

Lesson 10

Vocabulary Practice 2

Sciences and Scientists

-á

Suffix (any): one who does or makes; doer of; maker of

e-

Prefix (any): science of

We are introducing two new affixes. “Affix” is a generic term for prefixes (added to the beginning of words) and suffixes (added to the end of words). The term “affix” also includes infixes (added into the middle of words), which English doesn’t use but Láadan does somewhat.

The prefix “e-” means “science of” and is similar in meaning to the English suffix “-ology.” The suffix “-á” means “doer” or “one who…” and is rather like the English suffixes “-er” and “-ist.” You can form many useful words with the suffix “-á” and the prefix “e-”. For example, you can begin with “shon,” the word meaning “peace;” “shoná” means “peacemaker,” “eshon” means “peace science,” and “eshoná” would then be “peace scientist.” Similarly, from “om,” “to teach,” we have “omá,” “teacher” and “ehom,” “education” and “ehomá;” this last refers to a specialist in education who is not herself necessarily a teacher.

Vocabulary

amedara

to dance

ash

star

babí

bird

benem

to stay

déela

garden

dem

window

héena

sibling-of-the-heart [hena (birth-sibling)]

ho-

Prefix (relation-word): one generation removed (GRAND)

hothul

grandparent [ho- (GRAND) + thul (parent)]

lan

friend

lanemid

dog [lan (friend) + mid (creature)]

om

to teach

onida

family

osháana

to menstruate

rathal

to be bad [ra- (NON) + thal (good)]

ro

weather

shon

peace

urahu

gate [u (open) + rahu (closed)]

wam

to be still; to be calm

yu

fruit

Here you’ll notice some more “constructed” words: lanemid, rathal, urahu. Previously we’ve seen “boshum” (cloud) [bo (mountain) + shum (air)], “rahiya” (be large) [ra- (NON) + hiya (be small)], and “rahu” (be closed) [ra- (NON) + u (be open)], among others. Láadan creates new words easily by the process of adding words and meaningful word-parts (linguists call these meaningful word-parts “morphemes”) together.

Examples

Bíi thal ro wa.

The weather is good.

Bíi thal ra ro wa.

The weather is not good.

Bíi rathal ro wa.

The weather is bad.

Bíi rathal ra ro wa.

The weather is not bad.

Exercises

Translate the following into English.

1 Bí liyen i tháa hesh wi.

E: _____

2 Bí aril medo i mehowa belid wo.

E: _____

3 Bí eríli rahíya ra ábed wa; ril híya ra be.

E: _____

4 Bí ril medoth ra hothul wa.

E: _____

5 Bí wil ralóolo i leyi mazh wa.

E: _____

6 Bí rilrili medi, melalom, i mehada lan waá.

E: _____

7 Bé aril nime rathal ra eshoná wa.

E: _____

8 Bí aril methem mehina lanemid wi, izh ril menéde ra wa.

E: _____

9 Bé ril nédeshub amedara le wa.

E: _____

10 Bí eril mehéeya mewam thili wáa.

E: _____

In the second clause of #8, did you notice that the full Verb Complex is not given, since the second verb would be the same as that in the first clause? This is because all human languages resist repeating identical information in rapid succession—which is why we have Verb Complexes in the first place. As shown here, we use the first verb (the one that's different) and omit the second (that's the same).

Translate the following into Láadan.

In some of these sentences, I've provided English phrases that suggest Evidence Words; in others you'll need to supply them; experiment with the meanings the various Evidence Words add to the Láadan that the provided English sentence is simply missing.

11 I swear the window is not open.

L: _____

12 The doors are not red.

L: _____

13 The family is busy.

L: _____

14 The stars are beautiful.

L: _____

15 I promise the garden will be good and beautiful.

L: _____

16 Animals do not needlework, obviously.

L: _____

17 The alien hopes to be safe at last.

L: _____

18 I doubt the farmers promised to be correct.

L: _____

19 A worker clearly must not be slow.

L: _____

20 I suppose the peacemakers did not remember to eat.

L: _____

Did you remember to use the place-specific verbs in #15?

How did you do forming the word for “alien” in #17? We know “**née**” (to be alien); “an alien” is an individual who “**is alien**.” We’d simply apply the “agentive suffix,” “**-á**,” and we have “**néehá**,” (remember the “**h**” to separate the vowels) the Láadan word for “alien.”

Did you have any trouble forming the word for “farmer” in #18? We know “**ábed**,” the word for “farm;” all we need do is add “**-á**,” and we have “**ábedá**,” the word for “farmer.”

By now you had no trouble forming the word for “worker” in #19. We know “**hal**,” the word for “to work;” all we need do is add “**-á**,” and we have “**halá**,” the word for “worker.”

Answers

- 1 Clearly, the grass is green and thriving.
- 2 I'm guessing the houses will be strong and warm.
- 3 Long ago the farm was not large; now it's not small.
- 4 The grandparents are not following.
- 5 Would that the car be quick and blue.
- 6 I doubt that the friends might talk, sing, and laugh.
- 7 I promise the peace-scientist will not be willing to be bad.
- 8 The dogs will need to sleep, obviously, but right now they don't want to.
- 9 I swear I intend to dance.
- 10 I understand the fish were afraid to be still.
- 11 Bé u ra dem wa.
- 12 Bíi melaya ra áath wáa.
- 13 Bíi shóod onida wa.
- 14 Bíi meháya ash wi.
- 15 Bé aril hothal i hoya déela wa.
- 16 Bíi medathim ra mid wi.
- 17 Bíi ril ul yom néehá doól wáa.
- 18 Bíi eril medibé medóon ábedá waá.
- 19 Bíi dush lóolo ra halá wi.
- 20 Bíi eril medom meyod ra shoná wo.

-á	DOER	hóya	BeBeautifulPlace	Shuzhéth	Suzette
áath	Door	-hul	DEGextreme	tháa	Thrive
ábed	Farm	i	And	thad	BeAble
ábedá	Farmer	id	AndThen	thal	BeGood
ada	Laugh	-id	MASC	tham	Circle
amedara	Dance	ina	Sleep	thée-	ABOUTto
Ána	Anna	íthi	BeHigh	them	Need
Aranesha	Arkansas	izh	But	Therisha	Teresa
aril	FUT	-izh	FEM	Thíben	Steven
Aril	Later	Láadan	Láadan	thili	Fish
aríli	FARFUT	lal	Milk	thom	Pillow
ash	Star	lalom	Sing	thosh	Sky
Atheni	Anthony	lan	Friend	thu	Honey
áya	BeBeautiful	lanemid	Dog	thul	Parent
babí	Bird	laya	BeRed	u	BeOpen
bal	Bread	le	I	ud	Stone
be	X1	len	We>5	ul	Hope
bé	PROMISE	leyi	BeBlue	urahu	Gate
belid	House	lezh	We2-5	wa	MYPERC
ben	X>5	liithi	BeWhite	waá	UNTRUSTED
benem	Stay	liithin	BeGray	wáa	TRUSTED
Bétheni	Bethany	lith	Think	wam	BeStill
bezh	X2-5	liyen	BeGreen	wi	SELFEVID
bíi	DECL	lóm	Song	wíi	BeAlive
bol	BeFleecyClouded	lóolo	BeSlow	wil	OPTV
boshum	Cloud	lula	BePurple	Wil_sha	Greeting
bud	Clothing	Másha	Marsha	Wílem	William
dal	Thing	Máthu	Matthew	with	Person
dathim	Needlework	Máyel	Michael	withid	Man
-de	NARR	mazh	Car	withizh	Woman
déela	Garden	Mázhareth	Margaret	wo	MADEUP
dem	Window	me-	PL	woth	Wisdom
den	Help	meénan	BeSweet	yod	Eat
di	Speak	Méri	Mary	yom	BeSafe
dibé	Promise	mid	Creature	yu	Fruit
dibíi	Declare	míi	BeAmazed	yul	Wind
dithemid	Cow	modi	BeUgly	zháadin	Menopause
do	BeStrong	muda	Pig		
dom	Remember	na-	BEGIN		
doól	AtLast	ná-	CONT		
dóon	BeCorrect	ne	You1		
doth	Follow	néde	Want		
dozh	BeEasy	nédeshub	Intention		
du-	TRYto	née	BeAlien		
dush	Must	néehá	Alien		
e-	SCIOf	nen	You>5		
ede	Grain	nezh	You2-5		
edemid	Mouse	nime	BeWilling		
éeb	Juice	om	Teach		
éesh	Sheep	omá	Teacher		
éézh	Goat	omid	Horse		
ehom	Education	onida	Family		
ehomá	EdSpecialist	óoha	BeWeary		
elash	Play	osháana	Menstruate		
Elizhabeth	Elizabeth	owa	BeWarm		
em	Yes	ra	NEG		
eril	PAST	rado	BeWeak		
eríli	FARPAST	rahíya	BeLarge		
eshon	PeaceScience	rahowa	BeCold		
eshoná	PeaceScientist	rahu	BeClosed		
hal	Work	ralóolo	BeQuick		
halá	Worker	rana	Beverage		
Halishóni	California	rathal	BeBad		
ham	BePresent	rawith	Nobody		
hathal	BeGoodTime	ril	PRES		
háya	BeBeautifulTime	rilrili	HYPOTH		
héena	HeartSib	ro	Weather		
héeya	BeAfraid	rohoro	Storm		
hena	BirthSib	róomath	Barn		
Hérel	Carol	rul	Cat		
hesh	Grass	sha	Harmony		
híya	BeSmall	sháal	Day		
ho-	GRAND	shon	Peace		
hob	Butter	shoná	Peacemaker		
hothal	BeGoodPlace	shóod	BeBusy		
hothul	Grandparent	shum	Air		