

Grammar for the Marček text, chapters 14 - 15

ĉi: nearness

Ĉi is a tiny word used to indicate nearness. You will most often see it with the **ti-** correlatives:

tie <i>there</i>	ĉi tie <i>here</i>
tiu <i>that</i>	ĉi tiu <i>this</i>

Note: **ĉi** may be placed either before or after the **ti-** word: **ĉi tie** and **tie ĉi** have the same meaning.

ajn: any, -ever

The word **ajn** is used to give a generalizing sense to an expression. Placed after a correlative beginning with **k-**, it corresponds to the English “-ever”:

kiu ajn *whoever, whichever*
kie ajn *wherever*
kio ajn *whatever*
kiam ajn *whenever*
kia ajn *whatever kind of*
kiom ajn *however much*

Li atendu, kiu ajn li estas.	<i>Let him wait, whoever he is.</i>
Kion ajn vi trovas, vi rajtas reteni.	<i>Whatever you find, you may keep.</i>
Mi iros, kia ajn estos la vetero.	<i>I'll go, whatever the weather is like.</i>
Li sidas, kie ajn li volas.	<i>He sits wherever he wants.</i>
Kiam ajn li venos, li estos bonvena.	<i>Whenever he comes, he will be welcome.</i>

When **ajn** is used with a correlative beginning with **i-**, it is usually translated by *any (at all, whatever)*:

iu ajn *any(one)*
ie ajn *anywhere*
io ajn *anything*
iam ajn *any time*
ia ajn *any kind of*
iom ajn *any amount*

Mi ne konis iun ajn en la ĉambro.	<i>I didn't know anyone (at all) in the room.</i>
Donu al mi ion ajn por trinki.	<i>Give me anything (at all) to drink.</i>
Mi estas preta iri en ia ajn vetero.	<i>I'm read to go in any kind of weather.</i>
Li povas dormi ie ajn .	<i>He can sleep anywhere.</i>

The verb ending **-us**

The verb endings **-as**, **-is**, and **-os** are used to express facts:

Mi estas viro. *I am a man.*
Mi donis la monon al li. *I gave the money to him.*
Ni atendos vin. *We will wait for you.*

When we express a conjecture, however—a mere thought or possibility, no matter how realistic—we use the ending **-us**. The action or state is imaginary, so time does not usually enter into it:

Ho, se mi nur estus riĉa! *Oh, if only I were rich!*
Ho, se mi nur havus la propran domon! *Oh, if only I had my own house!*

-us is used in conditional sentences, where the fulfillment of an action or state is dependent on a supposed, imagined condition:

Se mi estus riĉa, mi loĝus en domego. *If I were rich, I would live in a mansion.*
Se vi lavus ĝin, ĝi estus pura. *If you washed it, it would be clean.*

As in English, **-us** is also used as a polite form to express a wish or request, as if it were just a passing thought:

Mi volus aĉeti tiun jupon! *I'd like to buy that skirt!*
Ĉu mi povus havi tason da teo? *Could I have a cup of tea?*
Ĉu vi povus prunti al mi du dolarojn? *Could you lend me two dollars?*

-id

The suffix **-id** is used to denote the young or offspring of:

ŝafo <i>sheep</i>	ŝafido <i>lamb</i>
koko <i>chicken</i>	kokido <i>chick</i>
kato <i>cat</i>	katido <i>kitten</i>
hundo <i>dog</i>	hundido <i>puppy</i>
bovo <i>cow, ox</i>	bovido <i>calf</i>
leono <i>lion</i>	leonido <i>lion-cub</i>

Movement: to

In English, to show movement *towards* a place indicated by a preposition like “in” or “on”, we sometimes add “-to” to the preposition (e.g. “into”, “onto”). In Esperanto, we indicate this movement by adding **-n** to the noun:

La kato saltas **sur** la tablon. *The cat jumps on to the table.*
La muso kuras **sub** la liton. *The mouse runs under the bed.*
La viro iras **en** la domon. *The man goes into the house.*

It may help to think of the **-n** as simply replacing **al** (to):

La kato saltas **al** sur la tablo. → La kato saltas sur la tablon.

In each case, the subject starts an action in one place and finishes it in another. Note the difference in meaning between these sentences:

La kato ludis **en** la ĝardeno. *The cat was playing **in** the garden.*

La kato iris **en** la ĝardenon. *The cat went **into** the garden.*

Now notice how the meaning changes if we omit the **-n** from the three sentences above:

La kato saltas sur la tablo. *The cat is on the table, and, while there, is jumping.*

La muso kuras sub la lito. *The mouse is under the bed, and is running about.*

La viro iras en la domo. *The man is in the house, and is going from one part to another.*

Note: **-n** is never used after **al** (to) or **ĝis** (up to), because these words already indicate movement to some place.

If an *adverb* shows place, then we can add **-n** to show movement to that place:

Mi restis hejme. *I stayed at home.*

Li iris hejmen. *He went home.*

In English we sometimes use “-ward(s)”:

antaŭ**n** *forward*

malantaŭ**n** *backward*

supren *upwards*

malsupren *downwards*

norden *northward*

suden *southward*

We can use **-n** with **kie** and **tie**, the correlatives that indicate a place:

Kien vi iras? *Where are you going (to)?*

Kien li veturis? *Where did he travel to?*

Mi iras tien. *I am going there (to that place).*

Li veturis tien. *He traveled there (to that place).*

Indirect commands: **ke... -u** and **por ke... -u**

The form **ke... -u** is used in clauses after verbs expressing a *desire* (or a want, wish, order, warning, request, etc.). In English, we use the infinitive in these situations. In Esperanto, we use **ke... -u**:

Iru tien! *Go there!*

Mi volas, **ke** vi iru tien. *I want you to go there.*

Li kantu! *Let him sing!*

Mi deziras, **ke** li kantu. *I wish him to sing.*

Restu! Stay!
Mi petis, **ke** li restu. *I asked him to stay.*

Similarly, we use **por ke... -u** (*in order for / so that*) in clauses after verbs expressing an implied desire. In English we use “*in order to*” or “*so that*” and the infinitive or the conditional *would* here. In Esperanto we use **por ke... -u**:

Skribu! Write!
Li donis al mi plumon, **por ke** mi skribu. *He gave me a pen in order for me to write.*

Ne estu malsata! Don't be hungry!
Ŝi donis al mi panon, **por ke** mi ne estu malsata. *She gave me bread so that I wouldn't be hungry.*