

Christopher Johnson-Roberson Language project - "Azhrani"

Vowels

Written over preceding consonant. i.e., for the word "Azhrani"

a zh ra ni

• (print)

• (cursive)

When there is no preceding consonant, as at the beginning of a word, the vowel marking is written by itself.

The cursive form of each is on the right (just the vowel marking with a line underneath).

i (as in **seat**)

u (as in **soot**)

e (as in **say**)

o (as in **soak**)

a (as in **sod**)

Consonants

(transliteration, print, cursive, name)

p pe

b be

t te

ty tye

d de

k ke

g ge

f fe

v ve

th the

s se

z ze

sh she

zh zhe

h he

w we

r re

ry rye

l le

ll lle

y ye

rr rre

m me

n ne

ñ ñe

Punctuation:

"a" by itself at the end of a sentence indicates the stop. (not used in speech)

Phonological constraints:

(C)V(C)

Stress falls on last syllable.

Grammar:

Word order: Flexible, usually subject-object-verb (the former two parts are marked by particles, the entire section being excluded when implicit)

Noun phrases always have the modifiers after the referenced objects, i.e. "wall red"

Verbs:

Verbs have three tenses: the present, with no particular ending, the past with ending “-ya”, and the future, with ending “-yu.”

The subjunctive mood, for indicating the uncertainty of the speaker or the speaker’s opinion, has the verb ending “-ten” following any other endings

This is true - “eni en bikra o to”
This is true (*possibly, I think*) - “eni en bikra o toten”

The ending “-bik” indicates emphasis or certainty of the speaker.

This is true! - “eni en bikra o tobik”

Negate a sentence by adding “-nat” to the end of the verb; begin the sentence with nat for emphasis

ex. “isharat inka ena at karnat”
lit. “I place that to go-not”
(To that place I do not go)

“nat isharat inka ena at karnat”
lit. “not I place that to go-not”
(To that place I **ABSOLUTELY** do not go)

Ending “-ni” forms the gerund; used constructions such as:
ex. “nairal vazhin verrioni ne arukyunat”
lit. “we fear having of will not be”
(We will not be afraid.)

ex. “isharat zhrotetni ihairattane o zinayanat”
lit. “I saying you’s (obj.) won’t forget”
(I will not forget what you have said.)

For present progressive, use the construction “nalyab eni so” (*in this time*)

Particles (similar to Japanese):

Subject marker: “en” (comes after noun, can be excluded with personal pronouns)

ex. “isharat en zhrotet” - I think
equivalent to
“isharat zhrotet” - I think

Object marker: “o” (comes after noun, can be excluded when obvious)

ex. “isharat to” - I am
“isharat oino o to”
lit. I person (obj.) am
(I am a person.)
or
“isharat oino to”
lit. I person am
“I am a person.”

Nouns:

No gender, no articles

Plural denoted with “-l” or “-el” if the word ends in a vowel/consonant respectively

Possessive: “-tane” (in construction B A-tane with A being the possessor)

ex. “inkatan isharattane”
lit. “house my”
(my house)

Adjectives:

Adjectival ending: -like - “-me” following a noun. (number must match the noun; add “-l” for plurals)

ex. “anoime” - childlike
“azhrani oineltane en anoime o to”
lit. “speech their (sub.) childlike (obj.) is”
(Their talk is childlike.)

“neritel oineltane en anoimel o to”
lit. “ideas their (sub.) childlikes (obj.) are”
(Their ideas are childlike.)

Other adjectives formed without “-me” ending, but must still match the noun in number, adding “-l” or “-el” as in nouns

ex. “serenisni zarushin”
lit. “song beautiful”
(beautiful song)
“serenisniel zarushinel”
lit. “songs beautifuls”
(beautiful songs)

Ending “-ni,” makes an adjective into a quality, like “-ness”

i.e. "kalim" - light
"kalimni" - brightness

Adverbs:

Adverbial ending: -ly - "ne"; append to adjective to gain adverb

ex. "ayish" - good
"ayishne" - well

Postpositions:

of - "ne"
in - "so"
out - "ola"
on - "erre"
under - "anerre"
to - "at"
from - "olane"
for - "eknat"
(the object A which is related to B is in the order B A postposition)

ex. "bikra tokrin ne"
lit. "truth path of"
(path of truth)

Conjunctions:

and - "zheka"
with - "zhekal"
or - "zhiva"
but - "anzheka"
without - "anzhekal"
then (therefore) - "nerin"
if - "lin"

All come between the two connected objects (if precedes statement)

ex. "watar zheka erei" - cloud and moon
ex. "lin ihairat tolshin eni o ziris isharat ihairat at o iregaya"
lit. "if you crystal this (obj.) want, I you to (obj.) will give"
(If you want this crystal, I will give it to you.)

Pronouns:

I - "isharat"
You - "ihairat"
We - "nairal"
He - "oine"
She - "oina"
They - "oinel"

The following can be used alone, or after the noun to specify.

This - "eni" (close to speaker)
That - "ene" (close to listener)
That (over there) - "ena" (distant to both)
These - "enil" (as "eni")
Those - "enel"
Those (over there) - "enal"

ex. when used alone: "eni en zhirat o to" - This is a book

ex. when used to specify: "zhirat eni en akranto o to" - This book (zhirat eni) is red.

Questions:

"arri" preceded by noun for what is being questioned; that is, "arri" - simply what, "arri nalyab" - when; "arri inka" - where; "arri mitash" - why; (rise in intonation)

ex. "esturukni en arri nalyab so toyu"
lit. "beginning (sub). what time in will be"
When will it (some event) begin?

ex. "ñau en arri inka so to"
lit. "cat (sub). what place in is"
(Where is the cat?)

"ekra" after sentence; asks for truth of sentence; answered with yes, "bik", or no, "nat"

ex. "ihairat eni o opaya ekra"
lit. "you this (obj.) saw (yes/no?)"
(Did you see this?)
"bik" - Yes (I saw that)
"bik ene o opaya" - Yes, I saw that
"nat" - No (I did not see that)
"nat ene o opayanat" - No, I did not see that

Relative clauses:

When beginning a relative clause, put "na" before the contained sentence begins, and add "atan" coming out of it (essentially, verbal commas).

ex. "isharat na ihairat sereniz o verrio atan o hitya"
lit. "I [you song (obj). have] (obj). created"
(I created [the song that you have].)

Vocabulary

Nouns:

body - basma
eye - opallo
nose - iznari
ear - warina
mouth - valik
head - pera
face - perallit
finger - anit
hand - yuran
foot - yukan
leg - shire
arm - bezhite
person - oino
man - oine
woman - oina
child - anoi
son - anoite
daughter - ladruha
sister - karisha
brother - palkri
father - oinetan
mother - elantet
family - padrin
animal - vokra
dog - raf
cat - ñau
horse - hurhe
land - tofnat
sky - sono
sun - arai
moon - erei
cloud - watar
tree - hosha
water - tarik
droplet - sholit
idea - nerit
memory - sihani
emotion - timor
joy - izho
love - fulmis
peace - olonte
fear - vazhin
hatred - vazhkur
sadness - orrewo
time - nalyab
place - inka
reason - mitash
power - aru
wisdom - nalleno
chaos - akros
order - lanthe

food - parsi
house - inkatan
truth - bikra
falsehood - natra
thing - hiñem
plant - verash
sand - okirza
earth - fuzhin
day - aranto
night - ereña
all - odai
none - nanta
path - tokrin
name - kashe
king - olorin
queen - oloran
crown - mistura
crystal - tolshin
covering - oerre
bell - don
book - zhirat
path - tokrin
1 - anta
2 - arra
3 - doli
4 - darra
5 - yura

Verbs:

be - to
use - akto
create - hit
have - verrio
go - kar
come - karshi
walk - zarre
fly - hola
fall - erta
talk - azhra
write - azhrahi
say - zhurotet
see - opa
smell - izna
hear - wari
think - hagir
remember - siha
forget - zina
dream - lume
rejuvenate - hitan
begin - esturuk
end - nahil
take - tanrof
give - irega
breathe - sher

live - onok
die - morre
eat - parshi
drink - tyarip
sleep - yokar
can - aruk
want - viris
fill - londa
sing - sereniz

very - lotrañe
happily - izhone
sadly - tyorrene
wisely - llenane
foolishly - hazhene
arduously - parukne
softly - silmane
easily - talone

Adjectives:

good - ayish
bad - adem
small - tyalit
big - eshron
high - sonar
low - tofnar
strong - arume
weak - fili
more/many - lotra
less/few - litka
happy - izho
poignant - tyorre
light - kalim
dark - zharis
quick - laite
slow - ekuri
wise - llenane
foolish - hazhe
hard - karush
soft - silma
difficult - paruk
easy - talo
close - eñome
far - ename
true - bikrome
false - natrome
beautiful - zarushin
rich - shiru
red - akranto
green - toshru
blue - tarillin
black - zharin
gold - misha

Adverbs:

only - odrit
quickly - laitene
slowly - ekurine
well - ayishne
badly - ademme
strongly - arumene
weakly - filine