Conjunctions

For	sklai
And	ndla
Nor	fma
But	xma
Or (pick one of list)	fa
Or (pick yes/no for whole list)	fra
Yet	ηgme
So	fei

COMPLEX CLAUSES

A complex clause contains one independent clause, with one or more dependent clauses attached by a subordinating conjunction (suffixed at the end of the dependent clause). Independent clauses are easy to turn into dependent clauses, simply by removing any verbal mood, and suffixing the subordinating conjunction to the last word in the clause.

Subordinate (Adverbial) Clauses

A subordinate clause is a dependent clause that answers a question about how, when, where, or why something occurs.

nd̄ev̄im̄armu	ḗzusa	n̄iṣ̄ez̄ov̄ṣṣa
nde:v-im-ar-mo	e:zusa:	ni:ṣ̄e-z̄o-v-ṣṣ-a
<i>sleep-2.erg.sg-cont-infrnc</i>	<i>while</i>	<i>eat-1.erg.sg-conc-sgt-declf</i>
<i>you were asleep</i>	<i>while</i>	<i>I ate</i>

I ate while you were asleep.

támafɛv	ndaʒavʒɔndusna	mínɔtu	njuvɪʒaɛxɛvʒɔa
támaf-ɛv	nda-ʒa-v-ʒɔ:-ndusna	mínu:-tu	njuvi:-ʒa-ɛx-ɛv-ʒɔ-a
park.def-al.sg	go-whl.1.sg-cncl-sgt-after	girl.indf-erg.spi.sg	meet-whl.1.sg-erg.3.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
to the park	I went after	a girl	I met her

I met a girl after I went to the park.

Subordinating Conjunctions

after	ndusna
although	ɲguro
as	kaʃ
because	ʒmbas
before	nɛxaz
even though	ɲgwɔ
if	ndja
since	ittɪʒi

though	keʒil
unless	fjafo
until	mbna
when	vɛxna
whenever	vɛxnaɪv
whereas	kaɣlɔ
wherever	xloɪv
while	ɛzusa

Relative (Adjective) Clauses [rel]

A relative clause in English begins with a relative pronoun (who, whom, whose, which, that) or relative adverb (when, where, why) and fills in information about what kind, how many, or which one. The entire relative clause precedes the phrase which it modifies.

In Z̄ɪr relative clauses are marked with a relative clause marker at the end of the clause.

-iva-

Máriɪm	ʒɪrkiɛxazʒɔiva
Mári:-im	zi:r-ki-ɛx-aʒ-ʒɔ-iva
Mary.def-dat.spi.sg	speak-whl.3.sg-erg.3.sg-prg-sgt-rel
to mary	speaking she she that
mínɔtu	njuvɪʒaɛxɛvʒɔa
mínu:-tu	njuvi:-ʒa-ɛx-ɛv-ʒɔ-a
girl.def-erg.spi.sg	meet-whl.1.sg-erg.3.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
the girl	I met her

I met the girl who was talking to Mary.

In colloquial speech, verbs in relative clauses drop nearly all repetitive information.

Máriɪm	ʒɪraʒiva	mínɔtu	njuvɪʒaɛxɛvʒɔa
Mári:-im	zi:r-aʒ-iva	mínu:-tu	njuvi:-ʒa-ɛx-ɛv-ʒɔ-a
Mary.def-d.spi.sg	speak-prg-rel	girl.def-erg.spi.sg	meet-whl.1.sg-erg.3.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
to mary	speaking that	the girl	I met her

I met the girl who was talking to Mary.

Noun Clauses

A noun clause that fills the role of a noun.

In noun clauses, all other elements follow the head noun or pronoun, but in the same order they would otherwise come preceding the noun in a regular noun phrase.

zóznezi	nóafxá	ivø	ízmbèzxa	sakiri
zózne-zi	nóa:f-xa	ivo:	ízmbè:z-xa	sa-ki-ηrg-i
flower.def-com.pl	man.def-whl.spi.sg	3.pos	uncle.def-whl.spi.sg	copula-3.whl.sg-cont-int
the flowers	the man	her	the uncle	he is?

Is the man with the flowers her uncle?

zóznezi	nóafxá	ivø	ízmbèzxa	sakialra
zózne-zi	nóa:f-xa	ivo:	ízmbè:z-xa	sa-ki-al-r-a
flower.def-com.pl	man.def-whl.spi.sg	3.pos	uncle.def-whl.spi.sg	copula-3.whl.sg-neg-cont-decl
the flowers	the man	her	the uncle	he not is

The man with the flowers is not her uncle.

GLOSSES

zøvø	mavø	sunnàkizøvzøa
zø:ve:	mave:	sunna:-ki-zø-v-zø-a
3.whl.sg	1.erg.sg	paint-3.whl.sg-1.erg.sg-conc-sgt-decl
it.all	I	I painted it all.

I painted it completely.

zøv	mavø	sunnàføzøvzøa
zø:v	mave:	sunna:-fø-zø-v-zø-a
3.prt.sg	1.erg.sg	paint-3.prt.sg-1.erg.sg-conc-sgt-decl
it.some	I	I painted some of it.

I painted some of it.

zøvø	mivø	sunnàkizøvzøa
zø:ve:	mive:	sunna:-ki-zø-v-zø-a
3.whl.sg	3.erg.sg	paint-3.whl.sg-1.erg.sg-conc-sgt-decl
it.all	she/he	I painted it all.

She/he painted it completely.

ifxa	axø	xrǎzxa	sakirfua
is-xa	axo:	xrǎ:z-xa	sa-ki-r-fu-a
this-whl.spi.sg	1.sg.pos	cat.def-whl.spi.sg	copula-3.sg.whl-cont-gnrl-decl
this	my	the cat	it is

This is my cat.

ndaxa	axø	xrǎzxa	sakirfua
nda-xa	axo:	xrǎ:z-xa	sa-ki-r-fu-a
that.near.you-whl.spi.sg	1.sg.pos	cat.def-whl.spi.sg	copula-3.sg.whl-cont-gnrl-decl
that	my	the cat	it is

That (by you) is my cat.

vrixa	axø	xrǎzxa	sakirfua
vri-xa	axo:	xrǎ:z-xa	sa-ki-r-fu-a
that.far-whl.spi.sg	1st.sg.pos	cat.def-whl.spi.sg	copula-3.sg.whl-cont-gnrl-decl
that	my	the cat	it is

That (over there) is my cat.

mɔsufna zɪrŋguxlə
 mɔsuf-na zi:r-ŋgu-x-le:-a
 everyone-whl.spi.pl speak-3.pl.whl-cur-sense-decl
 everyone speak they.all (I hear)
 Everyone speaks.

ivɔkɪʃxa faʒakiexaʒifnɔfu
 ivɔkɪs-xa faʒa-ki-ex-aʒ-i-fnɔfu
 3.sg.reflexive-whl.spi.sg hug-3.sg.whl-3.sg.erg-prog-int-tight
 himself hug he him now tightly?
 Is he hugging himself tightly?

sufxa faʒaexaʒi
 suf-xa faʒa-e:x-aʒ-i
 who-whl.spi.sg hug-3.sg.erg-prog-int
 who hug he now?
 Who is he hugging?

faʒasufexaʒi
 faʒa-suf-e:x-aʒ-i
 hug-who-3.sg.erg-prog-int
 who hug he now?
 Who is he hugging?

zɪvum ʒndɔ
 zu:v-um ʒndo:
 two-twelve seven
 twenty four (+) seven
 thirty one

Zɪrɪr zɪrkizɔxa
 zɪ:r-ir zi:r-fɔ-zɔ-x-a
 speak.def-prt.sg speak-3.sg.prt-1.sg.erg-curr-decl
 The language part of speak some I do.
 I speak some Zɪr.

nɛaʒisùnnə
 nɛaʒi-sùnnə:
 house-paint.indef
 a house paint

nɛaʒizə sunnəkizɔlɛvʒə
 nɛaʒi-zə sunna:-ki-zɔ-l-ɛv-ʒə-a
 house.def-whl.sg paint-3.whl.sg-1.erg.sg-neg-cncl-sgt-decl
 all of the house paint it I not did
 I did not paint the whole house.

nɛaʒiri sunnəfɔzɔvʒə

néazi-ri *sunna:-fɔ-zɔ-v-zɔ-a*
house.def-prt.sg *paint-3.prt.sg-1.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl*
part of the house *paint it I did*
 I painted part of the house.

néazi:za *Flámitu* *sunna:kiexevngia*
néazi-za *Flámi-tu* *sunna:-ki-ex-ev-ηgi-a*
house.def-whl.sg *Flami.def-erg.spi.sg* *paint-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-cncl-hrsy-decl*
the whole house *Flami* *paint it she did heard*
 I heard Flami painted the whole house.

zòznere *ivo* *fkámim* *izafkimavngia*
zòznε-re *ivo:* *fkámi-im* *izaf-ki-ma-v-ηgi-a*
flower.indf-erg.dl *3.pos.sg* *wóman.def-dat.spi.sg* *give-3.whl.sg-3.erg.dl-cncl-hrs-decl*
two flowers *he* *to his wife* *gave he it I heard*
 I hear he gave flowers to his wife.

vri:za *márivero* *néazimbi* *sakirfua*
vri-za *mári-vo:* *néazi-za* *sa-ki-r-fu-a*
that.far-whl.sg *Mary.def-gen.sg.spi* *house.def-whl.sg* *copula-3.sg.whl-cont-gnrl-decl*
that *Mary's* *the house* *it is*
 That is Mary's house.

Flámita *néazi:za* *sunna:kiexevi*
Flámi-ta *néazi-za* *sunna:-ki-ex-ev-i*
Flami.def-bnf.spi.sg *house.def-whl.sg* *paint-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-cncl-int*
for Flami *the whole house* *paint it she did?*
 She painted the whole house for Flami?

néazim *safkizɔa*
néazi-im *sa:ef-ki-z-zɔ-a*
house.def-en.sg *stand-3.sg.whl-prg-sgt-decl*
outside the house *stand she is*
 She is standing outside the house.

néazipo *safkizɔa*
néazi-po: *sa:ef-ki-z-zɔ-a*
house.def-in.sg *stand-3.sg.whl-sgt-decl*
inside the house *stand she*
 She is standing inside the house.

néazipe *skjukilvmɔa*
néazi-pe *skju-ki-l-v-mɔ-a*
house.def-el.sg *run-3.sg.whl-neg-cncl-infrnc-decl*
out of the house *run she not did*
 She did not run out of the house.

néazite skjukivʒa
 néazi-te skju-ki-v-ʒa-a
house.def-il.sg *run-3.sg.whl-cncl-sgt-decl*
into the house *run she did*
 She ran into the house.

néaziaʒ saɛʃkiʒʒa
 néazi-aʒ sa:ɛf-ki-ʒ-ʒa-a
house.def-ad.sg *stand-3.sg.whl-prg-sgt-decl*
at the house *stand she is*
 She is standing at the house.

néaziɛv skjukiʒʒa
 néazi-ɛv skju-ki-ʒ-ʒa-a
house.def-al.sg *run-3.sg.whl-prg-sgt-decl*
towards the house *run she is*
 She is running towards the house.

néazixu skjukivʒa
 néazi-xu skju-ki-v-ʒa-a
house.def-ed.sg *run-3.sg.whl-cncl-sgt-decl*
away from the house *run she did*
 She ran away from the house.

néazixu nɔ́kkɔsɛv skjukivʒa
 néazi-xu nɔ́kkɔs-ɛv skju-ki-v-ʒa-a
house.def-ed.sg *garden.def-al.sg* *run-3.sg.whl-cncl-sgt-decl*
from the house *to the garden* *run she did*
 She ran from the house to the garden.

néaziʒɛ skjukivʒa
 néazi-ʒɛ: skju-ki-v-ʒa-a
house.def-cr.sg *run-3.sg.whl-cncl-sgt-decl*
around the house *run she did*
 She ran around the house.

mbázza náʒpu vʉsakivmʒa
 mbáz-za náʒ-pu vu:sa-ki-v-mʒ-ʒa
door.def-whl.sg *key.def-inst.sg* *open-3.sg.whl-cncl-infrnc-sub*
the door *with the key* *open she did could*
 She could have opened the door with the key.

únɛndɛ skjukinfua
 ú:ne-nde: skju-ki-n-fu-a
friend.def-com.dl.spl *run-3.sg.whl-hbt-gnrl-decl*
with the two friends *run she habitually*
 She has a habit of running with her two friends.

ivɔ xɪmízmbiɪf skjukivɔʒa
 ivo: xɪmíz-mbi-ɪf skju-ki-v-ɔʒ-a
 3.pos.sg hat.def-gen.sg-abs.sg run-3.sg.whl-cncl-sgt-decl
 his/hers/its without the hat run she did
 She ran without her hat.

ifmɪmbɪʒmɪ ɔttali vmbaŋguexixŋgiŋgɛ
 ifmi:-mbɪ:ʒ-mɪ ɔ:ttali vmba:-ŋgu-ex-ix-ŋgi-a-ŋgɛ:
 scrap-fabric.def-trns.pl dress.indf-trns.sg sew-3.pl.whl-3.sg.erg-cur-hrsy-decl-skill
 the scrap fabric into a dress sew it she is heard skillfully
 I hear she is skillfully sewing the scrap fabrics into a dress.

Flámixau
 Flámi.def-xa-l
 Flami-3.sg.whl-neg
 Flami not
 Flami isn't here.

ivɔkɪʃxa faʒakiexaʒifnɔfu
 ivɔkis-xa faʒa-ki-ex-aʒ-a-fnɔfu
 3.sg.reflexive-whl.spi.sg hug-3.sg.whl-3.sg.erg-prog-decl-tight
 himself hug he him now tightly.
 He is hugging himself tightly.

vívttaza ʃmwikirɔʒa
 vívttaz-a ʃmwi-ki-r-ɔʒ-a
 book.def-whl.sg red-3.whl.sg-cont-sgt-decl
 the book reds it
 The book is red.

nittux safxɔnɛxalɛvɔʒa
 nittux safxo:n-ex-al-ev-ɔʒ-a
 little.freq fight-3.erg.sg-neg-cncl-sgt-decl
 rarely fight she not did
 She rarely fought.

nittux safxɔnɛxɛvɔʒa
 nittux safxo:n-ex-ev-ɔʒ-a
 little.freq fight- 3.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
 often fight she did
 She often fought.

ndɛvɪmarmu ɛʒusa niʃɛzɔvɔʒa
 nde:v-ɪm-ar-mo e:ʒusa: ni:ʃɛ-zɔ-v-ɔʒ-a
 sleep-2.erg.sg-cont-infrnc while eat-1.erg.sg-conc-sgt-declf
 you were asleep while I ate
 I ate while you were asleep.

támafɛv	ndaʒavʒɔndusna	mínɔtu	njuvɪʒaɛxɛvʒɔa
támaf-ɛv	nda-ʒa-v-ʒo:-ndusna	mínu:-tu	njuvi:-ʒa-ɛx-ɛv-ʒɔ-a
park.def-al.sg	go-whl.1.sg-cncl-sgt-after	girl.indf-erg.spi.sg	meet-whl.1.sg-erg.3.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
to the park	I went after	a girl	I met her

I met a girl after I went to the park.

Máriḡm	ʒɪrkiɛxʒʒɔiva
Mári-im	zi:r-ki-ɛx-aʒ-ʒɔ-iva
Mary.def-dat.spi.sg	speak-whl.3.sg-erg.3.sg-prg-sgt-rel
to mary	speaking she she that
mínɔtu	njuvɪʒaɛxɛvʒɔa
mínu:-tu	njuvi:-ʒa-ɛx-ɛv-ʒɔ-a
girl.def-erg.spi.sg	meet-whl.1.sg-erg.3.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
the girl	I met her

I met the girl who was talking to Mary.

Máriḡm	ʒɪraʒiva	mínɔtu	njuvɪʒaɛxɛvʒɔa
Mári-im	zi:r-aʒ-iva	mínu:-tu	njuvi:-ʒa-ɛx-ɛv-ʒɔ-a
Mary.def-d.spi.sg	speak-prg-rel	girl.def-erg.spi.sg	meet-whl.1.sg-erg.3.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
to mary	speaking that	the girl	I met her

I met the girl who was talking to Mary.

ʃɔnʒa	niakiɛxʒɔ	Ndgóxa	vbaŋkɪmɪʃɛ
ʃɔn-ʒa	ni-a-ki-ɛx-aʒ-ɔ	Ndgó:xa	vba:n-ki-ɪm-ɪs-e:
what-whl.sg	eat.indf-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-prg-des	Joe.def-whl.spi.sg	ask-3.whl.sg-2.erg.sg-mom-imp
what	eat it he wants	Joe	ask him you

Ask Joe what he wants to eat.

zóznɛʒi	nóʌʃxa	ivo	ízmbɛʒxa	sakiri
zóznɛ-ʒi	nóa:f-xa	ivo:	ízmbɛ:ʒ-xa	sa-ki-r-i
flower.def-com.pl	man.def-whl.spi.sg	3.pos	uncle.def-whl.spi.sg	copula-3.whl.sg-cont-int
the flowers	the man	her	the uncle	he is?

Is the man with the flowers her uncle?

zóznɛʒi	nóʌʃxa	ivo	ízmbɛʒxa	sakialra
zóznɛ-ʒi	nóa:f-xa	ivo:	ízmbɛ:ʒ-xa	sa-ki-al-r-a
flower.def-com.pl	man.def-whl.spi.sg	3.pos	uncle.def-whl.spi.sg	copula-3.whl.sg-neg-cont-decl
the flowers	the man	her	the uncle	he not is

The man with the flowers is not her uncle.

ixɪxláven	ndaŋgumɔa
ixi:-xláv-ɛv	nda-ŋgu-v-mɔ-a
learn-place-al.sg	go-3.whl.pl-cncl-inf-decl
to school	went they

They went to school.

ixìxláven ndai3ev3a
ixi:xláv-εν *nda-i3-εν-3α-a*
learn-place-al.sg *go-1.whl.pl-cncl-sgt-decl*
to school *went we*
 We went to school.

ixìxláven nda3ax3a
ixi:xláv-εν *nda-3a-x-3α-a*
learn-place-al.sg *go-1.whl.sg-cur-sgt-decl*
to school *go I*
 I go to school.

ixìxláven ndarix3a
ixi:xláv-εν *nda-ri-x-3α-a*
learn-place-al.sg *go-2.whl.sg-cur-sgt-decl*
to school *go you*
 You go to school.

ixìxláven ndakixm3a
ixi:xláv-εν *nda-ki-x-m3-a*
learn-place-al.sg *go-3.whl.sg-cur-inf-decl*
to school *go she*
 She goes to school.

ixìxláven ndakixm3a
ixi:xláv-εν *nda-ki-x-m3-a*
learn-place-al.sg *go-3.whl.sg-cur-inf-decl*
to school *go he*
 He goes to school.

ixìxláven ndaηguxm3a
ixi:xláv-εν *nda-ηgu-x-m3-a*
learn-place-al.sg *go-3.whl.pl-cur-inf-decl*
to school *go they*
 They go to school.

ixìxláven ndai3ix3a
ixi:xláv-εν *nda-i3-ix-3α-a*
learn-place-al.sg *go-1.whl.pl-cur-sgt-decl*
to school *go we*
 We go to school.

dnùn3a οrmi3z3ax3a
dnù:n-3a *o:rmi:3-z3-x-3α-a*
book.indf-whl.sg *read-1.erg.sg-cur-sgt-decl*
a book *read I*
 I read a book. (current)

dnùnza օրմիջօրմիչա
dnù:n-za *o:rmi:ǝ-ǝm-x-ǝǝ-a*
book.indf-whl.sg *read-2.erg.sg-cur-sgt-decl*
a book *read you*
 You read a book. (current)

dnùnza օրմիջօրմիչա
dnù:n-za *o:rmi:ǝ-ǝx-x-ǝǝ-a*
book.indf-whl.sg *read-3.erg.sg-cur-sgt-decl*
a book *read she*
 She reads a book.

dnùnza օրմիջօրմիչա
dnù:n-za *o:rmi:ǝ-ǝx-x-ǝǝ-a*
book.indf-whl.sg *read-3.erg.sg-cur-sgt-decl*
a book *read he*
 He reads a book.

dnùnza օրմիջօրմիչա
dnù:n-za *o:rmi:ǝ-mbǝ-x-ǝǝ-a*
book.indf-whl.sg *read-3.erg.pl-cur-sgt-decl*
a book *read they*
 They read a book. (current)

dnùnza օրմիջօրմիչա
dnù:n-za *o:rmi:ǝ-ap-ǝx-ǝǝ-a*
book.indf-whl.sg *read-1.erg.pl-cur-sgt-decl*
a book *read we*
 We read a book. (current)

dnùnza օրմիջօրմիչա
dnù:n-za *o:rmi:ǝ-ǝǝ-v-ǝǝ-a*
book.indf-whl.sg *read-1.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl*
a book *read I*
 I read a book. (concluded)

dnùnza օրմիջօրմիչա
dnù:n-za *o:rmi:ǝ-ǝm-ǝv-ǝǝ-a*
book.indf-whl.sg *read-2.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl*
a book *read you*
 You read a book. (concluded)

dnùnza օրմիջօրմիչա
dnù:n-za *o:rmi:ǝ-ǝv-x-ǝǝ-a*
book.indf-whl.sg *read-3.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl*
a book *read she*
 She reads a book. (concluded)

dnùnza օրմիջենչա
 dnù:n-za օ:rmi:ճ-են-չ-ճ-ա
book.indf-whl.sg read-3.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
a book read he
 He reads a book. (concluded)

dnùnza օրմիջմբօնչա
 dnù:n-za օ:rmi:ճ-մբօ-ն-չ-ճ-ա
book.indf-whl.sg read-3.erg.pl-cncl-sgt-decl
a book read they
 They read a book. (concluded)

dnùnza օրմիջաբենչա
 dnù:n-za օ:rmi:ճ-աբ-են-չ-ճ-ա
book.indf-whl.sg read-1.erg.pl-cncl-sgt-decl
a book read we
 We read a book. (concluded)

nònzeՅա մինստ սօնմիկիւսենչա
 nònze-Յա մինս:տ սօ:ndmi:-ki-էս-են-չ-ճ-ա
flower.indf-whl.sg girl.def-erg.spi.sg plant-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
a flower the girl planted it she I saw
 The girl planted a flower.

nònzeՅա մինստ սօնմիկիւսաչճա
 nònze-Յա մինս:տ սօ:ndmi:-ki-էս-աչ-ճ-ճ-ա
flower.indf-whl.sg girl.def-erg.spi.sg plant-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-prg-sgt-decl
a flower the girl planting it she I see
 The girl is planting a flower.

nònzeՅա ճատն սօնմիկիւսենչա
 nònze-Յա ճատ:ն սօ:ndmi:-ki-էս-են-չ-ճ-ա
flower.indf-whl.sg boy.def-erg.spi.pl plant-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
a flower the boys planted it he I saw
 The boys planted a flower.

nònzeՅա ճատն սօնմիկիւսաչճա
 nònze-Յա ճատ:ն սօ:ndmi:-ki-էս-աչ-ճ-ճ-ա
flower.indf-whl.sg boy.def-erg.spi.pl plant-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-prg-sgt-decl
a flower the boys planting it she I see
 The boys are planting a flower.

դիարիշօճա
 դիարի-շօ-ճ-ճ-ա
hug-2.whl.sg-1.erg.sg-mom-sgt-decl
hug you I
 I hug you.

၇giaskiz၁s၃၁
၇gias-ki-z၁-s-၃၁-a
hug-3.whl.sg-1.erg.sg-mom-sgt-decl
hug her I
 I hug her.

၇giaskiz၁s၃၁
၇gias-ki-z၁-s-၃၁-a
hug-3.whl.sg-1.erg.sg-mom-sgt-decl
hug him I
 I hug him.

၇gias၇guz၁s၃၁
၇gias-၇gu-z၁-s-၃၁-a
hug-3.whl.pl-1.erg.sg-mom-sgt-decl
hug them I
 I hug them.

၇gias၃aimis၃၁
၇gias-၃a-im-is-၃၁-a
hug-1.whl.sg-2.erg.sg-mom-sgt-decl
hug me you
 You hug me.

၇giaskimis၃၁
၇gias-ki-im-is-၃၁-a
hug-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-mom-sgt-decl
hug her you
 You hug her.

၇giaskimis၃၁
၇gias-ki-im-is-၃၁-a
hug-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-mom-sgt-decl
hug him you
 You hug him.

၇gias၇guimis၃၁
၇gias-၇gu-im-is-၃၁-a
hug-3.whl.pl-3.erg.sg-mom-sgt-decl
hug them you
 You hug them.

၇giafxaimis၃၁
၇gias-xa-im-is-၃၁-a
hug-1.excl.whl.pl-3.erg.sg-mom-sgt-decl
hug us you
 You hug us.

ηγiasrizov3a
ηγias-ri-zv-3a-a
hug-2.whl.sg-1.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
hug you I
 I hugged you.

ηγiaskizov3a
ηγias-ki-zv-3a-a
hug-3.whl.sg-1.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
hug her I
 I hugged her.

ηγiasηguzov3a
ηγias-ηgu-zv-3a-a
hug-3.whl.pl-1.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
hug them I
 I hugged them.

ηγiaszaimenv3a
ηγias-za-im-εv-3a-a
hug-1.whl.sg-2.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
hug me you
 You hugged me.

ηγiaskiimenv3a
ηγias-ki-im-εv-3a-a
hug-3.whl.sg-2.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
hug her you
 You hugged her.

ηγiaskiimenv3a
ηγias-ki-im-εv-3a-a
hug-3.whl.sg-2.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
hug him you
 You hugged him.

ηγiasηguimenv3a
ηγias-ηgu-im-εv-3a-a
hug-3.whl.pl-2.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
hug them you
 You hugged them.

ηγiasfxaimenv3a
ηγias-xa-im-εv-3a-a
hug-1.excl.whl.pl-2.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
hug us you
 You hugged us.

ηγiasζαεxενζα
ηγias-ζα-εx-εν-ζα-α
hug-1.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
hug me she
 She hugged me.

ηγiasριεxενζα
ηγias-ρι-εx-εν-ζα-α
hug-2.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
hug you she
 She hugged you.

ηγiasκιεxενζα
ηγias-κι-εx-εν-ζα-α
hug-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
hug him she
 She hugged him.

ηγiasκιεxενζα
ηγias-κι-εx-εν-ζα-α
hug-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
hug her she
 She hugged her.

ηγiasηγουεxενζα
ηγias-ηγου-εx-εν-ζα-α
hug-3.whl.pl-3.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
hug them she
 She hugged them.

ηγiasκαεxενζα
ηγias-κα-εx-εν-ζα-α
hug-1.excl.whl.pl-3.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
hug us she
 She hugged us.

ηγiasζαεxινζα
ηγias-ζα-εx-ιν-ζα-α
hug-1.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-hbt-sgt-decl
hug me she
 She hugs me.

ηγiasριεxινζα
ηγias-ρι-εx-ιν-ζα-α
hug-2.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-hbt-sgt-decl
hug you she
 She hugs you.

ηγιασκιεχινζα
ηγias-ki-ex-in-ζα-a
hug-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-hbt-sgt-decl
hug him she
 She hugs him.

ηγιασκιεχινζα
ηγias-ki-ex-in-ζα-a
hug-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-hbt-sgt-decl
hug her she
 She hugs her.

ηγιασηγυεχινζα
ηγias-ηγy-ex-in-ζα-a
hug-3.whl.pl-3.erg.sg-hbt-sgt-decl
hug them she
 She hugs them.

ηγιασκαεχινζα
ηγias-ka-ex-in-ζα-a
hug-1.excl.whl.pl-3.erg.sg-hbt-sgt-decl
hug us she
 She hugs us.

fátutu ηγιασζαεχεvζα
fátu-tu ηγias-ζα-ex-ev-ζα-a
boy.def-erg.spi.sg hug-1.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
the boy hug me he
 The boy hugged me.

réixa fátutu ηγιασκιεχεvζα
réi-xa fátu-tu ηγias-ki-ex-ev-ζα-a
dog.def-whl.spi.sg boy.def-erg.spi.sg hug-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
the dog the boy hug it he
 The boy hugged the dog.

mínuxa fátutu ηγιασκιεχεvζα
mínu:-xa fátu-tu ηγias-ki-ex-ev-ζα-a
girl.def-whl.spi.sg boy.def-erg.spi.sg hug-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
the girl the boy hug she he
 The boy hugged the girl.

fátutu ηγιασριεχεvζα
fátu-tu ηγias-ri-ex-ev-ζα-a
boy.def-erg.spi.sg hug-2.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
the boy hug you he
 The boy hugged you.

fátutu ηγiaszaεxa33α
 fátu-tu ηγias-3a-εx-a3-3α-a
 boy.def-erg.spi.sg hug-1.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-prg-sgt-decl
 the boy hug me he
 The boy is hugging me.

réixa fátutu ηgiaskiεxa33α
 réi-xa fátu-tu ηγias-ki-εx-a3-3α-a
 dog.def-whl.spi.sg boy.def-erg.spi.sg hug-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-prg-sgt-decl
 the dog the boy hug it he
 The boy is hugging the dog.

mínuxa fátutu ηgiaskiεxa33α
 mínu:-xa fátu-tu ηγias-ki-εx-a3-3α-a
 girl.def-whl.spi.sg boy.def-erg.spi.sg hug-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-prg-sgt-decl
 the girl the boy hug she he
 The boy is hugging the girl.

fátutu ηγiasriεxa33α
 fátu-tu ηγias-ri-εx-a3-3α-a
 boy.def-erg.spi.sg hug-2.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-prg-sgt-decl
 the boy hug you he
 The boy is hugging you.

dnùnza mínutu aris ορμιῶκιεxa33α
 dnù:n-za mínu:-tu aris o:rmi:ῶ-ki-εx-a3-3α-a
 book.indf-whl.sg girl.def-erg.spi.sg now read-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-prg-sgt-decl
 a book the girl now read it she
 The girl is reading a book right now.

dnùnza mínutu kaʃ ορμιῶκιεix33α
 dnù:n-za mínu:-tu kaʃ o:rmi:ῶ-ki-εx-ix-3α-a
 book.indf-whl.sg girl.def-erg.spi.sg tomorrow read-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-cur-sgt-decl
 a book the girl tomorrow read it she
 The girl will read a book tomorrow.

dnùnza mínutu tji ορμιῶκιεix33α
 dnù:n-za mínu:-tu tji o:rmi:ῶ-ki-εx-ix-3α-a
 book.indf-whl.sg girl.def-erg.spi.sg yesterday read-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-cur-sgt-decl
 a book the girl yesterday read it she
 The girl was reading a book yesterday.

réixa zdiekiv33α
 réi-xa zdie:-ki-v-3α-a
 dog.def-whl.sg.spi jump-3.whl.sg-cncl-sgt-decl
 the dog jump it
 The dog jumped.

wırzndmaşkir	réixa	zdięki330a
wi:r3ndma:s-ki-r	réi-xa	zdie:ki-3-30-a
intelligent-3.whl.sg-cont	dog.def-whl.sg-spi	jump-3.whl.sg-prg-sgt-decl
intelligent it is	the dog	jump it

The intelligent dog is jumping.

njomwırzndmaşkir	réixa	mínutu	ngiaskiexis30a
njo:m-wi:r3ndma:s-ki-r	réi-xa	mínu:tu	ngias-ki-ex-is-30-a
big-intelligent-3.whl.sg-cont	dog.def-whl.sg-spi	girl.def-erg.spi.sg	hug-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-mom-sgt-decl
big and intelligent it is	the dog	the girl	hug it she

The girl hugged the big intelligent dog.

réixa	zdiękitdm0a
réi-xa	zdie:ki-nn-m0-a
dog.def-whl.sg	jump-3.whl.sg-itr-inf-decl
the dog	jump it

The dog jumps all the time.

ifxa	réixa	ngiaskiz0s30a
is-xa	réi-xa	ngias-ki-z0-s-30-a
this-.whl.spi.sg	dog.def-whl.spi.sg	hug-3.whl.sg-1.erg.sg-mom-sgt-decl
this	the dog	hug it I

I hugged this dog. (near speaker)

ndaxa	réixa	ngiaskiz0s30a
nda-xa	réi-xa	ngias-ki-z0-s-30-a
that.nearyou-whl.spi.sg	dog.def-whl.spi.sg	hug-3.whl.sg-1.erg.sg-mom-sgt-decl
that	the dog	hug it I

I hugged that dog.

vrixa	réixa	ngiaskiz0s30a
vri-xa	réi-xa	ngias-ki-z0-s-30-a
that.far-whl.spi.sg	dog.def-whl.spi.sg	hug-3.whl.sg-1.erg.sg-mom-sgt-decl
that	the dog	hug it I

I hugged that dog.

réixa	niakizm0a
réi-xa	nia-ki-3-m0-a
dog.def-whl.sg	eat-3.whl.sg-prg-inf-decl
the dog	hungry it

The dog is hungry.

réixa	niakivm0a
réi-xa	nia-ki-v-m0-a
dog.def-whl.sg	eat-3.whl.sg-cncl-inf-decl
the dog	hungers it

The dog was hungry.

ru:snefkir	ni	zòznemo	mínutu	uòndmiᅇguexevᅇgia
<i>ru:snef-ki-r</i>	<i>ni</i>	<i>zò:zne-mo:</i>	<i>mínu-tu</i>	<i>uo:ndmi:-ᅇgu-ex-ev-ᅇgi-a</i>
<i>yellow-3.whl.sg-cont</i>	<i>three</i>	<i>flower.indf-whl.pl</i>	<i>girl.def-erg.spi.sg</i>	<i>plant-3.whl.pl-3.erg.sg-cncl-hrs-decl</i>
<i>yellowing</i>	<i>three</i>	<i>flowers</i>	<i>the girl</i>	<i>plant them she</i>

The girl planted three yellow flowers.

sakivᅇgi	xma,	zíkimiᅇguxzu	zìrna
<i>sa-ki-v-ᅇgi</i>	<i>xma</i>	<i>zíkimi-ᅇgu-x-zò</i>	<i>zì:r-na</i>
<i>copula-3.whl.sg-cncl-inf</i>	<i>neg.conj</i>	<i>make-3.whl.pl-cur-sgt</i>	<i>language.indf-whl.pl.spi</i>
<i>it has been done,</i>	<i>but</i>	<i>making them</i>	<i>languages</i>

ᅇᅇammuᅇgurzòa.
e:na:mmuf-ᅇgu-r-zò-a
difficult-3.whl.pl-cont-decl
is difficult

Making languages is difficult, but it has been done.

nrérfa	zìrjav	nòfi	vòza	xndwakimevleᅇa
<i>nrér-fa</i>	<i>zì:r-za-v</i>	<i>nòfi:</i>	<i>vò-za</i>	<i>xndwa-ki-im-ev-le:-a</i>
<i>time.def-ad.sg</i>	<i>speak-whl.1.sg-cncl</i>	<i>again</i>	<i>one.indf-whl.sg</i>	<i>hear-3.whl.sg-2.erg.sg-cncl-otr-decl</i>
<i>at the time</i>	<i>I am done speaking</i>	<i>again</i>	<i>one</i>	<i>you heard it.</i>

By the time I am done speaking, you will have heard one again.

axò	ívgmìza	widnᅇakizòvmòa.
<i>axo:</i>	<i>ívgmì:-za</i>	<i>widnna:-ki-zò-v-mò-a</i>
<i>1.sg.pos</i>	<i>pants.def-whl.sg</i>	<i>lose-3.whl.sg-1.erg.sg-cncl-inf-decl</i>
<i>my</i>	<i>pants</i>	<i>lost it I</i>

I have lost my pants.

mbúeza	xlòaz	trivkiri
<i>mbú:e-za</i>	<i>xlo:-az</i>	<i>triv-ki-r-i</i>
<i>bathroom.def-whl.sg</i>	<i>where-ad</i>	<i>exist-3.whl.sg-cont-int</i>
<i>the bathroom</i>	<i>at where</i>	<i>exists it?</i>

Where is the bathroom?

safa,	xbwíev	tjaᅇttᅇᅇguzu	fwàfumᅇmò
<i>safa,</i>	<i>xbwí-ev</i>	<i>tja:ᅇtta-ᅇgu-zò</i>	<i>fwà:fuma:-mò</i>
<i>exclamation,</i>	<i>dance.def-al.sg</i>	<i>wear-3.whl.pl-1.erg.sg</i>	<i>clothes.indf-whl.pl</i>
<i>Oh,</i>	<i>to the dance</i>	<i>wearing them I</i>	<i>clothes any</i>

ᅇᅇᅇavᅇguzòlarzòᅇᅇᅇᅇ
ᅇa:ᅇav-ᅇgu-zò-l-ar-zò-ᅇᅇa-a
own-3.whl.pl-1.erg.sg-neg-cont-sgt-excl-decl
own them I do not

Oh goodness, I not have any clothes to wear to the dance!

ndja Mária	ᅇᅇliòᅇkiexluzòza	Mária
<i>ndja máry-tu</i>	<i>ᅇᅇliòᅇ-ki-ex-luz-zòza</i>	<i>mári-xa</i>

if *mary.def-erg.sg.spi* *attack-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-mon-sub* *mary.def-whl.sg.spi*
 if *Mary* *attack him she* *Mary*
 jaʃenkirmoʒa
 jaʃen-ki-r-mo-ʒa-a
die-3.whl.sg-cont-inf-sub-decl
die she be would

If Mary attacked him, Mary would be dead.

məl dnúnko luvignafunónnunpu jʉnirkimbərʃue
 mə-l dnú:n-ko: luv-i-gnafun-ónnun-pu ju:nir-ki-mbər-ʃu-e:
not all book.def-erg.pl tradition-narrative-rune.def-in.sg fit-3.whl.sg-3.erg.pl-cont-gnrl-imp
not all the books inside the traditional narrative rune fit it they must
 Not all books have to fit conventional narrative structure.

Juri dnúnim pafiskkukìʒoʒa ʃa tʉruvʒo
 ju:ri dnú:n-im pafiskku-kiʒoʒa ʃa tʉ:ruv-ʒo:
some books.indf-erg.pl.spi moss-log.indf-whl.sg or bowl.indf-gen.sg
some books a mossy log or a bowl of
 aʋpiʃtoŋfrùdmo sakimbərleəoivdi
 a:vpi:-sto:n-frù:t-mo sa-ki-mbər-r-le:-a-o:i:vdi
overripe-stone-fruit.indf-whl.pl copula-3.whl.sg-3.erg.pl-cont-otr-decl-permissable
overripe stone fruits be it they permissable

Some books are permitted to be a mossy log, or a bowl of overripe stone fruit.

zímixko sai vbmanunmbəlisʃua
 zími:x-ko: sai vbmanun-mbə-l-is-ʃu-a
number.def-erg.pl never lie-3.erg.pl-neg-mom-gnrl-decl
The numbers never lie they not
 Numbers never lie.

xma tʉmznóx
 xma tu:m-znóx
neg.conj seventy.two-eleven.def
but the eighty-three
 Except 83.

tʉmznóxʒa sai vbmanunkinleə
 tu:m-znóx-ʒa sai vbmanun-ki-n-le:-a
seventy.two-eleven.def-whl.sg always lie-3.whl.sg-hbt-otr-decl
the eighty-three always lie it habitually
 83 always lies.

ruafnuákizaza xloaz trivkiri
 ruafnu-ákiza-za xlo:-az triv-ki-r-i
yarn-store.def-whl.sg where-ad exist-3.whl.sg-cont-int
the yarn store at where exists it?
 Where is the yarn store?

dnúnákizaza xloaz trivkiri

dn:un-ákiza-za *xlo:-az* *triv-ki-r-i*
book-store.def-whl.sg *where-ad* *exist-3.whl.sg-cont-int*
the book store *at where* *exists it?*
 Where is the bookstore?

rùmko *zweazamborlea*
rùm-ko: *zwea:-za-mbɔ-r-le:-a*
rum.indf-erg.pl *please-1.whl.sg-3.erg.pl-cont-otr-decl*
rum *pleases I it*
 I like rum.

rùmmo *omaŋgurlə*
rùm-mo: *o:ma-ŋgu-r-le:-a*
rum.indf-whl.pl *good-3.whl.pl-cont-otr-decl*
rum *goods it*
 Rum is good.

mbixkix *nəxaz* *asuftu* *niaexixŋgiɔʒa*
mbi:ix-ki-x *ne:xaz* *asuf-tu* *nia-ex-ix-ŋgi-ɔʒa-a*
swim-3.whl.sg-cur *before* *no.person-erg.sg.spi* *eat-3.erg.sg-cur-hrs-sub-decl*
swimming they *before* *nobody* *eat they should*
 They say nobody should eat before swimming.

kaxɔza *njomkirɔa*
ká:xɔ-za *njo:m-ki-r-ɔʒ-a*
fruit.def-whl.sg *big-3.whl.sg-cont-sgt-decl*
the fruit *big it is*
 The fruit is big.

kaxɔza *njomkivɔa*
ká:xɔ-za *njo:m-ki-v-ɔʒ-a*
fruit.def-whl.sg *big-3.whl.sg-cncl-sgt-decl*
the fruit *big it was*
 The fruit was big.

réiza *stuxkirɔa*
réi-za *stux-ki-r-ɔʒ-a*
dog.def-whl.sg *pretty-3.whl.sg-cont-sgt-decl*
the dog *pretty it is*
 The dog is pretty

réiza *stuxkivɔa*
réi-za *stux-ki-v-ɔʒ-a*
dog.def-whl.sg *pretty-3.whl.sg-cncl-sgt-decl*
the dog *pretty it was*
 The dog was pretty

kaxɔza *réitu* *niakiexevɔa*

ká:xi-za *réi-tu* *nia-ki-ex-ev-3a*
fruit.def-whl.sg *dog.def-erg.sg* *eat-3.whl.sg-3.erg.sg-cncl-sgt-decl*
the fruit *the dog* *eat it it done*
 The dog ate the fruit.

ivo *dnúnza* *njomkir3a*
ivo: *dnú:n-za* *njo:m-ki-r-3a*
3.sg.pos *book.def-whl.sg* *big-3.whl.sg-cont-sgt-decl*
Her *book* *big it is*
 Her book is big.

mínuvu *dnúnza* *njomkir3a*
mínu:-vu *dnú:n-za* *njo:m-ki-r-3a*
girl.def-gen.sg spi *book.def-whl.sg* *big-3.whl.sg-cont-sgt-decl*
the girl's *book* *big it is*
 The girl's book is big.

axo *réiza* *ixixlavēv* *tji* *ndakivcŋgia*
axo: *réi-za* *ixi:xlav-ēv* *tji* *nda-ki-v-ŋgi-a*
1.sg.pos *dog.def-whl.sg* *learn-place-al.sg* *yesterday* *go-3.whl.sg-cncl-hrs-decl*
My *dog* *to school* *yesterday* *go it did*
 My dog went to school yesterday.

mínuvu *réiza* *ixixlavēv* *tji* *ndakivcŋgia*
mínu:-vu *réi-za* *ixi:xlav-ēv* *tji* *nda-ki-v-ŋgi-a*
girl.def-gen.sg spi *dog.def-whl.sg* *learn-place-al.sg* *yesterday* *go-3.whl.sg-cncl-hrs-decl*
the girl's *dog* *to school* *yesterday* *go it did*
 The girl's dog went to school yesterday.

ixixlavēv *nda3alēv3a*
ixi:xláv-ēv *nda-3a-l-ēv-3a*
learn-place-al.sg *go-1.whl.sg-neg-cncl-sgt-decl*
to school *go I not did*
 I did not go to school.

ixixlavēv *ndarilevm3a*
ixi:xláv-ēv *nda-ri-l-ēv-m3-a*
learn-place-al.sg *go-2.whl.sg-neg-cncl-inf-decl*
to school *go you not did*
 You did not go to school.

ixixlavēv *ndakilevm3a*
ixi:xláv-ēv *nda-ki-l-ēv-m3-a*
learn-place-al.sg *go-3.whl.sg-neg-cncl-inf-decl*
to school *go she not did*
 She did not go to school.

ixixlavēv *ndakilevm3a*

ixi:xláv-εν *nda-ki-l-εν-μῶ-α*
learn-place-al.sg *go-3.whl.sg-neg-cncl-inf-decl*
to school *go he not did*
 He did not go to school.

ixixlávεν *ndarilarmῶα*
ixi:xláv-εν *nda-ri-l-ar-μῶ-α*
learn-place-al.sg *go-2.whl.sg-neg-cont-inf-decl*
to school *go you not is*
 You do not go to school.

ixixlávεν *ndaḡalarmῶα*
ixi:xláv-εν *nda-ḡa-l-ar-μῶ-α*
learn-place-al.sg *go-1.whl.sg-neg-cont-inf-decl*
to school *go I not is*
 I do not go to school.

mínυvu *réiḡa* *njῶmkilarḡῶα*
mínu:-vu *réi-ḡa* *njo:m-ki-l-ar-ḡῶ-α*
girl.def-gen.sg.spi *dog.def-whl.sg* *big-3.whl.sg-neg-cont-sgt-decl*
the girl's *dog* *big it not is*
 The girl's dog is not big.

ixixlávεν *ndarinḡ*
ixi:xláv-εν *nda-ri-n-e:*
learn-place-al.sg *go-2.whl.sg-fup-imp*
to school *go you!*
 Go to school!

ixixlávεν *ndaḡalevlḡῶα*
ixi:xláv-εν *nda-ḡa-l-εν-lḡ-ῶ-α*
learn-place-al.sg *go-1.whl.sg-neg-cncl-otr-des-decl*
to school *go I not did want*
 I did not want to go to school.

mῶsufna *vriau* *jaḡenḡumḡua*
mῶsuf-na *vri-al* *jaḡen-ḡu-m-ḡu-a*
everyone-whl.spi.pl *there.far-ad.pl.spi* *die-3.whl.pl-prf-gnrl-decl*
everyone *over there* *die they all will*
 Everyone over there will die.

ABBREVIATIONS

abs abessive
 bnf benefactive
 cncl conclusive
 comm commative
 cont continuative

cur	currentive
dat	dative
decl	declarative
def	definite
dl	dual
erg	ergative
excl	exclamatory
freq	frequency
gen	genitive
gnrl	general knowledge
hbt	habitual
hrs	hearsay
imp	imperative
indf	indefinite
inf	inference from evidence
inst	instrumentive
int	interrogative
itr	iterative
loc	locative
	en enessive
	in inessive
	el elative
	il illative
	ad adessive
	al allative
	ed edative
	cr circative
mom	momentive
mon	monumentive
neg	negative
pl	plural
pos	possessive
prf	prophetitive
prg	progressive
prt	partitive
rfls	reflexive
sg	singular
spi	spiritual
sgt	sight
otr	other (senses)
subj	subjunctive
trns	translative
whl	wholative