

Evuli ko Azduj ker Nobex ka Bynzati

TupAukunalas zefizma, vesoj rek nobex ka bynzati evuli ko azduj, inyr lehijerjak ejen vyk me ruvo na duham. Evuli zedo hul toripuzoj duham vel nobal.

Oge Aukuna undiga bel tupori bu, atri tupnu na bynzam, vidigefa Mautlaro, me tupnu na hybynzam, vidigefa Sanunalo. Sanuna divliga hali nobal savre. Vidjekuta savre va Mautla, zor varigox puzoho beki evuli. Kedu taliravon hus varijyko sahu va Sanuna, kedu sunziflanita. Sonulojal ziflarota sko sahu va Mautla. Hoxe tupto bu kalo vahotrota boza.

Ulam Idinalo, vun jormalo va Sanuna, heprujumiga Mautla. Kedu pasikin bu steldrota hakluro vibe tupto. Loby Mautla duluz Idina hul flinzo opysupsin huk evulkempale ke izirek. Lobromir kedijomeson masma iriman kor nobal. Goxavon araxinyr talam yni pegeravon bodonimas hul puzoho. Idina rygohuta lejo flini masal, dilava leji masal sahu va bynzam.

Rek glatojes hybynzati va Sanuna, Mautla nahiniga hus, "Diles hali nobal ka bynzati savre. Sunhenes hus meskovum evuli ko azduj. Lazakuze evuli vendonibu hul puzoho, yni usonulavet edokyxinyr."

Ikfe Sanuna divliga hali nobal sahu, bodokuta puzoho. Bojodrikuta vix sahu va bynzam, kedu bokavinita sunboziflarota.

Ikfe Sanuna hiniga hus, "Hoxe aviharbizle!".

Sivmikor Grammar Notes

Pronunciation

Sivmikor is designed to be written with the Latin alphabet. For the most part, letters are pronounced like IPA, except that J represents /ʒ/, X represents /ʃ/, and Y represents /aj/.

Word Order

Word order in a clause is predominantly SVO, though other orders are possible; existential statements using *soja* tend to put the verb at the front, and relative clauses *must* put the verb at the front.

In general, modifiers come *after* whatever they modify.

Nouns can be followed by, in this order:

- Light relative clauses (e.g. attributive properties)
- Prepositional phrases
- Heavy relative clauses

Verbs can be followed by, in this order:

- Adverbs
- Light prepositional phrases
- The verb's object
- Heavy prepositional phrases

A prepositional phrase following a verb object *could* be modifying either the object itself or the clause as a whole. You can tell which by the agreement: if it's modifying the object, the preposition will have a prefix to *agree with the object*, but if it's modifying the clause as a whole, it will be in its default form.

Prepositional phrases can be placed *before* the rest of the clause if they help to set the stage for the clause.

Nouns

Nouns are divided into four *classes*. The class determines which suffixes it uses, and triggers agreement from other words.

All nouns must have a *main suffix*, which indicates definiteness and number.

The definiteness levels are:

- Mass: no specific referents
- Indefinite: the speaker has a specific referent in mind, and is introducing this to the listener
- Definite: the speaker has a specific referent in mind, and this is obvious to the listener.
- Demonstrative: the speaker has a specific referent in mind, and is singling it out or has already mentioned it.

Nouns are given in their mass form. Remove the mass suffix to get the stem. Here are the mass suffixes that can be found in the lexicon:

- Class I: *-m, -v*
- Class II: *-i, -t*
- Class III: *-k, -o*

- Class IV: *-az, -j*

For example, the noun listed in the lexicon as *evuli* has the stem *evul-*.

Proper nouns work the same way as ordinary nouns, but they **don't use the singular demonstrative suffix**; once introduced, they appear thereafter without a main suffix. In the lexicon, the proper nouns are given without the main suffix as well, i.e. in their demonstrative form.

Less common nouns are often compounds, which are made by attaching the bare stems together and then adding one main affix at the end. The full compound will be used the first time the noun is mentioned, but thereafter it will be clipped to the last component only. For example, the word *lehijerjak* "mole" would be reduced to *jerjak* on subsequent mentions.

Verbs

Verbs are given in the third-person singular present form, which usually ends in *-a* or *-n*. To get the stem, drop the final letter, whatever it is.

All verbs must have a *main affix*, which can consist of a prefix and/or a suffix. The main affix indicates the person and number of the subject, the basic tense (gnomic, present, or past), and the mood (realis or irrealis), all combined.

When using a **past** main affix, the **verb stem is altered**. For almost all verbs this can be derived predictably from the normal stem, but the rules for doing so are convoluted. Instead, I've listed the third-person singular past form in the lexicon alongside the present form; drop the last letter to get the past stem.

The main affix works together with an **additional tense-aspect** affix to create the actual tense. In this text, the following combinations can be found:

- Using a **past main affix**:
 - **Remote Past** for events that happened "long ago".
 - **Retrospective** for a clause describing the causes or backstory of a previous one.
- Using a **present main affix**:
 - **Present** (no additional affix) for an event happening *right now*, or imminently.
 - **Sequential** for a new event happening after a previous one as part of a sequence of events.
 - **Simultaneous** for a new event happening at the same time as a previous one.
 - **Prospective** for a clause expressing the consequences or outcomes of a previous one.

- Using a **gnomic main affix**
 - **Gnomic** (no additional affix) for general truths and persistent habits.
 - **Future** for anticipated future events.
 - **Imperfective** for background events surrounding a previous clause.
 - **Manner Adverbial** for verbs that describe the manner in which another action is done.

Verbs are marked *irrealis* if the speaker sees the event as non-real in some way, e.g. it was expected to happen but didn't, or it's being prevented, or it's merely desired but considered unlikely. Irrealis second-person forms are also used as an imperative.

Relative clauses always start with a verb. If the noun being modified by the relative clause is the relative clause's subject, use the "relativized subject" main affix instead of the normal agreement main affix. Otherwise, use the normal agreement main affix to match the subject of the relative clause. Note that the *gnomic* relativized subject main affix is nothing at all; such verbs will appear as just the stem with the agreement prefix attached to it.

In either case, add an agreement prefix matching the class of the modified noun. In this text, you'll find the following relative clause agreement prefixes:

- Class I: *v-*
- Class II: *i-*
- Class III: *e-*
- Class IV: *o-*

Sivmikor has no separate class of *adjectives*, instead using verbs (usually in the form of relative clauses) for properties.

Verbs always have two argument slots: an *agent* slot for the thing seen as causing the action or state, and a *patient* slot for the thing affected by it. Normally the agent acts as the subject and the patient acts as the object. The subject must always be provided (even if just by agreement marking on the verb), but the object can be left out if it's irrelevant.

The *inverse voice* swaps the verb's arguments, making the patient the subject and the agent the object. Since the agent is now the object, it can be dropped to create a passive meaning.

Verbs like *don* "give" that involve a recipient and a "payload" put the *recipient* in the patient slot; the payload gets attached with the preposition *hus*.

Prepositions

Prepositions agree in class with their object. They're given in their class I form, which ends in *-a* or *-s*; drop the final letter to get the stem. Then add an agreement suffix. Here are the agreement suffixes you'll encounter in this text:

- Class I: *-a*, *-s*
- Class II: *-i*, *-k*, *-r*
- Class III: *-e*
- Class IV: *-l*, *-o*

When a prepositional phrase modifies a noun directly, the preposition also swaps out its *first* letter to agree with the noun. Here are the agreement prefixes you'll encounter in this text:

- Class I: *v-*
- Class II: *k-*
- Class III: *n-*
- Class IV: *b-*

Watch out for the preposition *la*, which can often be translated as "of". Since it's only two letters long, it can get *entirely* replaced by agreement. **Most two-letter words in Sivmikor are forms of *la*.**

Other Word Classes

Sivmikor clauses often start with *connectives* that indicate the relationship to the previous claus(es).

Verbs can be followed by *adverbs*, which add information like path, manner, and modal information to the verb.

None of these words inflect.

Sivmikor Lexicon and Affixes

Note that most affixes in Sivmikor can change form dramatically based on adjacent sounds. I've listed each form separately in the lexicon.

- a (on verb): 3s present
- a (on preposition): agreement with class I object
- al (on noun): class II demonstrative singular
- ar (on noun): class II demonstrative singular

ara- (on verb): 3p gnomic
-av (on verb): simultaneous
avi- (on verb): 1p inclusive gnomic
atri (connective): and these are...
Aukuna (class III proper noun): the name of a people
-az (on noun): class IV mass
azduj (class IV noun): wind
b- (on preposition or relative clause): agreement with class IV head
bel (adverb): instead, in contrast
bizlen (verb): cooperate, work together
bo- (on verb): inverse voice
boj (class IV noun): other, another
bu (numeral): two
-bu (on verb): 3s present irrealis
bynzam (class I noun): forest, woods
deka (preposition): from
di- (on verb): inverse voice
dila (verb, PAST *divli*): brings, takes
don (verb, PAST *dul*): gives (to)
-dro (on verb): prospective
duham (class I noun): human being
e- (on preposition or relative clause): agreement with class III head
-e (on preposition): agreement with class III object
edo- (on verb): 2p gnomic
ela (verb): goes (to), moves (to)
-es (on noun): class II definite singular
-es (on verb): sequential
-es (on verb): 2s present irrealis, 2s imperative
-et (on verb): 2p present
evuli (class II noun): deity, spirit
evulkempas (class II noun): magic spell
-ex (on noun): class II definite singular
fizman (verb): believes in, worships
flinaz (class IV noun): knife
-ga (on verb): remote past
gefan (verb): lead, be in charge of
goxa (verb): wears, is (temporarily) affected by
haklum (class I noun): connection, bridge
hala (preposition): towards
har- (on verb): future

hena (verb, PAST *hini*): tells, says (to)
heprun (verb): is in love with
-ho (on noun): class IV indefinite singular
hoxe (connective): after that..., from then on...
-hu (on noun): class I demonstrative plural
-hu (on verb): sequential
hus (preposition): with, carrying; marks the "payload" of a "give"-type verb
hy- (on noun): non-
i- (on verb): imperfective
i- (on preposition or relative clause): agreement with class II head
-i (on noun): class II mass
-i (on noun): class IV demonstrative singular
-i (on verb): 3s past
-i (on preposition): agreement with class II object
ldina (class I proper noun): a personal name
ikfe (connective): and so...
izin (verb): is sharp
-j (on noun): class IV mass
jena (verb): has (as part of ones body)
jodrin (verb): takes care of, tends to
-jom (on verb, PAST *-jum*): starts, becomes
jormal (class I noun): sibling
jdkon (verb): is sick, is unwell
k- (on preposition or relative clause): agreement with class II head
-k (on noun): class III mass
-k (on preposition): agreement with class II object
kam (class I noun): each
kavin (verb): teaches
kedin (verb): seeks, searches for
kedu (connective): causing..., thus...
-kin (on noun): class II demonstrative plural
-ku (on verb): sequential
ky- (on verb): 1p exclusive object pronoun
-l (on preposition): agreement with class IV object
la (preposition): of, related to; used to mark possession
-las (on noun): class III indefinite singular
lazan (verb): allows, permits
lehijerjak (class III noun): mole (the animal)
leja (preposition): using, by means of
-lo (on noun): class I indefinite singular

lobroj (class IV noun): romantic partner
loby (connective): first..., to begin...
los (preposition): through, across
-m (on noun): class I mass
-ma (on noun): class II indefinite singular
-mas (on verb): 3p present irrealis
masi (class II noun): path, trail
Mautla (class I proper noun): a personal name
me (conjunction): and (joining nouns)
meskova (verb): follows
-mir (on noun): class IV demonstrative plural
n- (on preposition or relative clause): agreement with class III head
-n (on verb): relativized subject past
na- (on verb): 3s class I object pronoun
-ni (on verb): simultaneous
nobi (class II noun): core, centre
-nu (on noun): class III indefinite singular
nyra (verb): resembles, is like
o- (on preposition or relative clause): agreement with class IV head
-o (on noun): class III mass
-o (on preposition): agreement with class IV object
-oj (on verb): action nominalization (i.e. the act or process of doing X); always class II
-on (on verb): 3p present
oge (connective): before that..., once...
opsen (verb, PAST *upsel*): soaks, imbues
-ori (on noun): class III indefinite plural
p- (on verb): relativized subject past
pasit (class II noun): leader
pegera (verb): avoids, prevents
puzoj (class IV noun): clipping of *toripuzoj*
-r (on preposition): agreement with class II object
-re (on verb): state nominalization (i.e. the state of being X); always class III
res (preposition): at, in; usually refers to the *expected* position relative to the object, e.g. *on* surfaces, *in* containers
rimana (verb): is secret, is obscured
-ro (on noun): class I indefinite singular
-ro (on verb): prospective
ruvo (class III noun): leg
rygon (verb): cleans up, clears
-s (on preposition): agreement with class I object

sam (class I noun): person
Sanuna (class I proper noun): a personal name
sko (adverb): conversely, in turn
soja (verb): exists, "there is"
sonula (verb): behaves, acts
stela (verb): makes, creates, builds
sun- (on verb): 3p class I object pronoun
-t (on noun): class II mass
-ta (on verb): 3p present
talam (class I noun): child
talira (verb): convinces, makes
-ti (on noun): class I definite singular
tiba (preposition): between
-to (on noun): class III demonstrative plural
toripuzoj (class IV noun): altered state of consciousness
tupo (class III noun): people, ethnic group
u- (on verb): 2p present
ulam (connective): until...
-um (on verb): 3p present irrealis
una (verb, PAST *undi*): is
v- (on preposition or relative clause): agreement with class I head
-v (on noun): class I mass
vahota (verb): distrusts, is wary of
var- (on verb): 3p gnomic
ve- (on verb): 3s gnomic
ven- (on verb): 2p object pronoun
vidjen (verb): meets, encounters
vix (adverb): coming
-vre (on noun): class I definite plural
vyk (class III noun): arm
xi- (on verb): manner adverbial
yni (connective): in order to...
ys- (on verb): inverse voice
-za (on noun): class IV definite singular
ze- (on verb): 3s gnomic
-ze (on verb): 2s present irrealis, 2s imperative
-zo (on noun): class IV indefinite singular
ziflan (verb): frightens, startles
zor (connective): but... (introduces a complication or adverse consequence)

