



Klingon Language Postal Course

A Sponsored Project of the Klingon Language Institute
P.O. Box 634, Flourtown, PA 19031 USA, <http://www.kli.org/>

Lesson 2

created by David Barron

To take the free Postal Course you need to study and answer the review-questions at the end, and then send them by e-mail to postal@kli.org, or by regular mail (along with a self-addressed stamped envelope) to:

Klingon Language Lessons
c/o Eric Andeen
2323 North Central Avenue, 1801
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Be certain you include sufficient postage to cover two ounces of materials. Your answers will be corrected and returned, and you can then move on to the next lesson.

The Klingon Language was developed by Marc Okrand for several *Star Trek* films and has continued to be used in each subsequent series. The Language is described fully in *The Klingon Dictionary* by Okrand and for purposes of these lessons it is assumed you already have a copy. If not, the dictionary may be purchased at your local bookstore or from the KLI itself by visiting our merchant page at <http://www.kli.org/>

Throughout this course references will be made to the dictionary by chapters and sections.

Example: (4.2.7) refers to chapter 4, section 2.7

For more information on the Klingon language:

The Klingon Language Institute publishes a quarterly journal, *HolQeD*, featuring articles on Klingon linguistics and culture. Annual membership includes a four issue subscription and costs \$15 in the U.S., \$18 in Canada, and \$21 to all other countries. All cheques should be in U.S. funds, made payable to KLI, and sent to the address at right. Or visit our merchant page at <http://www.kli.org/kli/Merchant.phtml> and join using your credit card.

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Review

SYNTAX

All Klingon sentences are written and spoken Object-Verb-Subject, quite the reverse of most English sentences.

NOUNS

Nouns have up to 5 suffixes that, when used, *always* occur in order (i.e., noun-1-2-3-4-5).

Suffix Type 1, size

- a'** (augmentive)
- Hom** (diminutive)

Suffix Type 2, plurals

- pu'** (for beings that use language)
- Du'** (for body parts)
- mey** (all other uses)

VERBS

Verbs sometimes have a prefix that indicates *both* the subject and object when they are pronouns like I, you, us, them, he, she, it, etc.

Prefixes:

	subject	object	example	
jI-	I	none	jIlaj	<i>I accept</i>
bI-	you	none	bInep	<i>you lie</i>
qa-	I	you	qaqIp	<i>I hit you</i>
cho-	you	me	choQaH	<i>you help me</i>

Suffix, Rover:

-be' (negates the portion which precedes it)

Lesson 2

NOUNS

Suffix Type 4 (Type 3 will be discussed in a future lesson) describes who possesses something: my, your, his, etc., It also specifies closeness, i.e., this or that.

The following Type 4 suffixes may only be used with things that do *not* use language. Other Type 4 suffixes will be described in future lessons. (3.3.4)

-wIj my	-IIj your	-Daj his/her/its*
-maj our	-raj your (pl), you all	-chaj their

Examples:

DujwIj <i>my ship</i>	DujDaj <i>his ship</i>
waqIIj <i>your shoe</i>	waqmeyIIj <i>your shoes</i>
Sormaj <i>our tree</i>	Sor'a'maj <i>our big trees</i>
QumwI'wIj <i>my communicator</i>	QumwI'Daj <i>her communicator</i>
ghumchaj <i>their alarm</i>	ghum'a'chaj <i>their giant alarm</i>
boQraj <i>your aid</i>	boQHomraj <i>your small aid</i>

VERBS

Verb prefixes indicate both Subject and Object. This lesson will build five more prefixes to go with the four used in Lesson 1. (4.1.1)

	subject	object	example	
ma-	we	none	ma'eH	<i>we are ready</i>
vI-	I	him/her/it/them*	vItu'	<i>I find him</i>
Da-	you	him/her/it/them*	DaSo'	<i>you hide it</i>
mu-	he/she/it*	me	muqIp	<i>she hit me</i>
Du-	he/she/it*	you	Dutlhob	<i>he asks you</i>

*Third person gender (and at times number) is determined by the context of the sentence.

tlhIngan Hol has nine types of Verb Suffixes. When used each suffix appears in a given order. A tenth type of suffix however, often has no specific place in the order. This suffix is called a Rover and it is used to modify a portion of the verb.

You have already used one of these Rovers in Lesson 1. **-be'** means "not" and can be used to negate the verb.

Example:

qa-	(pfx) I/you
voq	(v) trust
-be'	(Rsfx) not
qavoqbe'	<i>I do not trust you</i>

-Ha' means "to undo." More than -be', -Ha' is not simply negation, but a change in state. Despite being called a Rover, -Ha' must always follow the verb it modifies.

Example: **ma-** (pfx) we/none
 Do' (v) lucky, fortunat
 -Ha' (Rsfx) undo
 maDo'Ha' *we are unlucky*

Compare: **ma-** (pfx) we/none
 Do' (v) lucky, fortunate
 -be' (Rsfx) not
 maDo'be' *we are not lucky*

Verb Suffixes, Type 1: These indicate that the verb is reflexive, affecting the subject. They are only used when there is no object.

-'egh (oneself)

Example: **ji-** (pfx) I/none
 magh (v) betray
 -'egh (1sfx) myself
 jiImagh'egh *I betray myself*

-chuq (each other / one another)

Example: **ma-** (pfx) we/none
 jatlh (v) speak
 -chuq (1sfx) each other
 majatlhchuq *we speak to each other*

mu'tay' (VOCABULARY)

This is a list of all of the words that have been used in this lesson and the words that will be found in the Question and Answer section that follows. Practice saying all of your vocabulary words aloud.

QumwI' communicator (n)	ghaj have, possess (v)	neH want (v)
waq shoe (n)	Qoch disagree (v)	So' hide (v)
Du' farm (n)	tlhob ask (v)	Qong sleep (v)
boQ aid, assistance (n)	'eH be ready (v, exclamation)	tu' find (v)
Sor tree (n)	voq trust (v)	Do' be lucky (v)
ghum alarm (n)	chenmoH build, take form (v)	magh betray (v)
Qu' duty (n)	tlhaq chronometer (n))	tem deny (v)
	jab serve food (v)	Qaw' to destroy (v)

LESSON 2 - QUESTIONS

Answer these questions on a separate piece of paper and send it with a self-addressed stamped envelope. Your answers will be corrected and returned with Lesson 3. Please write legibly. Words from the previous lesson's vocabulary will be used in this exercise.

Hint: Remember the sentence structure of **tlhIngan Hol** is Object-Verb-Subject.

TRANSLATE INTO ENGLISH

- 1) **DuQochbe'**
- 2) **qavoqbe'**
- 3) **tlhIngan juH chenmoH tera'ngan**
- 4) **Du' vIchenmoH**
- 5) **Ho'Du'Ilij vIqIp**
- 6) **QumwI'wIj vItu' vIneH**
- 7) **mu'mey So' nav**
- 8) **verengan Daleghbe'**
- 9) **mu'a'meyIlij Damagh**
- 10) **Sormeychaj chenHa'moH Doch**
- 11) **bIqIp'egh vItlhobbe'**

TRANSLATE INTO KLINGON

- 12) I'm not sleeping.
- 13) You betray your words.
- 14) Your injury finds assistance
- 15) I ask you to hit me.
- 16) You want me to write you.*
- 17) You want me to trust your pet.*
- 18) You're not helping our farm.
- 19) His watch doesn't have hands.
- 20) You want me to lie.*
- 21) I build homes.
- 22) I want to learn.*

*Complex sentences like:

QumwI'Ilj lulegh vIneH *I want them to see your communicator*

are actually made up of two sentences:

QumwI'Ilj lulegh *They see your communicator*

vIneH *I want it*

This works when the verb of the second sentence is **neH**, "to want" or is a verb denoting speaking such as **ja'**, "tell," **tlhob**, "ask," **jach**, "scream" and so forth. Lesson 3 will show you how to make other complex sentences that make use of other verbs. (6.2.5, pp65)