

Tekhwos is a language of an ancient—now extinct—indigenous culture in a sub-tropical river valley. This language is my newest conlang, and was designed for a game of Dungeons & Dragons.

The language is largely SOV word order, and agglutinating. In addition to the order of Subject>Object>Verb, the following tables will be helpful in deciphering the text:

1. Sentence template

(Q prt)	Σ	Subj	Obj	Agr-	√V	-Mood	-Asp	IO
+Q	Pos			Sub>Obj		Conditional	Perfective	
−Q	Neg					Imperative	Imperfective	
	Emph					Indicative	Discontinuous Past	
	Neg-Emph					Optative	Inchoative	
						Probable	Terminative	
						Dubitative	Iterative	
						Permissive	Stative	
						Authoritative	Resumptive	

2. Verbal template

Agr-	√V	-Mood		-Asp	
See table 4		Cond	-ro	Perf	-nu
		Imp	-fe	Imperf	Ø
		Indic	Ø	Disc.Pst	-mun
		Opt	-lo	Inch	-(y)u
		Prob	-pes	Term	-ti
		Dub	-fa	Itter	-su
		Perm	-kes	Stat	-fit
		Auth	-kho		

3. Nominal template

√N	-specification		-case		Number	Adj	Dem
	Indef.sg	-(f)i	Nom	-(y)akh			
	Indef.dual	-(s)a	Acc	-(y)ash			
	Indef.pl	-(kh)o	Gen	Ø			
	Def.sg	-(f)ikht	Ins	-(y)ef			
	Def.dual	-(s)akht	Dat	-(y)ur			
	Def.pl	-(kh)ont	Abl	-(y)ol			
	Mass	Ø	Voc	Ø			

4. Agreement prefixes

Obj Subj	Ø	1.SG	2.SG	3.SG	DUAL	1.PL	2.PL	3.PL
Ø	—	ka-	ki-		kha-	khe-	kho-	
1.SG	ta-	—	te-	twe-	khwa-	se-	so-	sho-
2.SG	ya-	pa-	—	po-		fe-	fo-	
3.SG	la-	na-	ne-	Ø		ne-	yo-	
DUAL	sa-	sha-			sra-	ra-		wa-
1.PL	tu-	ku-	ke-	kwe-	shra-	—	khwo-	
2.PL	yu-	su-	si-	shi-		re-	—	ro-
3.PL	lu-	mu-	me-	we-		fi-	fu-	Ø

5. Verbal moods

Conditional: -ro

Imperative: -fe

Indicative: default mood, not overtly marked (Ø)

Optative: -lo

Probable: -pes

Dubious: -fa

Permissive: -kes

Authoritative: -kho

6. Verbal aspects

Imperfective: the default aspect, not overtly marked (Ø)

Perfective: -nu

Stative: -fit

Discontinuous past: -mun

Inchoative: -(y)u¹

Terminative: -ti

Iterative: -su

7. Definiteness

	Singular	Dual	Plural	Mass
Indefinite	-(f)i	-(s)a	-(kh)o	Ø
Definite	-(f)ikht	-(s)akht	-(kh)ont	

¹ Consonants in parentheses only show up when attaching to a vowel-final stem.

8. Grammatical case

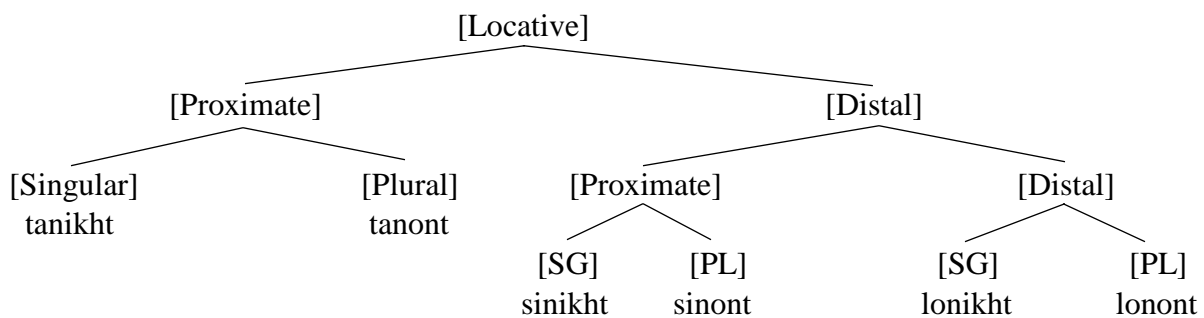
Case	Suffix	Notes
Nominative (Nom)	-(y)akh	Attaches to subject nouns
Accusative (Acc)	-(y)ash	Attaches to object nouns
Genitive (Gen)	Ø	Attaches to possessor nouns
Instrumental (Ins)	-(y)ef	Denotes functions of ‘with’ or ‘by’
Dative (Dat)	-(y)ur	Denotes functions of ‘to’, ‘in’, ‘between’, or ‘at’
Ablative (Abl)	-(y)ol	Denotes functions of ‘from’, ‘under’, or ‘over’
Vocative (Voc)	Ø	

9. Pronouns

Personal	Singular	Dual	Plural
1 st Person	tikh	sakht	tekh
2 nd Person	yis		yokh
3 rd Person	lis		lokh
Demonstrative Pro		sanikht	

Possessive	Singular	Dual	Plural
1 st Person	tikhw	sakhtw	tekhw
2 nd Person	yish		yokhw
3 rd Person	lish		lokhw
Demonstrative Pro		sanikhtw	

10. Demonstratives



It should be noted that *sanikht* is an archaic form used very infrequently. It has the interpretation of “those two” and is used almost exclusively as a pronominal demonstrative.

11. Additional notes

- a. Tekhwos is a pitch accent language, but the pitch accent was not recorded in the orthography. As a result, one written word may have two or more translations – often one as a noun, the other as a verb, but not always.
- b. Tekhwos was also normally written with no spaces, but I’ve spared you that challenge!
- c. -r- is an infix that marks words as a compound form, this is dropped when one of the members of the compound already has an <r> at the joining point of the two members.
- d. Additional information, lots of examples (including with some of the idiosyncrasies with case and with the copula system), as well as the dictionary—such as it currently is—are given in the attached grammar. There’s also a lot of theoretical mumbo-jumbo—feel free to ask questions if anything is unclear.
- e. I haven’t had time to proofread everything in the attached grammar, so please ignore the typos in my English in that document, and good luck!

12. The Torch

lisakh lish mashnirikhtash sipalnu, lisakh lisur fimal lish fiyararsashikhtur lans.

tikhakh lisol tweekwolsmun fiyararsashi lans?

lisakh lawuto wi sokars rakhtwonyash sin Twamoshakh sharkhfit.

“rom Twamoshakh rakhtwonyash kasfa?” tafismaltnu.

“pam! tanikhtakh Twamoshash kasfit, pam rakhtwonyash nans kas!”

Twamoshakh klakhtworoyash yofiyirs lisef.

sakhtash khakwalt rom pontef twas sin klanoshrsashiyakh klakhtworoyash yoprukhw.