

LEARNING PASHTO

**Intensive Elementary & Secondary Pashto
for Military and other Professionals**

by

Dawood Azami

Visiting Scholar

Email: mdazami@yahoo.co.uk

The Middle East Studies Center (MESC)

The Ohio State University, Columbus

August 2009

Aims of the Course:

*To provide a thorough introductory course in basic Pashto with the accent on practical spoken Pashto, coverage of grammar, familiarity with Pashto pronunciation, and essential vocabulary.

*Ability to communicate within a range of situations and to handle simple survival situations (e.g. finding lodging, food, transportation etc.)

*Ability to read the simple Pashto texts dealing with a variety of social and basic needs.

In addition to author's own command and expertise, a number of sources (books, both published and unpublished, journals, websites, etc.) have been consulted while preparing this material.

Word of thanks:

The author would like to thank Dr. Alam Payind, Director, Middle East Studies Center (MESC), and Melinda McClimans, Assistant Director, MESC. Their cooperation and assistance certainly made my stay in Columbus easier and enjoyable.

Copy Right:

This course material is for teaching of Pashto language at The Ohio State University. The author holds the copy right for any other use. The author intends to publish a modified version of the material as a book in the future. Please contact the author for more information.

(Email: mdazami@yahoo.co.uk)

Contents

I.	Pashto Alphabet.....	5
A.	Pashto Sounds Similar to English	7
B.	Pashto Sounds Different from English.....	7
C.	Two letters pronounced differently in major Pashto dialects:	8
D.	Arabic Letters/ Sounds in Pashto	8
II.	Greetings and Introductions:	8
A.	English Texts:	8
B.	Pashto Texts	9
III.	Grammar and Vocabulary	9
A.	Greetings	9
B.	Personal Pronouns.....	9
C.	The Verb <i>to be</i>	9
D.	Demonstrative Pronoun <i>this</i>	9
E.	Possessive Pronoun	10
F.	Interrogative Pronouns <i>who? which?</i>	10
G.	Word Order in Statements and Questions.....	10
H.	Phrases	10
I.	Vocabulary and Sentences	10
K.	Personal Pronouns.....	11
L.	The Verb <i>to be</i>	11
M.	Interrogative pronoun <i>what?</i>	13
N.	Personal pronouns	13
O.	Possessive pronouns.....	13
P.	The verb <i>to have</i>	13
Q.	Vocative case	13
R.	Indefinite Article. Numeral one.	14
S.	Plural	14
T.	Negative marker.....	14
U.	Question tag	14
V.	Sentences.....	14
IV.	Writing Pashto	15
V.	Joining the alphabets using Afghan names:	19
VI.	Noun (Num/Isim)	22
A.	Gender.....	22
B.	Numbers	28
C.	Case.....	29
D.	Changeable Nouns	29
E.	Unchangeable Nouns	30
VII.	Changes in Singular and Plural Nouns	31
A.	More Cases.....	31
B.	Adjective	34
C.	Pronouns.....	35
VIII.	The Pashto Verb	38
A.	Present and Present Perfect Tense	38
B.	Simple Past Tense	44
C.	Past Perfect Tense	46
D.	Future Tense	49
E.	Imperatives in Pashto	51

IX. Dialogues	51
A. Disarm and Search	51
B. Stopping & Searching a Vehicle	57
C. Conducting a House Search	59
D. Accepting or Rejecting Hospitality	65
X. Additional Vocabulary	68
A. Military Ranks.....	68
B. Parts of the Body.....	68
C. Weather (موسم).....	69
D. In the Restaurant په رستورانټ كې.....	69
E. Shopping for Food	70
F. Illness and Health (نا روغتيا او صحت).....	70
G. Professions (kar)	72
H. Colours (Ranguna)	72

I. Pashto Alphabet

There are forty-five characters in the Pashto version of the Arabic alphabet. The standard order is as follows.

Pashto Symbol	Letter Name	Roman symbol
ه / ټ	hamza	a
آ	Alif (mad aa)	/aa/ (ā)
ا	Alif	/a/ in the beginning /aa/ (ā) in the middle or end
ب	Bay	/b/
پ	Pay	/p/
ت	Tay	/t/
ټ	Tay	/t/ (ṭ)
س	Say	/s/
ج	Jim	/j/
چ	Chay	č /ch/
ح	Hay	/h/
خ	Khay	/kh/
ټز	tzay	/tz/ (x Ĵ)
ټس	Tsay	/ts/ (c)
د	Daal	/d/
ډ	Daal	/d/
ز	Zaal	/z/
ر	Ray	/r/
ړ	Ray	/r/ (ṛ)
ز	Zay	/z/
ژ	Zhay	/zh/

ڙ	Žhay / ghay	/ žh / g / (ž)
س	Sin	/s/
ش	Shin	/sh/
ڙڻ	Šhin/ Khin/ xin	/ Šh/
ص	Swaad	/s/ (š)
ڙڙ	dzwat	/z/ (d)
ط	Tway	/t/
ظ	Zway	/z/
ع	Ain	/a’/
غ	Ghain	/gh/
ف	Fay	/f/
ق	qaaf	/q/
ڪ	kaaf	/k/
گ	gaaf	/g/
ل	Laam	/l/
م	Mim	/m/
ن	Nun	/n/
ڻ	Ṇun	/Ṇ/
و	wao	/w/ as consonant /o/ or /u/ as vowel
ه	hay	/h/
ي	yay	/ay/, always used at the end
ي:	yay	/y/, as consonant /i/, as vowel
ي:	yay	/e/, used in the middle and at the end only
ي	yay	/ ay/ (ai), used at the end of words only (for feminine)
ئي	yay	/ay/ (ai), used at the end of words only (for imperative)

A. Pashto Sounds Similar to English

Pashto	English
ب	b
پ	p
ج	j
چ	ch
ز	z
ژ	zh/sio
س	s
ش	sh
ک	k
گ	g
م	m
ن	n
و	w
ه	h
ي	y/i

B. Pashto Sounds Different from English

1. /خ/ /tz/

The sound of /خ/ is a compound of /tz/. However, some native speakers pronounce it like English 'z'.

2. /س/ /ts/

The sound of /س/ is also a mixed composed of /ts/, nonetheless, some native speakers say it straight away like English 's'.

3. /خ/ /kh/

The sound of /خ/ is produced deeply in the throat such as when clearing one's throat.

4. /ر/ /r/

In the case of English /r/, the tongue is almost suspended in the middle of the mouth, but for Pashto /ر/, the tip of the tongue touches the front of the mouth and very quickly rattles for more than one times.

5. /ر/ /r/

In order to produce the sound of /ر/, the whole tongue curls back and then quickly flaps down.

6. /ښ/ /sh or kh/

In order to produce the sound of /ښ/, one needs to touch the back of tongue with the uvula and let the air out in order to create a hissing sound. However, in western (Kandahari) dialect, this sound is straight away produced in the fashion of /sh/.

7. /غ/ /gh/

The location of /غ/ is almost the same as the /خ/, but it is more inclined towards the sound of /g/ while the latter tends towards /k/.

8. /ن/ /nr/

The sound of /ن/ is rather a mixture of retroflex /n/ and retroflex /r/. It never comes in the beginning of a word.

C. Two letters pronounced differently in major Pashto dialects:

There are three major Pashto dialects. The division is based on the pronunciation of two letters in the Pashto alphabet.

Western (Kandahari)	Central (Kabul)	Eastern (Nangarhari/Peshawari)
ځ (zhay / ghay) retroflex	g	g
ښ (Shin/xin/khin) retroflex	x	kh

D. Arabic Letters/ Sounds in Pashto

The following seven letters/sounds are Arabic and became part of Pashto when Pashtoons accepted Islam as their religion.

	Arabic	English	Examples
1.	/ح/	/h/	حکومت، محکمہ، نکاح
2.	/ص/	/s/	صبر، بصر، رقص
3.	/ض/	/z/ /d/	ضرب، مضمّر، مرض
3.	/ط/	/t/	طلب، مطلب، خیاط
4.	/ظ/	/z/	ظرف، مظلوم، طرظ
5.	/ع/	/a/	عرب، معلم، متاع
6.	/ف/	/f/	فراه، کفر، معاف
7.	/ق/	/k/ /q/	قفس، وقف، توافق

II. Greetings and Introductions:

A. English Texts:

1. Talking about oneself and others.

Jamal: Good morning!
Naeem: Good morning!
Jamal: Who are you?
Naeem: I am Naeem. Who are you?
Jamal: I am Jamal. Pleased to meet you.
Naeem: Pleased to meet you too.
Jamal: Where are you from, Naeem?
Naeem: I am from Kabul. Where are you from?
Jamal: I am from Kandahar.

2. Identifying photographs / introducing others.

Maryam: Who is this?
Akbar: This is engineer John Miller. He is American.
Maryam: And this lady? Who is she?
Akbar: This is doctor Sarah Shaw. She is French.
Parvin: And this man? Who is he?
Akbar: This is Lieutenant Sher Khan. He is Afghan.

B. Pashto Texts

1. Talking about oneself and others

Jamal: salâm alaikom.
Naeem: walaikom salâm.
Jamal: taase tsok yâst?
Naeem: za naeem yam. tâse tsok yâst?
Jamal: za jamal yam. khwash yam che tâse gorum.
Naeem: za ham der khwash yam.
Jamal: naeem, tâse d' kum dzay yâst?
Naeem: za d' kâbal yam. tâse d' kum dzay yâst?
Jamal: za d' kandahâr yam.

2. Identifying photographs / introducing others

Maryam: dâ tsok dai?
Akbar: dâ engineer john miller dai. day angrez dai.
Maryam: ao dâ merman? dâ tsok da?
Akbar: daa doctor sarah Shaw da. daa amrikaayi da.
Maryam: ao daa shaaghalay? daa tsok dai?
Akbar: daa bridman sher khan dai. dai afggaan dai.

III. Grammar and Vocabulary

A. Greetings

Two greetings are used in Pashto, both are borrowed from Arabic.
salâm alaikom! / assalaâm alaikum! *Peace be with you!*

The latter is more formal. They are used at any time of the day and so correspond to:
hello!; good morning!; good afternoon!; good evening!

The response is:

walaikom salâm! / wa'alaikom assalâm! *And peace be with you!*

B. Personal Pronouns

The personal pronouns in our texts are:

za	<i>I</i>
tâse	<i>you</i>
dai	<i>he</i>
dâ/daa	<i>she</i>

C. The Verb *to be*

The forms of the verb *to be* which occurred in our first text are:

za yam	<i>I am</i>
tâse yâst	<i>you are</i>
dai dai	<i>he is</i>
dâ da	<i>she is</i>

D. Demonstrative Pronoun *this*

The demonstrative pronoun *this* is the same as the feminine 3rd person pronoun.

dâ husain dai.	<i>This is Husain.</i>
dâ jamila da.	<i>This is Jamila.</i>

dâ can also be used in conjunction with a noun: **dâ shâghalay** (*this gentleman*); **dâ merman** (*this lady*).

E. Possessive Pronoun

The 1st person singular possessive pronoun *my* is **zmâ**.

F. Interrogative Pronouns *who? which?*

The interrogative *who* is **tsok** and the interrogative *which* **kum**.

tâse tsok yâst?

Who are you?

tâse d' kum dzay yâst?

You-from-which-place-are? Where are you from?

G. Word Order in Statements and Questions

The normal word order in statements in Pashto is:

Subject	:	Object	:	Verb	or
Subject	:	Complement	:	Verb	

za Jamal yam.

I-Jamal-am. I am Ahmad.

tâse d' kandahar yaast.

You- from-Kandahar-are. You are from Kabul.

Questions in Pashto are marked by interrogative (question words) or intonation. There is no change in word order.

tâse d' kâbal yâst?

You-from-Kabul-are? Are you from Kabul?

tâse tsok yâst?

You-who-are? Who are you?

tâse d' kum dzay yâst?

You-from-what-place-are? Where are you from?

H. Phrases

Note: these two expressions will be analysed in due course.

khwash yam che tâse winam.

(I am) pleased to meet you.

landan t' pa khair raghlâst.

London-to welcome! Welcome to London!

I. Vocabulary and Sentences

Country	(Pashto Equivalent)	Nationality noun/adj
Afghanistan	afghanistân	afghân
America	amrikâ	amrikâyi
Britain	bartânia	bartânaway
England	inglistân	angrez / inglis
Iran	irân	irânay
Pakistan	pakistân	pakistânay
Germany	Germani	germanay
Russia	roosia/roos	roosay

J. Other Vocabulary

d'

preposition: *from, of*

kum

question word: *which?*

dzay

place. Note: d' kum dzay? from which place, from where?

shâghalay

gentleman, Mr.

shadza/ khadza

wife, (woman)

merman

lady, Mrs.

Text (English)

- t.3 a. Where is Doctor Brown from?
b. He is from London.
a. Where is engineer Smith from?
b. She is from Scotland.
a. Lieutenant Osman and Major Rameshni, where are they from?
b. They are from Teheran.
a. Ali and Farid, where are you from?
b. We are from Kabul.

Text (Pashto)

- t.3 a. Doctor brown d' kum dzay day?
b. day d' landan day.
a. Engineer smit d' kum dzay da?
b. dâ d' scotland da.
a. bridman usmaan ao jagran rameshni d' kum dzay di?
b. dui d' tehrân di.
a. ali ao farid, tâse d' kum dzay yâst?
b. muzh d' kâbal yu.

K. Personal Pronouns

The personal pronouns in the plural are:

muzh	<i>we</i>
tâse	<i>you</i>
dui	<i>they</i>

Note: There is no gender distinction in the 3rd person plural: **dui** can refer to both men and women. Further, the 2nd person plural **tâse** seems to be the same as the 2nd person singular *you* that we had in text 1. This is because the singular *you* is only used by speakers who are on intimate terms with each other. In all other cases, the plural form will be used with singular reference. Foreign learners will have little occasion to use the singular form, though it is listed here in brackets for the sake of completion.

L. The Verb *to be*

The full paradigm of the verb *to be* in the present tense is as follows:

za yam	<i>I am</i>
(ta ye)	<i>you(singular) are</i>
day day	<i>he is</i>
dâ da	<i>she is</i>
muzh yu	<i>we are</i>
tâse yâst	<i>you(plural) are</i>
dui di	<i>they are</i>

Texts (English)

- t.1 a. What's your name, please?
b. My name is Palwasha. That is a Pashto name. My husband is Afghan, but I am from Scotland.
a. Ah, you are married! That's good! Do you have children as well?
b. Yes, I have a daughter. She is called Breshna.

- t.2 a. So what's her name?
 b. Her name is Palwasha. That's a Pashtu name. Her husband is Afghan but she is from Scotland.
 a. Oh, she's married! That's good! Does she have any children?
 b. Yes, she has a daughter. Her name is Breshna.
- t.3 a. Hassan, are you married?
 b. Yes I am. I have a son called Akbar and a daughter called Parwin.
- t.4 Ali: Are you English or American?
 Susie: I am English. And you?
 Ali: I am Iranian. Are you from London?
 Susie: No, I am from Manchester.
 Pierre: Are you here on holiday?
 Susie: No, I am a student here.
- t.5 a. Ahmad is from Afghanistan, isn't he?
 b. Yes, he's Afghan.
 a. And Farid? Is he also Afghan?
 b. No, he's not Afghan. He is from Pakistan.

Texts (Pashto)

- t.1 a. stāse num tsa day?
 b. zma num palwasha day. da d' pashto num day. zma meṛa afghān day, kho za d' scotland yam.
 a. Šha, tāse wāda sawe yāst. der Šha! tāse kuchnian ham larai?
 b. ho, za yawa lur laram. d' haghe num breshnā day.
- t.2 a. no, d' haghe num tsa day?
 b. d' haghe num palwasha day. da d' pashto num day. d' haghe meṛa afghān day. kho hagma d' scotland da.
 a. sha, hagma wāda sawe da! der sha! hagma kuchnyān lari?
 b. ho, hagma yawa lur lari. d' haghe num breshnā day.
- t.3 a. hasana, tāse wāda sawi yāst?
 b. ho wada sawe yam. za yao zway laram. d' hagma num akbar day. za yawa lur ham laram. D' haghe num parwin day.
- t.4 Ali: tāse amrikaayi yāst ka angreza?
 Susie: za angreza yam. ao tāse?
 Ali: za irānay yam. tāse d' landan yāst?
 Susie: naa, za d' manchester yam.
 Ali: tāse dalta pa rukhsat yaast?
 Susie: naa, za dalta zda kawunke yam.
- t.5 a. ahmad d' afghanistan day, ka tsanga?
 b. ho, hagma afghān day.
 a. ao farid? hagma ham afghān day?
 b. naa, hagma afghān na day. hagma d' pakistān day.

M. Interrogative pronoun *what*?

The interrogative pronoun *what*? is **tsa**. Thus:
stāse num tsa day? *What's your name?*

tsa invites *identification*, whereas **kum** *which?* invites *selection*: *which one of?*
In English the distinction is not so clear cut. We can say: *which food do you prefer?* Or: *what food do you prefer?*

N. Personal pronouns

Alternative forms for the 3rd person singular pronouns are:

hagha	<i>he</i>
hagha	<i>she</i>

The forms we had previously, namely **day** and **dā**, refer to somebody who is nearby: *he, she: this person here*. **hagha**, on the other hand, refers to somebody who is remote: *that person*. Compare the English questions: *who is this?, who is that?* We would use the former in the presence of the person referred to, the latter after the person has left the room.

O. Possessive pronouns

The possessive pronouns in Pashtu are:

zmā	<i>my</i>
d' hagha	<i>his</i>
d' haghe	<i>her</i>
stāse	<i>your</i>

The 3rd person singular is formed with the preposition: **d'** *of* and the *prepositional case* of the pronoun. Thus:

d' hagha num	<i>*name of him, his name</i>
d' haghe num	<i>*name of her, her name</i>

With the masculine the *prepositional case* is the same as the *subject*, with the feminine it has a different form.

P. The verb *to have*

The forms of the verb *to have* which occurred in our text are:

laram	<i>I have</i>
larai	<i>you have</i>
lari	<i>he, she has</i>

Q. Vocative case

The *vocative case* is the form of proper nouns when they are the object of direct address. English does not distinguish between this and the subject case: *Peter came vs Peter, come here!* In Pashtu the vocative marker for masculine nouns is **-a**:

hasana, tāse waada sawe yāst? *Hassan, are you married?*

R. Indefinite Article. Numeral one.

There is no specific indefinite article in Pashtu corresponding to *a / an*. Instead Pashtu uses the numeral *one*, which has a masculine and a feminine form.

yao zway *one son / a son*
yawa lur *one daughter / a daughter*

S. Plural

Note the isolated example in our text of a noun in the plural:

tāse kuchnyān larai? *Do you have children?*

The singular *child* is **kuchnay**. We shall see in due course that the **-yān** ending is just one way amongst others of marking plurality.

T. Negative marker

The negative marker is **na** *not*. The form **nā** with a long vowel sound is *no*.

nā, haghā afghān nā day. *No, he is not Afghan.*

U. Question tag

The question tag **ka tsanga** is invariable. Literally it means *or what?* It is used in both positive and negative questions, irrespective of the form of the main verb. It therefore corresponds to a wide variety of forms in English: *is he, isn't he, didn't he, won't we* and so on.

ahmad d' afghanistan day, ka tsanga?

Ahmad is from Afghanistan, isn't he?

V. Sentences

Note: for the time being these unanalysed sentences correspond to *is married*.

haghā wāda sawe da. *She is married.*

haghā wāda saway day. *He is married.*

tāse wāda saway yāst. *You are married.*

Short answers:

In English we can give short answers to questions either by just saying *yes/no* or by dropping the noun/adjective:

Are you married? *Yes. Yes, I am.*

But in Pashtu we say either *yes/no* or we drop the pronoun.

tāse wāda sawi yāst? **ho. ho, wāda saway yam.**

Vocabulary

num	<i>name</i>
paŠhto	<i>Pashto.. (e.g., d' paŠto nom a Pashto name.)</i>
meṛa	<i>husband</i>
Šha	<i>an exclamation: good, fine; der Šha very good!</i>
kuchnay	<i>child</i>
ham	<i>also</i>
lur	<i>daughter</i>
zway	<i>son</i>
pa rukhsat	<i>holiday</i>
zda kawunke	<i>(female) student</i>

IV. WRITING PASHTO:

The first characters represent the vowel sound /aa/ or /a/.

vowel 1	Initial	Middle	Final	Roman
آ				/aa/
ا	ا	ا	ا	/a/ or /aa/

Group 1.

Group 1	Initial	Middle	Final	Roman
ب	ب	ب	ب	/b/
پ	پ	پ	پ	/p/
ت	ت	ت	ت	/t/
ټ	ټ	ټ	ټ	/t/
ث	ث	ث	ث	/s/

Points to remember:

1. ټ, ت represent slightly different sounds but in the script we will use /t/ for both.
2. All these letters join in the same way.

با با ba ba
ټټا tata

Group 2.

Group 2	Initial	Middle	Final	Roman
ج	ج	ج	ج	/j/
چ	چ	چ	چ	/ch/
ځ	ځ	ځ	ځ	/dz/
څ	څ	څ	څ	/ts/
ح	ح	ح	ح	/h/
خ	خ	خ	خ	/x/

Points to remember:

1. All the letters in the group join in the same way.
2. /dz/ (ځ) has almost the same sound as /z/.
3. /ts/ (څ) has almost the same sound as /s/.

چا چا chaa chaa
ځت khat

Group 3.

Group 3	Initial	Middle	Final	Roman
د	د	د	د	/d/
ډ	ډ	ډ	ډ	/d/
ذ	ذ	ذ	ذ	/z/
ر	ر	ر	ر	/z/
ړ	ړ	ړ	ړ	/r/

ز	ز	ز	ز	/r/
ژ	ژ	ژ	ژ	/zh/
د	د	د	د	/g/

Points to remember:

1. These letters do not join with the letters following them.
2. The letters د and د are two variants of /d/.
3. The letters ذ and ز are pronounced in the same way. The former is rarely used.
4. The letters ر and ر are variants of /r/.
5. The letters ژ and د are pronounced almost in the same way.

Before we make words from this group, we must introduce another vowel و .

vowel 2	Initial	Middle	Final	Roman
و	و	و	و	/o/ or /u/

Points to remember:

1. This letter is a consonant at the beginning of a word /w/.
2. As a vowel it represents /o/ or /u/ sound.
3. It follows the same joining rules as group 3 consonants.

د ا د ا

da da

ز و ر

zur

Group 4.

Group 4	Initial	Middle	Final	Roman
س	س	س	س	/s/
ش	ش	ش	ش	/sh/
بش	بش	بش	بش	/sh/
ص	ص	ص	ص	/s/
ض	ض	ض	ض	/z/

Points to remember:

1. The letters س and ص are pronounced the same way. The latter is used less frequently.
2. The letters ش and بش are pronounced similarly. The latter is rarely used in personal names.
3. The letter ض is very rarely used.

Before forming words with these letters, we must introduce the third set of vowels.

vowel 3	Initial	Middle	Final	Roman
ی			ی	/ay/
ي	ی	ی	ی	/i/
ي		ی	ی	/e/
ی			ی	/ai/

Points to remember:

1. The letter ی only occurs at the end.
2. The letter ي is a consonant at the start of a word /y/.
3. No word starts with the letter ي.
4. The letter ی only occurs at the end.

شېر	sher
ښاد و	shaado
صبرو ر	sabur
سرای	saray
سرای	sare
سپای	spai
شیدې	shide

Group 5.

Group 5	Initial	Middle	Final	Roman
ط	ط	ط	ط	/t/
ظ	ظ	ظ	ظ	/z/
ع	ع	ع	ع	/a' / or /' /
غ	غ	غ	غ	/gh/
ف	ف	ف	ف	/f/
ق	ق	ق	ق	/q/

Points to remember:

1. All of the letters belonging to this group are pure Arabic letters, so they do not occur very often in Pashto words, except those borrowed from Arabic. However we will come across them in personal names which have come from Arabic.
2. The letter ع most of the times represents the sound in the colloquial pronunciation of *bottle*
namely: bo?l

طو طي	toti
ظفر	zafar
عارف	aarif
فاروق	faaruq
ساعت	gharib

Group 6.

Group 5	Initial	Middle	Final	Roman
ک	ک	ک	ک	/k/
گ	گ	گ	گ	/g/
ل	ل	ل	ل	/l/
م	م	م	م	/m/
ن	ن	ن	ن	/n/
ن	ن	ن	ن	/n/

Points to remember:

1. The letter گ is also written like گ
2. The letters ن and ن are variants of the sound /n/. No word starts with the latter i.e. ن .

کلیم	kalim
گام	gam
لوگر	logar
مېخ	mekh

Dual Character Letters

Group 7	Initial	Middle	Final	Roman
و	و	و	و	/w/ as consonant /o/ or /u/ as vowel
ه	ه	ه	ه	/h/ as consonant /a/ as vowel
ي	ي	ي	ي	/y/ as consonant /i/ as vowel

Points to remember:

1. We have already done و and ي. They have been given again for the sake of revision.
2. The letter و is always a consonant at the start of a word, but it can also be a consonant in the middle .
3. Similarly the letter ي is always a consonant at the start of a word, but it can also be a consonant in the middle.
4. The letter ه is a vowel only when it occurs at the end of a word.

وړمه	waZhmah
ژ و ر	zhawar
هارون	harun
مالگه	maalga
نېڅه	wazir
هگي	ya'qub

V. Joining the alphabets using Afghan names:

How letters occur in the beginning, middle and end of a word.

Independent	Initial		Medial	Final
آ	آصف aasif	/aa/		
ا	اتل ا	/atal/ /a/	خان ا	برېښنا ا
ب	بريال ب		ببرک ب	نجيب ب
پ	پتنگ پ		خپلواک پ	پ پ
ت	توريالی ت		باختر ت	هېبت ت
ټ	ټولواک ټ		کتبواز ټ	بيت ټ
ث	ثابت ث		ث ث	ث ث
ج	جانان ج		نجيب ج	ج ج
چ	چراغ چ		چ چ	چ چ
ځ	ځلاند ځ		سنځر ځ	گهيځ ځ
څ	څراغ څ		څ څ	څ څ
ح	حمزا ح		محمود ح	فتح ح
خ	خان خ		بختور خ	خ خ
د	دارو د		جلندر د	احمد د
ډ	ډ ډ		ډ ډ	ډ ډ
ذ	ذاکر ذ		نذير ذ	ذ ذ
ر	رحيم ر		برېښنا ر	نذير ر
ړ	ړ ړ		ړ ړ	ړ ړ
ز	زرغونه ز		منزری ز	عزیز ز

ژ	ژ	ژ	ژ
ز	ز	ز	ز
س	سد و س	عیسا س	شمس س
ش	شاه ش	گلشیر ش	التمش ش
بش	بشایسته بش	برپشنا بش	بنگبش بش
ص	صابر ص	بصیر ص	ص ص
ض	ضیا ض	مرتضا ض	فیض ض
ط	طاهر ط	مظهر ط	ط ط
ظ	ظفر ظ	مظهر ظ	حافظ ظ
ع	عمر ع	مسعود ع	سمیع ع
غ	غنی غ	عبد الغنی غ	غ غ
ف	فاروق ف	صفی ف	سیف ف
ق	قیس ق	یاقوت ق	عاشق ق
ک	کریم ک	حکیم ک	لالک ک
گ	گل گ	بیگم گ	بیگ گ
ل	لیلا ل	غلزی ل	ایمل ل
م	مشال م	احمد م	مریم م
ن	نجیب ن	مینه ن	پروین ن
ن	ن	ن	ن
و	وزیر و	بختور و	درخو و
ه	هیت ه	شهزاده ه	زرمینه ه
ی	ی	ی	خلمی ی
ی	یما ی	لیلا ی	ولی ی

ی		شیر —ی—	پالی —ی—
ی			گالی —ی—

- Note:
1. Letters in same colour join in the same way.
 2. Some of the letters do not have any names starting with them or containing them, but their joining method can be learnt from other letters of the same group.

Points to remember

1. The letter آ does not occur in the middle or end of names.
2. Some of the letters do not join with their following letters, these are as follows
آ ا د د ذ ر ر ز ژ و
3. **No word starts with ی, i.e. /e/ but it can occur in the middle as well as end.**
4. **Letters ی i.e. /ay/ and ی i.e. /ai/ only occur at the end of words.**
5. **The letter ی is always a consonant i.e. /y/ whenever a word starts with it. But remember that it can be a consonant in the middle as well.**
6. **As no words starts with ی i.e. /e/ and ی as a vowel i.e. /i/ therefore those words which must start with an /e/ or /i/ sound, start with ا .**

Example:

1. Ikraam اکرام
2. England انگلیند

VI. Noun (Num/Ism)

In order to understand nouns in Pashto language, three aspects of it such as *gender*, *number* and *case* are very important. The role of these aspects is felt when nouns and adjectives undergo various changes and adopt various forms and *ablaut*. For non-native speakers it is very important to learn the following guiding rules.

A. Gender

On the basis of gender, Pashto nouns are strictly divided into two exclusively defined categories of (a) masculine and (b) feminine. There is no neutral noun in Pashto.

1. Masculine Nouns

Following are the signs of *masculine* nouns:

a. Nouns which end with a consonant sound, for example:

Kitāb (book), ghar (mountain), samandar (ocean), asmān (sky), kamis (shirt), hewād (country)

کتاب، غر، سمندر، اسمان، کمیس، هیواد....

دا کتاب دی (this is a book) da kitāb day

غر لوی دی (mountain is big) ghar loi day

سمندر ژور دی (ocean is deep) samandar zhawar day

افغانستان زما هیواد دی (Afghanistan is my country) Afghānistan zma hewad day

b. Nouns which have the sound of / ی -- ye (ay) / in the end, for example:

سری، لرگی، زمري، کوچنی...

saray (man), largay (wood), zmaray (lion), kochnai (child)

سری ناست دی (man is sitting) saray nāst day

لرگی تور دی (wood is black) Largay tro day

c. Nouns which ends with the sound of / (wao) و = u /, such as:

چاکو، کچالو... (chāku)

چاکو تېر دی (knife is sharp) chāku tera day

کچالو خور دی (potato is sweet) kachālu khozh day

d. Nouns which end with the sound of / ۀ /, such as:

ترۀ، وادۀ، پسه (tra), wada (wedding), psa (sheep)

هغه زما ترۀ دی (he is my uncle) haghā zma tra day

نن ستا وادۀ دی (today is your wedding) nan sta wada day

پسه چاغ دی (sheep is fat) psa chāgh day

e. *Diminutive* Nouns ending with the sound of / و / similar to the sound of English /o/:

کاکو، بلو، سدو، گلو، جانو، سیدو، خالو، خانو، kākō, balo, sado, golo, jāno, saydo, khālo

هغه زما کاکو دی (he is my uncle) haghā zma kako day

بلو په کور کې دی (Balo is at home) balo pa kor ki day

Note: this is not very strict rule as some of these kind of Nouns are feminine:

ليلو ، درخو،،ببو ، شيرينو... laylo,dorkho, babo, shirino

- f. Nouns ending with / (i) ي – ye / indicating a performer of a particular activity:

Toki (comedian), Elchi (envoy), marakchi (mediator), rababi ربابي، مرکچي، ایلچی، توکي،
(guitarist)

sorgul toki day (sorgul is a comedian) سورگل توکي دی
elchi pa Sar ki day (envoy is in the city) ایلچی په سار کېږي دی
Rabab d' rababi pa las ke day (rabab/ guitar is in دی لاس کېږي په
the hand of the guitarist)

Note: some nouns of the same category indicating a particular quality or activity are feminine:

paki (cleanliness), azadi (freedom), khamoshi خاموشي، دوستي پاکي ، ازادي،
(silence), dosti (friendship)

2. Feminine Nouns

Following are the signs of *feminine* nouns:

- a. Nouns ending with the sound of / ا / (alif) -- a:

natsa (dance), asiya (asia), balā (monster), . . . ليا، دنيا، شکلا، نڅا،
Shkulā (beauty), Dunya (world), laylā (layla)

ta natsa kawē (you are dancing) تۀ نڅا کوي
(afghanistan pa asiya ki day (Afghanistan is in اسیا کېږي دی
Asia)

Note: the following nouns are masculine:

kakā (uncle, paternal), lalā (brother), mamā (uncle, maternal) کاکا، لالا، ماما

- b. Nouns ending with the sound of / ه / he (h):

Shdza (woman), wana (tree), maNa (apple), starga (eye) شڅه، ونه، مڼه،
سترگه

Shza pa kor kid a (woman is at home) شڅه په کور کېږي ده
wana pa baĝh kid a (tree is in the garden) ونه په باغ کېږي ده

- c. Nouns ending with the sound of / ی / ye (:

durkhāy (name of a girl), shirināy, . . . نجلۍ، شيريني، ملالۍ، ناپېرۍ، دورخاني،
. malalāy, haperāy (name,), njalāy (girl)

njalāy walara da (girl is standing) نجلۍ ولاړه ده

- d. Nouns (singular) ending with the sound of / ي / , and indicating a quality of a particular act or tribute:

azadi (freedom), Naroghi (sickness), dosti (freindship) ازادي ، ناروغي، دوستي
Naroghi bada da (sickness is bad) ناروغي بده ده

Dosti Shad a (freindship is good) دوستي ښه ده

Note: the following nouns, which explain performers or actor of a particular activity, are masculine:

توکي، ایلچي، مرکچي . . . toki, elchi, marakchi

e. Nouns ending with the sound of (و= O):

لیلو، شیرینو، خانگو، پښتو، بیزو (monkey) lailo, shirino, dzango, paShto, bizo

لیلو راغله (lailo came) lailo raghla

ما پښتو زده کړله (I learned Pashto) ma paShto zda ka

Note: following nouns belong to the same category, but they are diminutive masculine nouns:

کاکو، سیدو، خانو kako, saido, khano

f. Nouns ending with the sound of / ې / , the nouns of this category are mostly plural except a few:

ادی، ناوی، شیدې . . . ade (mom), nawe (bride) shide (milk)

ادی ویده شوله (ade wida shwa (mom slept)

شیدې تودې دي (shide tawde di (milk is hot)

3. Number

In order to render singular nouns into plural, in Pashto language there are different rules for masculine and feminine nouns:

a. Signs of Masculine Plurals

Masculine singular nouns can be rendered into plural by adding the following signs/suffices:

(1) The suffix of / ان / ښ . In the end of animate masculine singular nouns having a consonant sound in the end:

اوبښ = اوبښان، ooSh = ooShan

پرانگ = پرانگان، prang = prangân

هک = هلکان، halak = halakân

کب = کبان، kab = kabân

چرگ = چرگان، charg = chargân

لرم = لرمان، laram = laramân

مار = ماران، mâr = mârân

But this rule may also be applied to some inanimate nouns:

موتیر = موتیران، motor = motarân

گل = گلان، gul = gulân

نوک = نوکان، nook = nookân

تیر = تیران، tir - tirân

- (2) In the same way the animate nouns ending with the sound of (w, h)/ و ، ه / are also be converted into plural by adding the suffix of (ân) / ان :

margha = marghân ، مرغان = مرغه
 chåkoo = chåkooân ، چاکوان = چاکو
 dåkoo = dåkooân ، ډاکوان = ډاکو

- (3) For making the plural of those masculine nouns/adjectives which have the sound of /ي/ (i) in the end:
 (marakchi, mediator مرکچي (elchi, envoy) ایلچی (toki, comedian) توکی

toki = tokiân ، توکیان = توکی
 elchi = elchiân ، ایلچیان = ایلچی
 marakchi = marakchiân ، مرکچیان = مرکچی

- (4) By changing /ی/ into /ي/: (ye) /ay/ into /i/

storay = stori ، ستوری = ستوري
 pasarlay = pasarli ، پسرلی = پسرلي
 gharay = gharai ، غری = غري
 loShay = loShi ، لوبی = لوبی

But many other nouns of this category can be pluralized with the help of /ي/ and /ان/

laShtay = laShti/ laShtiân ، لښتی / لښتیان = لښتی
 saray = sari/ sariân ، سړی / سړیان = سړی
 largay = largi/ largiân ، لرگی / لرگیان = لرگی
 zmaray = zmari/ zmariân ، زمري / زمریان = زمري

- (5) By adding the Suffix of /ونۀ/ (unah) / wnah
 i. Mostly inanimate nouns ending with consonant sound are pluralized by adding the suffix of /ونۀ/:

mez = mezunah ، مېزونۀ = مېز
 kitâb = kitâboonah ، کتابونۀ = کتاب
 qalam = qalamunah ، قلمونۀ = قلم

- ii. The plural of some nouns ending with the diphthong of /aw/ = /او/ also takes place in the same fashion:

chapâw = chapâwnah ، چپاونه = چپاو
 parâw = parâwnah ، پراونه = پراه

- iii. In order to make the following nouns plural, the suffix of /ونۀ/ replaces the sound of /ه/ , (h/ ah)

trah = trunah ، ترونۀ = تره
 wrârah = wrerunah ، وررونۀ = وراره
 wâdah = wadunah : ودونۀ = واده

(6) By adding the suffix of /ة/:

i. The plural of some monosyllable nouns and adjectives takes place by adding the suffix of /ة/:

ghal = ghlah ، غلّة = غل

shin = shnah ، شنة = شين

khra = khrah ، خرة = خر

ii. The sound of /ة/ is added to most of those nouns and adjectives which have the sound of vowels of /ي/or /و/ in the middle. As a result of *ablaut* another vowel /ا/ the two previous vowels:

tud = tãudah ، تاودة = تود

sur = sãrah ، سارة = سور

zur - zãrah ، زارة = زور

(7) The suffix of /گان/: gån

Singular masculine nouns ending with the vowels of /ا/ (ã) and /u=و/, are converted into plural by adding the suffix of /گان/:

mãmã = mãmãgån ، ماماگان = ماما

kãkã = kãkãgån ، كاكگان = كاك

depu = depugån ، ديپوگان = ديپو

(8) Suffix of /يان/: yån

The plurals following nouns take place by adding the suffix of /يان/:

mulã = mulãyån ، ملايان = ملا

ãshna = ãshnayån ، اشنايان = اشنا

budã = budãyån ، بودايان = بودا

(9) Always Plural Masculine Nouns:

Some masculine nouns are always plural and have no singular:

وايشة ، (wãShah/ grass) غنم (ghanam/ wheat) ، زهر (zahr/poison) ، تيل (tel / oil) ،

بيترول (pitrol / petrol) ،

(10) Masculine Plural nouns of Relatives

Some Masculine nouns of relatives are irregular:

زوى = زامن ،

پلار = پلرونه ، plår = plarunah (fathers) ،

zui=zãman (sons)

ورارة = وررونه (wrrarah = wrerunah (nephews))

b. Signs of Feminine Plural Nouns

Singular feminine nouns are rendered into plural by adding the following signs:

(1) Replacing the sound of /ه/ (h – ah) by /ې/ (e):

For changing singular feminine nouns ending with the sound of /ه/, replace it by the sound of /ې/:

Shadzah = Shadze، شڅه = شڅه
wanah = wane، ونه = ونه
= pānah = pāne، پانه = پانه
stargah = starge، سترگه = سترگه

(2) Adding /وي/ (we) or /گاني/ (gāne):

i. Singular feminine nouns ending by the sounds of /ا/, change into plural by adding either /وي/ or /گاني/:

(laughter) khandā = khandāwi/ khandāgāne، خندا = خنداوي / خنداگاني،

(cry) zhrā = zharāwe / zharāgāne، ژرا = ژراوي / ژراگاني

(cow) ghwa = ghwawe/ ghwagāne، غوا = غواوي / غواگاني

ii. Singular feminine nouns ending by the sounds of /و = O/w/, change into plural by adding /گاني/ (gāne)

zāngo = zāngogāne، زانگو = زانگوگاني،
rādio = rādiogāne، راډيو = راډيوگاني،

c. Optional plural of the sound of /ي/ (ay) or + /ياني/ (yāne):

The plural of nouns ending with the sound /ي/ is optional. It either remain unchangeable and the same as its singular form; or the sound of /ي/ is replaced by /ياني/, however, the former unchanged form is more common:

doday = doday/ dodayāne (bread)، دودی = دودی / دودیاني،
chokay = chokay/ chokayāne (chair)، چوکی = چوکی / چوکیاني،
tsaplay = tsaplay/ tsaplayāni (shoe/slippers)، خپلی = خپلی / خپلیاني،

(1) In nouns ending with the sound of /ي/ (i) , it is replaced by the sound of /ي/ (ay):

khohi = khoShay (happiness)، خوښي = خوښي،
dosti = dostay (friendship)، دوستي = دوستي،
pāki = pākay (cleanliness)، پاکی = پاکی،

(2) Always Plural Feminine Nouns:

Some feminine nouns are always plural and have no masculine version:

اوبه (water) obah ، مستي (yugrt) maste ، شيدې (milk) shide ، وريژي (rice) wrizhi ،
موتيازي (urine) motiāzi ، چايي (tea) chāi

(3) Feminine Plural nouns of Relatives:

Like some masculine nouns of relatives, feminine nouns are also irregular:

مور = ميندي ، mor = mende (mother)
خور = خويندي ، khor = kwende (sister)
لور = لوني ، lor = loNe (daughter)

B. Numbers

1. Cardinal Numbers:

Following are the real numbers in Pashto:

صفر، يو، دوۀ، درې څلور، پينځه، شپږ، اووه، اته، نهه، لس

sifer, yaw, dwa, dre, tsalur, pindzah, shpaZh, auwah, atah, naha, las
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

يوولس، دوولس، ديارلس، څوارلس، پينځلس، شپاړس، وولس، اتلس، نولس، شل.

Yawulas, dwulas, diārlas, tswārlas, pindzalas, shpāras, awualas, atalas, nolas, shal.
11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20

يو ويشت، دوۀ ويشت، درويشت، څلورويشت، پينځه ويشت، شپږويشت، اوه ويشت.

Yawwisht , dwa-wisht, darwisht, tslur-wisht, pindzah-wisht, shpaSh-wisht, auwah-wisht,
21 22 23 24 25 26 27

اته ويشت، نهه ويشت، دېرش

atah-wisht, naha-wisht, dersh.
28 29 30

څلوېشت، پينځوس، شپيته، اوياء، اتيا، نوي، سل، دوه سوه، زر، لک
(سل زره)

tsalweSht, pindzos, shpetah, auya, atya, nawi, sal, dwah-sawa, zar, lak (sal zarah)
40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 200, 1000 10000

2. Ordinal Numbers:

For all Ordinal numbers, the sounds of /م/ (m) **or** /يم/ (yam) is added in the end of Cardinal numbers. But the first ordinal number is /لومری/ (lumrai) **or** /رومبی/ (rumbai)

رومبی/لومری، دویم، دربیم، خلورم، پینخم

Rumbai/ lumrai, dwayam, dreyam, tsaluram, pindzam,

3. Miyashti (the months):

wrai, ghwayai, ghbargolai, chingaSh, zmarai, waZhai, talah, laram, lindei, marghumai, salwaghah, kab.

Hamal, sawar, jawza, saratan, asad, sunbulah, mizan, aqrab, qaus, jadi, dalw, hut.

C. Case

Case means a variation which happens in a noun when it is used in relation to different forms of tenses, verbs etc, for example: tense

Shadza kâr kawi (woman works/ does the job) . شځه کار کوي .

Shadze kâr wakar (women did the job) . شځي کار وکړ .

Shadza wida shwa (woman slept) . شځه ویده شوه .

Shadze kâr kawi (women works) . شځي کار کوي .

The above examples show that the original noun /شځه/ (Shadza) has accepted several variations. In other words it is one of those nouns which are changeable.

Regarding the implications of *Case*, Pashto nouns are divided into two groups of: a). changeable, and b). unchangeable nouns.

D. Changeable Nouns

1. Nouns ending with the sound of /ی/ (ay) are replaced by /ي/ (i):

Changed Form	Original Form
sari (men) سري	saray (man) سري
dzalmi (young men) ځلمي	dzalmay (young man) ځلمي
lewani (mad men) لېوني	lewanay (mad man) لېوني

2. Nouns ending with the sound of /ه/ (h / ah) are changed into /ي/ (e):

Changed Form	Original Form
Shadze (women) شځي	Shadza (woman) شځه
wane (plants) وني	wana (plant) ونه
starge (eyes) سترگي	starga (eye) سترگه
mane (apples) مني	maNa (apple) منه

3. Most of those nouns/adjectives having the sound of / و / (w/ u) in the middle, which is replaced (*ablaut*) by the sound of / ا / (â) and another sound of / ء / (h/ ah) is added at the end:

Changed Form	Original Form
paShtanah پښتانه	paShtun (pashtun) پښتون
beltanah بېلتانه	beltun (separation) بېلتون
zhwandanah ژوندانه	zhwandun (life) ژوندون
zanganah زنگانه	zangoon (knee) زنگون

But the following nouns are exceptional:

، *mâshum* (child) ماشوم ، *shum* (hungrey/ miser) شوم ، *zum* (groom) زوم

4. Some monosyllable nouns and adjectives:

Changed Form	Original Form
aumah اومه	aum (raw) اوم
pâkhah پاخه	pukh (cooked/ ripen) پوخ
khrah خره	khar (donkey) خر

5. Following pronouns are also changed:

Changed Form	Original Form
mâ ما	za (I) زه
tâ تا	ta (you) ته
da ده	day (he) دى
de دې	dâ (she) دا
châ چا	tsuk (who) څوک
kume کومې	kumah (which) کومه
daghe دغې	daghah (this) دغه
haghe هغې	haghah (that) هغه

E. Unchangeable Nouns

Following are the some nouns which accept no changes and remain invariable in all cases:

1. Nouns ending with the sound of / ا / â:

dunya دنيا ، dâdâ دادا ، kâkâ کاکا ، mâmâ ماما

2. Nouns ending with the sound of / و / (w/u):

bârkhu (cheek) بارخو ، pishu (cat) پيشو ، bizu (monkey) بيزو

3. Nouns ending with the sound of / ي / i:

tuti توتي ، muchi موچي

4. Nouns ending with the sound of / ى / ay:

khulay خولى ، hagay هگي ، rasay رسي ، njalay نجلى

5. Some adjectives which are equally applicable to both feminine and masculine nouns and ending with the sound of / ځ /:
- ساده (simple) sādah ، ډاډه (confident) dādah ، چپه (left) chapah ، . . .

VII. Changes in Singular and Plural Nouns

All the above explained rules are applied only to singular changeable nouns which in most instances of *case* adopt their plural form after case variations, e.g.

ښځه Shdzah ← ښځې Shdze ، سړی saray ← سړي sari ،
پښتون paShtun ← پښتانه paShtānah ، . . .

So far as plural nouns are concerned, in all *cases* a / و / is added to all of them, whether they are changeable and unchangeable. Example:

ښځې Shdze ← ښځو shadzu ، هلکان halakān ← هلکانو halakānu ،
پښتانه paShtānah ← پښتنو paShtanu ،

A. More Cases

There are several basic cases: 1. Nominative, 2. Vocative, 3. Possessive, 4. Accusative, 5. Pre/Post Positional (dative, locative, ablative)

1. Nominative Case

When a *past* tense has a subject of *changeable* noun and a *transitive* verb, it is called nominative case. Following are some examples of changeable nouns:

Past Tenses (Changed Form)	Present/Future Tenses (Original Form)
saray dudāy khuri (man eats bread)	سړی ډوډی خوري .
sari dudāy wakhuralah (man ate bread)	سړي ډوډی وخورله .
Shadza dudāy pakhawi (woman cooks food)	ښځه ډوډی پخوي .
Shdze dudāy pakhawi (women cook food)	ښځې ډوډی پخوي .
paShtun ba kitā lwali (pashtun will read the book)	پښتون به کتاب ولولي
paShtānah ba kitāb lwali (pashtuns will read the book)	پښتانه کتاب لوسته

2. Vocative Case

When a noun is called, invited or alerted, and accepts some changes, it is called vocative case.

In this case, the sound of either / و / (w/u) **or** / يه / (yah) **or** / اي / (ae) is equally added to before **all** singular/plural changeable and unchangeable nouns. However, this is optional.

But in the *end*, it is necessary to add the sound of / ه / (h/ ah) and / ي / (e) **only** to changeable/singular masculine and feminine nouns respectively, and the sound of / و / (w/ u) is added to **all** kinds of plural nouns. Examples:

ghal (thief) (غل) و / يه / اي غله ، غلامه کوه ! ghalah, ghla
ma kawa
ghalah, ghla ma kawah (! غلامه کوه)

Wa/ yah/ ae/ halakh, وَا / يَهْ / اَيْ هَلَكَةُ، دَلْتَه رَاشَهْ halak (boy) (هَلَك)
halakah dalta rāshah (! دَلْتَه رَاشَهْ !)

3. Possessive Case

4. Accusative Case

- It is very simple and brief.
- This case happens in *Present* and *Future* tenses; on the contrary, as object they maintain their original form in *Past* tense.
- It causes changes only pronouns of *first* person singular and *second* person singular.
- They accept changes when used as *direct object* of the tense.

	Past Tense	Future Tense	Present Tense
tā	وَهْلَم	وَهْيَهْ	تَهْ مَلْ وَهْيَهْ،
zā	وَهْلَم	بِهْ مَلْ	تَهْ مَلْ وَهْيَهْ،
ta	وَهْلَم	بِهْ مَلْ	تَهْ مَلْ وَهْيَهْ،
ba	وَهْلَم	بِهْ مَلْ	تَهْ مَلْ وَهْيَهْ،
mā	وَهْلَم	بِهْ مَلْ	تَهْ مَلْ وَهْيَهْ،
wawahe	وَهْلَم	بِهْ مَلْ	تَهْ مَلْ وَهْيَهْ،
za	وَهْلَم	بِهْ مَلْ	تَهْ مَلْ وَهْيَهْ،
wawahalam	وَهْلَم	بِهْ مَلْ	تَهْ مَلْ وَهْيَهْ،

5. Pre + Postpositional Case

- In standard Pashto, mostly prepositions also have a postposition. In other words they are used in pairs.

Examples:

lah -- tsakhah ، لَه --- خَخَه ،
lah --- sarah ، لَه --- سَرَه ،
pa -- ke ، پَه --- كِه ،
Tar -- lānde تر --- لَانْدِه

- However, in some cases either only pre or post position is used.

Example: tah, larah, wa, pah) تَهْ، لَرَه، وَ، پَه

- In these kind of sentences, an object happens in between the two pre and postpositions, which is always an *indirect* object.

- If the object is a changeable nouns/adjective, it will receive morphological changes. That is why it is called pre + postpositional case.
- Pre + Postpositional case is further divided into the following cases: dative, locative, ablative, and instrument.

(1) Dative (indirect object) Case:

- This case has only a postposition: (tah, lah, larah) تَهْ، لَه، لَرَه all of them are equivalent have the same meanings of English *of* or *for*. However, (tah) تَهْ, is the most common among them.
- However, in south western (Kandahar) dialect this case also has a preposition of وَ (wa) which is not common among majority of native speakers.

Examples:

emal zarmine tah (lah, larah) sawghât (لہ، لارہ) سوغات راور .
 rāwar
 پولیس سری تہ لارہ ونبودلہ . polis sari ta lārah waShudalah.

In these examples, (saray) سری ; (zarminah) زرمینہ are changeable nouns and *indirect objects*, while (lārah -- way) لارہ ، is *direct object* and thus unchangeable.

(2) Locative Case

- i. In this case an activity is performed *towards* a location of a changeable noun is identified in a certain point in space and time.
- ii. The changeable nouns happen in between the pre and post positions,
- iii. Following pairs of pre and post positions are used:
 تر---لاندي / را دېخوا / وړ هاخوا / پوري / راپوري / کښته / ورپورته ،
 tar - - - lānde/ rādekhwa/ war hā khwā/ puri/ rāpuri, kShata/ war purtah)
 پټه---کې ، (pah - - - ke)
 پټه --- پسې ، (pah - - - pase)
 له --- سره ، lah - - - sarah
 پټه / پر---باندي ، pah/ par - - - bānde

Examples:

Qalam tar kitābche lānde day (book is under the table) قلم تر کتابچي لاندي دی
 halak tar wiāle rā de khwā walār day (boy stands on this side of the stream) هلك تر ويالي را ديخوا ولاړ دی
 saray tar wiāle hā khwa walār day (man stands on that side of the stream) سری تر ويالي هاخوا ناست دی
 zah tar gharne puri widah wam (I was sleeping till noon) زه تر غرمي پوري ويده وم
 Note: In the case of the last pair of / تر---پوري /, some times only the preposition / تر/ is used while the postposition / پوري/ is dropped. When this happens, then the unchangeable nouns also become changeable and the sound of / ۀ / is also added after them.
 Example:
 All those Nouns ending with consonant also become changeable (له ، تر)
 lah āsmānah (from له اسمانه tar āsmān puri (upto the sky) تر اسمانه پوري the sky)
 lah mādzigarah (from late تر ماڅيگره tar mādzigarah (until late afternoon) afternoon) afternoon)

(3) Ablative Case

- i. This case very similar to Locative case, but in this an activity originates *from* a certain point in space and time.
- ii. Nouns happen in between the pre and post positions,
- iii. Following pairs are used in this case:
 له --- څخه ، (lah - - - tsakha) ; له --- راهيسي (lah - - - rāhise) ; له --- وړ
 هيسي (lah --- warhise)

Examples:

Saray lah Shadze tsakhah dudəy ghwāri . سرى له شخه ډوډى غواړي .
(man wants food/bread from woman)

Halak lah gharne rāhise nārugh day هلك له غرمي راهيسي ناروغ دى
Boy is (feeling) sick since noon

(4) Instrumentive Case

- i. In this case a noun becomes the instrument of a particular activity.
- ii. Before the nouns a preposition of / په / (pah) is added.

Examples:

bazgar pah khrah yawe wahalah (farmer was ploughing by خړه يوې و هله .
donkey)

(5) Possessive Case

- i. When some kind of quality is attributed to or a possession is wielded by a noun, it is called possessive case.
- ii. In Pashto the sound of / د / is put before the possessing nouns.

da sari motor (motor (vehicle) of man) د سري موټر . saray (سرى)

da Shdze kamis (shirt of woman) د شخي كميس . Shdzah (شخه)

B. Adjective

1. Almost all the aforementioned qualities of nouns are also applicable to Pashto adjectives.
2. / تر / (tar) and / تر ټولو / (tar tulu) are respectively used for *comparative* and *superlative* degrees of adjectives.

Examples:

khushal tar emal lui dai (Khushal is elder (bigger) than تر ايمل لوى دى .
Emal)

roShan tar tulu lui dai (RoShan is the eldest (biggest)) تر ټولو لوى دى .
roShan)

3. Mostly Adjective completely adopts the form according to the *case* and *number* related masculine and feminine nouns.

Examples:

Plural	Singular
srah auShān (red camels) سره اوښان	sur auSh (red camel) سور اوښ
sre maNe (red apples) سرې مڼې	srah maNah (red apple) سره مڼه
shanh kamisān (blue shirts) شنه كميسان	shin kamis (blue shirt) شين كميس
shne kurtəy (blue jackets) شني كورتې	shnah kurtəy (blue jacket) شنه كورتې

khwaZhah anâr (sweet خوارۀ انار) khuZh anâr (sweet pomegranate) خور انار
 (pomegranates)
 khuZhah hindwanah (sweet water melon) خوره هيندوانه
 khuZhe hindwaNe (sweet water melons) خوري هيندواني

4. Some adjectives don not change according their plural *masculine* nouns, however, they *do* change according their plural *feminine* nouns. They end in consonant sounds:

Examples:

	Plural	Singular
spin kitâbunah سپين کتابونه		spin kitâb (white book) سپين کتاب
spine kitâbche سپيني کتابچه	spinah kitâbchah (white notebook) سپينه کتابچه	
tur kalamunah تور قلمونه	tur kalam (black pen) تور قلم	
ture takhte توري تختي	turah takhtah (black board) توره تخته	

5. There are some constant adjectives which neither change with masculine plural nor according to the feminine plural. All these adjectives end in the vowels sound of / ي، ا، ه / :

Examples:

	Plural	Singular
tajrabah سري تجربه کاره	tajrabah kârah saray (experienced man) تجربه کاره سري	karah sari
	tajrabah kârah Shadzah (experienced woman) تجربه کاره شذخه	tajrabah kârah Shdze شذخي
piyâdah halakân پياده هلکان	piyâdaha halak (walking boy) پياده هلک	
piyâdah njuni پياده نجوني	piyâdah njalaay (expensive vehicle) پياده نجلي	
qimati الوتکي قيمتي	qimati alwatakah (expensive plane) قيمتي الوتکه	alwatake

C. Pronouns

Following are different kinds of Pashto pronouns:

1. Personal Pronouns

Personal pronouns are divided into two categories: a) real personal pronouns, and b) oblique personal pronouns. For details see the following table:

Real Pronouns <i>Plural</i>	Oblique Pronouns <i>Singular*</i>	Direct Pronouns <i>Singular</i>	Person
مور (We/US)	ما (I/ Me)	زه (I)	1 st m/f.
تاسي (You/You)	تا (You/You)	ته (You)	2 nd m/f.
دوی / هغوی (They / Them)	ده (He/Him)	دی / هغه (He)	3 rd m.

هغوی (They/Them)	دې (She/Her)	دا / هغه (She)	3 rd f.
------------------	--------------	----------------	--------------------

* This table shows that only singular personal pronouns have oblique form. For further details see the discussion of *case*.

2. Possessive Pronouns

Possessive pronouns are divided into two groups a) *Emphatic* possessive pronouns and b) *Non-Emphatic** possessive pronouns. Both kinds have exactly the same function. For details see the following table:

Non-Emphatic	Emphatic	Non-Emphatic	Emphatic	Person
مو (our)	زموړ (our)	مي (my)	زما (my)	1 st m/f
مو (your)	ستاسې (your)	دې (your)	ستا (your)	2 nd m/f
يې (their)	د دوی / د هغوی (their)	يې (his)	د ده / دهغه (his)	3 rd m
يې (their)	د دوی / د هغوی (their)	يې (her)	د دې / دهغې (her)	3 rd f

Examples:

Non-Emphatic Pronouns

پلار مې په کابل کېږي دی
پلار مو په کابل کېږي دی
پلار دې په کابل کېږي دی
پلار مو په کابل کېږي دی
پلار يې په کابل کېږي دی
پلار يې په کابل کېږي دی
پلار يې په کابل کېږي دی
پلار يې په کابل کېږي دی

Emphatic Pronouns

زما پلار په کابل کېږي دی
زموړ پلار په کابل کېږي دی
ستا پلار په کابل کېږي دی
ستاسې پلار په کابل کېږي دی
د ده / دهغه پلار په کابل کېږي دی
د دوی / دهغوی پلار په کابل کېږي دی
د دې / دهغې پلار په کابل کېږي دی
د دوی / دهغوی پلار په کابل کېږي دی

* Non-Emphatic pronouns also work as personal pronouns. Especially it is more obvious past tense.

Examples:

کار مې وکړ	ما کار وکړ
کار مو وکړ	موړ کار وکړ
کار دې وکړ	تا کار وکړ
کار مو وکړ	تاسې کار وکړ
کار يې وکړ	ده / دې، هغه / هغې کار وکړ
کار يې وکړ	دوی / هغوی کار وکړ

3. Demonstrative Pronouns

Demonstrative pronouns identify the distance between the speaker and the location of the *third* person. They also have gender and number variations. For details see the following table:

Plural		Singular		Gender	Distance
<i>Oblique</i>	<i>Original</i>	<i>Oblique</i>	<i>Original</i>		
دغو	دغه	دي/دغه	دا/دغه	Masculine	Close
دغو	دغه	دي / دغي	دا / دغه	Feminine	
هغو	هغه	هغه	هغه	Masculine	Away
هغو	هغه	هغي	هغه	Feminine	
/ هاغو	/ هاغه	/ هاغه	/ هاغه	Masculine	Faraway
هوغو	هوغه	هوغه	هوغه		
/ هاغو	/ هاغه	/ هاغي	/ هاغه	Feminine	
هوغو	هوغه	هوغي	هوغه		

4. Directive Pronouns

In Pashto when an activity takes place between two persons or locations, its *direction* must be specified. This function is accomplished by the use of three directive pronouns of / را، در، ور /, which are *prefixed* to verbs.

Direction to/towards Location	Direction to/ towards Person	Directive Pronoun
here	me/us	را
there/it	you	در
there/that	him/her/them/it	ور

Examples:

He is coming to towards you.	هغه ما ته راځي
He is coming here	هغه دلته راځي
He is coming towards you	هغه تاته درځي
He is coming there	هغه هلته درځي
He is going towards him	هغه ده ته ورځي
He is going there.	هغه هلته ورځي

5. Interrogative Pronouns

There are many interrogative pronouns in Pashto. They are used when some kind of interrogation is made about the quality, position or action of a person or thing. Following are different interrogative pronouns:

- a. . **چا - څوک (Who):** They are used to ask about one or more persons. It is the same for singular and plural. Both have the same meanings, however, /څوک/ is used in original case while /چا/ is used in oblique case.

Examples:

چا ډوډی وخورله؟	څوک ډوډی خوري؟
چا مور ته ډوډی راكړله؟	تا چا ته ډوډی وركړله؟
چا و وهله؟ او څوك يې و وهله؟	موټرڅوك و وهله؟

- b. **څه (What):** Mostly it is used to ask about the quality or nature of things or actions.

Examples:

ته څه کوي؟
 څه دې وکړل؟
 هغه ته دې څه ورکړل؟
 پلار زوی ته څه و ويل؟
 په بازار کېښي څه ول؟

- c. **کوم - کومه (Who/Whose):** It is used for persons, animals and things and changes its form according to gender and number.

Examples:

کوم سرى کار کوي؟	کومه ښځه کار کوي؟
کوم سري کار کوي؟	کومې ښځې کار کوي؟
کوم سري کار وکړ؟	کومې ښځې کار وکړ؟
کومو سريو کار وکړ؟	کومو ښځو کار وکړ؟

- d. **کله (When):** ascertains the timing of an action or happening. It remains unchangeable in all cases.

Examples:

ته کله ډوډۍ خوري؟ تاسې کله ډوډۍ وخورله؟
 هغه کله ډوډۍ وخورله؟ هغوی کله ډوډۍ وخورله؟
 ما کله ډوډۍ وخورله؟ مور کله ډوډۍ وخورله؟

- e. **څو (How many):** Determines the number of persons and things when they are more than one.

VIII. The Pashto Verb

- A. **Root or Stem of the verb:** In Pashto we need to identify the stem of the verb (from infinitive) from which we can make present and past tenses of the verb. In Pashto the future tense does not have separate forms of the verb and the present form is used with the addition of 'BA' just after the subject. **The Pashto verb has been divided into 2 categories according to their respective rules of formation.**

1. Category 1

- a. **Transitive verbs:** These are those verbs to which prefixes and suffixes (additions) are added as they are and the original shape of the verb is not changed.

Examples:

Taral	to tie
GaNal	to consider/imagine
tskal	to drink
Gandal	to sew
khandal	to laugh
Ghandal	to condemn
Karal	to sow
Achawal	to wear, to lay (egg)
Laral	to mix, to stir
Astawal	to send
LeZhal	to send

Bakhal	to forgive
Wahal	to beat/hit
Satal	to keep
Manal	to accept/comply with
Tumbal	to insert
Sharal	to drive away (e.g animals)
Wral	to carry, to take
Likal	to write
Stayal	to praise

Look at the table 1 below. The infinitive used here is GANDAL which means to sew.

Pronoun	Stem of the verb	Present tense	Pronoun	Past tense
ZA	GAND	GANDAM.	MA	WAGANDAL.
TA	GAND	GANDAY.	TA	WAGANDAL.
HAGHA	GAND	GANDI.	HAGHA	WAGANDAL.
DA	GAND	GANDI.	DE	WAGANDAL.
HAGHUI	GAND	GANDI.	HAGHUI	WAGANDAL.
TASE	GAND	GADAI(ST).	TASE	WAGANDAL.
MUZH	GAND	GANDU.	MUZH	WAGANDAL.

- b. Dual nature verbs: In this category we have those verbs which are both transitive and intransitive. They also follow same rules as far as the formation of present tense is concerned. A list of these verbs is as follows.

RAPEDAL	to shake
KHWAREDAL	to disperse
DAREDAL	to get scared
NATSEDAL	to dance
NAREDAL	to collapse
PASEDAL	to get up, wake up, take off
ZGHALEDAL	to run
CHAGHEDAL	to shout
LOBEDAL	to play
LAGEDAL	to receive a blow
TASHTEDAL	to run away
WEREDAL	to get frightened
LAMBEDAL	to take bath
SHLEDAL	to get torn

The stem of the above verbs is made by omitting the final /DAL/ from them. And to convert them into present tense we follow the same rules for different subjects (pronouns) respectively. Look at the following examples.

- a. ZA RAPEZHAM. *I am shaking.*
- b. KOTA KHWAZEZHI. *The room is shaking (e.g in an earthquake).*
- c. KAUSAR PA SHPA KE WERIZHI. *Kausar gets frightened in the night.*
- d. ALWATAKA PATSEZHI. *The plane is taking off.*
- e. MUZH PA ITWAR LOBEZHU. *We play on Sunday.*

Again in past tense they follow the same rules discussed above.

Examples:

- a. Za warapedalam.
- b. Ta wadaredalay.
- c. Hagha walagedalo.
- d. Hagha walagedala.
- e. Tase pasedalast.
- f. Haghui wataShtedalu.
- e. Muzh waZhaghedalu.

2. **Category 2:** In this category we have verbs that change their forms in present and past tenses. They are both transitive and intransitive.

Examples:

Watal	to go out
Khatal	to get on something
Nkhatal	to get stuck
Niwal	To catch
Pezhandal	To recognize
Shuwal	to teach
wishtal	to shoot
awredal	to hear
GuShtal	to want
Prānistal	to open

- a. Present Tense

In Pashto language, the Present Tense of the verb is made (from the infinitive) in the following manner. The verb used is **LIKAL**, which mean to write.

Pronoun	Stem of the verb	+	FULL SENTENCE
ZA	LIK	AM	ZA LIKAM.
TA	LIK	E	TA LIKE
HAGHA (Masc. & Fem.)	LIK	I	HAGHA LIKI.
DAI	LIK	I	DAY LIKI.
DA	LIK	I	DAA LIKI.
HAGHUI/DUI	LIK	I	HAGHUI LIKI.
TASE	LIK	AI(ST)	TASE LIKIY.
MUZH	LIK	U	MUZH LIKU.

Negative of the Pashto sentence is made by putting /nah/ just after the subject; while **interrogative** mode of the sentence is just the same as positive with a little more stress on the verb at the end. *Examples :*

ZA NAH LIKAM.
TA NAH LIKAY.
MUZH NAH LIKU.

*Note: Simple present tense in Pashto is equivalent to both **present indefinite** and **present continuous tenses** in English, hence the sentence*

ZA DZAM (means both) **I go** and **I am going**.

To Go (TLAL) in present tense

Za dzam.	I go. I am going.
Ta dzay.	You go. You are going.
Haghah dzi.	He goes. He is going.
Dai dzi.	He goes. He is going.
Hagha dzi.	She goes. She is going.

Da dzi.	She goes. She is going.
Haghui dzi.	They go. They are going.
Dui dzi.	They go. They are going.
Tasi dzai-(ast).	You (plural) go. You (plural) are going.
Muzh dzu.	We go. We are going.

b. Present Perfect Tense
Verbs table 'Infinitives'

5		4		3		2		1
Tran(active)	Tran(passive)	Tran(active)	Tran(passive)	Irregular tran	Irregular int	Regular tran	Regular int	Regular tran
پخلا کول	پخلا کېدل	خورول	خورېدل	نیول	الوتل	غورول	غورېدل	نړل
خپه کول	خپه کېدل	خښول	خښېدل	موندل	وتل	رپول	رپېدل	گنډل
لاهو کول	لاهو کېدل	ټولول	ټولېدل	اغوستل	ختل	غړول	غړېدل	ځنډل
شاته کول	شاته کېدل	روانول	روانېدل	لیدل	کښیناستل	شلول	شلېدل	اچول
ښایسته کول	ښایسته کېدل	زیاتول	زیاتېدل	اوریدل	تلل	لگول	لگېدل	استول
بیرته کول	بیرته کېدل	ژوبلول	ژوبلېدل	اغوستل	ځملاستل	چغول	چغېدل	پلټل
ساهو کول	ساهو کېدل	وچول	وچېدل	خورل	رغښتل	لمبول	لمبېدل	سپارل
ویده کول	ویده کېدل	پاکول	پاکېدل	پرانیستل	اوبښتل	نړول	نړېدل	منل
واده کول	واده کېدل	پټول	پټېدل	لوستل	نښتلی	دارول	دارېدل	زغمل
ټپي کول	ټپي کېدل	کوزول	کوزېدل	کتل	راتلل	خندول	خندېدل	ورل

c. Present Perfect Tense Rules

For the first 3 set of verbs in the above table, the rules for forming the present perfect tense are alike. They are as follows.

Sentence Structure: Subject + (object) + Infinitive (+ai) + helping verb (to be). e.g.

He has read the book.

Hagha kitab lwastai dai.

I have seen him.

ma haghah (dai) lidalai dai.

I have not been to Kabul.

Zah Kabal tah nah yam tlalai yam.

Have you bought the car?

(Aya) tasi motor akhistai dai?
(tasi motor akhistai dai ka tsangah)

3. Intransitive verbs:
 a. Subjective case is used for the subject.
 b. The verb and helping verb agree with the subject.

Examples:

۱. زه وتلی یم .
۲. ته وتلی یی .
۳. هغه وتلی دی .
۴. هغه وتلی ده .
۵. هغوي وتلي دي .
۶. مور وتلي يو .
۷. تاسې وتلي یی .

Note if the person in 1st and 2nd person happens to be feminine then the sentences would be like.

۱. زه وتلی یم .
۲. ته وتلی یی .

4. Transitive verbs:
 a. Objective case is used for the subject.
 b. Subjective case is used for the direct object (if there is any).
 c. The verb and helping verb agree with the object (if there is any).

Examples:

۱. ما لیک استولی دی .
۲. ما ډالی استولی ده .
۳. ما لیکونه استولي دي .
۴. تا زه نیولی یم .
۵. هغې ته نیولی یی .
۶. تا هغه (انور) نیولی دی .
۷. تا هغه (پلوشه) نیولی ده .

Also تا دی

And

Negative sentences:

Examples:

۱. دېوال نه دی نړېدلی .
۲. دېوال نړېدلی نه دی .
۳. ما ډوډی نه ده خوړلې .
۴. ما ډوډی خوړلې نه ده .
۵. جان خپه شوی نه دی .
۶. ما کور وران کړی نه دی .

- B. Simple Past Tense of verb
 1. Pashto intransitive verbs

Pronoun	<i>Past tense of verb</i>	<i>English</i>
Za	Laram.	I went.
Ta	Laaray.	You went.
Haghah/Dai	Larai.	He went.
Haghah/Da	Larah.	She went.
Haghui	Laru.	They went.
Tasi	Larai.(st)	You(plural) went.
Muzh	Laru.	We went.

Make sentences using the following verbs:
 tsamlastal (to sleep); kenastal (to sit); ratlal (to come)

2. Pashto transitive verb
 a. The past tense of transitive verbs are made by adding the prefix /WA/ with the stem of the verbs.
Example: Aghustal (to wear)

<i>Pronoun</i>	<i>Past tense of verb</i>	<i>English</i>
Ma	Waghust.	I wore.
Ta	Waghust.	You wore.
Hagha	Waghust	He wore.
Haghay	Waghust	She wore.
Haghui	Waghust.	They wore.
Tasi	Waghust	You wore.
Muzh	Waghust	We wore.

Note: in transitive verbs the objective case of the pronoun is used (as subject).

- b. All other verbs which are made by adding *kawal* with nouns are described as follows in the past tense.
Example. Kar kawal (to work); lawast kawal (to study)

<i>Pronoun</i>	<i>Past tense of verb</i>	<i>English</i>
Ma	Kar wakar	I worked.
Ta	Kar wakar	You worked.
Hagha	Kar wakar	He worked.
Haghay	Kar wakar	She worked.
Haghui	Kar wakar	They worked.
Tasi	Kar wakar	You worked.
Muzh	Kar wakar	We worked.

- c. All other verbs which are made by adding, **kedal** with the nouns are made past in the following way.

Example: Uдах kedal (to sleep); khaphah kedal (to be angry); portah kedal (to get up, take off, wake up).

Pronoun	Past tense of verb	English
Za	Uдах shwum.	I slept.
Ta	Uдах shwe.	You
Hagha	Uдах Shu.	He slept.
Hagha	Uдах shwah.	She slept.
Haghui/Dui	Uдах Shu.	They slept.
Tasi	Uдах shwai(st).	You (p) slept.
Muzh	Uдах Shu	We slept.

2. Transitive Verb

- Subjective case for object
- Verb agrees with objects
- Rules:
 - When the object is masculine singular or plural, it ends with the auxiliary (و)
 - When the object is singular feminine, it takes the auxiliary (ه),
 - When the object is feminine plural they take the auxiliary (ي) at the end of the sentence.

ما سپی وترلو
 ما سپی وترلو
 ما سپی وترله
 ما سپی وترلی
 ما غوا وترله
 ما غواگانی وترلی
 هغه اس وترلو

C. Past Perfect Tense

5		4		3		2		1
Tran(active)	Tran(passive)	Tran (active)	Tran (passive)	Irregular tran	Irregular int	Regular tran	Regular int	Regular tran
پخلا کول	پخلا کېدل	خوړول	خوړېدل	نیول	الوتل	غورول	غورېدل	تړل
خپه کول	خپه کېدل	خښول	خښېدل	موندل	وتل	رپول	رپېدل	گنډل
لاهو کول	لاهو کېدل	ټولول	ټولېدل	اغوستل	ختل	غړول	غړېدل	ځنډل
شاته کول	شاته کېدل	روانول	روانېدل	لیدل	کښیناستل	شلول	شلېدل	اچول
ښایسته کول	ښایسته کېدل	زیاتول	زیاتېدل	اورېدل	تلل	لگول	لگېدل	استول
بیرته کول	بیرته کېدل	ژوبلول	ژوبلېدل	اغوستل	ځملاستل	چغول	چغېدل	پلټل
ساهو کول	ساهو کېدل	وچول	وچېدل	خوړل	رغښتل	لمبول	لمبېدل	سپارل
ویده کول	ویده کېدل	پاکول	پاکېدل	پرانېستل	اوښتل	نړول	نړېدل	منل
واده کول	واده کېدل	پټول	پټېدل	لوستل	نښتل	ډارول	ډارېدل	زغمل
ټپي کول	ټپي کېدل	کوزول	کوزېدل	کتل	راتلل	خندول	خندېدل	وړل

For the first 3 set of verbs in the above table the rules for forming the present perfect tense are alike. They are as follows.

Sentence Structure: Subject + (object) + Infinitive (+ay) + helping verb(to be). e.g

هغه وتلی و. (هغه وتلی و)

1. Intransitive verbs:

- Subjective case is used for the subject.
- The verb and helping verb agree with the subject.

Examples:

۱. زه وتلی وم.
۲. ته وتلی وې.
۳. هغه وتلی و.
۴. هغه وتلې وه.
۵. هغوي وتلي وو.
۶. مور وتلي وو.
۷. تاسې وتلي وئ.

Note if the person in 1st and 2nd person happens to be feminine then the sentences would be like.

۱. زه وتلې وم.
۲. ته وتلې وې.

2. Transitive verbs:

- Objective case is used for the subject.
- Subjective case is used for the direct object (if there is any).

- c. The verb and helping verb agree with the object (if there is any).

Examples:

۱. ما ليک استولی و .
۲. ما ډالی استولی وه .
۳. ما ليکونه استولی وو .
۴. تا زه نيولی وم .
۵. هغې ته نيولی وې .
۶. تا هغه (انور) نيولی و .
- نيولی و .
۷. تا هغه (پلوشه) نيولی وه .
- تا دا نيولی ده .
۸. تا هغوي نيولی وو .
۹. تا مور نيولی وو .
۱۰. هغې تاسې نيولی وى .

Also تا دی

And

3. Rules for verbs in set 4 and set 5: Set 4 and 5 have the same kind of verbs. They have been made verbs by putting either KAWAL or KEDAL with nouns/adjectives. (KAWAL means 'to do' and KEDAL means 'to happen' that is to say verbs with KAWAL are active verbs and verbs with KEDAL are passive verbs). Set 4 is different than set 5 only in that these verbs have been made by joining together a noun or adjective and KAWAL and KEDAL respectively.

Examples:

خور کيدل = خوريدل
زيات کول = زياتول

- a. Rules for verbs with KEDAL (کیدل):

- (1) Sentence structure:

Subject + noun/adjective+shaway+helping verb (to be).

هغه ويده شوی و .

- (2) Subjective case is used.

- (3) Verb and helping verb agree with the subject.

Examples:

۱. زه ويده شوی وم .
۲. ته ويده شوی وې .
۳. هغه (کريس) ويده شوی و .
۴. هغه (هيلن) ويده شوې وه .
۵. هغوي ويده شوي وو .
۶. مور ويده شوي وو .
۷. تاسې ويده شوي وى .

- b. Rules for verbs with KAWAL: (کول)

- (1) Sentence structure.

Subject + noun/adjective + kar*ay + helping verb (to be).

Example: (the infinitive used is /Pakawal/)

هغه پاک کړی و .

- (2) Objective case is used for the subject.
- (3) Subjective case is used for the object (direct).
- (4) The verb and helping verb agree with the object (direct).

Examples:

۱. تا زه خور کړی وم .
۲. ما ته خور کړی وې .
۳. تا هغه (سليم) خپه کړی و .
۴. تا هغه (گلالي) خپه کړې وه .
۵. تا هغوي (سليم او گلالي) خپه کړي وو .
۶. تا مور خپه کړي وو .
۷. ما تاسې خپه کړي وی .
۹. هغې خپله کوټه پاکه کړې وه .
۱۰. غل کتابونه پت کړي وو .

- (5) Negative sentences:

Examples:

۱. دېوال نه و نړېدلی .
۲. دېوال نړېدلی نه و .
۳. ما ډوډی نه وه خوړلې .
۴. ما ډوډی خوړلې نه وه .
۵. جان خپه شوی نه و .

Past perfect

ما لېک استولی
 مړېم لېک استولی و
 ډېوډ لیک استولی و
 مورلیک استولی و
 هغوي لیک استولی و
 تعمیر نړیدلی و

Present perfect

ما لېک استولی دی
 و
 مړېم لېک استولی دی
 ډېوډ لیک استولی دی
 مور لیک استولی دی
 هغوي لیک استولی دی
 تعمیر نړیدلی دی

- (6) Changes in auxiliary verbs from present perfect into past perfect are as follows.

يم	Into	وم
يې	Into	وې
دی	Into	و
ده	Into	وه
دي	Into	وو
يو	Into	وو
یې	into	وی

D. Future Tense

1. *To be* in future tense

1.زه به ويده يم -
2.ته به ناست يي -
3.هغه به ناروغه وي -
4.پيشوبه سپينه وي -
5.لالا به خپه وي -
6.څوكى به نوې وي -
7.خولى به زړه وي -
8.تعميربه لوړ وي -
9.كتابونه به گران وي -
10.لوست به اسان وي -
11.الوتكه به پورته وي -

2. *To be* in present, past and future tenses

Present	Past	Future
ZA STARAI YAM. زه ستړی يم -	ZA STARAI WAM. زه ستړی وم -	ZA BA STARAI YAM. زه به ستړی يم -
TA STARAI YE. ته ستړی يې -	TA STARAI WAY. ته ستړی وې -	TA BA STARAI YE. ته به ستړی يې -
HAGHA STARAI DAY. هغه ستړی دی -	HAGHA STARAI WO. هغه ستړی و -	HAGHA BA STARAI WI. هغه به ستړی وي -
HAGHA STARE DA. هغه ستړی ده -	HAGHA STARE WA. هغه ستړی وه -	HAGHA BA STARE WI. هغه به ستړی وي -
HAGHUI STARI DI. هغوی ستړی دي -	HAGHUI STARI WU. هغوی ستړی وو -	HAGHUI BA STARI WI. هغوی به ستړی وي -
MUZH STARI YU. مور ستړی يو -	MUZH STARI WU. مور ستړی وو -	MUZH BA STARI YU. مور به ستړی يو -
TASE STARI YAI. تاسې ستړی يې -	TASE STARI WAI. تاسې ستړی وې -	TASE BA STARI YAI. تاسې به ستړی يې -
MEZ ZARGHUN DAI. میز زرغون دی -	MEZ ZARGHUN WU. میز زرغون و -	MEZ BA ZARGHUN WI. میز به زرغون وي -

E. Imperatives in Pashto

1. Imperatives are commands given to another person or persons. Imperatives can be obtained by using the verb as an implied sentence which gives full sense of meaning. In Pashto, there are two main types of commands:
 - a. Instant command: This command is used to do an action on the moment for one time: Do it now.
 - b. Habitual command: This command is given to keep the continuity of action: Keep it doing.
2. Rules for obtaining imperatives
 - a. Regular transitive verbs follow a uniform pattern. When the command is intended for a singular person **و** is placed before the verb and the end **ل** is replaced with **ه**
 - b. When the command is intended for more than one person **و** is placed before the verb and **ی** replaces the end **ل** of the infinitives.
 - c. The verb ending with **دل** will be replaced with **ړه** for singular and **ړی** for plural command: *Examples:*

وترئ	وتره	د ترل نه
وگنډئ	وگنډه	د گنډل نه
واچوئ	واچوه	د اچول نه
واستوئ	واستوه	د استول نه
وپلټوئ	وپلټه	د پلټل نه
وسپارئ	وسپاره	د سپارل نه
ومنئ	ومنه	د منل نه
وزغمئ	وزغمه	د زغمل نه

IX. Dialogues

A. Disarm and Search

Written Dialogue 1 (English): A soldier encounters a man carrying a gun. The soldier controls the situation.

Soldier: Stop!

Stop or I will shoot! (*The gunman stops*)

Do not move! Do not raise your weapon!

Put your weapon down! Surrender!

Hands up! Turn around!

Come here! Walk forward!

Stop! Stay there!

(When the soldier is satisfied that it is safe to approach the gunman)

We must search you.

Hands down

Written Dialogue 1 (Pashto): A soldier encounters a man carrying a gun. The soldier controls the situation.

Soldier: drezh!

drezh, kane za daz kawam! *(The gunman stops)*

ma shora! khpala wasla ma porta kawa!

khpala wasla waachawa! taslim!

laasuna porta kra! shaa gardz!

dalta raasa! wraande raasa!

drezh! daghalta wadarezha!

(When the soldier is satisfied that it is safe to approach the gunman)

muzh taa talaashi kawu.

laasuna kshata kra.

1. Vocabulary and Grammar

a. Vocabulary

dushman	<i>enemy</i>
wraande	<i>forward</i>
porta	<i>up</i>
kShata/ Khakta	<i>down</i>
tol	<i>all</i>
Zhar!	<i>quick!</i>

b. Imperative in Pashto: Rules for forming imperatives are as follows:

(1) For singular you: **wa**+root of the verb+**a**

Example

wa+darezh+a **wadarezha**

The infinitive is **daredal** meaning to *stand up* or to *stop*

wa+achaw+a **waachawa**

The infinitive is **achawal** which means to *put down*

(2) For plural you: **wa**+root of the verb+**ai**

Example

wa+darezh+ai **wadarezhai**

wa+achaw+ai **waachawai**

(3) Those verbs which are made of two segments do not take the imperative marker **wa-** ist segment+root of the verb+**a/ai**

Example

raa+s+a **raa+s+ai** *come*

Please note that the infinitive is **raatlal**(*to come*), a combination of the directive pronoun **raa** (*to me/us*) and **tlal** (*to go*). In this case **raa** replaces **wa-** .

(4) Those verbs which are made by the combination of an adjective/noun and the verb **kawal** (*to do*) are formed in the following manner

i. Positive command

adjective/noun + kr+a (s)

adjective/noun +kr+ai (p)

Example

(laasuna) porta kra *raise (your) hands(s)*

(laasuna) porta krai *raise (your) hands(p)*

(laasuna) kshata kra *lower (your) hands*

(laasuna) kshata krai *lower (your) hands*

ii. Negative commands

ma +adjective + **kaw+a**

ma +adjective + **kaw+ai**

Example

(wasla) ma porta kawa *do not raise (your) weapon(s)*

(wasle) ma porta kawai *do not raise (your) weapons(p)*

Please note that **ma** is equivalent of the English *do not* and it replaces **wa** in imperatives.

Examples

wa+shor+a	washora	<i>move</i>
ma shora		<i>do not move</i>

(5) When **kawal** is used as an independent verb then the imperative is formed in the following manner

i. Positive commands

object + **wa+kr+a** (s)

object + **wa+kr+ai** (p)

Examples

daz wakra	daz wakrai	<i>fire!</i>
prot wakra	prot wakrai	<i>lie down!</i>

Please note that **prot** is a noun meaning *the state of lying down*.

ii. Negative commands

object + **ma** + **kaw+a**

object + **ma** + **kaw+ai**

Examples

daz ma kawa	daz ma kawai	<i>do not fire!</i>
prot ma kawa	prot ma kawai	<i>do not lie down!</i>

c. Vocabulary notes

laasuna

hands. This is plural of **laas** following a regular pattern of making plural.

drezh!

stop. According to the rules we should have **wadarezha** for *stop*, but in spoken Pashto **drezh** is used as a sign of warning, especially by military.

kane

otherwise. The word is a short form of **ka na wi**, meaning *if not*.

Daz

fire (noun), a shot. The word is onomatopoeic i.e. it directly imitates the sound made when firing and because it is a noun and roughly corresponds to *a shot/one shot* in English that's why **kawal** (*to do*) is used before it to make it a verb.

kawam

I am doing/ I will do.

sama (khabara) da

it (this thing) is alright.

khpala

your. This is feminine of **khpal**. This word always points to the subject and the subject in this case is 2nd person. Here it agrees with **wasla**, *weapon*.

taslim!	<i>surrender!</i> . The word is a noun which means <i>the state of surrender</i> , but when it is said in a warning tone it has this meaning. The full expression is taslim sa! Or taslim sai! sa or sai mean <i>be</i> , in other words it is imperative from the verb kedal .
shaa gradz!	<i>turn around!</i> , similarly we have warning in short form for turn around in this expression, wherein shaa is short for pa shaa meaning <i>on back</i> and gardz is short for wa+gardz+a (wagardza or wagardzai) meaning <i>turn!</i> Please note that the infinitive of the verb is gardzedal which has two meanings, 1 <i>to walk</i> and 2 <i>to turn (around)</i> .
daghalta	<i>there</i> . This verb points to a particular place. The expression daghalta wadarezha means <i>stay there (where you are)</i> .
chup!	<i>quiet!, silent!</i> . This is again short for chup sa/sai .
pa lor	<i>in the direction of</i> . It literally means <i>on the direction of</i> zmaa pa lor <i>in my direction, towards me</i>
khpal	<i>kin, relative</i> . za khpal yam means that <i>I am one among you, I am not enemy</i> .
waayai	<i>you say</i> . Its infinitive is <i>waayal</i> , hence the present form for 2 nd person plural is <u>stem+ai</u> waay+ai .
pa waar yao	<i>one at a time</i> . Literally it means <i>on turn one, or one on (his) turn</i> .
darwadzu	<i>we are coming out</i> . The verb is a combination of two segments, the directive pronoun dar meaning <i>to you</i> or <i>towards you</i> and watal meaning <i>to go out</i> .
manam	<i>I obey, I agree</i> . Its infinitive is manal .
porta!	<i>up!</i> . This is short from porta sa/sai , <i>be up!</i>
dza!	<i>go!</i> . Its infinitive is tlal .

dardzam

i am coming (towards you). Its infinitive is **dartlal** which is a combination of the directive pronoun **dar** and **tlal** which means *to go*.

d. Selected phrases
sama da

alright. **sama** is feminine of **sam** and it means *right, correct.* **da** has been used because **khabara** is implied.

talaashi kawu

we are searching or we will search. The infinitive is **talashi kawal** meaning *to do (carry out) a search.*

muzh taslim yu

we surrender. Literally the expression means *we are in state of giving ourselves up.*

taase che tsa waayai

whatever you say, Literally this expression means, *you(p) that what(ever) say, whatever that you say.*

laas ma warwra!

do not touch. The infinitive is **laas warwral**, *to touch something.* **warwral** is the combination of the directive pronoun **war** meaning *in the direction of a third person or place or thing* and **wral** meaning *to carry.* So literally the sentence **khpale wasle t' laas ma warwra** means, *do not carry hands towards your weapon.*

B. Stopping & Searching a Vehicle

Written Dialogue 2 (English)

Soldier: (Appropriate Greeting)

Local: (Appropriate Greeting)

Soldier: Is this your lorry?

Local: Yes, it is.

Soldier: This is a busy junction. You cannot leave it here. You must move it.

Local: I cannot move it. I am waiting for my brother. He is bringing fuel.

Soldier: Where is your brother?

Local: Gone to the petrol station. I have run out of fuel.

Soldier: You must get the lorry off the road.

Local: Where?

Soldier: Over there (*he points*). Off the road.

Local: Yes, okay.

Soldier: Great! Thank you for your help. Goodbye.

Local: Goodbye.

Written Dialogue 2 (Pashto)

Soldier: salaamu alaikum.

Local: walaikum salaam.

Soldier: daa staa laarai da?

Local: ho, zmaa da.

Soldier: pa de duraahi ke berobaar day. ta daa dalta na se preshodalay. daa lare kra.

Local: za na sam lare kawalay. daa kharaaba da.

Soldier: sha... ka ta daa na lare kawe, no za ba ye lare kram.

Local: sha.... chere?
 Soldier: halta.
 Local: chere?
 Soldier: halta (*he points*). d' sarak sara.
 Local: ho, za daa kawalay sam.
 Soldier: der sha! staa d' mraste dera manna. d' khuday pa amaan
 Local: d' khuday pa amaan

1. Vocabulary notes

duraahi	<i>junction</i>
berobaar	<i>hustle and bustle.</i> This word is a noun and does not have an exact equivalent in English. It describes the state of being busy.
preshodalay	<i>(can) leave.</i> (preshodal+ay). In spoken Pashto however the middle -al are usually dropped.
lare kra	<i>move, remove.</i> This is the imperative form of lare kawal which literally means to take/carry something away/far.
darawalay	<i>(can) stop, park</i>
panchar	<i>punctured, flat</i>
tela kawalay	<i>(can) push</i>
intezaar kawam	<i>(am) waiting</i>
raawri	<i>(is) bringing.</i> The infinitive of the verb is raa+wral, raa (to me/us) is the directive pronoun and wral means to carry.
d' telo tank	<i>petrol (oil) station.</i> taank has come to Pashto from the English word tank.
khlaas sawi di	<i>(have) finished.</i> This is the present perfect form of the verb khlaasedal (synthesis of khlaas kedal). In the present (and past) perfect tenses kedal changes into saway, sawe and sawi depending on the object.
hoka	<i>okay</i>

C. Conducting a house search
Written Dialogue 3 (English)

Soldier: (Soft knock)

Householder: Who are you?

Soldier: British Army. Please can you open the door?

Householder: What do you want?

Soldier: Please, we want to search your house.

Householder: Why?

Soldier: This is a routine search. We are looking for illegal weapons.

Householder: You can come in but there is nothing here.

Soldier: Can you bring together all the occupants of the house in one room?

Householder: My father is sick. I do not want to upset him.

Soldier: We will try not to inconvenience anyone. What is behind this door?

Householder: The kitchen.

Soldier: It is locked. Can you open it?

Householder: Do you want to see every room?

Soldier: Yes, we must search every room. We must now search upstairs. What is above here?

Householder: That is the roof. You must go outside and climb up the steps behind the house to get onto the roof.

Soldier: Do you have a cellar?

Householder: There is a small larder under the house. You must go through here and turn left. At the front of the house there are some steps which lead down to the larder.

Soldier: The search is over thank you for your cooperation.

Written Dialogue 3 (Pashto)

- Householder: taase tsaok yaast?
- Soldier: Mozh Britanawi askar yu. lutfan taase war khlaasawalay sai?
- Householder: taase tsa ghwaarai?
- Soldier: lutfan muzh danana dar-tlay su, ao staase d' kor talaashi kawalay su?
- Householder: wale?
- Soldier: daa d' maamul talaashi da. muzh gher qaanuni wasle latawu.
- Householder: taase raatlay sai kho dalta hits nasta.
- Soldier: ta kawalay se d' kor tol kasaan yawe khune ta bodze?
- Householder: zmaa plaar naajora day. za na ghwaaram hagma pareshaan kram.
- Soldier: muzh ba hatsa wakru, hichaa t' zahmat war na kru. d' de darwaaze tar sha tsa di?
- Householder: daa ashpazkhaana.
- Soldier: daa qulf da. ta kawalay se khlaasa ye kre?
- Householder: taase hara khuna gorai?
- Soldier: ho, muzh baayad hara khuna wagoru. muzh us baayad baalaakhaana wagoru. dalta paas tsa di?
- Householder: daa baam day. taase baayad de baande wlaar sai ao d' kor tar shaa pa zina baam t' wakhezhai.
- Soldier: taase zezamini larai?
- Householder: tar kor laande yawa wara zezamini sta. taase baayad dalta warsai ao chap laas t' wagarzai. d' kor tar makh yao tso zinay di, pa haghui taase zezamini ta talay sai.
- Soldier: talaashi tarsara swa, staa d' mraste dera manana

1. Vocabulary and grammar

a. Vocabulary

war	<i>door</i>
danana	<i>inside</i>
talaashi	<i>search (noun)</i>
wale?	<i>why?</i>
ma'mul	<i>routine(noun)</i>
zahmat	<i>trouble</i>
budai	<i>old (f)</i>
hatsa	<i>try (noun)</i>
baalaakhaana	<i>upper storey/upstairs</i>
baam	<i>roof</i>
gudaam	<i>storeroom</i>
zina	<i>steps</i>
zerzamini	<i>cellar,larder</i>
wara	<i>small (f)</i>
hara	<i>every</i>
chap	<i>left</i>
shi	<i>right</i>

b. Prepositions

tar makh	<i>in front of</i>
tar shaa	<i>behind</i>
paas	<i>up, above, upstairs</i>
tar tsang	<i>beside</i>

c. Vocabulary notes

ghwaarai	<i>you (p) want, from ghushtal</i>
dartlay	<i>(can) come, from dartlal which means <i>to come to you(i.e. in your direction)</i>,the word is combination of the directive pronoun dar meaning <i>to you, in your direction</i> and Tlal meaning <i>to go (dartlal)</i>. According to the rule it should have been dartlalay (dartlal+ay), but in spoken Pashto the middle al is dropped.</i>
kawalay	<i>to do, from kawal (kawal+ay)</i>
da	<i>is. It agrees with talaashi which is feminine</i>
gher-qaanuni	<i>illegal, the prefix gher makes the word opposite,</i>
qaanuni	<i>legal, the word is adjective from qaanun which means <i>law</i></i>
nashayi toki	<i>drugs. The phrasal noun literally means <i>intoxicating rial.</i></i>

wasle	<i>weapons</i> . This is plural of wasla . Note: wasla can also be used as plural
latawu	<i>we are searching (looking for)</i> , from latawal lataw+u (we are looking for)
raatlay	<i>come(you can)</i> , the word is combination of directive pronoun raa meaning <i>to us, in our direction</i> and tlal meaning <i>to go</i> . Grammatically the word should be raatlalay , but again as in the case of dartlay , in spoken Pashto al is dropped
hits nasta	<i>there is nothing</i> . Literally the sentence means <i>there is not anything</i> .
hits	<i>anything</i> ,
nasta	<i>there is not</i> , nasta is negative from sta which means <i>there is</i> . It is also used for plural, so it also means <i>there are</i>
ba paida na krai	<i>(you) will not find</i> . The infinitive of this verb phrase is paida kawal .
kawalay se?	<i>can you do?</i>
yawe	<i>one</i> , prepositional case of yawa
khune	<i>room</i> , prepositional case of khuna
d' khob khune	<i>bedroom</i> . This phrasal noun literally means, <i>of sleep room</i> .
bodze	<i>you(s) take</i> , from botlal meaning <i>to take someone somewhere</i>
yao dzay krai	<i>(you) collect, bring together</i> . The infinitive of this verbal phrase is yao dzay kawal , <i>to bring to one place</i> .
naajora	<i>ill</i> . The negative prefix naa causes the word to end in -a .
na ghwaaram	<i>I don't want</i> , from verb <i>ghushtal</i> (irregular in present tense) ghwaar+am
pareshaan	<i>upset (adj)</i>
kram	<i>i do</i> , present from kawal, kr+am

ye	<i>weak pronoun for him.</i> Note: ye is a weak pronoun for both, objective and possessive cases. <i>Examples:</i> pareshaan ye kram I do/make him upset. daa ye kitaab day. This is his book.(this sentence implies that we know him already)
hichaa t'	<i>to anyone</i>
hitchoo	<i>no one.</i> The word is the short form of hits-choo please note that this is the object case of hits-tsok . Both the above words are only used in negative sentences, so together with a negative marker/word they mean <i>no one</i> . E.g. <i>dalta hits-tsok nasta</i> <i>There is no one here.</i>
war na kru	negative of warkru which means <i>we give</i> from warkawal . Note: <i>na</i> is always put in the middle of any verb which has two parts. In all instances where wa marker is used the verb naturally gets split into two segments.
de	prepositional case of daa meaning <i>this</i>
darwaaze	<i>door</i> , prepositional case of darwaaza
tar sha	<i>behind</i>
ashpazkhaana	<i>kitchen</i> , Persian compound word meaning <i>cooking place</i>
qulf	<i>locked.</i> The word is also a noun meaning <i>lock</i>
gorai	<i>(you) are looking/seeing/searching.</i>
wakhezhai	<i>climb.</i> This is plural imperative from khatal .
shi	<i>right.</i> This is the prepositional of shay .
tlay sai	<i>(you p) can go (down).</i>
tarsara swa	<i>ended, came to an end.</i> This is the past of tarsara kedat . tarsara is adjective which means <i>complete</i> and swa is past from kedat and its -a ending suggests that the object is feminine singular i.e. talaashi .

d. Grammar points

(1) Difference between **day**, **da**, **di** etc (to be in present) and **sta**:

- i. **sta** is used for all persons
- ii. **sta** gives information about the existence of something
Compare the following sentences.

pa kote ke tsa di?

What is (are) there in the room?

pa kote ke mez day.

There is a table in the room.

pa kote ke tsa sta?

Is there anything in the room?(does there exist?)

ho, pa kote ke mez sta.

Yes, there is a table in the room.

pa kote ke mez sta?

Is there a (any) table in the room?

ho, pa kote ke mez sta.

Yes there is a table in the room.

pa kote ke mez day?

Is the thing in the room is a table?

ho, pa kote ke mez day.

Yes, the thing in the room is a table?

- iii. **sta** is also used as an alternative for possessive verb **laral**, to have.

Examples

za pese laram.

I have money.

zmaa sara pese sta.

There is money with me.

Now pay attention to the following sentences.

staa sara tsa di?

What is there with you? (What do you have?)

staa sara tsa sta?

Is there anything with you? (Do you have anything?)

Note: in the first sentence the one who asks is sure that the other person has got something, but he does not know what the particular thing is, while in the latter sentence he is not sure whether the other person has got anything at all, i.e. once the existence of something is established, then we use **day** (and of course **da** and **di**), but before that we use **sta** and **nasta**, hence we can say that **sta** gives information about the existence of something, that is to say it answers the question, *does it exist?* rather than *what is it?*

- (2) Forming interrogative model auxiliary in another way:
- i. **kawalay se che da kor tol kasaan yawe khune ta bodze.**
Can you that you take all people to one room? (literal)
 This is another way of forming model auxiliary 'can' in interrogative sentences.
 - ii. We start with **kawalay se che** (for you s) and **kawalay sai** (for you p) which means *can you do that*, and the second clause of the sentence follows the rules of the simple present tense.

Hence we get **bodz+e** from **botlal** i.e. the present stem of the verb+e (for you s)

- iii. Selected phrases

khlaasawalay sai	<i>you(p) can open</i> infinitive+ay sai (you,plural) khlaasawal+ay sai
che pareshaan ye kram	<i>that i upset him, literally</i> <i>that i do (make) him upset</i>
muzh ba hatsa wakru	<i>we will try, literally we</i> <i>will do try</i>
kawalay se che khlaasa ye kre	<i>can you open it? literally</i> <i>can you do that you open</i> <i>it?. This is again another</i> <i>way of saying ta daa</i> khlaasawalay se?

D. Accepting or Rejecting Hospitality

Written Dialogue 4 (English): A foreigner is invited to take tea by a local.

- Local: salaam alaikom
- Soldier: walaikom salaam
- Local: How are you?
- Soldier: I am fine thanks.
- Local: You must be tired, what would you say to a cup of tea?
- Soldier: That would be great.
- Local: Take a seat please. Here you are (*gives him a cup of tea*)

Soldier: Thank you. (*takes tea*). It was very nice. I must go now on patrol.

Local: Thank you very much (for your time).

Soldier: My pleasure. Good bye.

Written Dialogue 4 (Pashto): A foreigner is invited to take tea by a local.

Local: salaam alaikom

Soldier: walaikom salaam

Local: taase tsanga yaast?

Soldier: sha yam, manana.

Local: taase ba stari yaast, yawa pyaala chay ba tsanga wi?

Soldier: der ba sha wi.

Local: lutfan kshenai. daa waakhlai. (gives tea)

Soldier: manana. (takes tea) . der khwandawar wo. za baayad us pa gadzame wlaar sam.

Local: staase dera manana.

Soldier: pa stargo. d' khuday pa amaan.

1. Vocabulary and grammar

a. Future tense of to be

za ba yam	<i>I will be</i>
taase ba yaast	<i>you will be</i>
hagha ba wi	<i>he/she will be</i>
haghui ba wi	<i>they will be</i>
muzh ba yu	<i>we will be</i>

b. Vocabulary

stari	<i>tired</i> . This is the plural of staray , and has been used because of the formal 2 nd person plural.
--------------	---

pyaala	<i>cup</i>
---------------	------------

chay	<i>tea</i>
-------------	------------

yawa pyaala chay ba tsanga	<i>what would you say to a cup of tea?</i>
wi?	Literally, this sentence means, <i>one cup of tea how will be?</i>
der ba sha wi	<i>(it) will be very good.</i> Please note that the pronoun is dropped in answers because it can be predicated from the verb.
walay na	<i>why not?</i>
akhli	<i>(it) takes.</i> The imperative is akhistal .
daa der wakht na akhli	<i>it does not take a lot of time.</i>
biaa cherta	<i>next time, someone else.</i> The phrase, when broken down, means <i>again sometimes</i> .
zhmana	<i>promise</i>
kshenai	<i>sit down.</i> This is imperative (kshen+ai) of the compound verb kshenaastal (kshe+naastal). Please note that compound verbs do not take the imperative marker wa .
waakhlai	<i>take, wa+akhl+ai</i> , it is imperative plural from the infinitive akhistal .
ts-shi	<i>he takes</i> , from ts-shal . Please note that because of the difficulty in pronunciation of this unusual consonant cluster, some people may pronounce this word as chal .
khwandawar	<i>nice, tasty, palatable</i>
gadzame	<i>patrol.</i> This is prepositional case of gadzama .
stargo	<i>eyes.</i> This is prepositional plural of starga .
pa stargo	<i>pleasure.</i> This idiomatic expression literally means <i>on (my) eyes</i> .

X. Additional Vocabulary

A. Military Ranks

In our texts to date we have had some army ranks. A fuller list would include:

parak mashar	<i>lance-corporal</i>
ma'awen sar parak mashar	<i>corporal. Literally: deputy-sergeant</i>
sar parak mashar	<i>sergeant. The word sar means head.</i>
sar parak mashar maktabi	<i>staff-sergeant</i>
dwayam bridman	<i>second lieutenant</i>
lumray bridman	<i>first lieutenant</i>
toran	<i>captain</i>
jagran	<i>major</i>
dagarman	<i>lieutenant-colonel</i>
dagarwal	<i>colonel</i>
brid general	<i>brigadier</i>
general	<i>general</i>

B. Parts of the body

Laas	<i>Hand</i>
Gwata	<i>Finger</i>
Mat	<i>Upper arm</i>
Mangwal	<i>Palm</i>
Sar	<i>Head</i>
weshta	<i>Hair</i>
Makh	<i>Face</i>
Starga	<i>Eye</i>
Poza	<i>Nose</i>
Khwula	<i>Mouth</i>
Ghwazh	<i>Ear</i>
Maray (Ghaara)	<i>Throat</i>
Tsat	<i>Neck</i>
Zhaba	<i>Tongue</i>
Psha	<i>Leg</i>
Kheta	<i>Belly</i>
Mlaa	<i>Loin (Back)</i>

C. Weather (موسم)

Rain	باران
It is raining	باران وريوي
Sun	لمر
Sunny	لمريز
It is sunny	لمر دی
Is changeable	بدليدونکي
For example	دمثال په توگه
Outdoors	له کوره بهر
Farmers	بزگران
Builders	معماران
Sport programmes , sport events	سپورتي پيښه _ لوبي
Dry	وچ
Wet	لوند
Conversation	خبري اتري
Hurricane	توفان
Storm	سيلي
Typhoon	سيلي توفان
Wind	باد ، شمال
Snow	واوره
Earthquake	زلزله
Landslide	د ځمکې ښويدل
Global Warming	- نړيواله تودوخه
Heat/ temperature	تودوخه
Lightening	برېښنا

D. In the restaurant په رستورانټ کي

Ready	تيار
Order	فرمايش
Starter	پيلامه
To want	غوښتل
I want	زه غواړم
Cucumber	بادرنگ
Main course	اساسي خواړه
To recommend	سپارښتنه
Tasty	مزه داره
Lamb	د پسه غوښه
The same	يو ډول
Mineral water	منرال اوبه
Strawberry	ځمکني توتان
Spinach	پالک

E. Shopping for Food

Afghani	<i>Afghan currency</i>
Kachaloo	<i>Potatoes</i>
Tso?	<i>How much?</i>
Piyaz	<i>Onion</i>
Shide	<i>Milk</i>
Panir	<i>Cheese</i>
Maste	<i>Yoghurt</i>
Kuach	<i>Butter</i>
Doday	<i>Bread</i>
Bura	<i>Sugar</i>
Ghwasha	<i>Meat</i>
Qutay	<i>Cans</i>
Paise	<i>Money</i>
Maida Paise	<i>Change</i>
Rakra	<i>Give me</i>
Da wakhla	<i>Take this</i>
Noor tsa?	<i>Anything else?</i>

F. Illness and Health (ناروغتيا او صحت)

Headache	سر درد
Soluble	حل کېدونکي
Diarrhoea	نس ناستي
Sore throat	ستوني درد
Swallow	تېرول
Lotion	ملهم
Rub	مالش يا مېبل
Soothing, relief, rest	ارام
Chew	ژوول
Sunbathing	پتاؤ
Beach	دسيند يا سمندر غاړه
Bites	چيچل
Temperature	تبه
I feel very hot	ن ت او يا تبي احساس کوم
Flu	زکام
Arm	څنگل - لاس
Hand	لاس
Finger	گوته
Fingernail	دگوتي نوک
Knee	زنگون
Ankle	بجلکونه - ښنگري
Stomach	خپته - نس
Back	شاه - ملا
Throat	ستوني

Eye	سترگه
Nose	پوزه
Tooth	غاشونه
Leg	پنډی
Foot	پښه
Toe	د پښې گوته
Toenail	د پښې دگوتي نوک
Elbow	خنګل
Wrist	د لاس بندونه
Chest	سینه - ټټر
Spine	دملا تیر
Neck	غارہ
Ear	غور
Tongue	ژبه
Lip	شونده
Eyebrow	وروخي
Hair	وينستان - وپښته
Skin	پوستکی - پوست
Bone	هډوکي
Cold	ساره يا يخني
Cough	ټوخي
Sneeze	پرنجی
Toothache	د غاشو درد
Backache	دملا درد يا شاه درد
Flu	ريزش زکام
Temperature	تبه
Stomach	معهه
Immediately	ژر
Effect	اثر
Trouble, pain	تکليف
Tablets	گولي
Chemist/pharmacist	درمل جوړونکي

G. Professions (kar)

Written Dialogue 5 (English & Pashto)

A	Da tsok day?	Who is he?
B	Da zma malgarai day.	He is my friend.
A	Dai tsah kar kawi?	What does he do?
B	Dai Shuwunkai day. Doctor/ askar/enginar/ nars/ ash paz/ motorwaan/ chawkidar/ banaa/ kateb/ mamoor/ najaar/ bazgar/ z dakawunkay/	He is a teacher . Doctor/ Soldier/ Engineer/ Nurse/ cook/ driver/ Watchman/ mason/ clerk/ Civil servant/carpenter/ farmer/ Student/
A	Dai chertah kar kawi?	Where does he work?
B	Day pa Shuwandzi ki kar kawi.	He works in a school.
A	Tah chertah kar kawe?	Where do you work?
B	Zah mamur yam, ao pa daftar ke kar kawum.	I am a government employee, and I work in an office.
A	Helen Tsa Kawi?	What does Helen do?
B	Helen pah resturan ke kar kawi.	Helen works in a restaurant.

H. Colours (Ranguna)

1. Vocabulary

Sur	Red
Gulabi	Pink
Naranji	Orange
Nakhudi	Tan
Naswari	Brown
Shin	Blue
Banafshah	Violet
Tur	Black
Khar	Gray
Zarghun	Green
Zher	Yellow
Asmani	Sky blue

2. Chart of Colours:



Black تور



Blue نيلي, اسمان



Brown نسواري



Gray خړ



Green زرغون
شين



Orange نارنجي



Purple ارغواني



Red سور



Turquoise پيروزه يي



White سپين



Yellow زير , ژر



Pink گلابي