

Translation to English

(VSO)

The cat had completely exhausted my patience. I remember the cat was once bigger. It always bothered me whenever Tomás was opening some casks of beer.

“What? By the hand of the Goddess, what are you thinking?”

“I am wondering in which corner of the great marketplace, Tomás can be a barrel”, I said.

“In no case can one be a barrel. Tomas is a person!”

But the cat, which had been eating fish, was not a person, according to my understanding. It had gotten the fish from Tomás.

Translation To Anyuvin

(SOV)

Žon okume vašdji djureda djaru mozave nege. Vaš dzočime ato žon okumeda komeka akyave djove. Djo vašda tada škotive še Tomas kan gomeč kalzeninda tada rivave.

“Na. Evadji nidota da. Iva nadye kova voku resdjo.”

“Vaš voku cate, djere kan žon O`užvekanva šake, Tomas raš kalzeda akya” Vaš djaru eredjove.

“Dava raš kalzeda akya nate da. Tomas raš randa akya da.”

Date žon okume, načad kurida voku orive, raš ran akya nate vašdji izyoviru. Djo žon kurida tate Tomas djaru načuve.

Anyuvin Language

Phonology & Word Construction

The romanized Anyúvin alphabet is: a (a/ə), b, c (ts), č (tʃ), d, dj (dʒ), dž, e (eɪ/ɛ), g, i (i:/ɪ), k, l, m, n, ny (ɲ), o (oʊ/ɒ), p, r, š (ʃ), t, th (ð), u (u:/ʊ), v, z, and ž (ʒ). (The distinction in vowel sounds is dependent on accent, the accented vowels having a long sound. Alas, accents are unmarked.) When romanized, *dj*, *dž*, *ny* and *th* are treated as single consonants.

Syllables are [[C]C]V[C[C]] except that no combination of syllables may result in two adjacent vowels except for the diphthongs *ai* and *oi*.

Prefixes and suffixes are applied directly to the word stem. The spelling of the root word is not altered unless it results in two vowels being adjacent, in which case the vowel of the affix replaces the vowel in the stem. Likewise, an affix that results in more than two consonants in a row replaces the last consonant in the stem.

Sentence Structure

Anyúvin has SOV sentence structure. While the case system allows a certain amount of flexibility, it is generally viewed as unnecessarily 'sloppy' to mess with the structure. (The formal grammar is under construction, so please bear with.)

- **Sentence** = NP (NP (NP)) VP, where the noun phrases represent the subject, object and indirect object in that order.
- **Noun phrase** NP = (PP) (D)N (AdjP) , where a determiner (article) is optional, as is the (possibly) repeated choice between an adjective phrase (AP) or adpositional phrase (AP). As is obvious, NP are head final.
- **Verb phrases** VP = (mode) (asp) V (AdvP...), where the optional modality marker or auxilliary verb (*mode*) and aspect marker (*asp*) precede the verb and any Adverbial Phrases (AdvP) follow it.
- **Prepositional phrase** PP = (PP) prep NP. Prepositional phrases precede the noun they modify. (See below, and thank you Terry Pratchett...)
- **Adjective Phrases** AdjP = (AdjP) [Adj | N+CM (aux)]. Despite its similarity to a prepositional phrase, a case modified noun used as an adjective, such as *torimako bare*, “near the chest”, is treated the same as a straight-up adjective, such as *irake*, (“red”),
- **Adverbial Phrases** AdvP = (AdvP...) Adv. See above regarding uncertainty.

The relationship between prepositional and adjective phrases and the nouns they modify can best be described by example:

- “A box of rocks”, would be *kan agin raš ima*. literally, “of rocks a box”.
- “A box of rocks near the tree”, would be *kan agin raš ima kanyuceko bare* (*kanyuceko*, “tree” + locative case refined by *bare*, “near” rather than the default “at”.)
- “A box of red rocks” would be *kan agin irake raš ima*. literally “of rocks red a box” (*irake* being “red”)
- “A big box of red rocks”, would be *kan agin irake raš ima kome* (*kome* being “big”)
- “A big wood box of small red rocks” would be *kan agin irake nyeko raš ima uce kome*. (*uce* being “wood” and *uce* being “small”)

Verbs

There are three main verb forms marked by the following affixes:

- **Infinitive** (unmarked) *e.g.*, *tivu* (to sing)
- **Noun forms:** (ča—) *e.g.*, *tivu* (to sing) → *čativu* (song), or (ir—) → *antivu* (singer)
- **Gerund/present participle** (ir—) *e.g.* *tivu* (sing) → *irtivu* (singing)

There are three tenses which relate the action to a point in time serving as the reference point, this being (hopefully) made clear in the conversation. If not, then the present moment is assumed.

- **Prior** (—*ve*) the action takes place prior to the reference time.
- **Coincident** (unmarked) the action takes place at the reference time-mark.
- **Post** (—*do*) the action takes place after the reference time.

The diminutive suffix (—*nye*) can be appended after the tense marker to indicate something *just* before or after the reference time.

Aspect, in Anyúvin, is rather marked by auxiliaries preceding the verb:

- **Universal** (*iru*) Indicates a universal, timeless action *Širanin iru šoda* (“birds fly”)

- **Habitual** (*tada*) Indicates a habitual action.
- **Perfective** (*djaru*) Indicates the action is to be taken as a whole, without reference to its temporal structure during its occurrence. *Vaš kan čete djaru gaze*. (“I hit the ball”)
- **Inceptive** (*važu*) Indicates the beginning of an action. *Vaš važu nyeda* (“I [started to] walk”).)
- **Stative** (*dage*) Indicates an ongoing, but static action. (“I know Anyúvin”)
- **Progressive** (*voku*) Indicates that the action is/was ongoing and evolving. (“I am eating”).)
- **Completive** (*ožu*) Indicates that the action is/was complete. *Vaš ožu orido*. (“I had eaten”).)

Verbal mode is also indicated by one or more auxiliaries preceding the verb and, if present, the aspect:

- **Advisory** (*djaš*) Indicates the action would be wise or proper. For example: *Iva djas nya* (“You should go”) Combined with the privative it advises against the action: *Iva djaš non nya* (“You should not go”)
- **Determinative** (*dov*) Expresses, or implies, determination to perform the action. For example, *Vaš dov nya* (“I will go”) Again, combined with the privative: *Vaš dov non nya* (“I will not go”)
- **Dubitative** (*avi*) Indicates the speaker thinks the statement is dubious, doubtful or uncertain. For example, *Vaš avi dov nya* (“[It is doubtful] I will go”)
- **Solicitous** (*nare*) For example: *Nare tivu* (“[Please] Sing”. Where more emphasis is required, the greater prefix *n`* is used. For example, *n`ace* (a request for “space”, *i.e.* privacy, which for the communal Anyuvín is a scarce resource.)
- **Imperative** (*mica*) One is being commanded, or required, to perform an action. Where more emphasis is required, the greater prefix *m`* is used. For example, *m`tok* (“stop!”)
- **Inquisitive** (*kova*) Indicates that this is a query:
 - In its simplest form, the speaker is asking whether or not an action is/was/will be performed. For example *Iva kova irnya* (“are you going?”), *Iva kova nyave* (“Did you go?”)
 - If the speaker is asking for specific information, the verb is followed by an interrogative indicating the nature of the information. For example: *Iva kova nyave evinya* (“Where did you go?”)

- Combined with the permissive auxiliary, it becomes a request for permission. For example, *Vaš ovar kova nya* (“May I go?”)
- **Permissive** (*ovar*) Expresses permission to perform the specified action. For example, *Iva ovar nya* (“You may go”)
- **Privative** (*non*) Expresses the negation, reversal or opposite of the action. For example *Iva non nya* “You will not go”, or *Iva non nyave* “You did not go”.)
- **Promissory** (*zan*) Expresses the intent, expectation or promise that the action will commence in the future. The argument expresses the degree or nature of the intent. It is, in a sense, the stronger form of the Determinative aspect. *Vaš zan nya*. (I [promise to] go.)

Nouns

Anyúvin nouns and pronouns are marked for the following cases by a suffix. The following cases are primarily syntactic:

- **Nominative** (*unmarked*)
- **Accusative** (*—da*)
- **Genitive** (*—dji*)
- **Dative** (*—te*)

These cases are used to create something like a prepositional phrase, *i.e.* they take a noun and an auxiliary and turn them into an adjective or adverb phrase.

- **Comparative** (*—ge*) The marked noun is used as a comparison point. With an auxiliary following the noun to indicate the level of difference. (Bigger, smaller, redder, boldest, etc.) *Koredgji etu Toredji etuge akya*. (Kore’s pen is [the same as] Tore’s pen. This can be modified as in *Koredgji etu Toredji etuge ademe akya*. (Kore’s pen is like Tore’s pen.)
- **Locative** (*—ko*) The marked noun is used as the locative reference point. The default is “at”, but an auxiliary following the noun to indicate a direction or relative position. *Tore kan etuda djošekiko nidube*. (Tore lost the pen [at] school.) Or, *Tore kan etuda djošekiko bare nidube*. (Tore lost the pen near school.)
- **Temporal** (*—čo*) The marked noun is used as the temporal reference point. With an auxiliary following the noun to indicate a relative time. (This can get complicated when combined with verb’s tenses.) *Tore kan etuda idoričo nidu*. (Tore lost the pen [at] dinner.) Or, *Tore kan etuda idoričo ive nidudo*. (Tore lost the pen after dinner.)
- **Motive** (*—ma*) Indicates that the preceding auxiliary indicates motion relative to

the marked noun. A combination of the lative and ablative cases it indicates the nature of the motion. *Kore Torema kyora nyeda*. (Tore walks away from Tore.)

- **Instrumental** (*—ru*) Indicates that the marked noun was the means by which an action was accomplished or something was achieved. *Kore Toreda raš izakeša gazedo*. (Tore hit Tore with a stick.)
- **Relational** (*—va*) Indicates a relationship of some sort with the object: belonging, relating to, a part of, etc. *Kan širadjva čuka*. (The top [of the] dune.)

Plurality is marked by the suffix (*—[n/in]*) and is always applied first. (*i.e.* before a case marker(s).)

Anyuvin has the same two articles as English:

- Indefinite (*raš*) *raš čete* (a ball.) Also as the contraction: *r'čete*.
- Definite (*kan*) *kan čete* (the ball.) Again, can be contracted: *k'čete*.

Pronouns

Anyuvin pronouns have the usual first/second/third person, but different plurality variants based on relationship.

Individual: *vaš* (I), *iva* (you) and *dava* (s/he)

Group within a family: *vadza* (we), *ivadza* (you) and *davadza* (they)

Family (as a whole): *mor* (we), *imor* (you) and *damor* (they)

Other Groups (Clan, association, etc.): *rev* (we), *irev* (you) and *darev* (they)

There are two additional pronoun, *tal* for inanimate objects and *djo* the pronoun for other, non-sentient living things. The issue of sentience among the Anyuvin has come under serious debate as the question of exactly *where* the boundary between sentient and non-sentient entities lies. At this point, the general consensus is the use of language. If you can carry on a conversation with an individual, you use the regular pronouns, if not you use *djo*.

Case in pronouns follows the same structure as regular nouns, thus: ‘me’ is *vašda*, ‘mine’ is *vašdji*, ‘him/her’ is *davada*, ‘his/hers’ is *davadji*, etc.

There are no gender markers in Anyúvin. There are no gendered words in Anyúvin. There is, in fact, no gender in the language or the culture.

There are no reflexive pronouns. Something like “I washed myself” is expressed simply as *Vaš vašda savave* “I washed me”, *i.e.* using the accusative form.

Other Morphology

Other prefixes/suffixes change a word's meaning and/or part of speech. Where these have been used, I have included them as separate entries in the lexicon.

Lexicon

Anyúvin	English		Notes
akya	to be	<i>verb</i>	Asserts the identity of something or ascribes to it some quality or condition.
ato	that	<i>conj</i>	Introduces a subordinate clause
cate	to wonder	<i>verb</i>	To feel curiosity or doubt
da	(exclamation)		Exclamation, emphasis
date	but	<i>conj</i>	Introduces a statement that adds something to a previous statement, usually contrasting.
dovye	once		At some indefinite time before now, but no longer
djere	in	<i>prep</i>	A location within something, or some bounds.
djovye	once	<i>adv</i>	At some indefinite time before now, but no longer
djure	patience	<i>noun</i>	The capacity, habit or fact of being patient
dzočime	remember	<i>verb</i>	<i>lit.</i> “to bring to mind”
eca	can	<i>aux. v.</i>	To be capable of, permitted to, do something.
eredjo	to speak, say	<i>verb</i>	To express yourself in words.
Eva	Eva	<i>name</i>	A mythical being.
gomeč	beer	<i>noun</i>	Fermented milk, to be precise
izyovir	understanding	<i>noun</i>	The act, or state, of understanding
kalže	barrel	<i>noun</i>	A round container with flat ends
komeka	bigger	<i>adj</i>	Greater in size or extent
kuri	fish	<i>noun</i>	An aquatic animal
moza	to exhaust	<i>verb</i>	To tire out, use up completely
na	(question)		Indicates a question, also used as a quick interrogative (as in “what?”)

načad	which	<i>pron</i>	Which one, or ones, of a group. Can be either interrogative or demonstrative.
naču	to get	<i>verb</i>	To gain possession of
nadye	what	<i>pron.</i>	Interrogative expressing inquiry about the nature, identity or value of an object.
nate	not	<i>adv</i>	Negation.
nege	completely	<i>adv</i>	Entirely or completely
nidota	shroud	<i>noun</i>	Thin, gauze-like wrappings for the dead.
okume	okume	<i>p. noun</i>	An arboreal predator resembling a small cat. Renowned for their grace and the ability to stalk in almost total silence.
ran	person	<i>noun</i>	A single individual (gender non-specific.)
raš	a	<i>art.</i>	Indefinite article
ori	to eat	<i>verb</i>	To take food in through the mouth.
resdjo	to think	<i>verb</i>	To reflect upon something.
riva	to open	<i>verb</i>	To make an opening in
šake	corner	<i>noun</i>	The point at which two sides intersect.
še	when	<i>conj</i>	At or during the time that...
šita	some	<i>art.</i>	Partitive: An unknown amount or number
škoti	to annoy	<i>verb</i>	To disturb or irritate especially by repeated acts
šo	hand	<i>noun</i>	The part of the body at the end of the arm.
tate	from	<i>prep</i>	Indicates the source of something
O`užvekan	great marketplace	<i>noun</i>	<i>lit.</i> “great many trade place”. Any area where a great many merchants set up their tents for trade
vos	case	<i>noun</i>	A particular example, situation or scenario
žon	the	<i>art.</i>	The definite article