



:: FERNALESE GRAMMAR::
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:: FERNALESE VERBS #1 – THE BASICS ::

In English there are a variety of word categories, including verb, noun, adjective, preposition, pronoun, etc but in Fernalese there are only three: the verb, the noun and the particle. The verb in Fernalese is by far the most important and complex and will be dealt with first. In Fernalese the verb is highly synthetic and agglutinative, which means that very often a single Fernalese word can cover an entire sentence in English. Fernalese is also verb-heavy, and tends to utilise verb forms where English might tend to favour abstract nouns.

The Basic Fernalese Verb

The central aspect of a Fernalese verb is the root, a basic core of verbal meaning which is the principal element in the phrase. This root is the equivalent of English verbs (of action, of motion and of state) and adjectives and is modified in two ways: i) by the addition of other verb roots or derivational affixes to make a compound verb, and ii) the addition of grammatical affixes which convey a variety of relational meanings.

The structure of the Fernalese verb can be summarised in a model which represents the verb phrase as a series of slots into which morphemes (prefixes, roots, suffixes) can optionally or obligatorily be placed. This section will look at the mandatory elements only, that is, those affixes that must accompany the root at all times – these are the verb root itself, the tense-aspect suffixes and the person-suffixes. Again, if these seems abstract, examples later on will clarify. The basic Fernalese Verb Phrase looks like this:

VERB ROOT + Tense/Aspect Suffix + Person Suffix

A verb root is any word found in the wordlist that functions as a verb, for example **óṁṁṁ amni** 'make, create', **áḷḷ ban** 'good, well, healthy' (which is English is an adjective), **ṽṽṽ mir** 'see, look, notice'. A tense/aspect suffix denotes the state or completion of the action or verb, and the person suffix denotes who is doing the verb. Thus if we have a verb root **ṽṽṽ mir** 'see, look', a tense-aspect suffix **-(e)t** 'habitual', and a person suffix **-(h)a** 'I, me', we can combine these as **mir-(e)t-a** which becomes **ṽṽṽ mirta** 'I see, I habitually look'. Each of these parts of the verb phrase will be discussed in turn.

Verb Roots

Fernalese verb roots are monosyllabic or disyllabic (very rarely trisyllabic) and almost consistently follow the strict morphophonemic rules on syllable structure, and as such, end in a vowel or consonants **c, f, h, l, m, n, r, t** and **z**. Occasional verb roots end in a different consonant, and as such we have 5 classes of verbs, whose interaction with the tense-aspect suffixes is regular and dependent on which sound the verb root ends with. In the examples, we will use the habitual tense-aspect suffix **-(e)t** – it will be quickly noticed how the five different classes of verb use or elide the bracketed letter **e** in the habitual suffix – and the first person suffix **-a** 'I, me', as in **ṽṽṽ mirta** 'I see, I habitually look' above.

Class (i) ends in a vowel or -u and bracketed vowels are elided from the tense-aspect suffix. Examples include **óṁṁṁ amni** 'make, create', **ḷḷḷ deo** 'swap, change, copy' and **ṽṽṽ mai** 'come, arrive'. The habitual suffix thus takes the form **-t-**:

óṁṁṁ	amnita	'I make, I create'
ḷḷḷ	deota	'I change, I copy'
ṽṽṽ	maita	'I come'

Class (ii) ends in the consonants **h, n, r,** and **t** and bracketed vowels are elided. Examples include **ᐃᑦᑦ** **ban** 'good, well', **ᐃᑦᑦᑦ** **dat** 'stand, be situated' and **ᑦᑦᑦ** **mir** 'look, watch, notice'. The habitual suffix thus takes the form **-t-**:

ᐃᑦᑦ	banta	'I am (always) well, I am healthy'
ᐃᑦᑦᑦ	datta	'I am (here), I stand'
ᑦᑦᑦ	mirta	'I see, I look'

Class (iii) ends in the consonants **f, l, m** and **z**. and bracketed vowels are included. Examples include **ᑦᑦᑦ** **faz** 'travel, journey', **ᑦᑦᑦ** **nal** 'become' and **ᑦᑦᑦ** **rom** 'need, require'. The habitual suffix thus becomes **-et-**:

ᑦᑦᑦ	fazeta	'I travel'
ᑦᑦᑦ	naleta	'I become' *
ᑦᑦᑦ	rometa	'I need'

*Note that some verbs ending in **-l** transmute to **-r** and become **class (ii)** verbs: **ᑦᑦᑦ** **nal** 'becomes' can be **ᑦᑦᑦ** **nar** in combination and thus **ᑦᑦᑦ** **narta** can also mean 'I become'

Class (iv) ends in the consonant **c**. Bracketed vowels are elided or included dependent on the individual word. Verbs in **-c** that include the vowel are listed in the wordlist with **(he)** following. Examples that elide the vowel are **ᑦᑦᑦ** **bac** 'make magic' and **ᑦᑦᑦ** **chic** 'listen, hear'. Examples that include the vowel are **ᑦᑦᑦ** **chic(he)** 'be likely, probable' and **ᑦᑦᑦ** **txac(he)** 'swear, promise'. The habitual suffix thus varies between **-t-** and **-et-** dependent on the word:

ᑦᑦᑦ	bacta	'I make magic'
ᑦᑦᑦ	chicta	'I listen, I hear'
ᑦᑦᑦ	chicheta	'I am likely to..., it's probable that I (will)...'
ᑦᑦᑦ	txacheta	'I swear, I promise'

Class (v) – ending in any other consonant. This is rare, but bracketed vowels are included, and the habitual suffix is thus **-(e)t-**. An example is **ᑦᑦᑦ** **chetz(e)** 'ask, enquire':

ᑦᑦᑦ	chetzeta	'I ask, I always ask'
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Thus the verb roots are fairly simple, behave regularly and only differ in how they treat the tense-aspect suffixes. Let's look at the tense-aspect suffixes now.

Tense-Aspect Suffixes

These suffixes do not make strong reference to time, rather they mark the state or completion of the action. Actions can be considered as habitual (in that they often or always happen), completive (in that they are finished), progressive (in that they are in progress or still happening), incompletive (in that they are yet to begin) or eternal (in that the events occur mythically or with sacred intent). Each tense-aspect suffix is preceded by a bracketed vowel which is elided or included according to the rules set out above.

-(e)n	progressive
-(e)t	habitual
-(e)s	completive
-(h)i	incompletive
-(h)u	eternal

Note that the incompletive aspect **-(h)i** has a bracketed consonant, which is elided in all cases except following a verb root ending in a vowel (**class (i)** verb root) or the letter **c** (**class (iv)** verb root). Examples will elucidate the meanings and usages of these suffixes. Again, the examples will use the first person suffix **-a** 'I, me'

-(e)n	progressive	ᐃᑦᑦᑦᑦ	amnina	'I am making, I am creating'
		ᑦᑦᑦᑦ	mirna	'I am seeing, I am looking'
		ᑦᑦᑦᑦ	fazena	'I am travelling'
		ᑦᑦᑦᑦ	chicna	'I am listening'
		ᑦᑦᑦᑦ	chichena	'I am likely to...'
		ᑦᑦᑦᑦ	chetzena	'I am asking'

-(e)t	habitual	ዕጠጭኅ	amnita	'I make, I create'
		ገሥኅ	mirta	'I see, I look'
		ፍጋኅ	fazeta	'I travel'
		ሐሰኅ	chicta	'I listen, I hear'
		ሐፎኅ	chicheta	'I am likely to...'
-(e)s	completive	ዕጠጭታ	amnisa	'I made, I created'
		ገሥታ	mirsa	'I saw, I looked'
		ፍጋታ	fazesa	'I travelled'
		ሐሰታ	chicsa	'I listened'
		ሐፎታ	chichesa	'I was likely to...'
-(h)i	incompletive	ዕጠጭዕዕ	amnihia	'I will make, I will create'
		ገሥዕ	miria	'I will see, I will look'
		ፍጋዕ	fazia	'I will travel'
		ሐሰዕ	chichia	'I will listen, I will hear'
		ሐፎዕ	chichia	'I will be likely to...'
		ፎፍዕ	chetzia	'I will ask'

The eternal aspect **-(h)u** is only used in combination with one of the preceding four tense-aspect suffixes. Thus **-(e)nu** 'currently mythical or sacred', **-(e)tu** 'habitually mythical', **-(e)su** 'mythically completive' and finally **-(h)ihu** 'will be mythical or sacred'

-(h)u	eternal	ዕጠጭዕዕ	amninoa	'I am making (in myth or sacredly)'
		ገሥዕዕ	mirtua	'I see in a sacred manner'
		ፍጋዕዕ	fazesua	'I travelled (sacredly), went on a pilgrimage'

The verb phrase can also optionally take two tense-aspect suffixes to convey a subtler shade of meaning, usually combining with the habitual **-(e)t-** which follows the other suffix:

ሐሰተኅ	bacseta	'I was habitually making magic'
ፍጋፎኅ	fazenta	'I am often travelling'
ጋሮጭኅ	mainia	'I will be arriving'

Person Suffixes

Fernalese does not grammatically distinguish between gender, and only weakly denotes plurality. Instead, Fernalese marks for four persons – me, you, he/she/it and common – and differentiates between animate/inanimate, known/unknown subject and individual/common dynamics. There is also a couple of suffixes denoting subject acting upon object. The person suffixes are easy to use, simply attaching to the verb phrase after the tense-aspect suffixes.

The second person **-(h)iz** has a bracketed consonant **h** for use with the incompletive and eternal aspects, and the final **-z** often changes or fuses with other suffixes, which will be dealt with in a subsequent section. The affix **-tza** has some usage subtleties also.

-a	1 st person	I, me
-(h)iz	2 nd person	you
-e	3 rd person-animate	he, she, queer-identified
-ec	3 rd person-inanimate	it, that
-en	3 rd person-uncertain	someone, something
-on	4 th person-animate, common	we all, everyone, we the people
-oc	4 th person-inanimate, common	natural order of things, it
-ai	1 st person subject acting upon 2 nd person object	I (do to) you
-tza	2 nd person subject acting upon 1 st person object	you (do to) me

The following examples should aid in understanding the full range of meanings of these suffixes, in particular the 3rd and 4th person suffixes, for which in some cases no English equivalents exist. The completive aspect suffix **-(e)s** will be used throughout:

ገጸታ	deosa	'I swapped, I copied'
ገጸታ	mirsa	'I looked, I saw'
ገጸታገጸ	mirsiz	'you looked, you saw'
ጸጸታገጸ	nohsiz	'you stayed'
ጸጸታ	nalese	'he or she became'
ጸጸታ	maise	'he or she arrived'
ጸጸታጸ	maisec	'it arrived, that came'
ጸጸታጸ	chichesecc	'it was likely, that was probable'
ጸጸታ	maisen	'someone arrived, something came'
ጸጸታ	bacsen	'someone made magic'
ጸጸታጸ	maison	'we all arrived, we the people came together'
ጸጸታጸ	huiason	'everyone plays around, we all play'
ጸጸታጸጸ	amnisoc	'it created of itself, it was made in the way of things'
ጸጸታጸጸ	peosoc	'it rained, it drizzled'
ጸጸታጸ	mirsai	'I looked at you, I saw you'
ጸጸታጸ	xiansai	'I thanked you'

The suffix **-tza** is only used with progressive, habitual and completive aspects and often causes those aspects to include their bracketed vowels, so as to avoid forbidden consonant clusters. An example with **mir** 'see, look' will clarify:

ገጸታጸ	mirniz	'you are seeing, you are looking'
ገጸታጸ	mirentza	'you are seeing me, you are looking at me'

Strictly speaking, we should expect the progressive aspect **-(e)n-** to lose its vowel following **ገጸ mir-** but the addition of **-tza** would create ***mirntza** with a consonant cluster **-rntz-** forbidden in Fernalese phonology. So the aspect suffix's vowel is added to create **ገጸታጸ mirentza** which avoids this problem: the cluster **-ntz-** is permitted so long as it is surrounded by vowels.

On transitivity and causativity in Fernalese

We have seen that Fernalese verb roots make no distinction between adjectives, verbs of state and of action, but they also don't strongly distinguish transitivity and intransitivity, equivalent to verb pairs in English like rise/raise, fall/drop and lay/lie. This ambiguity is resolved through the use of a causative suffix **-re** which attached to the verb root, creating a compound verb. This suffix has considerable derivational power in the language. Note that following **-n** the suffix combines to make **-rr-**.

ጸጸጸ	aor	'love, be affectionate, be in love'
ጸጸጸጸ	aorre	'inspire or cause love in another, be beloved'
ጸጸ	ban	'good, well, lively, healthy'
ጸጸጸ	barre	'strengthen, make good, cause to be well'
ጸጸ	din	'be gathered, collected, be arrayed'
ጸጸጸ	dirre	'gather, collect, bring, bear'
ጸጸ	huar	'cut, divide, share, scatter'
ጸጸጸ	huarre	'scatter, confuse, be difficult'
ጸጸ	ton	'name'
ጸጸጸ	torre	'name, call by name, call into being, (famous)'

:: FERNALESE VERBS #2 – COMPOUND VERB ROOTS ::

The Fernalese verb root needn't simply be a single word, but can combine with other verbs (whether of state or action, or lexically adjectival) to create compound verbs. Nouns which act as objects of the verb root can also combine with the verb root. This agglutinating synthesis makes for a very versatile feature of the language. In general in a compound verb root, an infixed object noun goes first, followed by any modifying, supporting or descriptive verb root. The main or most important verb root goes last, as seen in the chart. All of these are marked below with a ± symbol, to denote that they are optional in the verb phrase.

COMPOUND VERB: ± **Infixed Object Noun** ± **Modifying Verb Root(s)** + **VERB ROOT**

SUFFIXES: + **Tense/Aspect Suffix** + **Person Suffix**

Each of these features, infixed object nouns and modifying verb roots of various forms, will be dealt with in turn, along with something called perceptual infixes: these are modifications to the verb root itself which apply only to a select number of verbs relating to sense and experience.

Infixed Object Nouns

Grammatically speaking, Fernalese is an ergative language – this will be explained later – with a word order that generally follows the pattern OVS – object-verb-subject. But it is possible to subvert this pattern by prefixing an object noun to the front of the verb root, to create a compound verb root of a very specific meaning. An example should clarify:

ፕሮ	tlai	'man'
ፕሮ ገን	mir	'see, look'
ፕሮ ገን ገን	tlaimer	'see the man, look at the man'
ፕሮ ገን ገን ገን	tlaimerገን	'I saw the man'

This is a common way of dealing with simple object nouns in Fernalese. Since Fernalese verb roots do not distinguish between transitive and intransitive, the presence of an infixed object clarifies the transitive function of the compound object-noun-verb-root sequence.

ሮሃፊ	illa	'village, community'
ፊን	lar	'run, move quickly'
ሮሃፊ ፊን	illalar	'run to the village'
ገሮሶን	maiar	'deep forests, pristine wilderness'
ገሮሶን ገን	yon	'walk'
ገሮሶን ገን ገን	maiarገን	'walk (in) the deep forest'

Simple compound nouns can also be infixed, particularly if the noun consists of a verb root and nominaliser – see the sections on Nouns for a discussion on the various nominalisers in Fernalese.

ሱገሪት	cusitzon	'hidden (thing)'
ሱገሪት ገን	cusitzonmir	'see that which was hidden'
ሮሂት	itin	'everything'
ሮሂት ፊገ	itintxio	'understand everything'

The presence of an infixed object means that even verbs which in English would be lexically adjectives can take a transitive-causative function. A causative suffix can emphasise this function.

ግ-ጳ	caes(e)-	'blue (colour)'
ግጳ	cabe	'wall, barrier'
ግጳ ግ-ጳ	cabecaes(e)-	'make the wall blue (by painting it, eg)'
ግጳ ግ-ጳ ጳ	cabecaesere-	'make the wall blue'

Passive-Affixed Compound Roots

Fernalese makes occasional use of the passive voice, however its function is *derivational* rather than *relational* – that is to say, it is not strictly speaking a grammatical function but a property of compound roots. Thus, the use of the passive affix **-ia** directly after a verb root liberates a new lexical meaning which often moves beyond mere passivity. Combination with causative suffix **-re** utilised derivationally is common, but on its own the passive suffix often confers a participle function:

𐄎𐄏	cor	happen, occur
𐄎𐄏𐄐	corre	cause, awaken, bring about
𐄎𐄏𐄐𐄑	correia	be awakened, realise
𐄒𐄓	fer	nature, life, pristine, verdant...
𐄒𐄓𐄔	ferre	inspire, attractive, care for, tend, cherish
𐄒𐄓𐄔𐄕	ferreia	be inspired, be attracted to
𐄎𐄏𐄐	coria	happened, historical, done with, in the past
𐄒𐄓𐄔	feria	made pristine, 'en-fer-ed', in a state of <i>fer</i>

Perceptual Infixes

A limited number of verbs with meanings relating to sense (see, hear, etc), internal experiences (think, feel, intuit, etc) and perception (know, believe, understand, etc) can take one of three infixes which indicate the direction of the perceptual intention or experience. These infixes are internal to the verb root, being infixes before or after the first vowel in the root, and are strictly derivational with no other grammatical usage. As such, all resultant compounds are lexical items and many can be found in the wordlist. The most common forms of these infixes are seen below, but variations and irregularities exist. **V** here represents the first vowel in the verb root and **0** indicates a zero-infix.

-0-	outwards from speaker (standard verb root)
-eV-	perception falls inwards to speaker
-Va-	perception remains internal within speaker or generated privately by the speaker

The usage of the perceptual infixes, and the change in meaning they convey, is best illustrated with the sense verbs **mir** 'look' and **chic** 'listen'

𐄎𐄏	mir	look, watch, notice
𐄎𐄐𐄏	meir	see, appear, come into sight, be visible
𐄎𐄐𐄏	miar	see in vision or dream, imagine
𐄒𐄓	chic	listen, listen to
𐄒𐄐𐄓	cheic	hear, be audible, come into hearing
𐄒𐄐𐄓	chiac	hear in a vision or dream, audible hallucinations

Irregular forms are often seen, and while the perceptual infixes occasionally have a wider derivational meaning, the irregularity can mask this:

𐄎𐄏	den	think, consider, have opinion (irregular)
𐄎𐄐𐄏	dein	think creatively, be aware of one's thoughts, plan out
𐄎𐄐𐄏	dian	think sacredly, meditate (cf 𐄎𐄐𐄏, din , gather)
𐄎𐄐𐄏	nuir	sense, intuit
𐄎𐄐𐄏	neir	sense, become aware of patterns in the world
𐄎𐄐𐄏	nuiar	sense, intuit about one's deepest experiences
𐄎𐄏	lir	read, recite
𐄎𐄐𐄏	leir	study, read to oneself
𐄎𐄐𐄏	liar	compose poetry, read words within oneself

A full list of perceptual-infixes verb roots can be found in Appendix #1.

:: FERNALESE VERBS #3 – CAUSATIVES AND FLOW ::

In the preceding, we have seen something of the derivational power of the causative suffix **-re** and how it can be utilised to create a sense of transitive-intransitive distinction in Fernalese. Actually, causativity is a commonly-used feature of the language and there are two more causative suffixes. There are also several 'flow' suffixes which colour the action of the verb according to various dynamics. Both of these groups of suffixes slot between the verb root and the tense/aspect suffixes: they are marked below with a \pm symbol, to denote that they are optional in the verb phrase.

COMPOUND VERB:	\pm	Infixd Object Noun	\pm	Modifying Verb Root(s)	+	VERB ROOT		
SUFFIXES:	\pm	Causative Suffix	\pm	'Flow' Suffix	+	Tense/Aspect Suffix	+	Person Suffix

Causative-Ergative Suffixes

There are three causative suffixes that are very commonly used in Fernalese, not just to create a transitive-intransitive distinction in the verb, but also (as we shall see in the section on Nouns later) to coordinate the verb's interaction with ergative and absolutive nouns. We have seen that the causative suffix **-re** can be used derivationally, to create compound roots, however this suffix along with other causatives can also be used grammatically, to denote causation and to clarify transitivity when objects are infixd into the verb phrase.

-re	weak causative: let, allow
-nal/-nar-	strong causative: make, force; become, come to do
-cu(h)	clarifying ergative marker – denotes presence of object, whether unspoken or unknown

Some examples will clarify the function of these suffixes, see also the later section *Fernalese Nouns #2 - Cases*. More than one causative suffix can be used at a time.

ᄁᄁᄁ	taoh	sleep, fall asleep
ᄁᄁᄁᄁ	taohre	let someone sleep
ᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁ	taohnar-	make someone sleep, put someone to sleep
ᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁ	taohcu(h)-	sleep (with someone?)
ᄁᄁ	ban	good, well, healthy
ᄁᄁᄁ	barre	strengthen, make good
ᄁᄁᄁᄁ	barrere	let (someone) strengthen
ᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁ	barrenar-	make (someone) strengthen
ᄁᄁ	mir	see, look
ᄁᄁᄁ	mirre	let someone see, show, demonstrate
ᄁᄁᄁᄁ	mirrere	let someone show or demonstrate
ᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁ	mirnar-	make someone look
ᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁ	mirrenar-	make someone show or demonstrate
ᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁ	mircu(h)-	see something unknown or unspoken
ᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁ	mirrecu(h)	show something unspoken

ፋፆሮዕኑ	rohuiatiz	'maybe you don't fool around'
ፓሰግሮ-ጻ	sabacaihie	'she certainly will make magic here'
ፓሌፓፓ	safazesä	'I definitely travelled'
ፓፆሮዕኑ	sahuiatiz	'you really play around'

The inersive-negative prefix **nia(h)-** is, however, sometimes used as a derivational prefix directly modifying a verb root to create a compound root:

ቶጎዳ	torre	'name, call by name, call into being, (famous)'
ጽዕቶጎዳ	niatorre	'take away someone's name, deprive them of existence or fame, kill'
ፍኑ	faz	'travel, journey, age, be satisfied with life'
ጽዕፍኑ	niafaz	'retrace one's steps, remember, recall'
ፆሮዕ	huia	'fool around, play around, play tricks'
ጽዕፆሮዕ	niahuia	'sensible, careful, cautious'
ፍጎ	fer	'pristine, verdant, lively, healthy, vital, natural...'
ጽዕፍጎ	niafer	'against the spirit of <i>fer</i> , ugly, mechanistic, moralistic, judgemental, dogmatic, arid, unhealthy'

The probabilitive prefix **ro(h)-** is also used to denote information which is rumoured or unproven yet common sense and can be translated as 'it is said that...' in English. Other times it denotes that information is simply unknown:

ፋሠጎቶሪ	rocorsec	'they say it happened, it's unknown if it happened'
ፋሪራቻ	rodachite	'perhaps she knows, they say she knows'

Imperative-Desideratives

The imperative-desiderative prefixes express a range of meanings relating to commands, exhortation, desire, ability and emphasis. The meanings of these are straightforward, but their usage can lead to some complexity, in particular the imperative **za(h)-** in which the person suffix changes from being the subject of the verb to acting as the imperative object, and the desiderative **da(h)-** which often makes use of subordinate clause particle **te**.

za(h)-	imperative – subject marker becomes imperative object
da(h)-	desiderative – want to, let's

The imperative optionally combines with person suffixes to lend a variety of meanings, from self-exhortatory (with first person suffix **-a** and fourth person suffix **-on**), emphatic command (with second person suffix **-(h)iz**), and imperative-causative (with third person animate and inanimate suffixes **-e** and **-ec**) optionally combined with causatives **-re** or **-nar**. Person suffixes **-en** (third person uncertain) and **-oc** (fourth person inanimate) never combine with the imperative prefix: spontaneously-occurring natural processes and unknown agents cannot be commanded or caused to action.

ፓሩ	zara	'go! leave!'
ፓኑዳ	zadeo	'swap (it)! copy (it)!
ፓሰግሮ	zabacai	'make magic here!'
ፓሠጎዳ	zacorre	'make it happen!'
ፓሩዕኑ	zarahiz	'go! leave! (emphatic)'
ፓሩጽኑ	zaraniz	'be leaving now!'
ፓሰግሮጽኑ	zabacainiz	'make magic here! (emphatic)'
ፓጽዕጎፆሮዕኑ	zaniarhuiatiz	'stop constantly playing around!'
ፓሩቱ	zarane	'make him go! cause him to go!'
ፓሩዳቱ	zararene	'make him go! cause him to go!'
ፓዳካጎዳ	zalifrire	'make her read a book!'
ፓፓሩጎዳቱ	zahnohrene	'make her stay!'

ገጭዕደሪ	zaniarec	'make it stop!'
ገንጎጭደገሪ	zamarcaretec	'make it work!'
ገጾታ	zarana	'I must go, I shall go now'
ገጎጭዕ	zataohia	'I must sleep soon, I shall sleep'
ገጾራጵ	zaranon	'let's go, we shall all go now'
ገጎጎጎጎጎ	zacaron	'let's all sing together'

The desiderative suffix can also infer expressions of exhortation, but in the main expresses desire. Where the speaker desires an action on the part of another, the subordinate clause marker **te** is used and the prefix functions as a standalone verb:

ገገጾታ	dahrana	'I want to go now'
ገገጾራጵ	dahraniz	'you want to go now'
ገገጾታጎጎጎጎጎ	dahna te raniz	'I want you to go now' (<i>lit: I-want that you-now-go</i>)
ገገጾራጵ	dahranon	'let's all go now, we all want to go'

Abilitive Prefix

The abilitive **tie(h)-** has a straightforward meaning, denoting ability and the potential to do something. It can in some senses be considered as a way of making a compound verb rather than a prefix.

ጎ-ጎጎጎጎጎጎጎ	tiecatartiz	'you can sing'
ጎ-ጎጎጎጎጎጎጎጎ	tiecatarsetiz	'you used to be able to sing'
ጎ-ጎጎጎጎጎጎጎ	tiemirna	'I can see'
ጎጎጎጎ-ጎጎጎጎጎጎጎጎ	hantiemirna	'I can't see it'

:: FERNALESE NOUNS #1 – THE BASICS ::

The Fernalese noun is morphologically much simpler than the verb, with only a small set of suffixes which denote possession, location and case marking. However, the grammatical usage of the Fernal noun phrase is much more complex and versatile than the verb phrase, and several noun phrase types are possible.

Object and subject noun-phrases exist – the former comes before the verb, the latter after it – but actually Fernalese is an *ergative* language, which means that subjects and objects relate to each other differently than they do in English. There is also a pronoun phrase in which a pronoun can stand alone instead of being attached to the verb as person suffixes and finally there is the locative noun phrase.

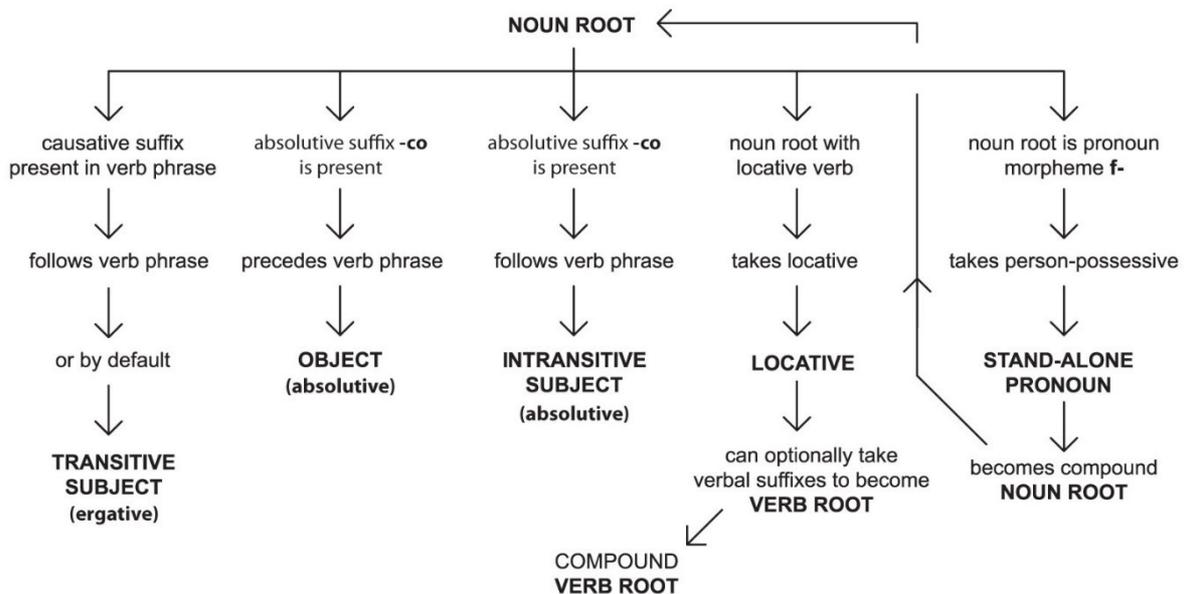
The Basic Fernalese Noun

Like the verb, the central aspect of a Fernalese noun is the root, the principal element in the noun phrase. The structure of the Fernalese noun can be summarised in a model which represents the noun phrase as a series of slots into which suffixes can optionally be placed, while the noun root itself is naturally mandatory. Suffixes on the noun root include possessive markers and an intervocalic suffix for use when possessives attach to nouns ending in vowels, as well as locatives and case markers. The noun is marked for ergative, absolutive, genitive, dative, comitative and instrumental cases – these will be explained in due course.

NOUN ROOT ± -ht- ± Possessives ± Locatives ± Case Markers

A noun root is any word found in the wordlist that functions as a noun, for example 𐌲𐌹 𐌻𐌹𐌴 'book, text' or 𐌲𐌹𐌴 𐌺𐌹𐌴 'garden, paradise'. Possessive suffixes are identical to the verbal person suffixes, and locatives denote where the noun is situated. Case markers coordinate the noun in the sentence.

Since noun phrase function can be difficult in Fernalese, for there are lots of different noun phrases, it is useful to post a summary here, in the form of a secondary model of the noun phrase, elucidating the effects that certain suffixes have on determining the type of noun phrase: transitive subject, object (ergative), intransitive subject (ergative), pronoun or locative. This table will make more sense as we proceed!



Noun Roots

Fernalese noun roots are generally mono- or disyllabic and consistently follow the strict rules on syllable structure, and as such, end in a vowel, -u or consonants **c, f, h, l, m, n, r, t** and **z**. Loan words which may end in a disallowed consonant in the original language are either elided or are appended with a vowel. Unlike verb roots, there are no phonologically-based noun root classes, but noun roots can be briefly classified according to type: simple noun roots and compounds consisting of noun-noun, verb-noun, noun-verb and noun-agentive combinations. Each of these will be briefly explored.

Simple Noun Roots, containing a single noun morpheme unaccompanied by any other root. Some simple noun roots can have both a noun and verbal function. This will be explored later. A selection of simple noun roots is given below:

ጥዳ	deru	'door, portal'	ጋሮዕን	maiar	'deep forest, wilderness'
ፊሪ	lac	'pool, lake'	ገራ	nua	'garden, paradise'
ጸኻ	lif	'book, text'	ጋራ	zono	'music, wordless song'

Some roots freely alternate between semantic verbs and semantic nouns – such roots can thus become ambiguous as to their function in a sentence:

ዩን	bir	i) talent, skill (<i>noun</i>) ii) talented, skillful (<i>verb</i>)
ዕራ	dac(hi)	i) knowledge, wisdom (<i>noun</i>) ii) know, understand (<i>verb</i>)
ዮጸ	xao	i) speech, language, words (<i>noun</i>) ii) say, speak, tell (<i>verb</i>)

Noun-Noun Compound Roots are very common in Fernalese and augmentation by using two lexically similar nouns to provide emphasis or clarification is commonly seen. Nouns of differing meaning also make compounds derivationally as well as descriptively:

ፎራ	tuar	'wild places'
ቆሪ	yac	'fire, flames'
ፎራቆሪ	tuaryac	'wildfire'
ጥዳ	deru	'door, portal'
ጸኻ	lif	'book'
ጥዳጸኻ	derulif	'an enlightening book'

Verb-Noun Compound Roots are also common, and range from descriptive adjectival-functioning verb-noun combinations to derivational items:

ጋ-ጸኻ	caes(e)-	'blue'
ጸኻ	lif	'book'
ጋ-ጸኻጸኻ	caeselif	'blue book'
ፍን	fer	'pristine, verdant, lively'
ዮጸ	xao	'speech, language'
ፍንዮጸ	ferxao	'Fernalese, pristine speech'

Noun-Verb Compound Roots are rare outside of locative phrases, and an obvious ambiguity exists between this class of noun root and an object-infix verb phrase. Non-locative, non-object-infix noun-verb compounds tend to be derivational:

ጋሮዕን	maiar	'deep forest'
ዕኑ	ban	'good, well, healthy'
ጋሮዕንዕኑ	maiarban	'the restorative power of the deep forest'
ጸኑ	rin	'hand'
ዮጸ	xao	'say, speak, tell'
ጸኑዮጸ	rinxao	'speak with sign language, make hand signals'

The locative is a specialised hybrid noun-verb compound root – the noun phrase it generates often takes a locative suffix and syntactically precedes most other elements in a sentence. A simple noun root will combine with a limited set of verbs denoting location, which are effectively suffixes. Locative noun phrases will be discussed in detail below.

ገራ	il	'house'
ፋጸ	seo	'reach, exceed (but as suffix: beyond)'
ገራፋጸ	ilseon	'beyond the house, far from the house'

Noun-Agentive Combinations are simple or compound verb roots which have been modified by one of a series of nominalisers of differing shades of meaning, with the resulting combination becoming semantically a compound noun. These will be discussed in detail later.

ᐱᐤ	ban	'good, well, healthy, lively'
ᐱᐤᐱᐤ	bantzon	'wellness, goodness (something experienced or felt)'

Possessive Suffixes

The possessive suffixes mark that the preceding noun root is possessed by the person indicated, and are almost identical to the verbal person suffixes. However noun roots which end in a vowel are interspersed with an intervocalic morpheme **-ht-** when immediately followed by a person-possessive suffix. Note that the 2nd person suffix here **-iz** lacks the bracketed **h** of the verbal form.

-(ht)-	intervocalic	
-a	1 st person	my, mine
-(h)iz	2 nd person	your, yours
-e	3 rd person-animate	his, hers
-ec	3 rd person-inanimate	its
-en	3 rd person-uncertain	someone's or unknown possessor
-on	4 th person, animate-common	commonly possessed, all of ours, everyone's
-oc	4 th person, inanimate-common	unpossessed, sacredly possessed

The majority of these are straightforward in their usage, however examples will clarify some of the third and fourth person meanings:

ᐱᐤᐱᐤ	ila	'my house'
ᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤ	iliz	'your house'
ᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤ	ile	'her house'
ᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤ	ilen	'someone's house'
ᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤ	ilon	'everyone's house'

ᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤ	deruhta	'my door'
ᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤ	deruhtiz	'your door'
ᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤ	deruhte	'his door'
ᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤ	deruhtec	'its door'
ᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤ	deruhten	'someone's door'
ᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤ	deruhton	'our door, everyone's door'
ᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤ	deruhtoc	'a door, a certain door'

ᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤ	nuahtoc	'a certain garden'
ᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤ	nuahton	'everyone's garden, a garden for all of us'

Suffix **-oc** is often seen with existential particle ᐱᐤᐱᐤ **ari** to mean 'a certain..., an unknown...':

ᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤ	ari deruhtoc	'there is a certain door, a secret or unknown door'
ᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤᐱᐤ	ari nuahtoc	'there exists a garden somewhere'

Person-possessive suffixes cannot be used in most locative phrases however the simple locatives **-(e)n** and **-(a)m** can be used freely. This will be discussed later.

Locative Suffixes

The two locative suffixes are contrastive according to specificity: the specific locative **-(e)n** indicates a precise location, whereas the nonspecific locative **-(a)m** indicates locative imprecision. It is interesting to note the parallels between these locative suffixes and the corresponding tense-aspect and flow suffixes **-(e)n** and **-(a)m** which also have a specificity contrast.

-(e)n	Specific Locative: in, on, at
-(a)m	Nonspecific locative: by, around, near, in the area of

:: FEMALESE PARTICLES ::

Particles are the third main category of word in Fernalese. These short monosyllabic and disyllabic words are only weakly synthetic, meaning that they only rarely combine with other morphemes, and convey a huge range of meanings. Their basic functions are to colour a phrase or sentence with an intention or feeling, or to coordinate clause and sentence structures. Many of them are involved in clause symmetry – this will be discussed in the later section on syntax.

1. a – Thematic: Name Announcing Particle

Fernalese names are often transparent to meaning, and they are very often compound verb roots or abstract nouns. As such, a particle is sometimes required to clarify when they is being used as a name, especially if the name is an infixed object.

ፍጥረት	fertorre	'call verdancy or nature into being'
ዕፍጥረት	a Fektorre	'Victoria, Victor'
ዕፍጥረትጸዓዳ	a Fektorrexaosa	'I spoke to Victoria'
ፍጥረትጸዓዳ	fertorrexaosa	'I spoke, calling verdancy into being'

2. ari – Existential

This is a versatile particle which expresses a range of meanings from denoting existence of an item to obliquely indicating or hinting that something is present. It covers such English equivalents as 'there is, there are, there shall be', 'let there be, let there exist', 'a certain something, something unknown' and, to a certain extent, the indefinite article.

ዕገረትጸዓዳ	ari tlaicu xaosiz	'you spoke to a man'
ዕገረትጸዓዳ	ari chartze dachita	'I know a certain artist'
ገረትጸዓዳ	io ari xanxicar ho	'let there be light!'

It can also be seen with 4th person -oc to mean 'a certain thing', and can also precede constructions with comitative -(e)cu to augment a possessive meaning or to indicate the presence of the possessed object. It sometimes precedes verb phrases to indicate that the action is unexpected, sudden or emergent:

ዕገረትጸዓዳ	ari deruhtoc	'there is a certain door (somewhere)'
ዕገረትጸዓዳ	ari perochirecuaita	'I have here a certain letter'
ዕገረትጸዓዳ	ari aoretai	'I love you (and I didn't know it)'
ዕገረትጸዓዳ	ari tuatuabitmaihaise	'He arrived here suddenly'

3. ben, bene – Benefactive

The benefactive particle marks a noun phrase that receives the benefit of an action, and is usually translated as 'for'. In most cases, the benefactively-marked noun also takes the dative or becomes a stand-alone nenefbactive pronoun. The benefactive is also sometimes seen to 'gift' actions in Fernalese, expressing a subtle shade of meaning often absent in English.

ዕገረትጸዓዳ	bene danini xaota ho	'I speak for the ancestors!'
ዕገረትጸዓዳ	bene onani bachenon	'we are making magic for the woman'
ዕገረትጸዓዳ	lifdinse benfa	'he gathered the books for me'
ዕገረትጸዓዳ	benon xantoc tecco	'the Sun shines for all of us'
ዕገረትጸዓዳ	benfiz daetxaise	'She blessed you (for your benefit)'
ዕገረትጸዓዳ	benfa maimiriz	'You are coming to see me'

4. ber, bere – Logical-Connective

The logical-connective particle initiates two or more clauses whose actions or statements are logically connected in some way, and covers a wide array of meanings in English, including question and answer statements such as 'why...? because...', phrases of reason or causation such as 'because, because of, due to, from', and expressions of logical outcomes, 'we do this, so that...'. This is one of a number of particles involved in clause symmetry, a stylistic device in which linked clauses begin with the same constructions.

ዕገረትጸዓዳ	bere maisa bere dahmirisai	'I came because I wanted to see you'
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<p> ber cantxeni ber indose ber cantxeni ber indose ber yonsa bere maiarcairesa ber nohaiton ia </p>	<p> 'he passed away from sorrow' 'I walked so I (could) enjoy the forest' 'that's why we all live here' </p>
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5. ca – Partitive – 'or'

The partitive **ca** functions straightforwardly in Fernalese: it simply means 'or'. It can be used between nouns or clause-initially to suggest that the clause which follows is an alternative to any preceding clause. Note in lists of nouns, only the final noun takes a case ending. An equivalent to English 'either...or...' can be seen when this particle uses clause symmetry:

<p> txahi ca cahfeco dahanenitxo? io dahnohaina ca maiarra ca nohainon ca maiarron </p>	<p> 'do you want to drink tea or coffee' 'let's stay here or (go) to the forest' 'either we stay here or we go to the forest' </p>
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6. e – Vocative-Imperative

The vocative-imperative particle **e** has two principal usages: to call or address someone by name, and to introduce an imperative statement with **za-**. It also has a hortative function, and the combined particle group **e io** is sometimes seen:

<p> e lban e lban, zama! e dahnohainon e io niahuiachicna </p>	<p> 'John! (vocative)' 'John! Come here!' 'let's stay here' 'I should listen carefully' </p>
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7. ho – Declaritive Emphasis

Another straightforward particle which provides emphasis to the clause or sentence it modifies. It can also be used to contradict a previous statement.

<p> ho, o fiz! benon xaota ho feco cheicsa ho </p>	<p> 'hey, you!' 'I speak for all of us!' 'I heard him, you know!' </p>
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8. hor – Intentive-Purposive

The intentive-purposive particle is situated at the head of two or more clauses whose actions or statements are linked by intention or purpose, and carries a principal meaning 'do (action), in order to...' or 'do (action), because (I intend to)...'

<p> hor erasue hor illamir hor oran amona hor txion banorihia e hor niahuiachicna e hor txiocuta </p>	<p> 'he went to see the village' 'I'm eating now so I can dance well later' 'I should listen carefully so that I understand it' </p>
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9. ia – Declaritive-Hortative & Referential Subject

This particle has two meanings. The first is a general purpose declaritive or hortative meaning similar to **e** or **io** and often used with **non** to denote a collective meaning to the declaration

<p> ia fercuan non, ia ferbio non </p>	<p> 'to us the cosmos, to us the vitality of life!' </p>
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:: FERNALESE INTERROGATIVES ::

Fernalese interrogative words occupy a special position in the grammar. Technically they are verbs which denote an approximately existential or stative meaning, and their interrogative function is only activated through the use of interrogative suffixes which attach to the very end of the verb phrase, after the person suffixes. Thus we need to look again at our pattern of the verb phrase and make a few additions:

PREFIXES:	± Connectives	± Positive-Negative Prefix	± Imperative-Desideratives	± Abilitive Prefix	
COMPOUND VERB:	± Infix Object Noun	± INTERROGATIVE VERB	± Modifying Verb Root(s)	+ VERB ROOT	
SUFFIXES:		± Causative Suffix	± 'Flow' Suffix	+ Tense/Aspect Suffix	+ Person Suffix
					± INTERROGATIVE SUFFIXES -to, -sa, -che

The interrogative verbs thus function as a special kind of modifying verb root, slotting in before any compound verb root but after any infix object, although given the nature of interrogative verbs, infix objects are rare here.

In the *Basic Fernalese Phrases* section earlier, we learned that **3J#sRqYt mahtorretitzo** means 'what is your name?' or more literally 'what are you called?' The verb **#sRq torre** means 'to be called' and thus the word **3J mah** is the interrogative verb:

3J	mah	i) to have a nature, character or some property ii) exist, dwell within, be iii) what? (interrogative)
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Thus the compound verb **3J#sRq mahtorre** means something like 'for one's name to have a nature, for a name to exist', and it is suffixed with a habitual **-(e)t**, a 2nd person suffix **-iz** 'you' and an interrogative suffix **-to**. It is the use of the interrogative suffix **-to** that activates the interrogative meaning of the verb. The suffix in **3J#sRqYt mahtorretitzo** is fused to the second person suffix **-iz** in a way that will become clear in a moment.

3J#sRq	mahtorre	'for one's name to have a nature, for a name to exist'
3J#sRqYt	mahtorretitzo	'what is your name?'

There are three interrogative suffixes in Fernalese, and they always append as the very last element of the verb phrase, after even the person suffixes. Each suffix colours the verb phrase with a different interrogative function:

-to	interrogative: information questions
-sa	interrogative: yes/no/maybe questions
-che	interrogative: rhetorical questions (requiring minimal or no reply)

It should be noted that two of the interrogative suffixes fuse with 2nd person suffix **-iz** according to the sound rules set out earlier:

-itzo	2 nd person suffix fused with informational interrogative
-itxa	2 nd person suffix fused with yes/no interrogative

The informational interrogative suffix **-to** is used to elicit information from the listener about a situation, person or place, whereas the yes/no interrogative suffix **-sa** seeks confirmation or denial about a specific piece of information. The rhetorical suffix **-che** doesn't necessarily require a reply. The use of these three suffixes can radically change the meaning of a given question. Consider the above example:

3J#sRq	mahtorre	'for one's name to have a nature, for a name to exist'
3J#sRqYt	mahtorretitzo	'what is your name? (give me information)'
3J#sRqYtR	mahtorretitxa	'does your name exist? (yes, no, maybe...)'
3J#sRqYtRt	mahtorretitzche	'surely you must have a name!'

ደጉንዳን ገደብ
 o fertorre teni mirialifelan lifco rifse iban
 'it was Fertorre who Iban gave the book to in the library'

Clause Symmetry

Clause Symmetry is an interesting feature in Fernalese, in which two clauses or phrases that are logically connected to each other in some way have symmetrical grammatical forms at the start of the clause, and the grammatical symmetry echoes the symmetry of intention, purpose, condition or narrative events evident in the connected clauses. Verb phrases with connective prefixes **ne(h)-** and **mo(h)-** and flow suffix **-(o)r** commonly exhibit clause symmetry, as do clauses beginning with particles **ari**, **ber(e)**, **ca**, **hor**, **ibe** and **te**, as the examples demonstrate.

ne(h)- ቱገሮሃን ቱገሮሃን ቱገሮሃን nehilerse netaohse 'he went home and (then) he fell asleep'
 ቱገሮሃን ቱገሮሃን ቱገሮሃን lifco neleirse, ebionco nechuarfulanse
 'he read the book and the decided to visit EBion'

mo(h)- ጠቅላይ ጠቅላይ ጠቅላይ motorrese mobarrese 'she named and (also) strengthened (them)'
 ጠቅላይ ጠቅላይ ጠቅላይ moferxaoleirta, mocharpeinta
 'I study Fernalese and I also paint images'

-(o)r ገንዘብ ገንዘብ ገንዘብ mircuanoria cafazorihiz 'you make plans while I observe'

ari ዕድሜ ገንዘብ ገንዘብ ari deruhtoc, ari iloc 'there is a certain door and a house'
 ዕድሜ ገንዘብ ገንዘብ ari tlaicu xaosiz, ari onaco fulansiz
 'you spoke to a man and you visited a woman'

ber(e) ልሳን ልሳን ልሳን ber cantxeni ber indose 'he passed away from sorrow'
 ልሳን ልሳን ልሳን bere maisa bere dahmirsai
 'I came because I wanted to see you'

ca ዓለት ዓለት ዓለት ca nohainon ca maiarron
 'either we stay here or we go to the forest'

hor ሆስፒታል ሆስፒታል ሆስፒታል hor erasue hor illamir 'he went to see the village'
 ሆስፒታል ሆስፒታል ሆስፒታል hor oran amona hor txion banorihia 'I'm eating now so I can dance well later'

ibe ለሰው ለሰው ለሰው ibechicniz, ibetxiotiz 'if you listen, you will understand'
 ለሰው ለሰው ለሰው ibeionte ibehitzecamote 'when he wakes up, he eats breakfast'

te ደብዳቤ ገንዘብ ገንዘብ ገንዘብ o ilai te dedetec te tlaotec te omorlacam datetec
 'this house is big, and warm, and stands by a beautiful lake'

Other particles can also occasionally be involved in clause symmetry, with a logical-connective meaning, or in blessing-greetings, as the examples clarify:

ገንዘብ ገንዘብ ገንዘብ io datainon, io dahcahnon 'we are all here, so let's begin!'
 ገንዘብ ገንዘብ ገንዘብ ia fercuan non, ia ferbio non 'to us the cosmos, to us the vitality of life!'

:: FERNALESE NUMBERS ::

Fernalese numbers are regular and logical. Aside from alternative names for eleven, twelve and thirteen, the numbers work in base 10 and build up in a simple mathematical way. If we have **ካሮ**, **huai** 'four' and **lio** 'ten', then fourteen is **ደባሳሳ**, **liotuai** (10 + -t- + 4) and forty is **ካሮደባሳሳ**, **huailio** (4 x 10). Ordinal numbers, attributives and other mathematical functions are expressed with simple suffixes, making the Fernalese number system quick and easy to use. Here are the numbers from 0 to 10

ገዳ	siru	zero	ሶሶ	beo	six
ሮገ	ih	one	ሦሶ	ler	seven
ገ	zo	two	ጉሮጐ	feir	eight
ሮሶ	io	three	ጐ-ገ	nue	nine
ካሮ	huai	four	ደባሳሳ	lio	ten
ቶ	se	five			

The next three numbers have two names, one which derives from the basic numbers above, and a second number which is a kind of 'sacred' name:

ደባሳሳ	liotih	eleven	ሶሦሳሳ	alban	eleven
ደባሳ	liotzo	twelve	ጐ-ገጐ	zier	twelve
ደባሳሳ	liotio	thirteen	ሦሶጐ	tiarze	thirteen

As can be seen from the first column, numbers in the teens consist of **ደባሳ**, **lio** 'ten', an occasional infix **-t-** followed by the unitary number. Thus 'twelve' is **ደባሳ**, **lio-t-zo**, but 'sixteen' is **ደባሳሶሶ**, **lio-beo**. Numbers from 14 to 20 are as follows:

ደባሳሳሳ	liotuai	fourteen	ደባሳጉሮጐ	lio-feir	eighteen
ደባሳጐ	liotxe	fifteen	ደባሳጐ-ገ	lionue	nineteen
ደባሳሶሶ	liobeo	sixteen	ጐደባሳ	zolio	twenty
ደባሳሦጐ	lioler	seventeen			

Numbers beyond 20 proceed logically. 21 consists of 2 + 10 + -t- + 1, while 30 is formed from 3 + 10, and so on until 99. Selected numbers from 21 to 99 are given:

ጐደባሳሳ	zoliotih	21	ቶደባሳ	selio	50
ጐደባሳ	zoliotzo	22	ሶሶደባሳ	beolio	60
ጐደባሳጉሮጐ	zoliofeir	28	ሦጐደባሳ	lerrio	70
ሮሶደባሳ	iolio	30	ጉሮጐደባሳ	feirrio	80
ካሮደባሳ	huailio	40	ጐ-ገደባሳ	nuelio	90
ካሮደባሳሶሶ	huailio-beo	46	ጐ-ገደባሳጐ-ገ	nuelionue	99

Numbers above ten also proceed logically. There are units for each multiple of ten up to ten thousand, which in Fernalese has the same meaning as 'myriad, innumerable', and thus counting above ten thousand doesn't occur very often. Thus, 185 is **ሶሶጉሮጐደባሳ**, **banfeirriose**, 831 is **ጉሮጐሶሶደባሳደባሳ**, **feirbanliotih** and 5242 is **ቶጐሶ ጐሶካሮደባሳ**, **sedauzobanhuailiotzo**. There are no units above ten thousand.

ሶሶ	ban	100	ቶሶሶ	seban	500
ሶሶሳሳ	bantih	101	ሶሶሶሶ	beoban	600
ሶሶጐደባሳ	banzolio	120	ሦሶ	tzai	1000
ጐሶሶ	zoban	200	ጐሶሶ	miria	10,000

Numerals are constructed in precisely the same way that numbers are spoken. Thus 𐎎𐎗𐎗 lio-t-zo 'twelve' = 10+2 and is written 𐎗𐎗, while 𐎎𐎗𐎗𐎗 lio-beo 'sixteen' = 10+6 is 𐎗𐎗𐎗 and 𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗 huailio-beo 'forty-six' = 4+10+6 is 𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗. Larger numbers follow the same logic:

𐎎𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗	banfeirriose	185	𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗
𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗	feirbanioliotih	831	𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗
𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗	sedauzobanhuailiotzo	5242	𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗

:: FERNALESE COLOURS ::

Fernalese recognises three basic colour systems, each with their own different function: i) five fundamental tone colours, ii) eight colours to describe the natural world, and iii) eight colours to describe human skin tones. Other colours, such as artistic colours for paints, also exist but are terms derived from other words.

i) Cuantxon – Fundamental Tone Colours

There are five 𐎎𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗 **quantxon** or fundamental tone colours. These describe colour ranges which are the perceptual foundations of all other colours, and can be applied to any referent, but most often refer to colours seen in vision or pure clear tones found on human-made objects. They all have a suffix **-ac** to distinguish them as fundamental tones:

𐎎𐎗𐎗𐎗	lutac	'colour range from red to purple'
𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗	ferac	'colour range from blue to green'
𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗	taiac	'colour range from orange and yellow to green'
𐎎𐎗𐎗𐎗	lucac	'white, pale greys and pale tones of any colour'
𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗	yanac	'black, dark greys and dark tones of any colour'



ii) Fertxon – Natural Colours

These eight 𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗 **fertxon** or natural colours are tones used for the natural world, and as such contain senses of gradation and variation of colour that one sees in natural contexts. Those that have the same root forms as the above tone colours can take a suffix **-ar**. Note the colour boundaries here are not the same as the fundamental tone colours

𐎎𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗	lut, lutar	'red, magenta'
𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗	ical	'purple'
𐎗𐎗	fua	'dark blue, evening sky blue, ultramarine, violet'
𐎗𐎗𐎗	caese	'blue, daylight sky blue'
𐎗𐎗𐎗𐎗	fer, ferar	'green, turquoise'
𐎗𐎗𐎗	chioro	'pale green, green-yellow'
𐎗𐎗𐎗	taiar	'yellow'
𐎗𐎗𐎗	xofen	'orange'



These natural colour words can vary through the use of several prefixes which convey different meanings,

and often change the colour referent completely. These prefixes are only for use with the **fertxon** natural colours.

lu-, lo-	'light, pale'
ya-	'dark, deep'
dai-, da-	'grading, changing from light to dark'
nue-	'speckled, mottled, cloudy'
man-	'intense, saturated'

Thus for **ጳጥኒ**, **xofen** 'orange' we see the following variations:

ጺጳጥኒ	luxofen	'pale orange, peach'
ቆጳጥኒ	yaxofen	'brown'
ዕሮጳጥኒ	daixofen	'changing orange'
ቤ-ጳጥኒ	nuexofen	'speckled orange'
ጌጳጥኒ	manxofen	'intense orange'



Other new colours generated using these prefixes include:

ጥጺፍጺ	lolutar	'pink'
ጌጺጺጺ	manlutar	'magenta'
ጌጺጺ-ጳጥ	mancaese	'cyan'
ቆሮጺጺ	yaical	'violet'
ዕቆጺጺ	dayaluc	'grey'
ቤ-ጳጥፍጺ	nueferar	'leaf green'

