

Exercises

October 20, 2009

1 Some grammar and vocabulary

Personal pronouns: absolutive

	SINGULAR	PLURAL
1 st	ni	gu
2 nd	zu	zuek
3 rd	hura	haiek

The verb *izan* 'to be': present

	SINGULAR	PLURAL
1 st	naiz	gara
2 nd	zara	zarete
3 rd	da	dira

The definite determiner: *-a*

The plural marker: *-k*

Thus: *ume* 'child' → *umea* 'the child' → *umeak* 'the children'

Nouns

adiskide friend
aita father
alaba daughter
ama mother
ardo wine
argi light
begi eye
bihotz heart
buru head
diru money
egun day
emakume woman
esku hand
etsai enemy
etxe house
gau night
gizon man
haur child
ibai river

izar star
kafe coffee
katu cat
ke smoke
lan work
liburu book
lore flower
mendi mountain
mutil boy
nagusi boss
ogi bread
oilo chicken
oin foot
sagar apple
seme son
su fire
txakur dog
ur water
urte year
zaldi horse

Adjectives

argi	bright	ilun	dark
beltz	black	isil	quiet
bero	hot/warm	itsusi	ugly
berri	new	labur	short
bete	full	luze	long
eder	nice	maite	dear
garbi	clean	merke	cheap
garesti	expensive	on	good
gorri	red	polit	pretty
goxo	tasty	txar	bad
handi	big	txiki	small
hotz	cold	zahar	old
		zuri	white

Other words

aski	enough	gaur	today
asko	many/much	gutxi	few
bai	yes	hemen	here
baina	but (aber)	inor	anybody/nobody
baizik	but (sondern)	nor	who
ere	also/even	oso	whole/very
eta	and	zenbat	how many/how much
ez	no	zer	what
		zerbait	something

2 Translate into English (or German)

1. Sua gorria da, eta kea beltza.
2. Sua gorria eta kea beltza da.
3. Alaba ederra da, baina ama oso ederra.
4. Gaia iluna da, eguna ez.
5. Gaur egun iluna da.
6. Emakumeak politak dira, baina gizonak itsusiak.
7. Nor da hemen nagusia?
8. Etxe asko zuriak dira.
9. Gona gorria ez da itsusia.
10. Sagar zaharrak merkeak dira hemen, baina kafe ona oso garestia da.

What can you learn about Basque grammar from these sentences?

3 Translate into Basque

1. The white wine is good.
2. It is expensive wine.
3. The woman and the man are friends.
4. The chicken is small but very tasty.
5. Many churches are cold and dark.
6. The hands are hot, but the feet cold.
7. The new book is expensive, but the old one cheap.
8. What is the work, and who is the boss.
9. How much is the money?
10. The day is short, but the year is long.