Pronouns / Simple Sentences

Pronouns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Singluar</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Person</td>
<td>இது;</td>
<td>இது (listener included)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>இக்கு;</td>
<td>இக்கு (listener not included)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Person</td>
<td>ஏழ்</td>
<td>ஏழ்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ஏழ் (with respect)</td>
<td>ஏழ்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Person</td>
<td>அல்லு</td>
<td>அல்லு</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>அல்லு</td>
<td>அல்லு</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>அல்லு (respect)</td>
<td>அல்லு</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>என்</td>
<td>என்</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Singular / Plural

Singular means that a word refers to only 1 thing. Plural means that a word refers to more than 1 thing.

1st, 2nd, & 3rd Person

First person speech means the person speaking is talking about him/herself as an individual ("I...") or in a group ("we..."). In Thamil, இது is used when the person who is being spoken to is included in the group. ("Are we there yet?") இக்கு is used when the person who is being spoken to is not included. ("We saw a bear! You missed it.")

Second person speech means that the person being spoken to is being spoken about. ("Who are you?") ஏழ் is used for a group of people, as well as for just one person who receives respect.
Third person speech means that the speaker is talking with someone about someone else. ("He is good." "They are smart.") ஒம்ப் is used when talking about a person who receives respect. ஏதை refers to anything that is not a person (place, thing, idea). கடை is used to refer to more than 1 place, thing, or idea, such as 9 dogs or 5 tables.

**Simple Sentences**

There is no way to translate "is" in Thamil, and there is no translation for "is" in making simple sentences. So if you want to make a simple, informative statement, just put the two words together without a verb. Ex:

- ஒம்ப் கார்பூக்காள் = "He is a police officer."

Also, you can use numbers to describe what is being referred to. There is a word for "a"/"an", which is பு, which is used. Ex:

- ஒம்புகள் புதுமான் காணம் = "They are 5 teachers."
- புந்து பு காம்பாங்க் = "I am a boy."

**Technicalities**

If you want to say something like "It is red", you will have to wait until you get to Adjectives & Adverbs. In English, the words "is" and "are" are called linking verbs. A linking verb restates the subject (அம்பு) with the predicate noun (காஜ்வெங்கியூ). In other words, ஒம்பு = காஜ்வெங்கியூ. The word "red" in "It is red" is a predicate adjective, and is said differently in Thamil.

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**Negatives / Questions**

**Negatives**

A negative sentence is a sentence where you say "no" or "not". The word for "no" is இலும்பேள்ளி.
Simple Sentence - Negative

To make a simple sentence negative (reverse the meaning), add இயையும் to the end of the sentence.

Ex:

- ஆமுக்கு காமுக்கு இயையும் = "He is not a police officer."
- ஆமுக்கு காமுக்கு இயையும் = "They are not 5 teachers."
- இத்தான் நாங்கு காமுக்கு இயையும் = "I am not a boy."

Questions

Forming Questions

To turn a sentence into a question, add -ஆமுக்கு to the end of the sentence.

Ex:

- ஆமுக்கு காமுக்குஆமுக்கு = "Is he a police officer?"
- ஆமுக்கு காமுக்குஆமுக்கு = "Are they 5 teachers?"
- இத்தான் நாங்குஆமுக்கு = "Am I a boy?"

For rules on adding suffixes, go here.

Verb Roots / Verb Suffixes

Verb Roots

A verb root is just that -- the basic form of a verb to which suffixes are added. By adding suffixes, you can create all the different tenses in Thamil.

Verbs roots, by themselves, can be used as commands. A command is a statement requesting something to be done.

Weak / Strong Verbs
Thamil verbs have been organized into 7 classes based on the changes made when adding suffixes. Weak verbs refer to verbs in classes 1-4. Strong verbs refer to verbs in classes 6-7. There are no more than 10 or so verbs in class 5, so we'll leave it alone.

**Verb Suffixes**

When verbs show action in a sentence, a suffix is added to the verbs that match up with the subject of the sentence. Each pronoun is associated with a verb suffix. This means that if a pronoun appears in a sentence, then its corresponding verb suffix is adding to the end of the verb. (Verb suffixes are also known as PGN or PNG suffixes.) The table below shows pronouns and the corresponding verb suffixes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pronoun</td>
<td>Verb Suffix</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1st Person | இனு | -ை | இனு | -ஞ்
|          | இனு | -ைன் | இனு | -ஞ் கைன்
| 2nd Person | யார் | -ைய் | யார் | -ஞ் கைய்
|          | யார் | -ைன் | யார் | -ஞ் கைன்
| 3rd Person | ஆர் | -ைர் | ஆர் | -ஞ் கைர்
|          | ஆர் | -ைர் | ஆர் | -ஞ் கைர்
|          | ஆர் | -ை | ஆர் | -ஞ் கை (past/present tense)
|          | ஆர் | -ை (future tense) | ஆர் | N/A* (past/present tense)

*Present tense verbs used with ஆர் are made differently. Since ஆர் and ஆர் present quite a few exceptions, verbs with ஆர், ஆர்
will be taught later.

If the subject of the sentence isn't a pronoun, then the subject will have a related pronoun. Then the verb suffix corresponding to the related pronoun is added to the verb. Ex:

- verb suffix for என்ன = உங்கள்
- verb suffix for அவன் = உங்கள்
- verb suffix for நான் = உங்கள்
- verb suffix for அவன் = உங்கள்

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### Some Weak Verbs

| கிளக்காமதைது | play |
| குயரும் | sleep |
| நூற்று | sit |
| வாலஞ்சு | buy, receive |
| சுமு | run |

### Some Strong Verbs

| பத்து | read |
| கைது | give |
| பாற்று | see |
| பரிசையும் | think |
Verbs - Present Tense

Present Tense

The present tense refers to a sentence where the action is currently taking place. Examples of present tense sentences are "He runs", "She reads", and "They play".

Turning a verb root into a present tense verb depends on if the verb is a weak or strong verb:

Present Tense - Weak Verbs

verb root + இரு + verb suffix

Ex:

- காப்பு காப்பு முருகன் = "The dog sleeps."
- அமைத்தோ அமைத்தோ முருகன் = "They play."
- அமைத்தோ அமைத்தோ முருகன் = "He buys."

Present Tense - Strong Verbs

verb root + கிடை + verb suffix

Ex:

- கமலா கமலா கிடை = "Kamala reads."
- பார்க்க பார்க்க கிடை = "You watch."
- கைலா கைலா கிடை = "I think."

Adding Suffixes

Adding Suffixes
Adding suffixes is one of the most important things in Thamil grammar. The rules for adding suffixes will be used in a large majority of the remaining lessons. The rules presented below aren’t all the rules, but they are the more commonly used ones.

### Suffix Addition Rules

1. If the suffix begins in a vowel sound and the word ends in an ஐ, ஐ, ஑, or ஐ, insert a ஐ in between.

2. If the suffix begins in a vowel sound and the word ends in an ஐ, ஐ, ஐ, ஐ, or ஐ, insert a ஐ in between.

3. If the suffix begins in a vowel sound and the word ends in an ஐ sound, and...
   a. If the word is made of 2 short letters, insert a ஐ in between.
   b. If the word is not made of 2 short letters, drop the -ஐ and add the suffix.

4. If the suffix begins in a vowel sound and the word is made of 2 short letters, with the 2nd letter being a consonant, then double the 2nd letter and add the ending.
   - Otherwise, join the word and suffix as they are.

So far, we’ve come across 2 instances of adding suffixes. The first time was forming a question. Not coincidentally, each sentence ended in a consonant, so the last rule was used. Then came present tense verbs, where a verb suffix was added to "verb root + ஐ/ஐ”. Since ஐ and ஐ both end in a consonant, the last rule was used again.

These rules for adding suffixes will always apply unless otherwise specified.

### Compound Subjects

Now let’s try examples using the ending for compound subjects.

For each member of a compound subject, the suffix ஐ-ஐ is added to each word.
Since compound subjects refer to more than 1 person or thing, the subject thus becomes plural.

**Suffix Examples:**

1. கல்யாணம் குழந்தைப் பிள்ளைகள் = "Younger brother and younger sister give."
   - குழந்தை - ம் - குழந்தைப்
   - பிள்ளை - ம் - பிள்ளைகள்

2. அம்மாய் வானை விளக்கினிகள் = "Mother and I sit."
   - அம்மாய் - ம் - அம்மாய்
   - வானை - ம் - வானை

3. 
   a. வானையாம் மனிதம் சிங்கன் = "The bull and I run."
      - வானை - ம் - வானை
      - மனிதம் - ம் - மனிதம்
   b. பயப் பாறை பாறைச் சிங்கன் = "You and the cow see."
      - பய - ம் - பயப்
      - பாறை - ம் - பாறை

4. மண்டலம் பலஸ்தொம் பலஸ்தொம் கொண்டாட்டின் = "The male and the female sit."
   - மண்டலம் - ம் - மண்டலம்
   - பலஸ்தொம் - ம் - பலஸ்தொம்

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**Verbs - Future Tense**

**Future Tense**

Once you have a handle on which verbs are strong and which verbs are weak, putting verbs into the future tense shouldn't be too hard.
Future Tense - Weak Verbs
For pronouns (other than நாம்/நீங்கள்), verb root + ம் + verb suffix

Ex:
- நான் தடுச்சியையைம் = "You will run."
- அவர் தடுச்சி ம் = "He will sleep."
- அவர்கள் டம்புரையையைம்? = "Will they speak?"
- குரு தொடர்கள் சிங்கம் ம் = "The dog will sit tomorrow."

Future Tense - Strong Verbs
For pronouns (other than நாம்/நீங்கள்), verb root + மு + verb suffix

Ex:
- நான் வாழ்கள்? = "Will you give?"
- அவர்கள் வாழ்கள் = "They will drink."
- நான் வாழ்கள் வாழ்கள் வாழ்கள்? = "Where will you live?"
- குரு வாழ்கள் வாழ்கள் வாழ்கள் = "We will cook."

More Verbs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weak Verbs</th>
<th>Strong Verbs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>கூறுதல்</td>
<td>talk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>செய்ய கூறுதல், செய்ய கூறுதல்</td>
<td>eat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>விளக்குதல்</td>
<td>like</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>எழுதுதல்</td>
<td>write</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
More Strong Verbs

| வந்து | walk |
| பொன்று | drink |
| போன்று | cook |
| வந்து | live |
| முயற்சு | be |

"All" / Listing Subjects / "Or"

"All"

For the English word "all", there are two words. One word is used for people, and one word is used for non-people things.

| "All" |
| எவோவாரும் | everyone |
| எவோரும் | everything |

To translate the word "all" when it is used as an adjective in English, insert one of the two words above after the things/people it describes. Ex:

- ஐன்று வந்தார் கொல்லாம் ஐன்று = "All of those cattle will sleep."
- கோவீன்றுகள் வந்தார் தையிற் கொல்லாம் கோவீன்றுகள் = "All of the kids will play today."

Listing Subjects

When the subject of a sentence is a compound subject, 2 things or people are referred to. To refer to many things at the same time, you put the words in a list.
Forming A List

1. Separate each item with a comma, then place "நாளையல்"/"நாளையால்" at the end.
2. Separate each item with a comma, then insert "யாது" before the last word.

Other Meanings Of -தூ

The suffix -தூ can also be used to mean "even" or "also". Ex:

- அவர்களும் கூறும் புத்துக்கொண்டதாக? = "Do they too read Thamil?"
- அந்த கிறிஸ்து பொறுப்பு புத்துக்கொண்டது = "Even that litte girl reads."

"Or"

To use the word "or" in the subject of the sentence is easy. To do that, just insert the word "ஏனேனும்" between the two words. Ex:

- சாண்டியன் ஏனேனும் கோயம்பு சாய்சாய்மரா சாய்சாய்மரா = "Chanthiran or Gopal will cook."

It is probably more proper to use "ஏனேனும்" in a compound sentence, especially if the 2 subjects take differently verb suffixes. Ex:

- அவர்கள் சாய்சாய்மரா, அந்தது அவர்கள் சாய்சாய்மரா. = "She will walk, or he will walk."

"அந்தது" can also be used with verbs. Ex:

- அவர்கள் சாய்சாய்மரா அவர்கள் விளையாட்டா = "They will walk or run."

Ordinal Numbers / Dates
Ordinal Numbers

Ordinal numbers are used to describe something's position relative to others. In other words, these are an object's rankings or placings.

To turn a number into an ordinal number, add the ending - வது.

The only exception is the ordinal number for 1, which is முதல். Here are the first 10 ordinal numbers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tamil</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>முதல்</td>
<td>first</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>இரண்டாம்</td>
<td>second</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>முதலாம்</td>
<td>third</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>நான்மாதி</td>
<td>fourth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>முதலூம்</td>
<td>fifth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>முதலே ல்</td>
<td>sixth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>முதல௉ம்</td>
<td>seventh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>முதலோட்டே</td>
<td>eighth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>முதலோட்டோம்</td>
<td>ninth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>முதலோட்டோள்</td>
<td>tenth</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

= irregular

Dates

The only exception to using ordinal numbers, as they are, is when naming dates such as "February 29th" or "August 13th".
Naming A Date

When naming a date, the suffix "- ந்தை" is added to the number. The word "ந்தை" follows the number.

The word ந்தை means "date". Click learn about Thamil months and seasons.

Some examples of dates (using English months):

- மார்ச்சு மார்ச்சு ந்தை = "February 29th"
- ஆகுடார் ஆகுடார் ந்தை = "August 13th"

That, This, And Question W ords

That, This, And Question W ords

In Thamil, asking questions or pointing out objects up close ("this"/"these") or objects far away ("that"/"those") is very simple. In general, the prefix "ஒட்" points out objects far away, the prefix "ஏதாவது" points out objects up close, and the prefix "ஏதே" asks "which?" or "what?" about the object.

There are a few groups of words in Thamil that differ only by their prefixes and are related in this way. In addition, the similarity between words in one group is that they refer to the same thing. The chart below categorizes these words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>That</th>
<th>This</th>
<th>W hat/w hich</th>
<th>Relationship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ஒட்</td>
<td>that</td>
<td>this</td>
<td>ஏதே</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ஏதாவது</td>
<td>that thing</td>
<td>this thing</td>
<td>ஏதே</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ஏதே</td>
<td>there</td>
<td>here</td>
<td>ஏதே</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ஏதே புது</td>
<td>then</td>
<td>now</td>
<td>ஏதே புது</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ஏதே வாய்</td>
<td>in that manner</td>
<td>in this manner</td>
<td>ஏதே வாய்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>தமிழ்</td>
<td>மொழி</td>
<td>காலம்</td>
<td>தன்மை</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>என்று</td>
<td>முன்</td>
<td>இன்று</td>
<td>என்று</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>மற்றும்</td>
<td>முன்</td>
<td>இன்று</td>
<td>மற்றும்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>என்று</td>
<td>முன்</td>
<td>இன்று</td>
<td>என்று</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**More Question Words**

There are a few more words that ask a question, but these words have no "தமிழ்/தமிழ்" equivalents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>சொல்</th>
<th>விளக்கம்</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>வாரு</td>
<td>who?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>நாம்</td>
<td>what?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ஏன்</td>
<td>why?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>என்றுப் பட்டப் பலவை</td>
<td>which rank?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When using the question word வாரு, the respect/plural verb suffix (அ/ஆம்) must be used with the verb. Ex:

° வாரு என்றுப் பட்டப் பலவை? = "Who goes?"

**Sentence Order**

The words in the big chart above, whose relationship is either "time", "manner", or "day" are called adverbs. It is important to distinguish adverbs
because the placement of words in a Thamil sentence is different from English.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thamil Sentence Word Order</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. &quot;other words&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. adverbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. verb</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To learn about using the verb செய்து with adverbs for making sentences like "It is red" or "He is here", go to the next lesson, Adjectives / Adverbs.

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**Adjectives / Adverbs**

**Adjective / Adverb Relationships**

Some nouns can take one ending to become an adjective or another ending to become an adverb. Not all nouns can form an adverb and an adjective. Some form neither of the two. The rules aren't precise here.

Like in English, adjectives precede the nouns which they describe, regardless of what place in the sentence word order the word falls.

**Ending F or Adjectives**

Adjectives formed from a noun usually end in மட்.

**Ending F or Adverbs**

Adverbs formed from a noun usually end in மத்.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjective</th>
<th>Adverb</th>
<th>Noun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ஆக்கமட்டு</td>
<td>beautiful</td>
<td>ஆக்கமட்டு</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>மான்னிக்கமட்டு</td>
<td>soft</td>
<td>மான்னிக்கமட்டு</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>பென்னறைகமட்டு</td>
<td>blue</td>
<td>பென்னறைகமட்டு</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Simple Sentences Revisited / சுருக்கம்

Why would there be a need to make words like "green-ly" and "blueness"? Well, to start with, கூட்டும் is the word for blue. In Thamil, colors are nouns, not adjectives.

In simple sentences in which something is being described by an adjective, adverbs are used instead of the adjectives. To make these sentences:

1. Convert the adjective into an adverb.
2. Then use the verb முதல் as the word for "is". (Don't forget to put it into the correct tense and to add the correct verb suffix!)
3. Remember to put the words in the correct order.

That's it! (Phew!)

Examples

- வெள்ளை பாலையார் பொங்குந்து = "It is green."
- வெள்ளை மூத்தும் பொங்குந்து = "It is red."
- ஗ோமாதி கோரிவில் கோரிவில் கூட்டும் = "Gomathi and I will run fast."
- அவர்களை பிரேம்கார் பாரக்கார் = "They speak correctly."
- அனுமான கூறு கூறுமாக்கள் = "That question is very easy."

Professions / Family Words

Family Words
There are more words in Thamil for family members, since the words are more specific about the relationship between two family members. The number of words for family members in Thamil is perhaps a reflection that the extended family is an important part of Thamil society.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Words</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>உக்கோயா</td>
<td>mother</td>
<td>பஞ்சயா</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>உருண்மா</td>
<td>older sister</td>
<td>இழைக்கோயா</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>உருண்மா</td>
<td>younger sister</td>
<td>இழைக்கோயா</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>உருண்மா</td>
<td>aunt</td>
<td>இழைக்கோயா</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>உருண்மா</td>
<td>aunt</td>
<td>இழைக்கோயா</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>உருண்மா</td>
<td>aunt</td>
<td>இழைக்கோயா</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>உருண்மா</td>
<td>granddaughter</td>
<td>இழைக்கோயா</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>உருண்மா</td>
<td>niece / daughter-in-law</td>
<td>இழைக்கோயா</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Professions

People who have a specific profession can be called by their profession. Some words are like compound words, with the name of the profession included.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professions</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>களர்நதை</td>
<td>policeman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>களர்நதை</td>
<td>policewoman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>களர்நதை</td>
<td>doctor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Plural Nouns
Plural Noun Suffix Addition

The suffix for turning a singular noun into a plural noun is க். Since க் does not begin with a vowel, none of the special previously learned rules for adding suffixes apply. In addition, words that end in certain letters change while becoming plural.

Forming Plural Nouns

- If the word ends in -क, drop the -क and add க்
- If the word is one syllable...
  - and ends in a long vowel sound, add க்
  - has a short vowel sound and ends in...
    - -य, drop the -य and add க்
    - -ś, drop the -ś and add க்
  - For all other nouns, add க்

This may seem like a lot, but it isn't. Most nouns fall into the last category, which is simple. One syllable words that end in a vowel sound are actually one-letter words. Words like this are ப, ம, ச, but there aren't too many. There also aren't many short vowel sound, one-syllable words ending in ய or ஸ, but some are தம and தம.

So although all of the rules may come in handy, it is typical to use the first rule and the last rule the most.

Examples

- பூ + -க் = பூக்
- பே + -க் = பேக்
- ம + -க் = மக்
- ச + -க் = சக்
- தம + -க் = தமக்
Commands

A command is a statement requesting someone to do something. Examples of a command are "Read." and "Write." Since commands are always directed towards someone, it is optional to include the person's name (or a pronoun) before the command.

Respect / Non-respect

In Tamil, commands have two forms. The first form (which is just the verb root) is the non-respect form. This form is given to people of the same age or people younger. As previously said, a verb root by itself can be used as a command without respect. The other form of commands are those given with respect.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commands With Respect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>verb root + சொந்தம்</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Forming commands with respect uses the usual rules for adding suffixes.

Examples

- சோன்ள் = "Sit."
- பூண்டும் = "Look."
- போன் = "You read."
- போன்றேத்தா = "You write."
- கார்த்திக் போன்றேத்தாங்கள் கேட்டேண்டு = "Karthik, speak there."
Negative Commands

Non-respect

Negative commands have different endings depending on whether the person gets respect, and whether the verb is weak or strong.

**Negative Commands (non-respect)**

- For weak verbs: verb root + \(-\text{MN}j\)
- For strong verbs: verb root + \(f;f; + -\text{MN}j\)

Ex:

- தூக்குமா = "Don't yell."
- துளிப்பை உண்மையிலேறா = "You don't sing."
- சிறுமை, சுமரியா = "Little sister, don't talk."

Respect

**Negative Commands (respect)**

- For weak verbs: verb root + \(-\text{M}j\)
- For strong verbs: verb root + \(f;f; + -\text{M}j\)

Ex:

- கொள்காய = "Don't hit."
- கொள்காய = "Don't kick."
- கொள்காய = "Don't drink."

More Verbs
### More Weak Verbs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tamil</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>கட்டு - கட்டு</td>
<td>drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>பறு பறு</td>
<td>yell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>பாடல்</td>
<td>sing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>பாடல்</td>
<td>dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>கைது - கைது</td>
<td>write</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### More Strong Verbs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tamil</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>காட்சி</td>
<td>bathe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>கோட்டு - கோட்டு</td>
<td>hit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>கிளை</td>
<td>kick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>முழுது</td>
<td>meet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>கைது - கைது</td>
<td>wait</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Irregular Verbs - கட்டு / குட்ட

#### Being Irregular

The words கட்டு (“come”) and குட்ட are called irregular because they do not follow all of our previously learned rules exactly. The easiest way to show which rules these verbs follow is through a chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Irregular Verbs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Verb Form</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>verb root</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>present tense</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Take a close look at the commands with respect, since they are much different from all the other verb forms. These aren't the only irregular verbs, but fortunately, there are only a few others.

**Examples**

- உன்னு இன்றைக்குறிப்பிட்டா உன்னு பார்பாட்டு = "He will go there tomorrow."
- இன்று உன்னின் கைகளை = "I come."
- பார்பாட்டு பார்பாட்டு = "Do not go."

---

**Thamil Cases**

**Thamil Cases**

Certain special suffixes in Thamil are known as case suffixes. There are about 7 case suffixes, and they are only added to nouns. Each has a different meaning. Examples of the meanings of some case suffixes include "at"/"in", "for"/"to", and "from". In a sentence, words that have case suffixes usually appear after the noun but before the adverb.

**Case Suffixes**

Adding case suffixes is the second instance where the word changes before a suffix is added. The first was when making plural nouns.

**Adding Case Suffixes**

- If the word ends in ந or த:
add the case suffix using the basic set of suffix addition rules if:
- the word is made of two short letters
- the final -L or -M is preceded by a consonant
- change -L to l;l; or -W to w;w; and add the case suffix for any other word
- If the word ends in -L:
  drop the -L, add l;l; or w;w; and add the case suffix.

Remember that a consonant is a letter that does not have a vowel sound (e.g. ஃ, ฬ, 柩, etc.).

The pronouns change uniquely before adding suffix:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case Suffixes - Word Changes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W ord</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>என்னை</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>என்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>என்றாள்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>எனும்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>என்று</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>எல்லாதை</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

அடி changes very irregularly when adding case suffixes to it.
See the next lesson about direct objects to see examples of case suffix rules.

**Accusative Case**

A direct object is a word that receives action. Another way to think about a direct object is to find the verb of the sentence, and then ask the question "Whom or what received the action of the verb?"

In the sentence "I drink water", the word "drink" indicates the action of the sentence. The action is drinking. To find the direct object, ask the question "What is being drunk?" The answer is "water". Therefore, "water" is the direct object of the sentence.

**Direct Objects**

The direct objects of a sentence add -எ to the end of the word.

It is important to remember that the suffix for direct objects is a case suffix. Therefore, words that end in -ெ, -ே, and -ை add case suffixes according to different rules than do all other nouns.

Ex:

- போக்கு மாசுமான் நாமத்தினையமையும் = "I eat fruit."
- எளியா மாசுமான் தோட்டத்தினையமையும்? = "Will he cut the tree?"

(In the second example, the word "cut" is the verb, which means it is the action. To find the direct object, ask "Whom/What is being cut?" Here, it is the tree, which means it is the direct object.)

**Multiple Suffixes**

Already, we have seen one difference between case suffixes and other ("non-case") suffixes, which is that words undergo changes before adding case suffixes. As we will see in later lessons, there is another difference between these 2 categories of suffixes:
Adding Multiple Suffixes To A Word

When adding more than one suffix to a word, suffixes are given this precedence when added:
1. Plural suffix
2. Case suffix
3. Other suffixes

Ex:

- காணிக்கை கருவறையும் கூம்பாறும் பார்க்கின்றேன் = "We see the spoon and the knife."
- அவை வான்கூருக்கு பார்க்குமா? = "Will he see the trees?"

In the first example, the direct object is a compound, since two things are being seen. We need to add the case suffix -இ for both words since they are direct objects, and we also need to add the non-case suffix -ச்ச to both words since they are a part of a compound phrase. According to the rule, -இ is added first, and then -ச்ச is added.

Indefinite Pronouns

Indefinite pronouns refer to things that are not precisely known. The characteristics that distinguish and indefinite pronoun from other words is very subtle. (Thus, at first, understanding indefinite pronouns may be tricky and may require a little extra effort.) Examples of English indefinite pronouns are: "anyone", "anything", "everybody", "something", "other", "all", "some".

Two words for "all" were given in Lesson 7. The context in which எல்லாரும் and எல்லாம் were used in Lesson 7 was to end a plural word or list of several people or several things. The two words were being used as adjectives. Here, the words will be used as nouns to refer to "all people" or "all things".

Let us take 2 similar sentences:

- Can Arasu answer the question?
Can anyone answer the question?

In the first sentence, we are very sure who we are talking about -- Arasu. In the second sentence, we are not necessarily talking about Arasu. We are only talking about the person or group of people who can answer the question. However, we are unsure which people belong to that group. The uncertainty in the group to which "anyone" refers makes "anyone" an indefinite pronoun.

Just as indefinite pronouns can be formed in English from question words ("whomever", "whatever"), indefinite pronouns are formed in Thamil from question words. In particular, the question words that are primarily used are வந்து, என்னும், என்றும்பல்லும், குழும், குற்று, குற்றும்பல்லும், குற்றுக் குற்று, மைப்பு, மைத்து.

For these question words, the following rules apply:

**Indefinite Pronoun - "every-"**

Add the suffix -ேடு to a question word to form a word with all-inclusive representation.

Ex:

- மைஏற்கு தாழ்கு மைப்புத் தோறு = "You will go everywhere"

**Indefinite Pronoun - "some-"**

Add the suffix -ி to a question word to form a word which reflects uncertainty in the speaker and any observers.

Ex:

- மை என்றும் குற்றும் குற்றும்பல்லும் = "It eats something"

**Indefinite Pronoun - "any-" / "some-"**

Add the suffix -உடு to a question word to form a word which reflects uncertainty on the part of the speaker.

Ex:
Final Note on Indefinite Pronouns

In particular, the tricky part is distinguishing in which circumstances  உந்தூடு or அல்லது should be used. A likely pitfall might be to construct a thought in English and then attempt to translate this in Thamil. As you can see, some words in English have multiple, distinct meanings. Furthermore, words like "whomever", "whatever", etc. don't quite have a translation in Thamil, since their meaning in the context in which they are used is quite vague anyway. Once one begins to construct thoughts directly in Thamil, the proper usage of the words will come more naturally. The more one speaks, Thamil, and corrects his/her mistakes in Thamil, the easier this subject will become.

---

Verb Classes

Thus far, we have been using the terms "weak verb" and "strong verb". This has proved sufficient for using present tense and future tense. But it is only half of the story.

Thamil verbs have been divided up into 7 verb classes. What is remarkable about Thamil is that all verbs belong to 1 of the 7 verb classes. The verbs of any particular class all follow the same pattern when it comes to making the past, present, and future tenses. Only relatively few words are irregular. (We have already come across 2 -- முடிய முடிய.) Some exceptions exist to the general patterns of these verb classes, but such exceptions are minimal.

What we thought of as weak verbs is a generalization of Classes 1-4. Strong verbs are from Classes 6 and 7. Class 5 contains irregulars. It will not be discussed properly within the main lessons, but it can be found at Appendix A. Since most of the verbs that belong to a class have common characteristics, it will be helpful to memorize one verb from each class as a reference for other verbs in that class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>General Pattern</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

---
1-syllable, short vowel, ends in $-\ddot{u}$, $-\ddot{u}$, $-\ddot{u}$

1a. ends in $-\ddot{u}$

1b. ends in $-\ddot{u}$

1c. ends in $-\ddot{u}$

2. 2 syllables, ends in $-\ddot{u}$, $-\ddot{u}$, $-\ddot{u}$, $-\ddot{u}$, $-\ddot{u}$

3. ends in $-\ddot{u}$ (exception $-\ddot{u}$, $-\ddot{u}$ — see below)

4. ends in $-\ddot{u}$, $-\ddot{u}$

5. Irregular verbs

6. combination of Class 2 and Class 4 patterns

7. ends in $-\ddot{u}$

Exceptions And Irregulars

The ultimate determiner to which class a verb belongs is not the verb root, but the way it forms past and present/future tenses. (It will become clearer after the next lesson on the Past Tense.) This explains why $\ddot{u}$ is a Class 1a verb and $\ddot{u}$ is a Class 2 verb.

Note that there are probably no more than 10 or so verbs in Class 5. However, (even fewer) irregular verbs may appear in other classes. In particular, remember that $\ddot{u}$ and $\ddot{u}$ are irregular verbs. However, $\ddot{u}$ is a Class 2 verb, but $\ddot{u}$ fits into Class 3. Also, $\ddot{u}$ is a Class 7 verb.

---

Verbs - Past Tense

The following chart shows how to put verbs into the past tense, based on their verb class.
From this lesson forward, an attempt will be made to include the verb class number as a superscript to the verb root.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Past Tense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1a</td>
<td>add $\hat{a}$ + verb suffix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1b</td>
<td>drop the $-\hat{a}$, then add $\hat{e}$ + verb suffix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1c</td>
<td>drop the $-\hat{e}$, then add $\hat{z}$ + verb suffix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>add $\hat{t}$ + verb suffix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>add $\hat{v}$ + verb suffix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>drop the $-\hat{v}$, double the last letter, and add the verb suffix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>~</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>add $\hat{f}$ + verb suffix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>add $\hat{f}$ + verb suffix</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For future reference, we will need define the past tense stem as the part of the past tense verb before the verb suffix. So for the verbs $\overbrace{\hat{a}}{6}$ and $\overbrace{\hat{f}}{7}$, the past tense stems would be $\overbrace{\hat{a}}{1}$ and $\overbrace{\hat{f}}{2}$.

**Examples**

1. a. $\overbrace{\hat{a}}{6}$ $\mathbf{\overline{\text{b}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{n}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{m}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{d}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{a}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{m}}} = "I did"$
   
   b. $\overbrace{\hat{a}}{6}$ $\mathbf{\overline{\text{b}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{n}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{m}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{d}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{a}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{m}}} = "They ruled"$
   
   c. $\overbrace{\hat{a}}{6}$ $\mathbf{\overline{\text{b}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{n}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{m}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{d}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{a}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{m}}} = "We went"$
2. $\overbrace{\hat{f}}{7}$ $\mathbf{\overline{\text{b}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{n}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{m}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{d}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{a}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{m}}} = "You grew"$
3. $\overbrace{\hat{f}}{7}$ $\mathbf{\overline{\text{b}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{n}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{m}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{d}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{a}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{m}}} = "She spoke"$
4. $\overbrace{\hat{f}}{7}$ $\mathbf{\overline{\text{b}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{n}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{m}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{d}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{a}}} \mathbf{\overline{\text{m}}} = "You put"$
5. (see below)
6. நாம் விற்றீர்கள் = "We gave"
7. அது வந்தது = "It walked"

**Examples Of Irregular Verbs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>Past Tense</th>
<th>Present Tense</th>
<th>Future Tense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>இன் 5</td>
<td>இன்வாண்கள்</td>
<td>இன்வாண்கள்</td>
<td>இன்வாண்கள்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>விந் 5</td>
<td>விந்வாண்கள்</td>
<td>விந்வாண்கள்</td>
<td>விந்வாண்கள்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>கன் 5</td>
<td>கன் வாண்கள்</td>
<td>கன் வாண்கள்</td>
<td>கன் வாண்கள்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>மா 2</td>
<td>மாந்வாண்கள்</td>
<td>மாந்வாண்கள்</td>
<td>மாந்வாண்கள்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>கா 2</td>
<td>காந்வாண்கள்</td>
<td>காந்வாண்கள்</td>
<td>காந்வாண்கள்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>காண் 3</td>
<td>காண்வாண்கள்</td>
<td>காண்வாண்கள்</td>
<td>காண்வாண்கள்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>பாட் 3</td>
<td>பாட்வாண்கள்</td>
<td>பாட்வாண்கள்</td>
<td>பாட்வாண்கள்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>செய் 3</td>
<td>செய்வாண்கள்</td>
<td>செய்வாண்கள்</td>
<td>செய்வாண்கள்</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Dative Case**

The dative case is added to nouns to mean "to", "for", or "for the sake of".

- **Dative Case**
  - If the word ends in -ா, -க்கு, -க்கு, or -மும், add -த்து.
  - All other words add the suffix -ம்.

Again, remember that suffix rules for Thamil cases, as well as our basic set of suffix rules, should be used in conjunction with the dative case suffix, if they are applicable. In general, non-case-suffixes (ா, -ல், etc.) only follow the basic set of suffix addition rules. Case suffixes (ஆ, க்கு, க்கு,
Irregulars

Only a handful of words, which are all pronouns, add the dative case slightly differently.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Dative Case</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>தான்</td>
<td>என் கை (தான்)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>தான்</td>
<td>என் கை (தான்)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>தான்</td>
<td>என் கை (தான்)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>தான்</td>
<td>என் கை (தான்)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Examples

- என் கை? = "Are you going to the store?"
- மகாலாவு என்னைச் சாப்பித்தது என்னைச் சாப்பித்தது = "Mekalaa bought the candy for you"
- என் கை = "I will go home"
- மகாலாவு என்னைச் சாப்பித்தது = "A bull goes to the river"
- மகாலாவு என்னைச் சாப்பித்தது = "Students read for class daily"
- மகாலாவு என்னைச் சாப்பித்தது = "Children will go to the park"

Sociative Case

The sociative case is used to show accompaniment in action. It's meaning generally corresponds to the word "with".
Sociative Case

The sociative case is formed by adding the suffixes -\textit{cld} or -\textit{XL}.

Examples

- கார்பால் கவுண்ட் ஆசிரீய் மீன் = "Go to the library with him."
- நி குத்தத்தே மன்னர் வந்துள்ளை? = "Will you come to the play with us?"
- நறந்தல் கோவிலையே செய்யுப்பகுவ ஆயர் கைசுறையம் = "We buy the shoes with the clothes."

Habitual Tense

The habitual tense refers to verbs that show action occurring repeatedly. The action can occur daily, weekly, or repeatedly over any other period of time.

The habitual tense would be used to say statements like "I wake up at 5:00 daily". Sometimes, the habitual tense is used based on the context of the statement. If someone asks, "Do you want tea?" and you reply, "I don't drink tea," the habitual tense would be used to indicate that you have made it a habit not to drink tea.

Examples

- தென் தெய்பல் தொடுக் கோவிலின் கட்டுப்பாடு = "I wake up at 5:00 daily"
- நி கூனிய்க மரம்பழ? = "Do you drink tea?"
- நறந்தல் காட்டுப் புனைத்து தெய்பல் விளைப்புநகரம் = "We play football everyday."
Locative / Ablative Case

Locative Case

The locative case is added to nouns to mean "in", "at", or "on".

Although the locative case can be translated into English using different words ("in", "at", "on") depending on the context, there is some commonality in each word's meaning. The commonality seems to be that the English words indicate a proximity to the location in reference.

The locative case, along with the dative case, is one of the most often used cases.

Ablative Case

The ablative case means "from".

The exceptions to this are the words வல்லு/வல்லு, வள்ள/வள்ள, and வள்ளியு/வள்ளியு:
Examples

- பறவை அனைத்தும் விளக்கி பறவையின் கூர் = "The bird flies from the nest"
- வண்ணமான செட்டியை வசவரியும் = "Ships sail on the sea"
- பூதத்தக்க சுருளிற்கு வளர்க்கின்றது = "The flower grows in the garden"

Possessive / Instrumental Cases

Possessive Case

The possessive case is added to nouns to indicate that the noun has ownership or possession of something. It is something like the "-‘s" that is added to the end of a word in English for the same purpose.

Possessive Case

The possessive case is formed for
- nouns ending in கு, ர, or ஜ by adding the case suffix கு.
- all other nouns by adding the case suffix கு.

The possessive case may also be formed by adding the suffix ம். It is equivalent to கும் except that it is not typically added to pronouns.

Instrumental Case

The instrumental case is added to nouns to mean "with the use of", "because of", or "by means of".
The instrumental case is formed by adding the suffix -\text{m}.

**Examples**

- அவர் மாமல் மாமல் கையை சென்று பெரும் மாமல் = "He cut the mango's skin with a knife"
- அவளது கதை தமிழ் பதிகத்தில் வந்துமா? = "Will her story appear in the newspaper?"

**Verbs And Case Forms Of அது, அவன்**

For many different forms, Thamil verbs are formed irregularly for the inanimate அது, அவன் (and nouns that could be replaced by these 2 pronouns). The following is a summary of how அது ஆவன are dealt with for verbs and cases.

**Verb Endings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Past Tense</th>
<th>Present Tense</th>
<th>Future Tense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>அது</td>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>\text{past tense stem + -ஏது}</td>
<td>verb + ஏது + -அது</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-7</td>
<td>-ஏது*</td>
<td>verb + ஏது + -அது</td>
<td>verb + எல்லை + -அது</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>அவன்</td>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>\text{past tense stem + -அவன்}</td>
<td>verb + அவன்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-7</td>
<td>-அவன்*</td>
<td>verb + அவன்</td>
<td>verb + எல்லை + -அவன்</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* There are 2 extra ways to make the past tense for அது for class 3 verbs, while the past tense for அவன் for class 3 verbs is irregular.

** Verbs which are 2 short syllables and end in -\text{c} drop the final -\text{c} before adding -\text{m}.
Past Tense For முடு,முடவ Class 3 Verbs

The past tense of class 3 verbs for முடு can also be formed as

- verb + முட்டி
- verb + முட்றி

The past tense of class 3 verbs for முடவ is verb + முடி

Note: the information in the chart above completes the missing information from Lesson 3 on Verb Roots / Verb Suffixes.

Cases

From background information about Thamil cases, we saw that முடு changes to முட்டி - before adding cases. But முடவ changes to one of two possibilites. Sometimes, முடவ changes to முட்டி - before adding the case suffix. Other times, முடவ just adds the case suffix. And the dative is just முடிக

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case Suffix / Case</th>
<th>முடு</th>
<th>முடவ</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- க (Accusative)</td>
<td>முடுக்</td>
<td>முட்டிக்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- கு (Dative)</td>
<td>முடுகு</td>
<td>முட்டிக்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- கிள (Sociative)</td>
<td>முடுகிள்</td>
<td>முட்டிகிள்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- கிள (Sociative)</td>
<td>முடுகிள்</td>
<td>முட்டிகிள்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- கு (Locative)</td>
<td>முடுகு</td>
<td>முட்டிக்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- கு (Locative)</td>
<td>முடுகு</td>
<td>முட்டிக்</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Verbs Of The Dative Case

Some thoughts, such as "want"/"need", "know", "understand", etc. can be expressed in Thamil only using the dative case and a certain set of verbs. Sentences that use these verbs will be a little different from the sentences we have seen so far. The way the verbs are used will be different, and some verbs have certain peculiarities.

Understanding this type of sentence entails understanding the particulars of each verb. To say the least, this lesson may be challenging and a bit tricky, but hopefully it will seem easier over time.

The Verbs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Positive Verbs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Past Tense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Past Tense</th>
<th>Present Tense</th>
<th>Future Tense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>니급</td>
<td>니급</td>
<td>will like</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>니급</td>
<td>니급</td>
<td>will be able</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>니급</td>
<td>니급</td>
<td>will know</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive Verbs</td>
<td>Negative Verbs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>understood</td>
<td>not understood</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>received</td>
<td>not receive</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>exist(s)</td>
<td>not exist</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Negative Verbs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Past Tense</th>
<th>Present/ Future Tense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>was not</td>
<td>is not/ will not be</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>did not</td>
<td>do not/ will not want</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>was/ is not</td>
<td>will not be able</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>did not/</td>
<td>will not know</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>did not/</td>
<td>will not understand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>did not/</td>
<td>will not receive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>did/ do not</td>
<td>will not exist</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the chart of the positive verbs, we can see that the verbs can be put into groups:

- நிற்க, நிற்க
- நிற, நிற, நிற, பிற
- நிற்க, நிற

This might help in understanding the verbs.
Verb Usage And Notes

Verbs With Dative Case

In dative-case sentences, the subject is put into the dative case and comes at the beginning, while the verb comes at the end of the sentence.

For the positive forms of some verbs, there is a past, present, and future tense. However, the group of verbs ꒫, ꒪, ꒳, ꒫ express ideas that don't change from one moment to the next. For example, we reasonably assume that knowledge or understanding of something is retained indefinitely. The same idea applies to ꒫ and ꒪. The constant action of these verbs is a common usage of the habitual tense. Remember that the habitual tense is expressed in Thamil by whatever the future tense is. This also applies to the other verbs, but especially ꒫ and ꒫ and their negatives.

꒫, ꒫, has appeared before in creating a particular simple sentence. There, it means something like the verb "be". Here, when used with the dative case, ꒫ means something like "be" or "exist" in a literal translation. However, in a practical translation of the entire sentence, ꒫ might be translated as the verb "have".

꒫ With The ꒫- Case Suffix

For sentences where ꒫ is the verb (and the objects are tangible), the case suffix ꒫ should be used instead of the dative case suffix ꒫ for the subject.

For example, "I have a plate" would be ꒫ ꒫ ꒫ ꒫ ꒫ ꒫ ꒫. But emotions and ideas are expressed using the usual ꒫ for the dative case.

꒪ With The ꒪- Case Suffix

For sentences where ꒪ is the verb, the case suffix ꒪ should be used.
We can't say "was enough", "wanted", or "did not want" with types of sentences found in this lesson yet. If we use the verb மேலோண்டு வசந்தம் பறியும் in our standard type of sentences, then we can express "wanted". We will soon get to Negative Verbs which will allow us to say "did not want". There is no simple verb to say "enough", however.

**Examples**

- அமின்கச்சுத்து ஒருவன் பறியும்? = "Do they understand this lesson?"
- அமின்கச்சுத்து அருங்காட்சிய பாணிகள் பறியும் = "They understand the next lessons"
- சாம்சு ஆரும் சின்னப்பட்டுட்டு பிரிந்துவித்தது = "I did not like that movie"
- சாம்சு படும் சின்னப்பட்டுட்டு பிரிந்துவித்தது = "I like old movies"
- அமின்கச்சுத்து விளக்க கிளையிட்டு = "She received a prize"
- அமின்கச்சுத்து உள்ள மேலோண்டு வசந்தம் பறியும் = "She received good grades"
- சாம்சும் பல்லந் திறுன்றியது = "We have no money"
- பார்டிக்கேற்று ஒருவன் திறுன்றியது? = "Does anyone know this?"
- முக்கோணத்து ஒருவன் பறியும் = "The food is not enough for you"

**Infinitive**

The infinitive is a simple word made out of the verb root. It corresponds well with the English infinitive in translations, which is the word "to" followed by the verb. (Ex: "to fall", "to wash"). It is used very often to help form other expressions and verb forms.
Infinitive

The infinitive is formed by

- adding -ா to verbs in Classes 1-4
  (2-syllable short-vowel words ending in an -c sound drop the final -c before adding -ா)
- adding -ா to verbs in Classes 6-7

Ex:

- புது = "to wash"
- செய்ய = "to fall"
- பேசுதல் = "to say"
- பயன் = "to do"
- பாது = "to pour"

Irregulars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>Infinitive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>கைள்⁵</td>
<td>கைள்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>சுளர்⁵</td>
<td>சுளர்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>முள்²</td>
<td>முள்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>துள்²</td>
<td>துள்</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>குடா³</td>
<td>குடா</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"Going To ...", Etc.

In English, we sometimes say "They are going to buy things" or "We went to play". To say "going to", follow the infinitive with உணர்³. In addition to
This also applies to any other verbs that make sense in its place, such as ந்தை, போறின் நூடா, திருமர்பு, and மாள்.

Although மாள் means "see", when it is used here, it means "try". போறின் நூடா means "try" as it is, so both verbs mean the same thing here.

Ex:

- என்மரும் நூடார்டுத்து போறின் தொடரியாலாம் = "They are going to buy things"
- என்மரும் மூற்றவும் போறின் = "We went to play"
- என்மரும் வாதரதுருகை கோர் போறின் தொடரியாலாம், இரண்டாம் ஆண்டாள் கோர் போறின் = "He tried to get on the bus, but he was not able to get on."

Should / Should Not

To indicate "should", use infinitive + நூடா.
To indicate "shouldn't", use infinitive + மட்டுப்

Ex:

- என் பட்டர் நூடா = "I should depart"
- இல்லம் பதின் எல்லாத்துறையாக கோர் மட்டுப் = "You shouldn't mix water in the milk"

Prior Uses Of The Infinitive

The infinitive has been the basis for some of the rules about negative commands and verbs with முடி and மறா. Using the infinitive, the previous rules become:
### Negative Commands

Commands without respect are formed by replacing the final \(-\text{ம} \) of the infinitive with \(-\text{ஆமத} \). Commands with respect are formed by replacing the final \(-\text{ம} \) of the infinitive with \(-\text{ஆமத} \).

### Future Tense Of \( \text{அது, ஆது} \)

The future tense of \( \text{அது} \) and \( \text{ஆது} \) is formed by replacing the final \(-\text{ம} \) of the infinitive with \(-\text{தெத} \).

### Negative Verbs

Negative verbs are verbs which indicate that an action did not happen. Here, the word "negative" means "opposite", as in "to negate" something. We have seen this before in **Negatives / Questions** and **Negative Commands**.

### Past/present Tense Negative Verbs

To form a negative verb, past or present, use infinitive + \( \text{து} \) + \(-\text{யுவத} \).

Since all infinitives end in an \( \text{ஆ} \) sound, we automatically know that \( \text{து} \) must be inserted between the verb and \(-\text{யுவத} \).

### Future Tense Negative Verbs

- For nouns besides \( \text{அது} \) and \( \text{ஆது} \), the negative is infinitive + \(-\text{மத} \) + verb suffix.
- For \( \text{அது} \) and \( \text{ஆது} \), replace the final \(-\text{ம} \) from the infinitive with \(-\text{அத} \).

**Ex:**

\( \text{ஓரும் அசோத தெருயது நீல் தீவியாம்} \) = "I will not let the guy talk badly"
"In that special well, water will not run out"

**If Statements / Negative If Statements**

If statements (a.k.a. conditionals) refer to sentences that go something like "If some action occurs ...". The negative form of this is something like "If some action doesn't occur ...".

For verbs, the past tense stem is the part of the past tense verb to which the verb ending is added. See [Verbs - Past Tense](http://www.unc.edu/~echeran/paadanool#3.4) for details.

**If Statements**

To turn a phrase into an if statement, add -ம் to the past tense stem of the verb

**Negative If Statements**

To turn a phrase into a negative if statement, replace the final -ம் from the infinitive with -அவுடையான்

Ex:

"If no one pulls out the weed, it will still grow"

**AvP**

In Thamil, there is a special way to describe a series of actions taking place. The final action is written as usual, using whichever verb forms that are appropriate. For each of the actions preceding the final action, the verbs are changed into their AvP (adverbial participle) form.

The AvP of a verb is formed by adding
- to the past tense stem of the verb (classes 1-2, 4-7)
- to the verb (class 3)

Ex:

- அம்மும் பிறைக்கண்டத்துக்கு சிறையான இளியான குளையான
  அர்த்தாகம் = "He has bought and cooked eggs and has
  put them on a plate and gives them to you"

- நான் சிறியும் குறையும் அணையும் ஒருத்தி ஒருற் டை அழைக்கிறம் = "We will walk around in
  the city and then come"

Negative AvP

The negative AvP of a verb is formed by replacing the final -ம் from the
infinitive with -ம்க்க்.

For வேக், however, the negative AvP is வேகம்.

Continuous Tense

The continuous tense for verbs shows that the action occurs
continuously (without stopping). Verbs in the continuous tense can also
show that the action occurs in the past tense, present tense, or future tense.

The past continuous tense shows that the action was occurring in the
past. (Ex: "They have were laughing") The present continuous tense shows
the the action is currently occurring and ongoing. (Ex: "They are laughing")
The future continuous tense shows that the action will be occurring
continuously in the future. (Ex: "They will be laughing")

Continuous Participle

A verb can be put in the continuous tense by AvP + கிடக்கிறம் கு + ம்க்க்

The past, present, or future continuous tense can be formed by putting
into the past, present, or future tense, respectively.

Ex:

- அம்மார் அம்மார் மாளிக்கவே அல்லாக
  அம்மார் அம்மார் மாளிக்கவே அல்லாக = "Those two grandmothers will be gossiping"
- காலமுன் காலமுன் காலமுன் காலமுன் காலமுன் = "Crows will be crowing in the morning"
- விரும்பும் விரும்பும் விரும்பும் விரும்பும் = "Vehicles are going in big streets"
- அம்மார் அம்மார் அம்மார் அம்மார் அல்லாக = "They were laughing"

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Quotations & Complex Sentences - சொல் 5

The verb சொல் 5 is one of the Class 5 Verbs. சொல் 5 means "say", just like செய்தது 3. In addition, சொல் 5 can also be used to make complex sentences, as we will see in this lesson.

Quotations

Quotations are used to restate what other people have said. Direct quotations show exactly what people have said. (Ex: "'The fisherman departed in the boat', said the child.") Indirect quotations show what people have said, but not necessarily in the exact way that they said it. (Ex: "The child said that the fisherman departed.")

The word சொல், which is also the AvP of சொல் 5, is placed immediately after the quotation. Traditionally in Thamil, the indirect form of quotations has been used predominantly. In the history of Thamil, the usage of the quotation marks is a relatively recent thing. Thus, direct quotations in Thamil are distinguished mainly by quotation marks, and indirect quotations do not have quotation marks.
Ex:

- "நான் காணவேல்லாம் வந்துள்ளன்! நான் வந்துள்ள குழுவில் = " 'I am late!' the student screamed."

- "நான் காணவேல்லாம் வந்துள்ளார்கள்" நான் வந்துள்ள குழுவில் = " 'The fishermen departed in the boat', said the girl."

- "நான் காணவேல்லாம் வந்துள்ளார்கள்" நான் வந்துள்ள குழுவில் = "The girl said that the fishermen departed."

When restating the speech of another person, the correct tense of வந்துள்ளார்கள் can be used as an alternative to the "நான் வந்துள்ள குழுவில்" style of quotations.

Ex:

- "நான் காணவேல்லாம் வந்துள்ளார்கள் வந்துள்ள மாவுளைமுறை குழுவில் = " 'Banana trees and coconut trees in our farm,' said the farmer."

- "நான் காணவேல்லாம் வந்துள்ளார்கள் வந்துள்ள மாவுளைமுறை குழுவில் = " 'Banana trees and coconut trees are in our garden,' the farmer said."

- "நான் காணவேல்லாம் வந்துள்ளார்கள் வந்துள்ள மாவுளைமுறை குழுவில் = "The farmer said that banana trees and coconut trees are in our garden."

Complex Sentences

Complex sentences can be formed using வந்துள்ளார்கள் to insert new phrases in a way that is similar to how indirect quotations are formed. The phrase is inserted into the sentence and is followed immediately with வந்துள்ளார்கள். In such sentences, the embedded phrase can often be a question.

Translations of the Thamil to English will vary according to the sentence.

Ex:
A verbal adjective is a phrase that acts as an adjective by describing a noun. A verbal adjective, in specific, describes the noun by what the noun does. For example, take the sentence "The elephant sleeps." We can rewrite this as the phrase, "the sleeping elephant". Here, "standing" is a verbal adjective describing the elephant. Taking the sentence "The lion fell", the corresponding phrase would be "the fallen lion", where "fallen" is the verbal adjective.

**Verbal Adjective - Past/ Present Tense**
A verbal adjective, followed by the noun which it describes, can be formed by moving the subject of a sentence to the end, and replacing the verb suffix of the verb with -"Ai"

**Verbal Adjective - Future Tense**
A verbal adjective, followed by the noun which it describes, can be formed by moving the subject of a sentence of the end. The future tense verb is replaced by its infinitive, and the infinitive's final "Ai" is replaced by "+mokk;" (Note: remember that replacing the final "Ai" of an infinitive with "+mokk;" gives the same word as the future tense for "Agi" and "Agn;". This may be a source of confusion. Forgetting this fact might make correct sentences
appear incorrect and vice versa.)

Ex:

- உண்மைதான் பாகனம் = "The sleeping elephant"
- உண்மைதான் பாகனம் கிளம்ப கலன் புதுப்பு குளிர்ந்து = "The sleeping elephant ate lots of peanuts"
- முடியாத பிள்ளையாளர் = "The fallen lion"
- முடியாத பிள்ளையாளர் சோந்தி கிளம்ப கிளம்பது = "The fallen lion lies in the mud"

The translation of the verbal adjectives into English can be done in a systematic way. That is to be expected, though, because translation is not formulaic and English is an irregular language.

Ex:

- துளைக்கை புதுப்பு உடற்பிடித்து = "The chickens will eat lentis"
- புதுப்பு உடற்பிடித்து துளைக்கை = "The chickens that will eat lentis"
- புதுப்பு உடற்பிடித்து துளைக்கை சிற்றுடன் இருந்து உடற்பிடித்து = "The chickens that will eat lentils come here now"
- துளைக்கை தீர்ந்து புதுப்பு துளைக்கை திறக்குவது உடற்பிடித்து = "The balls that roll on the ground are small"
- உந்து சோந்திக்கும் கூம் செல்வு கோபுர்கள் = "Leave water for the orators that will speak"

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**Perfect Tense / முடியாத**

A verb in the perfect tense shows an action whose completion is definite. The past perfect tense shows an action that had completed before other events that also took place in the past. The present perfect tense shows an action that has just completed, and the future perfect tense shows an action that will be completed in the future.

The following sentences are examples of the past, present, and future
tenses in English for the verb "dance": "She had danced before singing" (past), "She has danced and will sing soon" (present), "She will have danced by the time she sings" (future).

**Perfect Tense**

The perfect tense of a verb is formed by AvP + ஆவ்ப் பெற்று (AvP + tpL).

By itself, the verb பெற்று (tpL) means "leave". When combined with the AvP, it shows certainty or definiteness in the occurrence of an action.

**Verbs - Certainty In Occurrence**

The AvP + பெற்று shows certainty in the action's occurrence

Because of the certainty that it expresses, AvP + பெற்று is used for emphasis. The past tense of AvP + பெற்று, in addition to showing definiteness that the action happened, also indicates that the action completed.

**Ex:**

- ஒன்றாள் விழாவுக்கு முன் வேறு குடியை செய்திருக்கிறேன் = "On Tuesday I cleaned inside the house"
- கோதை பெற்று இரண்டு முறை பெற்றுள்ளார் = "Kothai has danced two times"
- வேறு பக்தான் வேறு பெற்று வந்துள்ளார் = "They will have come by 6 o'clock tomorrow"
- வேறு குடியை செய்து பெற்றுள்ளார் = "The picture that she has mounted on the wall is straight"
- வேறு பதிவுகளுக்கு வேறு பெற்றுள்ளார் = "The mail must come soon"
- பால் பெற்றுள்ளார் = "The cat tore the paper"

**Verbal Nouns**
Verbal nouns are similar to verbal adjectives, in that they are constructed from phrases. But as the name suggests, verbal nouns turn phrases into nouns.

**Verbal Noun - Past/Present Tense**
A verbal noun is made from a phrase by replacing the verb with past/present tense stem + -\(\text{mi}^{\text{d}}\).

**Verbal Noun - Future Tense**
For verbs in
- Classes 1-4, replace the verb with verb root + -\(\text{mi}^{\text{d}}\)
- Class 5, replace the verb with future tense stem + -\(\text{mi}^{\text{d}}\)
- Classes 6-7, replace the verb with verb root + -\(\text{mi}^{\text{d}}\)

See the lesson on Class 5 Verbs for reference on Class 5 future tense stems.

Another way of thinking about verbal nouns is this: replace the verb suffix (for nouns besides -\(\text{mi}^{\text{d}}\) and -\(\text{mi}^{\text{t}}\)) with -\(\text{mi}^{\text{d}}\). For -\(\text{mi}^{\text{d}}\) and -\(\text{mi}^{\text{t}}\) in the past and present tense, also replace the verb suffix with -\(\text{mi}^{\text{d}}\).

**Properties Of Verbal Nouns**

Verbal nouns can take case suffixes. When taking case suffixes, verbal nouns behave like -\(\text{mi}^{\text{d}}\). The final -\(\text{mi}^{\text{d}}\) will be replaced with whatever word -\(\text{mi}^{\text{d}}\) would change to in the same situation. For example, -\(\text{mi}^{\text{d}}\) would change to -\(\text{mi}^{\text{d}}\) in the instrumental case, and -\(\text{mi}^{\text{d}}\) in the dative case.

- என்று ஒன்றில்மொன்றியே என்று போன்றதை காணியால்? = "Did you hear the things that I said?"
- கூட்டு ஏனையரு குறிப்பிட்டு கூற்று செய்யப் பதில்களை செய்து கூற்று பய்தெய்து கூற்று
  = "The people said that the building of the road had finished"
Reflexive Pronouns

Reflexive pronouns are pronouns that refer back in some way to the subject of the same sentence. One way reflexive pronouns can occur in English is by words such as "myself", "yourself", "ourselves", "themselves", etc.

The equivalent of such reflexive words in Thamil, for 1st and 2nd person, is achieved simply by using the corresponding pronoun.

Ex:

- நின்று மேலும் பேசு நீங்கள் = "I talked about myself"
- செய்து செய்து மன்னிக்கு நீங்கள் = "Don't hate yourself"

There are special reflexive pronouns for 3rd person. They can take case suffixes, and change before doing so.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reflexive 3rd Person Pronoun</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>நெருந்து</td>
<td>நெருந்துக்காட்டு</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reflexive 3rd Person Pronoun - Changes With Case Suffixes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Singular</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>நெருந்து-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One of the meanings of நெருந்து is "hold". But we have already seen நெருந்து to help express something else. Namely, the AvP of நெருந்து, which is நெருந்துக்காட்டு, is used along with இட்டு மையற்று to help express the continuous tense. If
we only use கையையே ஓர்ப்பு, we can form reflexive verbs. Reflexive verbs relate the action back to the subject. Another way of thinking about reflexive verbs is that they show the subject performs the action alone.

**Reflexive Verbs**

A verb can be made reflexive by using AvP + கையையே.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ex:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>பெண்மை குறிக்கை எழுது கையையே குறிப்பிட்டன் = &quot;The daughter wrote the letter herself&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>அம்மா அருங்கக் கிளைக்குடி பெண்மை குறிக்கை அடும் பின் கையையே குறிப்பிட்டன் = &quot;She went to the post office and mailed the letter herself&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Simultaneous actions can be expressed with கையையே and the continuous tense.

**Simultaneous Action**

For verbs whose actions occur simultaneously, replace all verbs except for the last verb with AvP + கையையே.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ex:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>அவ்வோர் கிளைந்து கையையே பெண்மை கையையே தெள்ளுகின்றன் = &quot;They came laughing and singing&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Passive Voice / பொி**

**Passive Voice**

The sentences we have discussed so far, with perhaps the exception of the type of sentences made only with the dative case, are active sentences. They are called active because the subject clearly performs the action of the verb. (E.g. "It runs", "They saw the movie") Passive voice refers to the
use of passive verbs. Passive verbs show action happening to the direct object. However, sentences with passive verbs do not have a subject, or the subject is indirectly expressed. (E.g. "The movie was seen", "They movie was seen by them")

**Passive Voice**

A sentence is put into passive voice by

- replacing the verb with infinitive + வருட
- removing the case suffix வு from the direct object
- adding the case suffix வு to the subject, if it is expressed indirectly

Note that the வருட of the passive verb is conjugated (i.e. gets its verb ending) according to the direct object.

Ex:

- அரசியல்கள் மற்றும் விளக்கும் நிதியுடைய விளக்கம் = "Politicians blocked that law"
- அந்த நிதியுடைய விளக்கம் = "That law was blocked"
- சாலையின் வழியாக வேகமாக விளக்கம் = "Drivers drive the buses"
- சாலையின் வழியாக வேகமாக விளக்கம் = "The buses were driven by drivers"
- பலர் அன்று வழங்கும் விளக்கம் = "Many people will respect him"
- என்னும் வழங்கும் விளக்கம் = "He will be respected"

The verb வருட is used on its own to express emotions. The related word வசா is used to express the creation of the same emotions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emotion</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>வசா</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>முன்னேற்றம்</td>
<td>happiness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>முன்னேற்றம்</td>
<td>pride</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>முன்னேற்றம்</td>
<td>shyness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>முன்னேற்றம்</td>
<td>hardship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>முன்னேற்றம்</td>
<td>haste, urgency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>முன்னேற்றம்</td>
<td>doubt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>முன்னேற்றம்</td>
<td>jealousy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>முன்னேற்றம்</td>
<td>anger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>முன்னேற்றம்</td>
<td>fear</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>