KOTAVA

OFFICIAL COMPLETE GRAMMAR

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Chapter I: LINGUISTIC OVERVIEW [avomaveem]

Kotava is not a natural language, but a constructed one whose aim is to serve as an auxiliary language between peoples and cultures. To respect and promote the fundamental principle of absolute cultural and philosophical neutrality, it was conceived under an "a priori" logic, notably by not drawing its lexicon from any existing language, past or present, but inventing it in its entirety, and using common grammatical and expressive concepts shared by most of the inhabitants of our Earth, very easy to implement. One of its essential dimensions is also the possibilities of evolution and development in relation to its future speakers.

Kotava is therefore first and foremost an architecture, global principles, living mechanisms, organised into an intrinsically coherent and potentially open system. Its basic assumptions, which define and structure it, have therefore been, are and must remain:

- Neutrality: built on an absolute bias of neutrality towards existing or past languages, not drawing its vocabulary and lexical patterns from any of them.
- Originality: it derives its qualities from its unique internal coherence, and is fundamentally self-sufficient.
- Universality: its logic, mechanisms and phonology are based on broadly universal principles (or nearly so, exceptions being observable).
- Regularity and clarity: importantly, the language is absolutely consistent and eliminates all exceptions, ambiguities and other miscellaneous complications. Its main mechanisms are logical and predictive.
- Simplicity and looseness: to allow for easy learning for the majority without prior knowledge. Simplicity is absolute rather than relative since no known language is borrowed from.
- Richness: rich in potential, variety and initial resources, both grammatical and lexical. Each speaker must be able to express themselves with their own logic, their own prisms and develop their expression without restriction.
- Upgradability: an essential principle, the language needs to be living and evolve with its speakers.

Linguistically and technically, Kotava contains the following major features:

- Simple phonology with five vowels and seventeen consonants loosely defined.
- Simplified latin alphabet without diacritical marks.
- Mostly agglutinating language (affixing system, tenses, modalities, derivation and compounding), with flexive (personal conjugation, euphonic agreement for determiners, adjectives et participles), and isolating streaks (aspects, voice, pragmatics, prepositions, stem forms). Whatever their degree of fusion, all grammatical features are regular and immediately noticeable.
- No declinations on nouns. No morphological gender.
- "Prepositional" language where every nominal or pronominal complement is indirect and governed by a preposition. There are no postpositions.
- A rather free syntactic order, even if it is mainly SOV (subject – object – verb) or OSV.
- Importance of sentence and utterance without verbs: nominal, adjectival or adverbial ones.
- Ranking of the verb syntax with regards to the notion of speech acts.
- Finally, symbiosis of grammar and expression in a few major determining principles, such as contextuality, minimality, univocity, persistence, non-ambiguity or the position of enunciator.

Chapter II: HISTORICAL EVOLUTION OF KOTAVA [towarizvot va Kotava]

1978: Official birth of Kotava
1983: 1st general reform
1993: 2nd general reform
2008: Reform of the plural
2011: Removal of the letter H

From the beginning, it has been stated that Kotava would never be a frozen language, definitively sealed in an intangible linguistic and grammatical framework. The language must evolve regularly with its users, their needs and the observed majority uses, with a necessary part of anticipation. This conception is at its very foundation, therefore this official grammar cannot be considered as a definitive "Fundamento", but simply as a description of the language at some point in time.

Apart from the major dates mentioned above, Kotava is regulated by a Linguistic Committee (Kotava Avaneda) which meets annually and validates or rejects certain proposed evolutions.

This translation of the official grammar (written in French) is from the v4.03/2016 version.

PHONOLOGY

Chapter I: KOTAVA ALPHABET [abava]

There are 24 letters in the Kotava alphabet:
- 5 vowels: *a, e, i, o, u*
- 17 consonants: *b, c, d, f, g, j, k, l, m, n, p, r, s, t, v, x, z*
- 2 semivowels: *w, y*

Majuscule	Minuscule	IPA Transcription	English Equiv.	Kotava Name
A	a	/a/	a, ah	*a*
B	b	/b/	b	*be*
C	c	/ʃ/	sh	*ce*
D	d	/d/	d	*de*
E	e	/e, ɛ/	e, ay	*e*
F	f	/f/	f, ph	*fe*
G	g	/g/	g (hard)	*ge*
I	i	/i/	i, ee	*i*
J	j	/ʒ/	zh, s ("confusion")	*je*
K	k	/k/	k, q, c (hard)	*ke*
L	l	/l/	l	*le*
M	m	/m/	m	*me*
N	n	/n/	n	*ne*
O	o	/o, ɔ/	o, aw	*o*
P	p	/p/	p	*pe*
R	r	/ɾ, r/	r	*re*
S	s	/s/	s, ss	*se*
T	t	/t/	t	*te*
U	u	/u/	oo	*u*
V	v	/v/	v	*ve*
W	w	/w/	w	*we*
X	x	/x/	kh, Spanish jota	*xe*
Y	y	/j/	y (never vocalic)	*ye*
Z	z	/z/	z	*ze*

Phonetic peculiarities:

- The letter *w (we)* does not occur in final position, except in proper nouns. It is in principle always followed by a vowel in Kotava words.
- The letter *y (ye)* occurs mandatorily before or after at least one vowel except in the general suffix "-any" (on consonant stems), and in proper nouns.

Chapter II: THE 2011 REFORM [fabdura ba 2011]

Since the beginning and until 2011, there was a 25th letter in the alphabet: *h (nhe)*. It was found only after the consonants *l*, *m*, *n*, where it showed palatalisation. It was never initial or after other letters, except in proper nouns. The 2011 reform saw its elimination in favour of the letter *y (ye)* in all positions. Now it does not exist anymore. However, acquired habits and the corpus of previously written texts mean that its use will only gradually disappear.

Chapter III: STRESS [bloskara]

There is only one rule for stress in Kotava, without any exceptions, other than verbs inflected for the 1st person singular.

- Words ending in a semivowel or a consonant are stressed on the last syllable.
    Ex: *tuvel* (tuv<u>e</u>l)
            felay (fel<u>a</u>y)
            sayakik (sayak<u>i</u>k)

- Words ending in a vowel are stressed on the penultimate syllable.

    Ex: *blucte* (bl<u>u</u>cte)

                    kando (k<u>a</u>ndo)

                    feralia (feral<u>i</u>a)

- 1st person singular of the verbal conjugation, although ending in a vowel, is stressed on the last syllable by analogy with the rest of the verbal paradigm (characterised by final consonants), hence the diacritical mark.

    Ex: *jin estú* (jin est<u>ú</u>)

                    jin lusteyé (jin lustey<u>é</u>)

ORTHOGRAPHY

Chapter I: GRAPHICAL PECULIARITIES [suteraptaceem]

There only one diacritical mark in Kotava:

- **the acute accent** ('), not compulsory, generally written on the final vowel of verbs inflected for the 1st person singular.

Other diacritical marks (diaeresis, tilde, etc.) do not occur in Kotava, except in proper nouns.

Chapter II: TRANSCRIPTIONS OF PROPER NOUNS [remsutera va pilkayolt]

A: Proper nouns from a latin alphabet

These proper nouns are transcribed as is, that is to say, including letters and digraphs not used in Kotava.
Ex: *Québec*
        Washington
        A Coruña
        Łódź
        Århus

B: Proper nouns from a cyrillic or greek alphabet

These proper nouns are transcribed with the Kotava letters with the nearest phonetics available.
Ex: *Astraxan* (Astrakhan) [Russian]
        Moskva (Moscow) [Russian]
        Kiyiv (Kiev) [Ukrainian]
        Lenin (Lenin) [Russian]
        Atina (Athens) [Greek]
        Tergovicte (Tărgovište) [Bulgarian]

C: Proper nouns from another writing system

The relevant international transcription scheme is used.
Ex: *Iraq*
        Hiroshima
        Mao Zedong
        Beijing

Chapter III: USE OF CAPITAL LETTERS [unera va eltayap]

In Kotava, the use of capital letters gives importance to the word.
Its use is mandatory for the initial letter of a proper noun, a language or a people's name.
Every sentence must start with a capital letter.

Chapter IV: USE OF PUNCTUATION MARKS [unera va tcala]

- **dot** (.): ends a declarative sentence.
- **interrogation mark** (?): ends an interrogative sentence.
- **exclamation mark** (!): ends an exclamative sentence.
- **injunction mark** (‼): or double exclamation mark, ends an injunctive sentence.
- **ellipsis** (…): or interruptive mark, indicates a suspension in the sentence.
- **semicolon** (;): marks a stop in the sentence and indicates a certain break.
- **comma** (,): marks a slight interruption in the sentence.
- **colon** (:): introduces enumerations and citations.
- **quotation marks** (""): surround a quotation, or used for doubts, reservations about a word.
- **parentheses** (): used around additional information.
- **hyphen** (-): begins lines of dialog, or enumerated lines of lists. Also indicates abbreviations (ex. *ikz-* for *etc*.)
- **tilde** (~): surrounds an interpolated clause, notably dialog commentary.

Chapter I: MORPHOLOGICAL CHART [tazukak]

The great importance of morphology is a defining feature of Kotava. Parts of speech are morphologically delimited and are in hierarchical relationships with each other. Opportunities to move from one to the other, which make up a large part of the richness of the language, are numerous but strictly regulated. This morphological table shows a synthesis.

1.	**Substantives**		**Verbs**
2.		**Determinatives**	
3.			**Derived adverbs**
4.	**Pronouns**	**Prepositions**	**Primary adverbs**
5.	**Particles**	**Conjunctions**	**Interjections**

The hierarchy in this chart has five levels:

- **1st level**: substantives and verbs. They are characterised by their two-way relationships with each other and with the determinatives, as well as with themselves.

- **2nd level**: determinatives. They are in morphological relation with almost all other categories and with themselves.

- **3d level**: adverbs derived from determinatives.

- **4th level**: underived primary adverbs, pronouns and prepositions.

- **5th level**: conjunctions, particles and interjections. These categories are isolated and do not have any relations with other categories.

The first three levels are called *open*, that is, new words can be created by internal means. On the other hand, the last two are said "closed" because they can only be increased externally, by *ex nihilo* creation.

Chapter II: SUBSTANTIVES [yolt]

A: Gender marking [yoltoxi]

In Kotava, there is no grammatical notion of gender, male, female or any other. All nouns are indeterminate and used as such. Where it is necessary to specify or insist on the natural sex of a human or animal being, specific gender suffixes may be used, "-ya" for females and "-ye" for males.

B: Euphonic agreement [mamanyara]

Even if Kotava does not have semantic gender, the notion of "**euphonic agreement**" holds a great deal of importance.

All determinatives (adjectives, determiners, numerals, participles), some pronouns (e. g. possessive) and general suffixes are subject to this rule, according to which they must be in euphonic agreement with the noun (or pronoun) they refer to, i. e. have a similar euphonic ending. Thus:

- substantives *ending in a* **consonant** *or* **semivowel** will lead to determinatives, possessive pronouns and general suffix with *no vocalic ending*
- substantives *ending in* **–a** ------------------------->   *inflection* **–a**
- substantives *ending in* **–e** ------------------------->   *inflection* **–e**
- substantives *ending in* **–i** ------------------------->   *inflection* **–i**
- substantives *ending in* **–o** ------------------------->   *inflection* **–o**
- substantives *ending in* **–u** ------------------------->   *inflection* **–u**

> Ex: *listaf patectoy* (a beautiful landscape)
> *baroye blucte* (three pieces of clothing)
> *bati zveri* (this bird)

C: Expression of the plural [tukontara]

1) Semantic plural

In Kotava, plurality is mainly a matter of semantics and is expressed with pronouns, determiners and adjectives carrying plurality inherently, with numerals (after 1) and with the personal flexion on the verb.

> Ex: *koe kelt va aluboy bitej wí* (I see five stars in the sky)
> *aluboy (five) is semantically plural
> *koe kelt jontik bitej jebed* (many stars shine in the sky)
> *jontik (many) semantically plural; the verb agrees with a 3ᵈ person plural (jebed)

2) Indefinite plural determiner "yon"

There is, besides that, a specific indefinite pluralising determiner "**yon**", when there is no mention of a specific enumeration or quantification. See *infra*. (chap. IV, § I-b).

> Ex: *koe kelt va yon bitej rowí* (I can see stars in the sky)
> *yon (some, a certain number of) adds a plural reading

3) Plural by particles (before 2008)

Before 2008, Kotava had yet another strategy. This involved the presence of an invariable pluralising independent particle. Two actually, totally interchangeable: "**se**" and "**yo**".

To pluralise a noun (or pronoun), the rule was to put the particle "se" or "yo" immediately after, it extending its radiation over the entire nominal (or pronominal) phrase.

> Ex: *in va bitej **yo** disuker* (he's looking at the stars)
> *bat listaf batakaf okol **se** vulted* (these beautiful white horses are running)
> *bat listaf batakaf okol **yo** vulted* (these beautiful white horses are running)

The 2008 reform recommends their discontinuation, in favour of the two aforementioned rules. Normally, "**se**" and "**yo**" shouldn't be used anymore. However, their use, while not recommended, is tolerated, before or after the clause to pluralise.

D: Proper nouns and classifiers [pilkayolt is pulaxa]

Any proper noun in Kotava is considered a noun, but an absolutely invariable and non-derivable one, unlike common nouns, and actually functions on an affixing system in which it is normally accompanied by a "classifier" which determines its class. The classifier is part of the common lexicon and it is on it that affixation takes place.

1) Classifiers [pulaxa]

Most of the nouns in the common lexicon can be used as a proper noun classifier. However, the main classifiers encountered relate to names of human persons (ayik, guazik, velik, etc.), politeness adresses (weltik, jiomik), titles (gazik, sersik, taneagadesik), places (kuksa, mefta, uzda, wida, widava) administrative entities (patecta, gola, dota), species names (katca, oxi, bliind), works of or media of art (neva, luz, teliz, fela), groupings or company (lospa, veem, ja), measure or unit (soluma, lum, lumolk), currency (tal), language (ava), etc.

In keeping with the habitual rule of appositions, the apposed noun goes first, followed by its classifier.

> Ex: *Napoléon **ginik*** (the emperor Napoleon)
> *Martin **weltikye*** (Mister Martin); *Martin **weltik*** (Mr. or Mrs. Martin)
> *London **widava*** (the city of London)
> *Baikal **uzda*** (the Baikal lake)
> *Franca **patecta*** (France, the country France)
> *Euro **tal*** (the Euro currency)
> *Monotremata **veem*** (the monotreme order)

Note: euphonic agreement follows the classifier, not the proper noun, even if the latter follows the relevant determinative and presents a different ending.

> Ex: *cuisaf̱a London **widav̱a*** (the magnificent city of London)

All possible derivatives built on a proper noun will therefore not use the proper noun itself but its classifier.

> Ex: *London widav**ik*** (resident of the city of London, Londoner)
> *Baikal uzda**xo*** (Lake Baikal territory)
> *Euro tal**olk*** (a euro coin or banknote)
> *Monotremata veem**olk*** (an animal of the monotreme order)

> *See Annex B for a partial listing of classifiers*

2) Proper nouns without classifiers [pilkayolt voldo pulaxa]

However, in the case of very common proper noun (name of country, big city, known place, person, etc.) it is possible to omit the classifier. Thus, one will rarely find a country name (Franca, Espana, etc.) accompanied by its classifier (patecta).

From there, such a proper name will govern directly euphonic agreement, and may give rise to derivatives and be used in compounds, under two absolute reservations:

> - that there is **no ambiguity**, notably any semantic confusion with a preexisting common noun that the context is explicit enough;

> - that the proper noun contain **no letters or diacritical marks that be inexistant** in Kotava.

In the latter cases, the classifier must always be used.

> Ex: *london**ik*** (resident of the city of London, Londoner), besides *London widav**ik***
> *euro**olk*** (a euro coin or banknote), besides *Euro tal**olk***
>
> however:
> *Québec wink**ik*** (an inhabitant of the Quebec province), never ~~*Québecik*~~
> *A Coruña widav**af*** (concerning the city of A Coruña), never ~~*A Coruñaf*~~

Chapter III: VERBS [gray]

The verbal system is the pillar of Kotava. This is the most sophisticated part of the whole language, but more because of the multiple possibilities and their synthetic aspects than because of their difficulty. Morphologically, a verbal form is recognizable at first glance. In dictionaries, the verbs are classified according to their radical state, which corresponds to the first person singular of the personal mood (effective modality, active voice, present tense). There is not any real infinitive, only a verbal name.

In Kotava, a verbal form consists of at least eight elements (or grammatical features) in addition to the radical, bearing in mind that there is always a default zero mark implicit (*in italics infra.*) for each of these elements, in hierarchical and conceptual order:

- verb stem;
- indication of **speech act**: *declarative*, exclamative, interrogative, injunctive;
- indication of **mood**: *indicative*, relative-participial;
- indication of **tense**: *present*, past, future;
- indication of **polarity**: *assertive*, affirmative, negative, contraritive;
- indication of **aspect**: *durative*, continuous, anterior, posterior, instantaneous, relative perfect, relative prospective, inchoative, non-discontinuous, discontinuous, resumptive, terminative;
- indication of **modality**: *effective*, abilitive, obligative, volitive, capacitive, creditive, apparent, conative, habitual, gnomic;
- indication of **voice**: *active*, passive, reflexive, reciprocal, secondary;
- indication of **person**: *1st*, 2nd, 3d singular, 1st, 2nd, 3d, 4th plural.

Other optional grammatical features (may be stacked):
- **pragmatics**: irrealis, epistemicals, evidentials, external deontics, reality checks, uncertain, injunctive grades, specific interrogative.

Finally, it is possible to find a certain number of suffixes (general suffixes, (in)transitivising suffixes).

A: Verbal stem [grayzaeya]

The stem (not to confuse with the root) is the minimal form a verb can be used with.
A verbal stem is necessarily characterized by a typical ending in -*á*, -*é*, -*í* or -*ú*. It is from this radical (without the accent, mark of the 1st person singular) that all other forms and even verbal derivatives will be built.

Ex. of stems:	**VEFA** (to play), in the dictionary under	**vefá** (I play)	
	STUTE (to dance)	**stuté** (I dance)	
	ASKI (to do)	**askí** (I do)	
	PLEKU (to put)	**plekú** (I put)	

B: Speech acts [grayewa]

The notion of speech act is essential in Kotava. It refers to statements, sentences and proposals as a whole. And even though it is valid beyond the strict verbal field, since we can also find speech acts in purely nominal sentences for example, it is nonetheless structuring in all aspects of verbal grammar. Sometimes referred to as "enunciative moods", they take into account the global scope of a proposal (or an entire sentence) managed by a verbal form.

There are four autonomous speech acts in Kotava. These are:

- *Declarative*: the default basic enunciative and sentential speech act. For standard utterance of facts, opinion, discourse, etc.
- Exclamative: the emotional, exclamative, vocative, interjective speech act.
- Interrogative: the speech act for direct questions.
- Injunctive: also called imperative, it is the speech act for orders and (with the negation) for prohibition.

1) Declarative [dakterewa]

The basic speech act. Unless otherwise noted, it is implicit and has ***no particular marking***.

Declarative governs standard utterances, the expression of facts, opinions, statements, direct or reported speech, of all that does not fall within the scope of the three other speech acts (exclamative, interrogative or injunctive). Note that it also handles indirect questions (*cf. infra*).

The declarative speech act has no particular intonation patterns.

In writing, a declarative sentence or clause (governed by a declarative verb) must end with a simple dot, interruptive mark (ou ellipsis), colon or semicolon.

2) **Exclamative** [divierewa]

The emotional, exclamative, surprise, vocative and interjective speech act.

Every declarative sentence can become exclamative.

In writing, the exclamative is obligatorily characterised by an exclamation mark.

Prosodically, an exclamative sentence has a particular intonation pattern distinct from those of questions or orders. Besides that, they are not that different from standard declarative sentences.

There is however a set of pronouns, determiners and relative adverbs that are intrinsically exclamative, the "*man !*" set.

- exclamative determiner "*man !*" (such a, what a!)
  Ex: *man gazik tiyir !* (what a king he was!)

- exclamative pronoun of the "*man- !*" set
  Ex: *mantan tir !* (what a guy!)
          va mancoba askil ! (what a thing you're doing!)

- exclamative relative adverb of the "*man- !*" set
  Ex: *maneke kobal !* (you're working so much!)
          manlize irubayá ! (I lived in such a place!)

3) **Interrogative** [koerurewa]

The direct question speech act.

Every declarative sentence can become interrogative.

In writing, the interrogative is obligatorily characterised by a question mark.

Prosodically, when not introduced by an interrogative particle (kas ?, mex ?) or an interrogative determiner (tok, tokeaf, tokoy ?), a pronoun or an interrogative relative adverb (tok- ? or kas- ? sets), a light and distinctive voice inflection must be followed.

There are bare interrogative sentences, mainly when very short, in vocative utterances for example (and thus only distinguished by voice inflection). However, more often than not, they are accompanied or introduced by:

- interrogative pragmatic particle of existence "*kas ?*" (does…, is… ?)
  Typical of the global direct interrogation, that of standard questions.
  Ex: *kas (in) ker ?* (is he waiting, does he wait?)
          kas va Paris ok London aldualbá ? (do I prefer Paris or London?)

- interrogative pragmatic particle of doubt "*mex ?*" (isn't it?)
  Ex: *dotrakut, mex ?* (we agree, don't we?)

- interrogative determiner "*tok ?*" (which?), "*tokeaf ?*" or "*tokoy ?*"
  Typical of partial interrogation.
  Ex: *tok gazik zo bastakayar ?* (which king was beheaded?)
          moe tokeafa bodema tigil ? (what rank of the contest do you find yourself in?)

- interrogative pronoun of the "*tok- ?*" set (who, what?)
  Partial interrogation.
  Ex: *toktan vanlanir ?* (who's coming?)
          va tokcoba askil ? (what do you do, what are you doing?)

- interrogative pronoun of the"*kas- ?*" set (is there some/any…)
  Partial interrogation.
  Ex: *va kascoba rotaskí ?* (is there anything I can do?)

- interrogative relative adverb of the "*tok- ?*" set (which?)
  Partial interrogation.
  Ex: *tokdume va in ienal ?* (why are you yelling on him?)
          tokliz vulter ? (where is he running?)

- interrogative relative adverb of the "*kas- ?*" set (is there some-… ?)
  Partial interrogation.
  Ex: *kaskane pu in rokalí ?* (is there any way I can talk to him?)

Indirect interrogation falls within the scope of the declarative speech act. It is generally introduced by a relative adverb built from -kase (*cf. infra: relative adverbial series*).

4) Injunctive (or *imperative*) [dirgarewa]

Better known as "imperative", this is the speech act for orders (with the negation, for prohibition) and, toned down, for wishes, desires, prayers.

In Kotava, unlike in other languages, it can be used with all tenses, polarities, aspects, modalities, voices and persons.

It is often further made clearer by special pragmatic particles (*cf. infra § J7: injunction grades*).

At the oral level, the injunctive speech act is characterised by its distinctive intonation, almost always exclamative.

In writing, the injunctive must be noted by means of the injunctive mark (or double exclamation mark !!).

Personal pronouns are generally optional with declarative, exclamative or interrogative speech acts, but they are absolutely forbidden in the context of injunctive speech.

Some examples of injunctions:
KE (to wait)
ké !! (wait!) (to self)
kel !! (wait!)
ketet !! (we shall wait!)
me ker !! (let him not wait!)
zo ked !! (let's wait on them!)
toz kel !! (start waiting!)
rokec !! (you can wait!)

C: Moods [graycave]

The notion of mood in Kotava is a tad different from similar notions in the grammars of European languages. The notion is exclusive to verbs and verbal forms, but has only two subdivisions:

- *Indicative*: personal mood
- Relative-participial: non-personal mood

1) Indicative (or *personal*) [tiracave]

This is the basic implicit mood of any verb, for all speech act. As such it has **no particular marking**.

The indicative is the mood of sure facts and reality. It serves to mark what is, has been or will be certain or almost certain. It is also called *personal mode*, insofar as any verbal form in the indicative includes a mention of a grammatical person.

It is mainly this mood that will be illustrated through the following developments and examples.

2) Relative-participial [trendacave]

This is the only non-personal mood in Kotava, i. e. the participle is not connected directly to an absolute referent, unlike the indicative, but is a kind of relative mood, introducing relative subordinates. In addition, its forms also serve as verbal adjectives.

Although it would be logical to present it here, in accordance with its grammatical place and modal function, its presentation is, for didactic reasons, developed below, after the examination of all the other grammatical features. The correct understanding of the importance of the relative-participant mood in Kotava will only get better. (*cf. infra § K: Participial-relative mood).*

D: Tenses [graysare]

There are only three tenses in Kotava: *present*, past, future. Its temporal system does not include aspectual distinctions such as between perfective and imperfective.

- Present tense is for current actions, happening at the moment of enunciation.
  It is also used for regular, habitual processes.
- Past tense is for past, completed actions.
- Future tense is for reasonably probable future actions.

All other nuances tenses habitually express in other languages are there often made with aspects *(cf. infra § F).*

Each mood (indicative and relative-participial) for each speech act (declarative, exclamative, interrogative and injunctive) may be used with these three tenses. *[examples below are with the indicative unless indicated otherwise].*

1) Present [tise sare ok rekee]

The present tense use the bare stem of the verb, without a specific tense ending. It is **zero-marking** and personal endings go directly to the stem.

Ex: *DANKA* (to sing); *DOLE* (to sell)

danká	(I sing)	*dolé*	(I sell)
dankal	(you (sg) sing)	*dolel*	(you (sg) sell)
dankar	(he, she, it sings)	*doler*	(he, she, it sells)
dankat	(we (incl) sing)	*dolet*	(we (incl) sell)
dankac	(you (pl) sing)	*dolec*	(you (pl) sell)
dankad	(they sing)	*doled*	(they sell)
dankav	(we (excl) sing)	*dolev*	(we (excl) sell)

2) Past [tiyise sare ok darekee]

The past tense is formed with a suffix between the stem and the personal endings (or the participle endings).

This suffix is basically "**-y**" but has four variants (with the same principle as euphonic agreement):

- *ya*: verbs ending in -*a*
- *ye*: verbs ending in -*e*
- *yi*: verbs ending in -*i*
- *yu*: verbs ending in -*u*

Ex: *DANKA* (to sing); *DOLE* (to sell)

dankayá	(I sang)	*doleyé*	(I sold)
dankayal	(you (sg) sang)	*doleyel*	(you (sg) sold)
dankayar	(he, she sang)	*doleyer*	(he, she sold)
dankayat	(we (incl) sang)	*doleyet*	(we (incl) sold)
dankayac	(you (pl) sang)	*doleyec*	(you (pl) sold)
dankayad	(they sang)	*doleyed*	(they sold)
dankayav	(we (excl) sang)	*doleyev*	(we (excl) sold)

3) Future [titise sare ok direkee]

The future tense is formed similarly to the past tense, with a suffix between the stem and the personal endings.

This suffix is basically "**-t**" but has four variants:

- *ta*: verbs ending in -*a*
- *te*: verbs ending in -*e*
- *ti*: verbs ending in -*i*
- *tu*: verbs ending in -*u*

Ex: *FOLI* (to believe); *ESTU* (to eat)

folití	(I will believe)	*estutú*	(I will eat)
folitil	(you (sg) will believe)	*estutul*	(you (sg) will eat)
folitir	(he, she will believe)	*estutur*	(he, she will eat)
folitit	(we (incl) will believe)	*estutut*	(we (incl) will eat)
folitic	(you (pl) will believe)	*estutuc*	(you (pl) will eat)
folitid	(they will believe)	*estutud*	(they will eat)
folitiv	(we (excl) will believe)	*estutuv*	(we (excl) will eat)

E: Polarity [graysok]

There are four polarities in Kotava:

- *Assertive*: the normal state, showing that a situation is, happens.
- Affirmative: a reinforced assertive, insisting on the situation taking place, notion of "really".
- Negative: the reverse of the assertive. A situation isn't, doesn't happen, just so.
- Contraritive: the reverse of the assertive, or rather of the affirmative. A situation is not and all is done for it not to happen.

Each of the two moods (indicative and participial-relative), four speech acts (declarative, exclamative, interrogative and injunctive) may be used with with the four polarities. *[examples below are with the indicative unless indicated otherwise].*

1) Assertive (or *positive*) [anje sok]

This is the basic polarity. Something simply happens.
In Kotava, **the assertive polarity is implicit**, there is no special marking.

> Ex: *estú* (I eat, I am eating)
> *koe Paris irubá* (I live in Paris)
> *va sumewisiki wir* (he's looking at the television)
> *va in kiaval* (you're greeting him)

2) Affirmative [ene sok]

It is like a reinforced assertive, insisting on the fact that the process really takes place.

The affirmative is indicated by the preposed particle "**en**", which used by itself means "yes".

> Ex: *en estú* (I am really eating)
> *koe Paris en irubá* (I really live in Paris)
> *va in en kiaval* (you're greeting him straightforwardly)

3) Negative [mee sok]

This polarity tells that the process doesn't take place, is simply not happening.

The negative is indicated by the preposed particle "**me**" which used by itself means "no".

> Ex: *me estú* (I am not eating)
> *koe Paris me irubá* (I do not live in Paris)
> *va in me kiaval* (you are not greeting him)

Besides this simple negation, Kotava has two derived negations: "**men**" and "**mea**".

a) Pre-fact negation [abdife mee sok]

Pre-fact negation tells that the process hasn't happened yet, but shall normally. It is "not… yet".

Pre-fact negation is indicated by the preposed particle "**men**" (not… yet).

> Ex: *koe Paris men irubá* (I do not live in Paris yet)
> *sin va sint men kiavad* (they are not yet greeting each other)

b) Post-fact negation [radimife mee sok]

Post-fact negation tells that a process took place and has ceased. It is "not … anymore".

Post-fact negation is indicated by the preposed particle "**mea**" (not… anymore).

> Ex: *koe Paris mea irubá* (I do not live in Paris anymore)
> *sin va sint mea kiavad* (they are not greeting each other anymore)

4) Contraritive [vole sok]

The contraritive is a particularity of Kotava. It tells not only that a process doesn't happen, but also that all is done for it not to happen.

Contraritive is indicated by the preposed particle "**vol**" which used by itself means "on the contrary, surely not".

> Ex: *vol estú* (I do my best to not eat)
> *sin va sint vol kiavad* (they do all it takes to not greet each other)

5) Uncertain

Before 2011, the uncertain was a basic polarity like the aforementioned four. It is no longer the case and it's now considered a simple secondary grammatical feature, falling under the category of specifying pragmatics, expressing what is possible, uncertain, what is done or may take place, with nobody knowing for sure; it uses the particle "**rotir**" meaning "maybe, perhaps, possibly". (*cf. infra § J6: Pragmatics*).

F: Aspects [graykerdela]

Besides the three tenses, there is an extensive aspectual system in Kotava for all nuances of the verbal process. There are twelve aspects:

- *Simple durative*
- Instantaneous
- Anterior (or perfect)
- Posterior (or prospective)
- Relative perfect
- Relative prospective
- Inchoative
- Continuous (or permansive)
- Non-discontinuous
- Discontinuous (or pausative)
- Resumptive (or reiterative)
- Terminative (or cessative)

Each tense, polarity, mood, speech act, can sport any of these twelve aspects. *[examples beneath are in the indicative, unless otherwise noted].*

1) Simple durative [tiskise kerdela ok ree kerdela]

This is the implicit aspect for verbs. It show that the process has a certain duration (opposite of instantaneous).

Being the base aspect, it has no particular mark.

    Ex: *estuyú* (I ate)
               koe Paris irubal (You live in Paris)

2) Instantaneous [vule kerdela ok veree kerdela]

With this aspect the verb forgoes all idea of duration, the process begins and ends instantaneously, is just a point in time. There is often a sense of suddenness.

The instantaneous aspect uses the preposed particle "***ve***".

    Ex: *va finta **ve** disukel* (you glance at the add)
               *va finta **ve** disukeyel* (you glanced at the add)
               *va finta **ve** disuketel* (you will glance at the add)

3) Anterior *(or perfect)* [tiyise kerdela ok daree kerdela]

This aspect shows that an action happens, was happening or will be happening just before another that is as subordinated to it. It corresponds to the perfect in English.

The anterior aspect uses the preposed particle "***al***".

    Ex: *ixam **al** estú* (I've already eaten; that is, I'm ready to do something else)
               *va imwa **al** lusteyer abdida piyir* (he's bought flowers before coming)
               *arti tanda **al** awalketel* (you'll be dead in a year)

4) Posterior *(or prospective)* [titise kerdela ok diree kerdela]

This aspect, the opposite of the anterior, that an action happens, was happening or will be happening immediately after and in relation to another, the former often a direct consequence of the latter.

The posterior aspect uses the preposed particle "***di***".

    Ex: ***di** estú* (I'm going to eat; implying there is a reason why)
               *va imwa lusteter aze **di** pitir* (he will buy flowers and come (then))
               *meldayal nume **di** awalkeyel* (you fought the fight and died from it)

5) Relative perfect [kabdie kerdela ok suree kerdela]

The relative perfect (formerly *bound perfect* according to old terminology) is an aspect showing that an action has, had or will have happened, but without there being a dependancy to another action as with the anterior aspect.

The relative perfect aspect uses the preposed particle "***su***".

Ex: *su estú* (I've just eaten)
        *va imwa **su** lusteyer* (He'd just bought flowers)
        ***su** awalketel* (you'll just have died)

6) Relative prospective [kadimie kerdela ok furee kerdela]

The relative prospective (formerly *bound prospective*) is the exact opposite of the relative perfect. It shows that an action is was or will be going to certainly happen, is about to happen, but likewise without there being an idea of dependancy to another action.

The relative prospective aspect uses the preposed particle "***fu***".

Ex: ***fu** estú* (I am about to eat)
        *va imwa **fu** lusteyer* (he was about to buy flowers)
        ***fu** awalketel* (you will be about to die)

7) Inchoative [vabdie kerdela ok toree kerdela]

This aspect shows that an action begins, began or will begin to happen.

The inchoative aspect uses the preposed particle "***toz***".

Ex: ***toz** estú* (I begin, I start to eat)
        *va imwa **toz** lusteyer* (he started to buy flowers)
        ***toz** awalketel* (you'll begin to die, you'll wither away)

8) Continuous *(or permansive)* [trenase kerdela ok waree kerdela]

This aspect shows that an action keeps, kept or will keep going, that it isn't finished and that there was no break in the process.

The continuous aspect uses the preposed particle "***wan***".

Ex: ***wan** estú* (I keep eating, I'm still eating, I haven't finished eating)
        *koe Paris **wan** irubar* (he's still living in Paris)

9) Non-discontinuous [voljoase kerdela ok duree kerdela]

This aspect shows that an action doesn't, didn't, will not stop going.

The non-discontinuous aspect uses the preposed particle "***dun***".

Ex: ***dun** estú* (I'm eating and do not stop)
        *va imwa **dun** lusteter* (he won't stop buying flowers, he'll buy flowers over and over)

10) Discontinuous *(or pausative)* [waljoase kerdela ok noree kerdela]

This aspect shows that an action is, was, will be interrupted, and should resume later.

The discontinuous aspect uses the preposed particle "***non***".

Ex: ***non** estú* (I cease eating, I stop (temporarily) eating)
        *koe Paris **non** irubar* (he no longer lives in Paris (temporarily))

11) Resumptive *(or reiterative)* [lintese kerdela ok giree kerdela]

This aspect shows that an interrupted action resumes, resumed, or will resume.

The resumptive aspect uses the preposed particle "***gin***".

Ex: ***gin** estú* (I resume eating)
        *koe Paris **gin** irubar* (he's living in Paris again)

12) Terminative *(or cessative)* [vadimie kerdela ok teree kerdela]

This is the exact opposite of the inchoative. It shows that an action is, was or will be stopping for good.

The terminative aspect uses the preposed particle "***ten***".

Ex: ***ten** estú* (I finish eating)
        *va imwa **ten** lusteyer* (he stopped buying flowers)
        ***ten** awalketel* (you'll die at last)

G: Modalities [graycaveinda]

Verbal modalities express pseudo-modal meanings. They can occur with the two moods (indicative and relative-participial), four Kotava speech acts (declarative, exclamative, interrogative and injunctive), all polarities, all aspects, and conjugate for all tenses and persons. *[examples beneath are in the indicative, unless otherwise noted].*

Modalities are not aspects in that the latter express secondary temporal notions (durative, inchoative, anterior, instantaneous, etc.), whereas a modality expresses only a "position" with regards to the verb.

There is ten (chief) modalities in Kotava:

- *Effective*
- Abilitive
- Obligative
- Volitive
- Capacitive
- Creditive
- Apparent
- Conative
- Habitual
- Gnomic

Modalities, with the exceptions of the Effective and the Gnomic, have submodalities. They allow the expression of very specific concepts, if needed. Morphologically, modalities are distinguished with prefixes (with possible epenthetic consonants before vowel-initial radicals). Submodalities consist of an extension to the main prefix.

1) Effective [tise caveinda]

This is the main modality for verbs. ***Effective modality is implicit***, that is, there is **no particular marking**. A bare verbal form will always be in the effective.

Effective is the modality of what simply is (done).

> Ex: *estú* (I'm eating)
> *va rin kiavar* (he's greeting you)
> *va dulapafa neva beliyil* (you were reading a very interesting book)

2) Abilitive [rotise caveinda]

This modality shows that an action can take place, is possible. ***Notion of "possibility"***. Four potential submodalities.

Modality / submodalities	Notions	Prefix	examples
ABILITIVE	Possibility, power, opportunity, right, authorisation	**ro(t)-**	rosuter (he can, may write) rotestur (he can, may eat)
Physical aptitude	Being able, physical aptitude	**rode(f)-**	rodevulter (he is able to run) rodefestur (he is ready, able to eat)
Self-possibility	To allow oneself to, transgression, to dare	**rove(b)-**	rovesuter (he allows himself to, he dares write) rovebestur (he allows himself to eat)
External possibility	External permission, right, authorisation	**rono(v)-**	ronosuter (he is allowed to write) ronovestur (he has the right to eat)
Circumstantial opportunity	Impersonal opportunity, circumstantial possibility, favourable situation	**rovo(d)-**	rovovulter (he may run, it is time to run) rovodestur (he may eat, this is a good time to eat)

> * When the verbal radical begins with a vowel, prefixes have an epenthetic consonant to avoid hiatus.

3) Obligative [gonise caveinda]

This modality shows that an action must be done, is necessary. ***Notion of "duty"***. Four potential submodalities.

Modality / submodalities	Notion	Prefix	examples
OBLIGATIVE	Obligation, necessity, duty, need	**go(n)-**	gosuter (he must write) gonestur (he has to eat)
Physical obligation	Obligation, need, physical or physiological need	**gode(f)-**	godevulter (he physically needs to run) godefestur (he physiologically needs to eat)
Moral obligation	Moral obligation, self-imposed duty	**gove(b)-**	govesuter (he obliges himself to write) govebestur (he's forcing himself to eat)
External obligation	Obligation from the outside	**gono(v)-**	gonosuter (he is compelled to write, e.g. by his editor)

			gonovestur (he is forced to eat, e.g. as a child)
Impersonal obligation	General obligation that cannot be sourced to anything particular, necessity of doing	**govo(d)-**	govovulter (he hurries to run) govodestur (he rushes to eat)

* When the verbal radical begins with a vowel, prefixes have an epenthetic consonant to avoid hiatus.

4) Volitive [djumese caveinda]

This modality shows that you want to take an action. ***Notion of "will"***. Five potential submodalities.

Modality / submodalities	Notion	Prefix	examples
VOLITIVE	Will, desire, craving, wish, hope, appreciation, agreement, adhesion	**dju(m)-**	djusuter (he wants, likes to write) djumestur (he wants, likes to eat)
Resolutive	Will, want, exigence, resolution, intent	**djuku(r)-**	djukuvulter (he demands to run) djukurestur (he's set to eat)
Desiderative	Desire, wish, craving	**djuga(l)-**	djugasuter (he desires, wishes to write) djugalestur (he craves to eat)
Appreciative	Appreciation, like	**djuka(r)-**	djukasuter (he likes writing) djukarestur (he likes to eat)
Optative	Hope	**djupo(k)-**	djuposuter (he hopes to write) djupokestur (he hope to eat)
Favourative	Favour, availability, adhesion, agreement	**djupro(g)-**	djuprosuter (he is disposed to, agrees to write) djuprogestur (he agrees, accepts eating)

* When the verbal radical begins with a vowel, prefixes have an epenthetic consonant to avoid hiatus.

5) Capacitive [grupese caveinda]

This modality shows that you are able, know how to do an action. ***Notion of "knowing how"***. One potential submodality.

Modality / submodality	Notion	Prefix	examples
CAPACITATIVE	Natural ability, gift, acquired capacity	**gru(p)-**	grusuter (he is capable of writing) grupestur (he knows how to eat)
Acquisitive	Acquisition, learning	**grura(v)-**	grurasuter (he learns to write) gruravestur (he learns to eat)

* When the verbal radical begins with a vowel, prefixes have an epenthetic consonant to avoid hiatus.

6) Creditive [folise caveinda]

This modality shows that an action is believed to take place. ***Notion of "belief"***. One potential submodality.

Modality / submodality	Notion	Prefix	examples
CREDITIVE	Belief, sensation, conviction	**fo(l)-**	fosuter (he believes, is persuaded to write) folestur (he thinks he's eating)
Self-representation	Self-representation, image	**foge(s)-**	fogesuter (he sees himself writing) fogesestur (he's imagining himself eating)

* When the verbal radical begins with a vowel, prefixes have an epenthetic consonant to avoid hiatus.

7) Apparent [nuvelase caveinda]

This modality expresses the appearance, the semblance of doing something. ***Notion of "seemingness"***. Two potential submodalities.

Modality / submodalities	Notion	Prefix	examples
APPARENT	Appearance, semblance	**nu(v)-**	nusuter (he seems to write) nuvestur (he seems to be eating)
Simulative	Simulation, pretence	**nuji(d)-**	nujisuter (he simulates writing, he does as if he writes) nujidestur (he feigns eating)
Attestative	Affirmation, attestation, pretension	**nuru(y)-**	nurusuter (he claims to be writing) nuruyestur (he pretends to eat)

* When the verbal radical begins with a vowel, prefixes have an epenthetic consonant to avoid hiatus.

8) Conative [lagase caveinda]

This modality shows the attempt, the striving of doing something. **Notion of "attempt"**. Three potential submodalities.

Moality / submodalities	Notion	Prefix	examples
CONATIVE	Attempt, try, task	**la(g)-**	lasuter (he tries to write) lagestur (he's trying to eat)
Exertative	Effort, implication	**lasu(g)-**	lasusuter (he strives to write) lasugestur (he's striving to eat)
Periculative	Risk, chance, exposition	**laxu(y)-**	laxusuter (he risks himself to write) laxuyestur (he takes the chance to eat)
Performative	Success, achievement	**laju(p)-**	lajusuter (he succeeds to write) lajupestur (he achieves to eat)

* When the verbal radical begins with a vowel, prefixes have an epenthetic consonant to avoid hiatus.

9) Habitual [giltise caveinda]

This modality shows being used to do something. **Notion of "habit"**. Two possible submodalities.

Modality/ submodalities	Notion	Prefix	examples
HABITUAL	Habit, frequency	**gi(l)-**	gisuter (he uses to write) gilestur (he uses to eat)
Consecrative	Dedication, time committed	**gibe(d)-**	gibesuter (he spends his time writing) gibedestur (he does nothing but eat)
Ultimative	Interruption of an habit	**gita(b)-**	gitasuter (he does not bear writing anymore) gitabestur (he's had enough of eating)

* When the verbal radical begins with a vowel, prefixes have an epenthetic consonant to avoid hiatus.

10) Gnomic [sokise caveinda]

This modality shows that an action or fact is something permanent, something absolute. It is used, for example, for physics, natural laws, scientific postulates, proverbs and sayings. No submodalities.

Modality	Notion	Prefix	examples
Gnomic	Permanence, intangibility, general truth	**so(k)-**	sosuter (he writes, general truth) tawava sokanamenir (the Earth spins, general truth)

* When the verbal radical begins with a vowel, prefixes have an epenthetic consonant to avoid hiatus.

H: Voices [graywoyok]

There are five marked voices in Kotava:
- *Active*
- Passive
- Reflexive
- Reciprocal
- Secondary

The five voices can be expressed alongside the four speech acts, two moods, three tenses, four polarities, twelve aspects and ten modalities (as well as submodalities) for all verbs, provided that the transitivity and the semantics check. *[examples beneath are in the indicative, unless otherwise noted]*.

1) Active voice [tegis woyok]

This is the **implicit voice** for all verbs. Therefore, there is **no particular marking**.

All verbs have an active voice.

2) Passive voice [levgas woyok]

Passive voice inverts the notions of subject / object.

Only transitive verbs (those introducing a complement with the preposition "*va*") have a passive voice.

The passive voice uses the preposed particle "***zo***".

All verbal forms can be used with the passive, participle included though it has a special form.

Ex: *doalié* (I fight)   →   *zo doalié* (I am fought)
        foliyil (you believed)   →   *zo foliyil* (you were believed)
        rojutur (he will defend)   →   *zo rojutur* (he will be defended)

3) Reflexive voice [kataces woyok]

Reflexive voice shows that the agent acts upon themselves.

Only transitive verbs (those introducing a complement with the preposition "*va*") have a passive voice, provided that the semantics allow it.

All verbal forms can be used with the reflexive, active participle included.

Reflexive voice is expressed by the preposition "*va*" followed by the reflexive personal pronoun: "*va int*".

Ex: *va int tcaté* (I wash (myself))
        va int tipokeson dankar (he sings while shaving (himself))
        ko situla va int disukel (you are looking at yourself in the mirror)

When the object is in a participial clause, the form is "*va dil int*".

Ex: *va vegungik tildes va dil int me wil* (you do not see the neighbour resting)
        va in tipokes va dil int disuké (I look at him shaving)

4) Reciprocal voice [waldaf woyok]

Reciprocal voice has at least two distinct agents, and they act upon each other.

Only transitive verbs have a reciprocal voice, provided that the semantics allow it.

All verbal forms can be used with the reciprocal, active participle included. But as there are multiple agents, there are only plural persons.

Reciprocal voice is expressed by the preposition "*va*" followed by the reciprocal personal pronoun: "*va sint*".

Ex: *va sint disuked* (they are looking at each other)
        va sint vliguyuc (you despise each other)

5) Secondary voice [tuvaras woyok]

Secondary voice inverts the notions of subject / secondary object (e.g. beneficiary).

Only ditransitive verbs (that is, allowing for two objects: one introduced by the preposition "*va*" and another introduced by the preposition "*gu*") have a secondary voice.

The secondary voice uses the preposed particle "*mbi*".

All verbal forms can be used with the secondary, participle included though it has a special form.

Ex: *zilí* (I give)   →   *va lupa mbi zilí* (I am given a cake)
        dratceyel (you threatened) →   *mbi dratceyel* (you were considered a menace)
        dineter (he will demand)   →   *mbi dineter* (he will be asked)

I: Persons [grayilkom]

Only the indicative, the personal mood (not, then, the relative-participial) requires person. This is expressed by suffixes that stay in the same form, regardless of tense, aspect, modality or voice.

1ère person singular: stem + *'* (acute accent)
2ème person singular: stem + *l*
3rd person singular: stem + *r*
1st person plural inclusive: stem + *t*
2nd person plural: stem + *c*
3rd person plural: stem + *d*
1st person plural exclusive: stem + *v*

examples of conjugated verbs: *TI* (to be); *ROJU* (to defend)

tí   (I am)   *rojú*   (I defend)
til   (you (sg) are)   *rojul*   (you (sg) defend)
tir   (he, she, it is)   *rojur*   (he, she, it defends)

tit	(we (incl) are)	*rojut*	(we (incl) defend)
tic	(you (pl) are)	*rojuc*	(you (pl) defend)
tid	(they are)	*rojud*	(they defend)
tiv	(we (excl) are)	*rojuv*	(we (excl) defend)

Kotava distinguished two types of *we*. The first is inclusive, i.e. includes the interlocutor: it has a **-t** ending. The second is exclusive, i.e. excluding the interlocutor: it has a **-v** ending.

J: Pragmatics (or *specific prisms*) [graysodjey]

Besides all of the above, Kotava has also verbal pragmatics; but they're totally optional, with no implicit conformations.

Pragmatics are grammatical features, expressed by adverbial particles, giving supplementary information on a variety of levels. They're classed in several families.

Families of pragmatics are:
- Irrealis
- Epistemicals
- Evidentials
- Reality considerers
- External deontics
- Uncertain
- Injunction grades
- Interrogative specifiers

Within each group, options are mutually exclusive. However, it is possible to stack options from different families. There are restrictions of occurrence for some, though. *[examples beneath are in the indicative, unless otherwise noted]*.

1) Irrealis [megeltraca sodjey]

Irrealis are among the most frequent pragmatics. There are two of them:
- conditional (or hypothetical)
- inferential

In many languages these are moods on their own, like in French or Turkish, and thus are encoded in conjugations. Here they are a secondary feature, even if they erase the normal value of the indicative.

Irrealis pragmatics cannot be used in an injunctive speech act, nor with the relative-participial mood.

a) Conditional (or hypothetical) [kredaxa ok sazdaxa sodjeyinda]

Introduces a condition or an hypothesis. It also shows eventuality and incertitude. It can be found after "**ede**" (if) and its derivates *"edeen", "edeme", "edevol"*.

Irrealis is indicated by the particle "**co**".

 Ex: *ede ko Montréal co pil pune va rin co di jandé* (if you came to Montreal, then I'd take you in.)
 va Paris lodam London co abdualbayav (we would have preferred Paris over London)

b) Inferential [kroaxa sodjeyinda]

Shows that what is said is rather uncertain and has its source from hearsay, word of mouth, second-hand information, or hypotheses. Typical of journalistic speech.

Inferential is introduced by the particle "**nuve**".

 Ex: *bat greltokilik gan ukik nuve zo adjubeyer* (this tribal chieftain was allegedly murdered by a fanatic)
 gazikya koe Montréal sieleldeon nuve tigitir (the Queen should be in Montreal tomorrow night)

2) Epistemicals [malyexa sodjey]

Epistemicals bring a judgement from the enunciator regarding the credibility and the veracity of their information. There are eight of them. The particles are frequently used alone, notably in exclamative speech acts and dialogs.

The emphasis put upon personal expression in Kotava and the pronounced tendency of its speakers to connote their utterances explain the wide use of epistemicals.

Epistemicals cannot be used in injunctive or interrogative speech act, nor with the relative-participial mood.

They are:

acke	normal, well, good, so be it	*No opinion*
ae	well, amen, the truth is, I see	*Strict neutrality*
aje	too bad, our loss, unfortunately	*Regret*
ame	hem, doubtful, unlikely	*Reasonable doubt*
anse	nonsense, wrong, lies!	*Absolute doubt*
anye	oh, well, good, much better, luckily, super	*Satisfaction*
ape	probably, presumably, surely	*Measured adherence*
arse	absolutely, really, no doubt	*Complete adherence*

Ex: *bat greltokilik gan ukik **ame** zo adjubeyer* (this tribal chieftain was allegedly murdered by a fanatic, but this is very doubtful)

3) Evidentials [vrutaxa sodjey]

Evidentials are used to bring precision about the source of an information. There are five of them. The particles are frequently used alone, notably in exclamative speech acts and dialogs.

Evidentials cannot be used in injunctive or interrogative speech act, nor with the relative-participial mood.

They are:

inc	I've seen it myself	*Personal witness*
nuve	seemingly, it's said that, it seems that, from hearsay, got it from an indirect source	*Hearsay, indirect information*
soye	by necessity, it's a (natural) fact that	*Postulate*
tire	obviously, naturally, it goes without saying	*Natural evidence*
volinc	got it from a direct source	*Direct witness*

Ex: *bat greltokilik gan ukik **volinc** zo adjubeyer* (this tribal chieftain was murdered by a fanatic, I heard it from a personal witness)

The hearsay evidential nuve has also got an inferential irrealis value.

4) Reality considerers [guzekaxa sodjey]

Reality considerers shows an assumption, impression, confirmation or denial on the part of the enunciator as to the information. The particles are frequently used alone, notably in dialogs.

Reality considerers cannot be used with injunctive speech acts. They are:

awe	huh! I don't know a thing, no idea	*Ignorance*
cwe	seems to me, I got the feeling that	*Feeling, impression*
gue	yes, absolutely, I can confirm that	*Confirmation*
sye	it's anticipated that, normally, it should be	*Anticipation, foresight*
tce	I suppose, supposedly, probably, I guess	*Supposition*
volgue	yes it does, no it doesn't, I deny that	*Denial*

Ex: *bat greltokilik gan ukik **tce** zo adjubeyer* (this tribal chieftain was murdered by a fanatic, I suppose)
*bat greltokilik gan ukik **awe** zo adjubeyer* (I've got no idea wether this tribal chieftain was murdered by a fanatic or not)
*bat greltokilik gan ukik **gue** zo adjubeyer* (I can confirm that this tribal chieftain was murdered by a fanatic)

5) External deontics [govodaskixa sodjey]

External deontics express some kind of general and ill-defined necessity that cannot be sourced to anyone or anything in particular. The particles can be used alone.

The emphasis put upon personal expression in Kotava and the pronounced tendency of its speakers to connote their utterances explain the weak use of external deontics.

External deontics cannot be used with the interrogative speech act. With the injunctive, they bring sort of an attenuation to an order, "justifying" it in a sense by imputing it to an external and ill-defined need. They are:

fiste	it is necessary that	*External necessity*
vode	it would be good to, it would be preferable to	*External preference*
volfiste	it is not necessary that	*External refusal*
volvode	it would be bad that, better to not	*External reticence*

Ex: *bat greltokilik gan ukik **fiste** zo adjubeyer* (it was necessary that this tribal chieftain was murdered by a fanatic)
*bat greltokilik gan ukik **vode** zo adjubeyer* (it would have been better had this tribal chieftain been murdered by a fanatic)

6) Uncertain [rotire sodjey]

There is only one uncertain pragmatic. It expresses the general notion of incertitude. The particle is frequently used alone, notably in dialogs.

It can be used in all contexts and with all verbal forms and is therefore very frequent. It is:

> rotir   maybe, it could be that, it is possible that   *Uncertain*

> Ex: *bat greltokilik gan ukik **rotir** zo adjubeyer* (this tribal chieftain was maybe murdered by a fanatic)

7) Injunction grades (or *imperative intensives*) [dirgaxa sodjey]

Injunction grades, or imperative intensives, are restricted to the injunctive speech act. They bring nuanciation, with potentially three grades of distinct intensities.

Injunctive grades are much employed, as pragmatic particle or alone. They are:

> vay !?   please   *polite imperative, wishfulness, prayer*
> djay ‼   go for it! I tell you! I insist!   *insisted imperative, simple command*
> xay ‼   that is an order!   *absolute imperative, absolute order*

> Ex: *estul **vay** !?* (eat, please!)
>   *estul **djay** ‼* (eat, I must insist!)
>   *estul **xay** ‼* (eat, that's an order!)
>
>   ***vay** ker !?* (if he would wait!)
>   ***djay** ker ‼* (let him wait!)
>   ***xay** ker ‼* (let him wait, that's an order!)

A preposed injunctive pragmatic has a value of indirect address somewhat; postposed, it will rather function as a repetition of the order, as a direct address. The injunctive speech act is characterized by intonation, and its modulations will express different levels of insistence. In a polite imperative, it will barely rise, while on the other hand with an absolute imperative it will be powerful and sharp.

8) Interrogative specifiers [koeruxa sodjey]

Interrogative specifiers are restricted to the interrogative speech act. They are very generic. They are:

> kas ?   is…, does… ?   *interrogative of existence, global direct interrogation*
> mex ?   isn't it?   *interrogative of doubt*

> *(cf. supra chap. III § B3, for development and examples).*

K: Relative-participial mood [trendacave]

This is the only impersonal mood in Kotava, as opposed to the indicative, i.e. the participle has no subject argument.

It has two main functions:
- a purely modal one, making it sort of a relative mood introducing relative clause;
- forming verbal adjectives: active, passive and secondary.

As the indicative, the relative-participial mood inflects for all:

- tense: 3 tenses;
- polarity: 4 polarities;
- aspect: 12 aspects;
- modality: 10 modalities (plus the submodalities).

But not being a personal mood, it doesn't inflect for person. And as for voices, even if it has potentially all five (provided the sense and transitivity match), they are forms distinct from those of the personal mood. These characteristic forms must be learnt, because they are fundamental.

So the forms are:

1) Active participle [tegisa trenda]

All verbs have an active participle.

It is built on the verbal radical with a suffix "**-s**".

Ex: **ROJU** (to defend)   **DOLE** (to sell)
        *roju**s***   (defending)   *dole**s***   (selling (smth))
        *rojuyu**s***   (having defended)   *doleye**s***   (having sold (smth))
        *rojutu**s***   (going to defend)   *dolete**s***   (going to sell (smth))

The typical suffix "-***s***", which can be assimilated to an ending, will always be in final position, unless there is a vowel for euphonic agreement.

The active participle can be used in all three tenses, four polarities, twelve aspects and ten modalities (and all sub-modalities). On the other hand, it has only this one characteristic form instead of the seven persons.

2) Passive participle [levgasa trenda]

Only transitive verbs (that is with a direct object introduced by "*va*") have a passive participle.

It is built on the verbal radical with a suffix "-***n***".

Ex: **ROJU** (to defend)   **DOLE** (to sell)
        *roju**n***   (being defended)   *dole**n***   (being sold)
        *rojuyu**n***   (defended)   *doleye**n***   (sold)
        *rojutu**n***   (going to be defended)   *dolete**n***   (going to be sold)

The typical suffix "-***n***", which can be assimilated to an ending, will always be in final position, unless there is a vowel for euphonic agreement.

The passive participle can be used in all three tenses, four polarities, twelve aspects and ten modalities (and all sub-modalities). On the other hand, it has only this one characteristic form instead of the seven persons.

3) Secondary participle [tuvarasa trenda]

Only ditransitive verbs (that is with first a direct object complement introduced by "*va*" and a secondary object complement introduced by "*gu*" or alternative prepositions like "*pu*", "*bas*", "*ika*", etc.) have a completive participle

It is built on the verbal radical with a suffix "-***mb***".

Ex: **ZILI** (to give)   **GREWA** (to thank)
        *zili**mb***   (being given (smth))   *grewa**mb***   (being thanked)
        *ziliyi**mb***   (having been given (smth)) *grewaya**mb***   (thanked)
        *ziliti**mb***   (going to be given (smth)) *grewata**mb***   (going to be thanked)

The typical suffix "-***mb***", which can be assimilated to an ending, will always be in final position, unless there is a vowel for euphonic agreement.

The secondary participle can be used in all three tenses, four polarities, twelve aspects and ten modalities (and all sub-modalities). On the other hand, it has only this one characteristic form instead of the seven persons.

4) Reflexive participle [katacesa trenda]

Only transitive verbs (that is with a direct object introduced by "*va*") with a potentially reflexive meaning have the reflexive participle.

It is built on the active participle, combined with the reflexive structure "***va int***" or the second form "***va dil int***" when the object is in a participial clause.

Ex: **WI** (to see)   **TCATE** (to wash)
        va int *wi**s***   (seeing self)   ***va int*** *tcate**s***   (washing)
        va int *wiyi**s*** (having seen self) ***va int*** *tcateye**s*** (having washed)
        va int *witi**s*** (going to see self) ***va int*** *tcatete**s*** (going to wash)

The reflexive participle can be used in all three tenses, four polarities, twelve aspects and ten modalities (and all sub-modalities). On the other hand, it has only this one characteristic form instead of the seven persons.
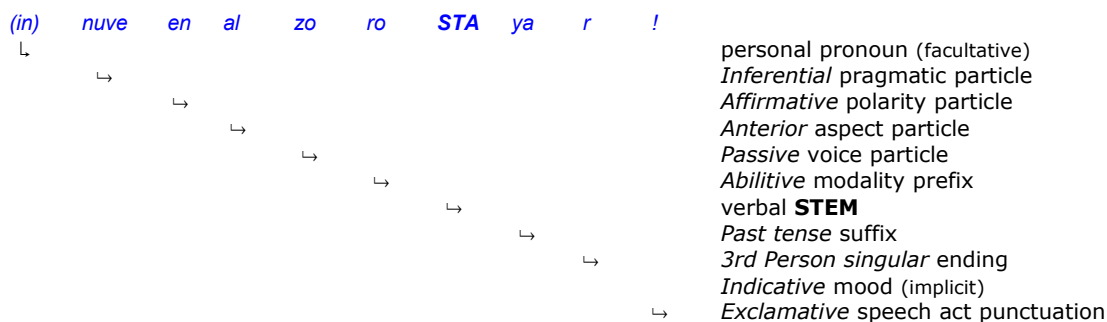
5) Reciprocal participle [waldafa trenda]

Only transitive verbs (that is with a direct object introduced by "*va*") with a potentially reciprocal meaning have the reciprocal participle.

It is built on the active participle, combined with the reciprocal structure "*va sint*".

Ex:　　　**DISUKE** (to look)
　　va sint disuke**s**　　(looking at each other)
　　va sint disuke**yes**　(having looked at each other)
　　va sint disuke**tes**　(going to look at each other)

The reciprocal participle can be used in all three tenses, four polarities, twelve aspects and ten modalities (and all sub-modalities). On the other hand, it has only this one typical form instead of the seven persons.

6) Modal use of the participles [unera va trendacave]

The relative-participial mood is largely used in Kotava, for example to make relative clauses.

The participle agrees euphonically with the name or pronoun it represents. The modally used participle is located, except for some stylistic effects (inversions), after the previous phrase.

Ex:　*korik **estus** va beg tir nik* (the person eating bread is a friend)
　*Rojusik **atayan** bak dilfura batlize di zo kotawayad* (the defenders killed in the battle have been buried here)
　*Yikya **pitisa** tir listafa* (the young woman who'll come is pretty)
　*Maria **zilimba** (va lupa) tir listaf yik* (Maria who is given (a cake) is a pretty young woman)
　*Va bat **prejayamb** aal albapá* (I like a lot this tree that I whispered to)

When the participle is used in apposition, it has an explanatory value:

Ex:　*karvol, disukes va pisik, otcer* (the cat, seeing the people coming, runs away)
　Zveri, koribayani, me tir nuyafi (the bird who was locked in a cage is not free)
　Emudera, grewamba, tiyir lacapafa (the welcome that I thanked you for was very warm)

7) Gerundive constructions [trendamuge]

Gerundive constructions are modal uses of the adverbial participles.
In the present tense, they serve to express simultaneity of actions and refer obligatorily to the same subject as the main clause.

The active gerundive uses ***the active adverbial participles***.

Ex:　*estu**son** pulvir* (he talks while eating) [present, simultaneity]
　*ranye**son** kenibec* (you sleep while standing)

The passive gerundive uses ***the passive adverbial participles***.

Ex:　*dizve**non** dankar* (he sings while he's looked at)
　*tipoke**non** belil* (you're reading while you're being shaved)

The secondary gerundive uses ***the secondary adverbial participles***.

Ex:　*beli**mbon** va rupa komodel* (you fall asleep while you're being read a story)
　*dratce**mbon** gu ervolia va patecta bower* (he rules the country although he's being threatened to have the army latched on him)

The past gerundive introduces a causal notion. Contrariwise, the future gerundive introduces a goal notion.

Ex:　***gildayason** va inafa xialara rolaní* (having understood her intentions, I can come) [past, cause]
　*va bata neva **gildatason** va gaderopa belí* (I read this book in order to understand politics) [future, goal]

L: Synthesis on the notion of verb

In the preceding paragraphs, the different elements of a Kotava verb and the forms they can take were reviewed.
It should be kept in mind that, apart from the fairly specific participial mood, the verbal system is characterised by great logic and absolute regularity. There are no exceptions.

"***rojú***" (I defend), "***tí***" (I am), "***dolé***" (I sell) or "***estú***" (I eat) are the smallest usable forms. They are made up of all the verbal implicit plus the stem, that is to say:

- *Declarative speech act*
- *Indicative mood*
- *Present tense*

- *Positive polarity*
- *Durative aspect*
- *Effective modality*
- *Active voice*
- *1ère Person singular*
- Verb stem

On the other hand, a form like "*(in) nuve en al zo rostayar !*" (he really could have been driven, they say!) has no implicit except for the indicative mood. It is to be analysed thus:

(in)	*nuve*	*en*	*al*	*zo*	*ro*	**STA**	*ya*	*r*	*!*

   ↳ personal pronoun (facultative)
     ↳ *Inferential* pragmatic particle
       ↳ *Affirmative* polarity particle
         ↳ *Anterior* aspect particle
           ↳ *Passive* voice particle
             ↳ *Abilitive* modality prefix
               ↳ verbal **STEM**
                 ↳ *Past tense* suffix
                   ↳ *3rd Person singular* ending
                      Indicative mood (implicit)
                     ↳ *Exclamative* speech act punctuation

These elements are all rigidly ordered:
- 0: personal pronoun (facultative)
- 0bis: pragmatics (facultative)

- 1: polarity
- 2: aspect
- 3: voice
- 4: modality (or submodality)
- 5: STEM
- [5bis: general suffix → augmented stem]
- 6: tense
- 7: person
- 8: mood
- 9: speech act (punctuation)

M: Transitive, ditransitive and intransitive verbs

In Kotava there are transitive, ditransitive and intransitive verbs. The latter are not fundamentally distinguished by their form from the former, unless they are assigned the intransitivating suffix.

1) Simple transitive verbs [tanmukodaf gray]

Transitive verbs are those that admit an object complement with the transitive preposition "*va*". Among them, simple transitive (or bivalent) verbs comprise the majority and have but one essential complement, regardless of possible adverbial complements.

From an intransitive verb it is possible to build a simple transitive verb with factitive value with the specific suffix "*-si*" added to the stem (or, alternatively, it's the active participle + *-i*) and create a new autonomous stem.

    Ex: *KENIBE* (to sleep)   → *KENIBESI* (to put to sleep)
               LUBE (to fall)   → *LUBESI* (to fell, to make fall)
               AELE (to hunger)   → *AELESI* (to starve)

Of course, it will be this new radical that must be taken into account to construct all the verbal forms studied above.

2) Ditransitive verbs [tolmukodaf gray]

Ditransitive (or trivalent) verbs are transitive verbs requiring two essential complements. The object complement is introduced by the transitive preposition "*va*", while the secondary one is introduced by the secondary preposition "*gu*". Among those verbs are "*zilí*" (to give), "*grewá*" (to thank for), "*tiolté*" (to put off), etc.

3) Intransitive verbs [mukodiskaf gray]

Intransitive (monovalent) verbs contain the entire action within themselves, so they do not need nor accept any complement.

Non-derived intransitive verbs are quite few, but are not formally distinct from transitive verbs. At most, let's note their relatively important number among verbs with stems ending in "-*e*" or "-*u*".

Derived intransitive verbs are built from transitive verbs to which a specific suffix has been added, that is "-*wé*" to the stem.

Ex: *BETA* (to change (smth))   → *BETAWE* (to change)
        TUEBELTA (to blacken (smth)) → *TUEBELTAWE* (to blacken)
        ESTU (to eat)   → *ESTUWE* (to feed oneself)

Of course, it will be this new radical that must be taken into account to construct all the verbal forms studied above.

N: Impersonal verbs [ilkomiskaf gray]

There is a small number of impersonal verbs in Kotava.

They are defective, with only five modalities (effective, capacitive, apparent, habitual or gnomic), the active voice, the two moods, three tenses, four polarities and twelve aspects, but only with the 3rd person singular without an apparent subject (the implied subject is the generic pronoun "**coba**").

Impersonal verbs belong to the category of verbs expressing an atmospheric or natural state. In dictionaries they are filed under their 3rd person singular form. They are:

abdar	it is wet
afizar	it is day
aftar	the weather is clear
awaltar	it is sunny

Next: see Annexes (annex C.1) for a complete list of weather and natural state verbs

O: Stative verbs [sokaf gray]

These verbs, of intransitive nature, introduce subject complements.
They are few of them in Kotava. These are:

bevulá	to pass for	*sipsé*	to make oneself
folkí	to believe oneself to be	*tí*	to be
ilpí	to cease to be	*trená*	to keep being
linulá	to act like	*vanpí*	to become
nijú	to turn out to be	*vanyé*	to behave as
nuvelá	to seem (to be)	*ví*	to be doing (fine)
nuvelé	to pretend to be	*vurolé*	to be supposed to be
pesté	to feel	*zavzá*	to stay, to remain
rulé	to consider oneself		

P: Sensation verbs [pestaleraf gray]

They are intransitive, and derived from substantives with a typical suffix "-*e*". They are:

aelé	to be hungry
akolé	to be sick
aundé	to feel frustrated

Next: see Annexes (annex C.2) for a complete list of sensation verbs

Q: Motion verbs [liziweraf gray]

There are a number of verbs in Kotava that are likely to be used in composition with **any locative preposition** (in any of its four forms). *Cf. Annexes (annex A3) for a complete list of these prepositions.*

These *motion verbs* thus become transitive et so build their object complements with the preposition "*va*". The locative idea remains entirely contained in the prefixed preposition.

Personal motion verbs are:

grablú	to hop	*pujé*	to swim
kildé	to slide	*rumkú*	to move by suspension
krafú	to roll	*talá*	to fly
lakí	to go (on some animal's back)	*terigé*	to crawl, to creep
laní	to go (by foot, by leg)	*vulté*	to run
lapí	to go (by mechanical means)	*welvú*	to leap

Examples of verbal compounds with personal movement verbs:

> *va mona **ko**laní* (I'm entering the house)
> *va widava **rem**talar* (he flies through the town)
> ***mal**vultel* (you run away)

There are also three non-personal motion verbs. These verbs normally concern only natural, abstract or immaterial phenomena and, except possibly metaphorically, do not apply to animated or tangible individuals. These are:

ní	to move	tangible fluids, materials, liquids, autonomous objects (ex. water, lava, dust, dirt, mud, ice, vegetation, rock, blood, sap, star, asteroid, vehicle, plant, etc.)
stí	to move	intangible fluids, waves, invisible objects (ex. electricity, radiations, wave, microbe, bacteria, energy, light, wind, air, gas, noise, etc.)
fí	to go, to pass	abstract concepts, immaterial beings (ex. time, thought, idea, divinity, etc.)

Examples of verbal compounds with non-personal movement verbs:

> *lorik va swava **ko**fir* (the god enters the spirit(s))
> *bixe va piluda **div**nir* (sand flows from the beach)
> *suka va ewala **rem**stir* (the wind goes through the island)

Chapter IV: DETERMINATIVES [gotuxa]

The determinative class plays a big role in Kotava. Indeed, it is largely from them that the living language is being shaped by the speaker.

All words used to qualify, determine or update a noun (or pronoun) are classified as determinative. However, they may also have an autonomous existence and syntactic role (*cf. chap. XII Assertive demonstrativeness*). Determinatives fall into two basic categories:

- adjectives (qualifying and verbal adjectives)
- actualisers or determiners (articles, demonstratives, indefinites, numerals, etc.)

Determinatives necessarily agree euphonically with the noun or pronoun they qualify and, generally, immediately precede it in the phrase or sentence.

A: Adjectives [sorela]

Adjectives are words qualifying a substantive or a pronoun. There is a distinction in Kotava between qualifying and verbal adjectives.

1) Qualifying adjectives [duvusa sorela]

There are derived and underived adjectives.

a) Root qualifying adjectives [xantafa duvusa sorela]

They come from the basic lexicon. They are very numerous, but they are recognisable thanks to their typical ending. in "*-f*", always preceded by a vowel (in 90% of cases "*a*").
The adjective stem, an essential notion in Kotava, do not comprise the "*-af*" or "*-f*" (if the stem ends in a vowel other than "*a*") ending.

Ex:	Stem of	*kiewaf* (good)	→	**KIEW**
		solwif (distinct)	→	**SOLWI**
		laof (bold)	→	**LAO**
		klaaf (aged)	→	**KLA**

According to the rule of euphonic agreement, we may find:
*lista**f**a mona* (pretty house)
*bataka**f**i zveri* (white bird)
*sumef**o** vo* (the faraway native land)
*opaf**u** sfianu* (acute rheumatism)
*afi**f** bitej* (shining star)

b) Qualifying adjectives derived from substantives, prepositions, etc. [dantena sorela]

All words in categories 1 and 4 in the morphological chart (substantives, prepositions, etc.) can build derived adjectives.
They are formed through the adjectivising suffix "*-af*", directly on the stem. If it ends in a vowel, the suffix is "*-f*".

Ex:	*tawava* (Earth)	→	*tawava**f*** (terrestrial)
	zubi (contract)	→	*zubi**f*** (contractual)
	molt (port)	→	*molt**af*** (portuary)
	koe (in)	→	*koe**f*** (internal)
	patectoy (landscape)	→	*patectoy**af*** (relative to the landscape)

2) Verbal adjectives [grayafa sorela]

These are participles used as adjectives. All of them can know this use.
Thus there are active verbal adjectives (suffix "*-s*"), with past, present or future meanings, passive verbal adjectives (suffix "*-n*") and secondary verbal adjectives (suffix "*-mb*"). *cf. chap. III § K: relative-participial mood*.

3) Gradation of the adjective [soreleka]

Gradation of the adjective comprises comparatives and superlatives.

a) Comparatives [dolunesa soreleka]

All adjectives can form comparatives.
There are three degrees: **superiority**, **equality** and **inferiority**. Comparatives are formed with prefixes:

- superiority: **lo**- (**lod**- for vowel-initial adjectives)
- equality: **li**- (**lid**- for vowel-initial adjectives)
- inferiority: **le**- (**led**- for vowel-initial adjectives)

	Ex:	*mantaf* (wide)	→	**lo***mantaf* (wider)
			→	**li***mantaf* (as wide)
			→	**le***mantaf* (less wide)
		argan (bored)	→	**lod***argan* (more bored)
			→	**lid***argan* (as bored)
			→	**led***argan* (less bored)

In addition, it is possible to provide comparatives with a notion of progression, by repeating the comparative prefix.

	Ex:	*mantaf* (wide)	→	**lolo***mantaf* (wider and wider)
			→	**lele***mantaf* (less and less wide)
		argan (bored)	→	**lolod***argan* (more and more bored)
			→	**leled***argan* (less and less bored)

To link the comparative to the comparee, the special conjunction "**dam**" (than) is used.

> Ex: *Karen tir lolistaf **dam** Staren* (Karen is prettier than Staren)

b) Superlatives [vamoefa soreleka]

Superlative are built from the comparatives preceded by the definite article. Logically, the equality superlative does not exist, although its semantic impossibility has not been firmly established.

> Ex: **tel lo***mantaf* (the largest)
> **tel le***mantaf* (the least large)

The superlative complement is introduced by the preposition "**ke**" (of).

> Ex: *Karen tir tel lolistaf **ke** pula* (Karen is the prettiest of her class)

4) Qualifying adjective complements [duvussorelafa tuvaraxa]

Any adjective may be supplemented by a complement, provided there is a semantic basis for it. Subordinate propositional complements, introduced by various conjunctions or conjunctive adverbs, can thus be found. But also nominal (or pronominal) complements. Verbal adjectives (participles) follow a verbal logic and therefore have verbal government (*cf. chap. III § K: participial-relative mood*). On the other hand, with regard to qualifying adjectives, the rules and possibilities of nominal (or pronominal) complements are as follows:

a) Ordinary complement [unaykafa tuvaraxa]

The ordinary complement of a qualifying adjective is introduced by the specialised universal preposition "**gu**":

> Ex: *Anna tir kerafa **gu** vola* (Anna is red **in** the face)
> *Muktu tiyir kotrafu **gu** lava* (The bucket was full **of** water)
> *In tir luridaf **gu** utiura* (He is prone **to** practice a sport)
> *Bat okol tir cuisaf **gu** lakira* (This horse is beautiful **as to** its gait)
> *Orka tir kuvafa **gu** bitonik* (The context is favourable **to** ambitious persons)

b) Complement of similarity [tuoltavasa tuvaraxa]

The complement of similarity of a qualifying adjective is introduced by the special conjunction, here with the value of a specialized preposition, "**dum**":

> Ex: *Anna tir kerafa **dum** luez* (Anna is red **like** a tomato)
> *Bonta tiyir kotrafa **dum** ato* (The room was **as** full **as** an egg)

c) Complement of dissimilarity [tuvololtavasa tuvaraxa]

The complement of dissimilarity of a qualifying adjective is introduced by the special conjunction, here with the value of a specialized preposition, "*voldum*":

Ex: *Anna tir akolesafa **voldum** galik* (Anna is prone to sickness, **unlike** a healthy person)
*Bonta tiyir vlardafa **voldum** kiewatca* (The room was empty, **quite the opposite of** a success)

d) Comparative complement [dolunesa tuvaraxa]

As said above *(§3)*, the complement of a comparative adjective is introduced by the special conjunction "***dam***":

Ex: *Okol sotir lokaliaf **dam** jaftol* (The horse is faster **than** the ox)

e) Superlative complement [vamoefa tuvaraxa]

As said above *(§3)*, the complement of a superlative adjective is introduced by the preposition "***ke***":

Ex: *Cuskol sotir tel lokaliaf sulem **ke** moukdunoleem* (The cheetah is the fastest **of** all mammals)

B: Determiners [tunoelaxa]

Actualisers (or determiners according to other terminology) are determinatives whose role is to update or instantiate a name or pronoun. Like all determinatives, they are subject to the rule of the euphonic agreement. The following are classified as actualisers: articles, possessive, demonstrative, interrogative, exclamative, indefinite and numerical determiners.

1) Articles [kordafa tunoelaxa]

Articles are considered determiners, close to demonstratives. Their use is by no means compulsory, except in certain specific circumstances. Thus, the definite article is required in the formation of superlatives and possessive pronouns. However, the indefinite article is of limited use. And the latter two articles are used only in very precise situations of overlapping of the various actants between the main and subordinate, participial or gerundive clauses.

tel	the: definite article
tan	a, an: indefinite* article
dal	[in subordinate, participial, and gerundive clause, refers to the subject of the main clause]
dil	[in subordinate, participial, and gerundive clause, refers to the object of the main clause]

2) Relative / possessive determiners [dikirafa tunoelaxa]

Possessive determiners are derived from personal pronouns with the adjective suffix "***-af***":

jinaf	my	*minaf*	our (inclusive)
rinaf	your (singular)	*winaf*	your (plural)
inaf	his, her, its	*sinaf*	their
		cinaf	our (exclusive)

There are two more possessive determiners:

- reflexive possessive determiner: "***intaf***", from the reflexive personal pronoun. It is redundant with 1st et 2nd person singular possessives, but in the 3rd singular it refers obligatorily to the subject while "*inaf*" refers to a third party. With the plural persons, it refers to each individual taken in isolation (in the 3rd plural refering to subjects while "*sinaf*" is for third parties).

There are also secondary forms "***dal intaf***" or "***dil intaf***", distinguishing unambiguously the true antecedents in contexts with functional nesting of the various actants of a sentence or in presence of a complex participial or gerundive clause.

- reciprocal possessive determiner: "***sintaf***", from the reciprocal personal pronoun. It obligatorily refers to a plural subject considered collectively.

3) Demonstratives [danedisa tunoelaxa]

There are three of them:

bat	this; the former (of 2)	
ban	that; the other, the latter (of 2)	
mil	the same, this very, notion of identity	

In enumerations and oppositions, "*bat*" is for the first term and "*ban*" for the second.

4) Direct interrogative determiners [koerusa tunoelaxa]

One basic and two built off it, them being:

tok ?	which? (general interrogative)	
tokoy ?	how much, how many? (numbering)**	
Tokeaf ?	how many of it, which one? (position, rank)**	

5) Exclamative determiner [divierafa tunoelaxa]

There is only the one:

man !	such a, what a!

6) Indefinite determiners [metentuna tunoelaxa]

There is 220 of them*. They are reduced to the stem (not to be confused with the "full" adjectives which are derived from them, but are carrying an autonomous semantic value). They are obviously subject to the rule of the euphonic agreement with vocal endings. Many of them are quantitative determiners.

a) Quantitative indefinite determiners

abic	few	small number quantitative [plural / partitive sense]
konak	several, some	average number quantitative [plural / partitive sense]
jontik	many	big number quantitative [plural / partitive sense]
dik	too little of, too few of	insufficient number quantitative [plural / partitive sense]
um	enough of	sufficient number quantitative [plural / partitive sense]
slik	too much	excessive number quantitative [plural / partitive sense]
vug	almost nothing of, the minimum of	minimal number quantitative [plural / partitive sense]
cug	almost all, the maximum number of	maximal number quantitative [plural / partitive sense]
le	the minority of, the least number of	minority quantitative [plural / partitive sense]
li	half the, as many	equality quantitative [plural / partitive sense]
lo	the majority of, most of	majority quantitative [plural / partitive sense]
dat	an incalculable number of	infinitely big quantitative [plural / partitive sense]**
mat	an infinitesimal number of	infinitely small quantitative [plural / partitive sense]**

b) Other indefinite determiners

ar	another	alternative indefinite
kot	each, all	distributive collective indefinite
mek	no	simple negative indefinite**
mel	no, not one (absolute)	absolute negative indefinite**
kon	some	unitary indefinite
bet	any, any kind of	undifferentiated indefinite
lan	a certain, some	differentiated indefinite
tec	a sort of, like a	ungeneric indefinite**
yon	a number of	plural indefinite [simple plural]

* Remark: the indefinite article tan could be considered likewise as a true indefinite determiner, falling within the category above. However, not belonging to the list of components involved in relative pronominal or adverbial series, besides its rare use, it remains classified outside.

** Remark: most of indefinite determiners are used as components for relative pronominal and adverbial series, with the exception of tokoy, tokeaf, dat, mat and tec. As for mek and mel, the share the simplified combining form me-.

7) Determiner enclisis [tunoelaxafa joara]

Determiners can fuse in Kotava, a possibility called enclisis. It's chiefly used with non quantitative indefinites, demonstratives and possessives.

With enclisis, the first term is taken in its radical state, any euphonic agreement ending concerning only the second term.

Ex: *bat* (this) + *ar* (other) = *batar* (this other) → *batara widava* (this other city)
     ar (other) + *yon* (a number of) = *aryon* (other (pl)) → *aryoni zubi* (other contracts)
     jinaf (my) + *yon* (a number of) = *jinyon* (my (pl)) → *jinyone blucte* (my dresses)

8): Numerals [otuk]

a) The notion of root

Numerals are actualisers (or determiners) in Kotava. There are two kinds of numerals: cardinals and ordinals; not to mention the multiplicative or fractional numbers, which belong to the category of qualitative adjectives.
Each numeral has a cardinal and an ordinal. They are formed on the same stem.
Since Kotava has a decimal-based system, all numerals are derived from 21 basic numeral roots.

b) Basic numeral roots [otukzae]

There are 21 of them (including 5 for very big numbers), from which all the other numbers are built by compounding. They are:

1	*tan-*
2	*tol-*
3	*bar-*
4	*balem-*
5	*alub-*
6	*tev-*
7	*per-*
8	*anyust-*
9	*lerd-*
10	*san-*
100	*decem-*
1000	*decit-*
10000	*kun-*
100000	*vunt-*
1000000	*celem-*
1000000000	*felem-*
10^{12}	*tung-*
10^{15}	*pung-*
10^{18}	*eung-*
10^{21}	*zung-*
10^{24}	*yung-*

It should be pointed out that there is also a root for zero, which is in no way involved in the composition of the other numerals:

0	*ned-*

c) Expression of numerals [otukafa muxara]

a. Cardinal numbers [otaf otuk]

Cardinal numbers are used to express quantities and counts. They are formed with the typical suffix "*-oy*" to the numeral stem.

Ex: one = *tanoy* (*tan + -oy*)
      four = *balemoy* (*balem + -oy*)

Like all determiners, cardinals agree euphonically with the determined substantive or pronoun.

Ex: *decemoy aal* (a hundred trees)
      aluboya mona (five houses)
      baroye blucte (three dresses)

b. Ordinal numbers [tirkaf otuk]

Ordinal numbers are used to express a rank, a position. They are formed by means of the typical suffix "*-eaf*" to the numeral stem.

Ex: first   = *tan**eaf*** (*tan + -eaf*)
       fourth = *balem**eaf*** (*balem + -eaf*)

Ordinals, like cardinals, agree euphonically with the qualified noun or pronoun.

d) Numeral compounding [otukafa ponara]

Except for the 21 basic numeral roots, all numbers are formed by compounding.

The number system is base-10. Numbers situated to the left of a power-of-10 numeral (*san, decem, decit, kun, vunt, celem, felem, etc.*) multiply the latter, and numbers to the right add up to it.
In a compound numeral, only the last term receives the typical suffix, cardinal or ordinal, the others remaining in the radical state. The roots are linked by hyphens.

Ex: 12 = *san-tol**oy*** (10+2) (or *tan-san-toloy*: 1x10+2) *
         20 = *tol-san**oy*** (2x10)
         22 = *tol-san-tol**oy*** ((2x10)+2)
        458 = *balem-decem-alub-san-anyust**oy*** ((4x100)+(5x10)+8)
   345560779 = *bar-decem-balem-san-alub-celem-alub-vunt-tev-kun-per-decem-per-san-lerd**oy***
         [(((3x100)+(4x10)+5)x1000000)+(5x100000)+(6x10000)+ (7x100)+ (7x10)+9]

* In compounds whose first term would be "***tan***" (one), the latter can be omitted, the following base 10 root being explicit enough.
Ex: 15 = *tan-san-aluboy* (or *san-aluboy*)
        115 = *tan-decem-tan-san-aluboy* (or *decem-san-aluboy*)
       1115 = *tan-decit-tan-decem-tan-san-aluboy* (or *decit-decem-san-aluboy*)

Negative numbers use the general prefix "***vol-***" on the number.

Ex: -15 = *voltan-san-aluboy* (or *volsan-aluboy*)
        -115 = *voltan-decem-tan-san-aluboy* (or *voldecem-san-aluboy*)
       -1115 = *voltan-decit-tan-decem-tan-san-aluboy* (or *voldecit-decem-san-aluboy*)

e) Arithmetical expressions [otukaf patavaks]

In arithmetical expressions, only the first (principal) term takes cardinal or ordinal marking, other elements keep the stem form.

"=" is pronounced:	***dum***	(like)
"+"	***do***	(with, plus)
"- "	***bas***	(minus, less)
"x"	***jon***	(multiplied by, times)
"/"	***fuxe***	(out of, to)

Ex: 3 + 4 = 7   : *bar**oy*** ***do*** *balem* ***dum*** *per**oy***
       4 - 3 = 1   : *balem**oy*** ***bas*** *bar* ***dum*** *tan**oy***
       3 x 4 = 12   : *bar**oy*** ***jon*** *balem* ***dum*** *(tan-)san-tol**oy***
       9 / 3 = 3   : *lerd**oy*** ***fuxe*** *bar* ***dum*** *bar**oy***

Other expressions:

"." is pronounced:	***u***	(dot)
"ⁿ"	***ekon gu***	(to the power of)
"√"	***zaeon gu***	(root of)
"%»"	***fuxe decem***	(percent)

Ex: 3.3 = *bar**oy*** ***u*** *bar* * (or *baroy lumolk **is** baroyi lumki*)
       15.6 = *san-alub**oy*** ***u*** *tev* (or *san-aluboy lumolk **is** tevoyi lumki*)

       3^4 = *bar**oy*** ***ekon gu*** *balem*
       $3\sqrt{4}$ = *bar**oy*** ***zaeon gu*** *balem*

       3% = *bar**oy*** ***fuxe decem***
       3% of 50 = *bar**oy*** ***fuxe decem*** ***ke*** *alub-san**oy***

   Only the main element gets the numeral suffix.

f) Numeral affixes [otukosta]

There are some affixes (prefixes and suffixes) allowing, starting from a numeral stem, to form numeral expressions or derivatives, always keeping in mind that a cardinal or ordinal numeral remains above all a determinative and is therefore likely to receive any determinative affix. *(cf. infra chap. X, Affixes).*

Specific numerical affixes are:

-oy	cardinal suffix	forms a determiner
-eaf	ordinal suffix	forms a determiner
-a	collective	creates a substantive
-e	numbered number	creates a substantive
-da	annual period	creates a substantive
-ka	daily period	creates a substantive
jon-…-af	multiplicative	forms a qualifying adjective
fuxe-…-af	divider	forms a qualifying adjective

Examples of numeral expressions: ***bar-*** (three)

*bar**oy*** (three)
    *bar**on*** (thrice)
*bar**eaf*** (third)
    *bar**eaca*** (a third)
    *bar**eon*** (thirdly)
*bar**a*** (trio, threesome)
*bar**e*** (number three, a three)
*bar**da*** (set of three years)
    *bar**daf*** (three years old, three-yearly)
    *bar**don*** (during three years)
*bar**ka*** (set of three days)
    *bar**kaf*** (three days old)
    *bar**kon*** (during three days)
jon**bar**af (triple)
    jon**bar**on ((multiplied) by three)
fuxe**bar**af (divided by three, third)
    jon**bar**on ((divided) by third)
bar**bar**on (three by three)

C: Attributive function [duwotafa yordara]

Attributive determinatives agree euphonically with the substantive or pronoun they modify.

Ex: *va listafa mona digir* (he owns a pretty house)
       bat gijaf is listaf aal (this big and beautiful tree)
       *va tan**e** listaf**e** blucte diskir* (he's wearing one (of his) beautiful clothes)

The attributive determinative goes generally immediately before the name it qualifies.
The attributive determinative may qualify only one substantive at a time, except with the distributive use of linking conjunctions.

D: Complement function [sparayafa yordara]

Complement determinatives also agree euphonically with the substantive or pronoun they modify.

Ex: *bat okol tid listaf* (these horses are beautiful)
       *bat**e** blucte tid listaf**e*** (these cloths are beautiful)

With more than one referent, euphonic agreement follows the rightmost one:

Ex: *okolye is okoly**a** tid listaf**a*** (the stallion and the mare are beautiful)
       *bat**e** blucte isu gem tid listaf* (these cloths and these dresses are beautiful)

The *absolute complement determinative* is a consequence of the demonstrativeness rule. This is the complement determinative used with an absent, but contextually obvious, referent.
Absolute complement determinative may not use the verb "*ti*" (to be). The euphonic ending is always "*-**a***", because of an underlying pronoun in "*-coba*".

Ex: it's beautiful = *batcoba tir listafa*,   or simply = *listafa*
       it's wide = *batcoba tir mantafa*,   or simply = *mantafa*

Chapter V: PRONOUNS [ikayolt]

A: Personal pronouns [ilkomaf ikayolt]

There is a complete set of personal pronouns.

1st person singular	*jin*	(*jinya, jinye*)	= I
2nd person singular	*rin*	(*rinya, rinye*)	= you (singular)
3rd person singular	*in*	(*inya, inye*)	= he, she, it
1st person plural inclusive	*min*	(*minya, minye*)	= we (inclusive)
2nd person plural	*win*	(*winya, winye*)	= you (plural)
3rd person plural	*sin*	(*sinya, sinye*)	= they
1st person plural exclusive	*cin*	(*cinya, cinye*)	= we (exclusive)

In English, "we" covers two different meanings, translated in Kotava by "*min*" and "*cin*".
"*Min*" is inclusive, that is to say the speaker includes the addressee(s) in the "we". On the other hand, "*cin*" is exclusive; addressees are excluded.

> Ex: *min betlize kenibeyet* (we slept anywhere. The addressee(s) is (are) included in this "we")
> *cin betlize kenibeyev* (we slept anywhere. The addressee(s) is (are) not included in this "we")

Personal pronouns are normally invariant, except in two particular cases:

a) When gender is insisted upon, the suffixes "*-ya*" and "*-ye*" may be added.

b) Euphonic agreement (only with "*in*" or "*sin*") with the subject is allowed.

> Ex: *Perake koe werd terigeyer, mewison va vamoetalasi zveripi. Ini va ine ipeyer* (the snake crawled in the grass, without seeing the big bird twirling above. The latter [in**i** = *zveripi*, the big bird] rushed on it [in**e** = *perake*, the snake])

The use of personal pronouns is frequently omitted in Kotava, especially when in subject position, except for emphasis, or with the suffixes "*-ya*" and "*-ye*", if gender is important. Subject pronouns are never repeated in the same sentence.

> Ex: *(rin) va mona disukel nume kalil da listafa* (you look at the house and say it's pretty.)

There is no such thing as politeness distinctions on pronouns.

1) Reflexive personal pronoun [kataces ilkomaf ikayolt]

The reflexive personal pronoun is "*int*". It is invariant (no feminine or masculine suffix). It is normally only used in complement position and refers obligatorily to the subject of the clause. In the first and second persons it is redundant with the regular pronouns, but for the third persons it always refers to the subject, whereas "*in*" or "*sin*" refer to third parties.

> Ex: *in icde int fereon pulvir* (he often talks about himself)
> *in icde in fereon pulvir* (he often talks about him)

In a participial or gerundive clause, it has the form "*dil int*", when referring to the complement of the main clause, if not the same as the subject.

2) Reciprocal personal pronoun [waldaf ilkomaf ikayolt]

There is a reciprocal personal pronoun "*sint*". It is invariant (no feminine or masculine suffix). Like the reflexive pronoun, it is normally only used in complement position, and refers obligatorily to a **plural** subject. It indicates that the action is done reciprocally by or for each of the subjects.

> Ex: *sin va sint disuked* (they look at each other)
> *sin va int disuked* (they look each at themself)
> *sin va sin disuked* (they look at them)

B: Possessive pronouns [dikiraf ikayolt]

They are constructed on the basis of possessive determiners (themselves derived from personal pronouns) which are preceded by the definite article. Like all determinatives, they are subject to the rule of euphonic agreement. They are:

tel jinaf	mine	
tel rinaf	yours (singular)	
tel inaf	his, hers, its	
tel minaf	ours (inclusive)	
tel winaf	yours (plural)	
tel sinaf	theirs	
tel cinaf	ours (exclusive)	

There is a reflexive possessive pronoun: *tel intaf* (his, hers, theirs, with a reflexive meaning). It also has the secondary forms *tel dal intaf* and *tel dil intaf* in some subordinate, participial and gerundive clauses.

C: Relative pronouns and others [skedaraf ikayolt isu ar]

There are 91 relative and other pronouns in Kotava (demonstrative, collective, indefinite, etc.), 85 of which belong to the pronominal series. These series are based on a compound relative pronoun and a component (on the same principle as the relative adverbial series).

Compound relative pronouns are:

coba	what, that what
tan	one (unknown)
tel	one (known), this one
tol	either

Components:

bat	this, the first	*proximate demonstrative*
ban	that, the last	*distal demonstrative*
mil	same, this same	*identity demonstrative*
ar	another	*alternative*
kot	each, all	*collective*
me	no, none	*negative*
kon	some	*unitary indefinite*
bet	any, whichever	*undifferentiated indefinite*
lan	a certain, some	*differentiated indefinite*
man	such	*exclamative indefinite*
yon	a certain number of	*plural indefinite [simple plural]*
konak	multiple, several	*average number quantitative [plural, partitive sense]*
abic	few	*small number quantitative [plural, partitive sense]*
jontik	many, much	*big number quantitative [plural, partitive sense]*
slik	too many, too much	*excessive number quantitative [plural, partitive sense]*
dik	to few	*insufficient number quantitative [plural, partitive sense]*
um	enough	*sufficient number quantitative [plural, partitive sense]*
vug	a minimum of	*minimal number quantitative [plural, partitive sense]*
cug	a maximum of	*maximal number quantitative [plural, partitive sense]*
le	less than	*minority quantitative [plural, partitive sense]*
li	as much/many	*equality quantitative [plural, partitive sense*
lo	more than	*majority quantitative [plural, partitive sense]*
tok ?	which?	*direct interrogative*
kas ?	is...? do…?	*existence interrogative*

Complete forms are thus:

coba (what)	*tan* (one) (unknown)	*tel* (one) (known)	*tol* (either)
batcoba (this)	*battan* (this one)	*battel* (this one)	*battol* (this one of the two)
bancoba (that)	*bantan* (that one)	*bantel* (that one)	*bantol* (that one of the two)
milcoba (the same thing)	*miltan* (the same person)	*miltel* (the same person)	*miltol* (the same of the two)
arcoba (another thing)	*artan* (another one)	*artel* (another one)	*artol* (another than them two, a third party)
kotcoba (all)	*kottan* (everyone)	*kottel* (everyone)	*kottol* (each of them two)
mecoba (nothing)	*metan* (nobody, no one)	*metel* (nobody, no one)	*metol* (neither)
koncoba (something)	*kontan* (somebody)	*kontel* (somebody)	*kontol* (one of two)
betcoba (anything)	*bettan* (anybody)	*bettel* (anybody)	*bettol* (anyone of the two)
lancoba (a certain thing)	*lantan* (a certain person)	*lantel* (a certain person)	*lantol* (a certain one of the two)
mancoba (such a thing)	*mantan* (such a person)	*mantel* (such a person)	*mantol* (such one of the two)

yoncoba (things, a certain number of th.)	*yontan* (a certain number of persons)	*yontel* (a certain number of persons)	*yontol* (both together, all two)
abiccoba (few things)	*abictan* (few people)	*abictel* (few people)	
konakcoba (several things)	*konaktan* (several people)	*konaktel* (several people)	
jontikcoba (many/much things)	*jontiktan* (many people)	*jontiktel* (many people)	
slikcoba (too many things)	*sliktan* (too many people)	*sliktel* (too many people)	
dikcoba (too few things)	*diktan* (too few people)	*diktel* (too few people)	
umcoba (enough things)	*umtan* (enough people)	*umtel* (enough people)	
vugcoba (a minimum of things, almost nothing)	*vugtan* (a minimum of people, almost nobody)	*vugtel* (a minimum of people, almost nobody)	
cugcoba (a maximum of things, almost all)	*cugtan* (a maximum of people, almost all)	*cugtel* (a maximum of people, almost all)	
lecoba (a minority of things)	*letan* (a minority of people)	*letel* (a minority of people)	
licoba (half the things)	*litan* (half the people)	*litel* (half the people)	
locoba (a majority, most of the things)	*lotan* (a majority, most of people)	*lotel* (a majority, most of people)	
tokcoba ? (what?)	*toktan ?* (who?)	*toktel ?* (who?)	*toktol ?* (which one of the two?)
kascoba ? (is there something that?)	*kastan ?* (is there someone who?)	*kastel ?* (is there someone who?)	*kastol ?* (is there one of the two who?)

Beyond these 85 compound pronouns, there are two more relative pronouns: "**dan**" (who, whom) and "**dacoba**" (that) more or less equivalent to "*coba*".

All serial pronouns with the compounds "*-tan*", "*-tel*" or "*-tol*" are invariant and not expendable. However, like personal pronouns, the gendered suffixes "**-ya**" and "**-ye**" can be added when gender is insisted upon.

Pronouns with compound "*-coba*" are absolutely invariant and not expendable. However, the isolated pronoun "*dan*" obeys the euphonic agreement rule and thus gets vocalic agreement suffixes.

The isolated relative pronouns "*dan*" and "*dacoba*" are seldom used and almost exclusively reserved for the introduction of indirect questions. Active, passive or even secondary participial constructions are preferred.

Ex: *va zveri dani talar dizvé* (I'm observing the bird who flies)
       va zveri talasi dizvé (I'm observing the flying bird; *better*)
       pruve va dane jin estú (the apple that I'm eating)
       pruve jinon estune (the apple eaten by me; *better*)

Chapter VI: ADVERBS [muge]

Adverbs are invariant words that describe a verb, a determinative, another adverb or a conjunction, or even an entire clause or sentence.

Many adverbs, especially relative adverbs and many of the root adverbs, also have a conjunctive vocation, i. e. they can introduce a clause, in the manner of a standard subordinate conjunction.

As a rule, adverbs go immediately before the qualified element.

There are three kinds of adverbs in Kotava: real or root (i. e. underived) adverbs, manner adverbs derived from determinatives, and finally adverbs with a relative value, belonging to the adverbial series.

A: Root adverbs, underived [xantafe muge]

There are not many, but widely used. They are:

adim	finally
balte	willingly, agreed
berde	this is a good time to
dile	it happens that, sometimes

Next: see Annexes (annex E.1) for the complete list of root adverbs

B: Adverbial series [mugeenk]

There are in Kotava, in the same way as the pronominal series, 18 series of relative (or conjunct) adverbs, from the same components (*kot, me, bat, ban, mil, lan, man, kon, bet, ar, tok, kas, yon, jontik, konak, abic, slik, dik, um, vug, cug, le, li, lo*).

The 18 basic compounds of these series are relative (or conjunct) adverbs. They are:

- date, moment	*viele*	when, as, at the moment when
- prior date	*vielu*	since when, since what moment, since the moment when
- subsequent date	*vieli*	until when, until which moment, until the moment when
- époque	*ugale*	at what (point in) time, at the time when
- duration	*edje*	how much time, how long, while
- cause	*dume*	why, for what reason, for the reason that
- goal	*enide*	why, for what purpose, in order to, so as to
- mean	*kane*	how, by which mean, by the mean that
- quality, manner	*inde*	what kind, how, in what manner, in the way that
- circumstance	*tode*	in what case, in what circumstances, in what conditions, in case
- eventuality	*kase*	what chance, what eventuality that, what possibility that, if
- number, quantity	*ote*	how many, how much, in what quantity
- degree, level	*eke*	to what degree, to what point, at this point
- price, value	*droe*	how much, what price, at the price
- place to go	*liz*	whither
- place to be	*lize*	where
- place to come from	*lizu*	whence
- place to pass through	*lizo*	through where

Examples of compound adverbs (among 432 potential ones):

tokviele ?	when?		*ardume*	for another reason
tokkane ?	how?		*kotugale*	of all time, historically
batenide	for this purpose		*medroe*	not for any price
laneke	to a certain degree		*jontikote*	in very large numbers
kondume	for some reason		*betviele*	anytime
tokliz ?	whither, where? (with movement)		*banlize*	there (no movement)
manlizo	by such a place		*arlizu*	from elsewhere
metode	in no circumstances		*yoneke*	to some degrees, to some levels
tokedje ?	for how much time?		*konakinde*	in many manners
cugeke	to the highest degree		*vugote*	in minimal quantity

These relative adverbs can be used as conjunctions to directly introduce subordinate clauses. They are very frequently in this role.

Ex: *Widava wan divlizewer **kotliz** lae tir azefe ok ticumansase* (the city continues to expand **wherever** the ground is flat or gently sloping)

*Laridagaben bulol ieyer **cugeke** jontiktan me rotcizayad* (the pig having its throat cut was screaming **so much** that many could not bear it)

*In koe bata mawa kenibeyer **meviele** kapamiel tiyir* (he **never** slept in this room **when** it was party night)

C : Manner adverbs, derived from determinatives [baskafe muge]

These are all adverbs derived from adjectives or any other determinative. Their construction follows a simple and unique rule:

- from determinatives with the ending "-af" or "-f":
  Taking the stem of the determinative (that is without the specific ending), the adverbial suffix "**-on**" is added.

	Ex:	_kaliaf_ (fast)	→	_kali**on**_ (quickly)
		favlaf (useful)	→	_favl**on**_ (usefully)
		laof (fearless)	→	_lao**on**_ (fearlessly)
		xuf (vertical)	→	_xu**on**_ (vertically)

- from determinatives without an ending:
  These determinative do not have the specific ending.
  There as well, an adverbial suffix "**-on**" is added on the stem.

	Ex:	_bat_ (this)	→	_bat**on**_ (thus)
		slik (too much)	→	_slik**on**_ (disproportionately, excessively)

- from cardinal numbers:
  There as well the stem serves as a base, i.e. without the typical "-oy" ending, to which the "**-on**", ending is added.

	Ex:	_baroy_ (three)	→	_bar**on**_ (thrice)
		san-aluboy (fifteen)	→	_san-alub**on**_ (fifteen times)

- from a verbal adjective (participles):
  Contrary to the general rule, the adjective is not taken in its radical form (which constitutes the verbal radical itself), but the adverbial suffix "**-on**" is added directly to the stem with the participial ending.

	Ex:	_meruptes_ (independent)	→	_meruptes**on**_ (independently)
		metentun (indefinite)	→	_metentun**on**_ (indefinitely)
		pokolemb (whom one hopes from)	→	_pokolemb**on**_ (in the situation of the one who is being hoped for)

All derived adverbs, like the adjectives, are susceptible to being subjected to comparative, superlative and progressive expansions.

	Ex:	_lokaliaf_ (faster)	→	_lokali**on**_ (more quickly)
		lelefavlaf (less and less useful)	→	_lelefavl**on**_ (less and less usefully)
		tel lokaliaf (the fastest)	→	_tel lokali**on**_ (the most quickly)

Chapter VII: INTERJECTIONS [divieks]

They form a class of words set apart. Neither nouns, nor even adverbs, although they are syntactically closer to the latter, they are unclassifiable and are, obviously, invariant.

Chapter VIII: PREPOSITIONS [yaz]

Adpositions are, like the conjunctions, closely related to the super-category of the so-called "introductory" tool words. Their role is absolutely fundamental, as the language has no declensions. Kotava knows no postpositions, only prepositions. These are classified into four categories: locative prepositions, temporal prepositions, miscellaneous prepositions and prepositive locutions on adverbs.

Most of the prepositions, locative and temporal ones chiefly, oppose themselves in meaning by pairs. Each preposition thus fulfils a very precise role and there is no catch-all preposition in Kotava (with the exceptions of the two tool words "gu" and "ic") that would be used to express all kinds of concepts.

A: Miscellaneous prepositions (neither locative nor temporal) [mexof is meugalaf yaz]

They come in all sorts. However, they are sometimes subdivided according to their meanings: cause, means, measure, etc. This will not be dealt with here.

Kotava	English translation	Opposite	Translation
a	without	dem	of (partitive)
arbe	for lack of	kan	by mean of, by, with
bas	from, off; less	pu	to (attribution)
bro	at the imitation of, like	kevie	unlike
damo	despite	tornoce	considering

Next: see Annexes (annex A.1) for the complete list of prepositions

B: Temporal prepositions [ugalaf yaz]

Kotava	English translation	Opposite	Translation
abdi	before	radimi	after
arti	at the end of, after, in	runi	since, since the beginning of, since the opening of
ba	at, at the moment of		
bad	in (time used for)		
bak	while, during, in		

Next: see Annexes (annex A.2) for the complete list of prepositions

C: Locative prepositions [xof yaz]

There are 53 locative prepositions in Kotava. Each of them has actually four distinct forms:

- form 1: expresses **where you go**
- form 2: expresses **where you are**
- form 3: expresses **where you come from**
- form 4: expresses **where you pass through**

The basic form is form 1 and the 3 others are built off it:
- form 2 = *form 1* + "**e**"
- form 3 = *form 1* + "**u**"
- form 4 = *form 1* + "**o**"

Kotava	English translation	Opposite	Translation
abdu	in front of, before	radim	behind, after
anam	around	ist	in the centre of, in the middle of
art	down, at the end of	run	at the doors of, at the start of
ben	à, après, sur		

Next: see Annexes (annexe A.3) for the complete list of prepositions

D: Adverbial prepositivisation (prepositional locutions) [mugeyaz]

There is a mechanism called "prepositivisation on adverb" in Kotava, which allows the creation of a locution with prepositive value from a determinative or an adverbialised noun. It is thus possible to express any locative relationships (absolute or relative, direction, size, etc.), and even others. In principle this can concern any term. However, usage and semantics restrict this ability to a relatively limited number of cases.

The principle consists in the use of an adverbialised form accompanied by one or the other of the two special prepositions gu or ic (ic/ice/icu/ico).

Their respective distributions are very clear:

1) The preposition "ic"

Ic (ic/ice/icu/ico) creates a locative prepositional locution. As with basic locative prepositions, there are 4 forms: where you go (ic), where you are (ice), where you come from (icu) and where you pass through (ico).
This preposition never stands alone. It is always used in conjunction with an adverb.

English keyword	English locative phrase	Kotava locative phrase
alignment	in the alignment of	conyon ic
corner	at the corner of	gentimon ic
opposite end	at the opposite end	arkuon ic
uprightness	perpendicularly	xuon ic

Next: see Annexes (annex A.4) for a thorough list of locative prepositional locutions

<u>Examples:</u>
- *Mona (tigisa) wexayon ice vosta tir savsapafa*: *the house overlooking the ravine is very ancient.*
- *Voklibon ico venta vultel !!*: *run through the top of the hill!*
- *Vwon ic keldega va situla rumkal !!*: *hang the mirror on the same level as the chimney!*

2) The universal preposition "gu"

Gu is used whenever no locative meaning is involved. For example:

- *Bata gola kobodon gu kelu tir wawapafa*: *this region in conflict with the capital is very poor.*
- *Emon gu retikeem in tir axarsaf*: *in terms of the ranking of candidates, he is too low.*
- *Tirka walvedeyon gu detce tir voldrikafa*: *considering the issue internationally, the position is difficult.*

Chapter IX: CONJUNCTIONS [skedaxa]

There is a lot of conjunctions in Kotava. Most of them introduce subordinating conjunctions and some do coordination. Morphologically, there are two sorts of conjunctions: simple and compound (with "*da*" (that) or another primary conjunction).

From a functional point of view, there are 6 types of conjunctions: primary subordinating conjunctions, compound subordinating conjunctions, special co-ordinating conjunctions, conjunctive adverbs, appositive-substitutive conjunction and a special category of binding conjunctions, which function in a somewhat peculiar way.

A: Primary subordinating conjunctions [taneodafa dirgasa skedaxa]

beka	although, though	*pune*	then (consequence clause)
da	that, the fact that	*solve*	while, although, instead of
dumede	as if	*teka*	without
ede	if (hypothesis)	*vaxede*	unless, unless if
goke	if indeed it is that	*voxosk*	but what's more, but also
kore	even though	*wari*	as long as, may...
larde	since, given that, as	*wotce*	so much so
ont	let's picture that	*zobe*	as long as
osk	not only		

These are the basic conjunctions. They introduce subordinate clauses, which must include a verbal form.

B: Compound subordinating conjunctions [ponana dirgasa skedaxa]

1) Compound conjunctions with "da"

abdida	before	*ticida*	at the end that, when
darpeda	as	*titida*	at the beginning that, when
kabdida	just before	*vabdida*	at the beginning that, when
kadimida	just after	*vadimida*	at the end that, when
kaikida	after	*valevida*	long before
kerida	waiting for (it to)	*valeyda*	besides
levida	just before	*vamoida*	long after
moida	just after	*vaxeda*	however that, except that, besides that
radimida	after		

Those compound conjunctions are made of prepositions + "*da*" (that), in enclisis. They fulfil a role similar to that of primary subordinating conjunctions, introducing subordinate clauses. Everyone of these, save two, express temporal notions.

2) Compound conjunctions with adverbial value

A number of primary conjunctions (beka, dumede, ede, goke, kore, larde, teka, vaxede, wotce, zobe) can merge with some polarity (***en, me, mea, men, vol***) or pragmatics (***awe, cwe, gue, sye, tce, volgue, soye, tire, fiste, vode, volfiste, volvode, rotir***) particles, thus creating compound conjunctions with and adverbial value able to introduce subordinate clauses. Some examples:

edeen	if really, if yes, if that's the case (then)
edeme	if not, if that's not the case (then)
larderotir	since it's possible (then)
korefiste	even though it were necessary (then)
tekatire	without it being evident (therefore)

Next: see Annexes (annex E.1) for a complete list of compound conjunctions with adverbial value

C: Special coordinative conjunctions [aptafa dobenplekusa skedaxa]

dam	than
dum	like, as, such as, in the way that, in the manner of; equal to
voldum	unlike what, contrary to what; different from what

There are only three of them, but they are special in that they can perform three different functions:

- simple preposition

Ex: *Paul tir lokaliaf **dam** Pierre* (Paul is faster **than** Pierre)
  ***Dum** Paul, Pierre va Paris albar* (**Like** Paul, Pierre likes Paris)
  ***Voldum** Paul, Pierre va Paris albar* (**Unlike** Paul, Pierre likes Paris)

- adverb, modifying a preposition or another adverb

    Ex: *Paul tiyir **dum** kum rapor* (Paul was **as** made of stone, [as petrified])
                *Paul **dum** lekeon estuyur* (Paul was eating **like** in the old times)
                *Paul **voldum** lekeon estur* (Paul is eating **unlike** in the old times)

- conjunction (verbs can be underlying)

    Ex: *Paul estursuyur **dum** ulinsiyir* (Paul ate too much **as** he drank too less [as much as])
                *Paul estuyur **voldum** uliyir* (Paul ate **not like** he drank [not as much as])
                *Paul estur loon **dam** doder* (Paul is eating more **than** he's paying for)
                *Paul estur leon **dam** Pierre* (Paul is eating less **than** Pierre [is eating])

D: Conjunctive adverbs [mugefa skedaxa]

Adverbs in adverbial series have a conjunctive dimension and can therefore introduce subordinate clause. They have been studied above (*cf. chap. VI: adverbial series*).

E: Appositive-substitutive conjunction [ikaaykasa skedaxa]

      i   [apposition / substitution]

This lone conjunction is a peculiarity of the Kotava language. It makes it possible to use an element or complement that has already been expressed, assign a new expression to it, which therefore has the value of a substitutive apposition.

F: Coordinative conjunctions [kagluyasa skedaxa]

There are 13 coordinative conjunctions. Each of them has actually four distinct forms:

- form 1: expresses ***simple word coordination***
- form 2: expresses ***distributive coordination***
- form 3: expresses ***homosubjective clause coordination***
- form 4: expresses ***heterosubjective clause coordination***

Form 1 is the basic form upon which the three others are built:
- form 2 = *form 1* + "-***u***"
- form 3 = *form 1* + "-***e***"
- form 4 = *form 1* + "-***en***"

is, isu, ise, isen	and
ok, oku, oke, oken	or (exclusive)
ik, iku, ike, iken	and/or
mei, meiu, meie, meien	neither
vols, volsu, volse, volsen	but not, unlike
az, azu, aze, azen	and (then)
vox, voxu, voxe, voxen	but, nevertheless, and yet
num, numu, nume, numen	(and) so
kir, kiru, kire, kiren	because
nek, neku, neke, neken	however, although, even though
lodam, lodamu, lodame, lodamen	rather than
lidam, lidamu, lidame, lidamen	(just) as much as, as well as
ledam, ledamu, ledame, ledamen	for lack of, for want of

1) Simple conjunctive forms

Simple conjunctive forms (*is, ok, ik, mei, vols, az, num, kir, vox, nek, lodam, lidam, ledam*) are used to link elements within a phrase or clause.

    Ex: *va atela **is** ilt estud* (they are eating meat and fruits)
                *va Paris **vols** London albar* (he likes Paris but not London)
                *va ilt **kir** fa estur* (he eats fruits because they're full of energy)
                *va ilt **lodam** atela estur* (he eats fruit rather than meat)

2) Distributive conjunct forms

Forms in "-***u***" (*isu, oku, iku, meiu, volsu, azu, numu, kiru, voxu, neku, lodamu, lidamu, ledamu*) are "distributive". In a simple clause, when the various terms are each accompanied by the same determinatives, they make it possible

to avoid repeating and "distributing" those determinatives. Thus, the determinations qualifying the first term will also apply to the following terms linked by a conjunction in "-u".

Ex: *listaf batakaf karvol **isu** vakol **isu** okol estud* (the pretty white cat, the pretty white dog and the pretty white horse are eating)
Determinatives "*listaf*" (pretty) and "*batakaf*" (white) apply to the 3 linked substantives.

*fentafa atela **voxu** kabayxa me tid kiewafa* (neither cold meat nor cold fish are good)
*fentafa atela **ledamu** kabayxa tid kiewafa* (cold meat when there is no cold fish is good)

3) Clausal homosubjective forms

Forms in "**-e**" (*ise, oke, ike, meie, volse, aze, nume, kire, voxe, neke, lodame, lidame, ledame*), called "clausal homosubjective", are used to link clauses having the same grammatical subject.

Ex: *karvol estur **ise** ulir* (the cat is eating and drinking)
*va Paris albar **volse** va London ilkader* (he likes Paris but on the contrary hates London)
*va Paris albar **nume** ko Franca fereon lapir* (he likes Paris and therefore travels frequently in France)
*va Paris albar **lidame** ko London lapir* (he likes Paris as much as he likes going to London)

4) Clausal heterosubjective forms

Forms in "**-en**" (*isen, oken, iken, meien, volsen, azen, numen, kiren, voxen, neken, lodamen, lidamen, ledamen*), called "causal heterosubjective", are used to link clauses having different grammatical subjects.

Ex: *karvol estur **isen** vakol ulir* (the cat is eating and the dog is drinking)
*Romuald va Paris albar **volsen** Mario ilkader* (Romuald loves Paris but Mario hates it)
*Romuald ko Paris lapitir **voxen** Mario koe London zavzagitir* (Romuald is going to Paris, but Mario will stay in London)
*in va taneafe iaxe batlize vegeduyur **numen** widava toz laumayar* (he built here a first factory and the town then began to develop)

5) Meaning of the various coordinating conjunctions

The conjunction "**is**" is used to indicate a strict additive notion.
         Ex: *va atela **is** ilt estutur* (he will eat meat and fruits)

The conjunction "**ok**" is used to indicate a strict alternative notion.
         Ex: *va atela **ok** ilt estutur* (he'll eat meat or fruits, but not both)

The conjunction "**ik**" is used to indicate an uncertainty between addition and alternative. In a way, this conjunction reflects the two above-mentioned ones simultaneously.
         Ex: *va atela **ik** ilt estutur* (he'll eat meat and/or fruits; maybe meat, maybe fruits, maybe both)

"**ik**" is also used to express an interval within a value scale, the notions of "between x AND y" or "from x TO y".
         Ex: *kota pula va tol-sanoy **ik** bar-sanoy ravesik dadir* (each class has between twenty and thirty students)

The conjunction "**vols**" is used to indicate an absolute opposite without an alternative.
         Ex: *va atela **vols** ilt estutur* (he'll eat meat but not fruits; meat and only meat, excluding fruits absolutely)

The conjunction "**mei**" is used to indicate the exclusion of all terms.
         Ex: *va atela **mei** ilt me estutur* (he'll eat neither meat nor fruits)

The conjunction "**az**" is used to indicate succession.
         Ex: *va atela **az** ilt estutur* (he'll eat meat and then fruits; first meat and then fruits)

The conjunction "**vox**" is used to indicate an additive notion, marked with a simple opposition.
         Ex: *atelanya **vox** iltaj zo bildeyed* (good meat but also bad fruits were delivered)

The conjunction "**num**" is used to indicate consequence.
         Ex: *ko Paris **num** Franca lapitir* (he'll come to Paris and therefore to France)

The conjunction "**kir**" is used to indicate the cause.
         Ex: *va grivakirapafa **kir** fedafa atela albar* (he likes tasty (because fresh) meat)

The conjunction "**nek**" is used to indicate a concession and restriction.
         Ex: *va yona savsafa **nek** meurmafa neva albar* (he likes old books despite them being out of fashion.)

The conjunction "**lodam**" is used to indicate a hierarchical addition. There is a strong emphasis on the first term.
         Ex: *va atela **lodam** ilt estutur* (he'll eat meat rather than fruits; he prefers meat to fruits)

The conjunction "*lidam*" is used to indicate an equal addition. The two terms are considered on the same level, equality is insisted on.

> Ex: *va atela **lidam** ilt estutur* (he'll eat the meat as well as the fruits; meat and fruits are placed exactly on the same level)

The conjunction "*ledam*" is used to indicate a supplementary addition. The first term exists for lack of the second.

> Ex: *va atela **ledam** ilt estutur* (he'll eat meat for lack of fruits; he'd have had fruits but he has meat, for lack of fruits)

6) Syntactical constraints

Coordinative conjunctions must be used as many times as there are coordinations.

> Ex: *karvol **is** yon vakol **is** okol estud* (the cat, dogs and the horse are eating)
> *karvol estur **aze** ulir **aze** keniber* (the cat eats, drinks, then sleeps)

The coordinative conjunctions used within subject phrases (simple or distributive forms) have an influence on number agreement if the clause contains a conjugated verb. The rule, a very simple one, is the following: whatever the conjunction, **there is plural agreement** systematically, even if semantically the singular would have been expected.

Chapter X: AFFIXES [osta]

This is one of the most fundamental and interesting parts of Kotava grammar. It is the affixes that give the language its richness of expression (both quantitative and qualitative), as well as its remarkable flexibility.
In Kotava, are called affixes only those affixes that have a certain meaning in themselves and are used to constitute new words and not mere paradigms (especially verbal ones).
There are five types of affixes, defined by the categories of words to which they apply. Thus there are:

- general affixes
- verbalising affixes
- verbal affixes
- nominal affixes
- determinative affixes

Let us note at once that the affixes have no other limitation of use than that imposed by logic and clarity of expression.

A: General affixes [jadifa osta]

These affixes may modify any word from the first three morphological levels (substantives, verbs, determinatives and derived adverbs).
They are further organised in four prefixes and seven suffixes.

1) General prefixes [jadifa abduosta]

me-	negation	ex.	*favlaf* (useful)	→	*me*favlaf (useless)
vol-	contrary		*favlaf* (useful)	→	*vol*favlaf (harmful)
en-	reinforcement		*favlaf* (useful)	→	*en*favlaf (essential)
tol-	repetition		*WI* (to see)	→	*TOL*WI (to see again)

2) General suffixes [jadifa radimosta]

They are formed with one or two significative consonants, with a post- or pre-posed linking vowel, varying in function of the class and/or shape of the words.
They are:

-m-	smallness, affective suffix
-p-	bigness, emphasising suffix
-j-	pejoration, pejorative suffix
-ny-	melioration, meliorative suffix
-rs-	excessiveness, excess suffix
-ns-	inadequacy, insufficient suffix
-ck-	normality, mean, middle suffix

They can in no circumstance change either the morphological nature nor the endings or final letters of a word. That is why their forms are varying, although regularly so. Thus:

- **with substantives**:
    Suffixes obey the euphonic agreement rule, thus the final letter of the substantive may call for an euphonic ending. Thus:

- substantives ending in *consonants or semivowels*	→	*-am*	*-ap*	*-aj*	*-any*	*-ars*	*-ans*	*-ack*
- substantives ending in "*-a*"	→	*-ma*	*-pa*	*-ja*	*-nya*	*-rsa*	*-nsa*	*-cka*
- substantives ending in "*-e*"	→	*-me*	*-pe*	*-je*	*-nye*	*-rse*	*-nse*	*-cke*
- substantives ending in "*-i*"	→	*-mi*	*-pi*	*-ji*	*-nyi*	*-rsi*	*-nsi*	*-cki*
- substantives ending in "*-o*"	→	*-mo*	*-po*	*-jo*	*-nyo*	*-rso*	*-nso*	*-cko*
- substantives ending in "*-u*"	→	*-mu*	*-pu*	*-ju*	*-nyu*	*-rsu*	*-nsu*	*-cku*

Ex:	*molt* (port)	→	*molt**ap*** (big port)
	fortey (blood)	→	*fortey**any*** (good blood)
	mona (house)	→	*mona**ja*** (shack)
	perake (snake)	→	*perake**me*** (small snake)
	dili (peace)	→	*dili**cki*** (standard, fair peace)

- **with verbs** (or verbal forms):
    Suffixes must again obey the euphonic agreement rule (like the tense suffixes), and are added directly on the verbal stem (do remember that for derived (in)transitive verbs, "*-si*" and "*-we*" are part of the stem).
    All subsequent verbal forms (participles included) will then use this extended stem. Thus:

- verbs ending in "-a"	→ forms	*-ma*	*-pa*	*-ja*	*-nya*	*-rsa*	*-nsa*	*-cka*
- verbs ending in "-e"	→ forms	*-me*	*-pe*	*-je*	*-nye*	*-rse*	*-nse*	*-cke*
- verbs ending in "-i"	→ forms	*-mi*	*-pi*	*-ji*	*-nyi*	*-rsi*	*-nsi*	*-cki*
- verbs ending in "-u"	→ forms	*-mu*	*-pu*	*-ju*	*-nyu*	*-rsu*	*-nsu*	*-cku*

Ex : *DANKA* (to sing) → *DANKA**NYA*** (to sing well)
DOLE (to sell) → *DOLE**PE*** (to sell a lot)
belí (I read) → *beli**jí*** (I read badly)
estuyur (he ate) → *estu**rsu**yur* (he ate too much)
dizveson (by observing) → *dizve**me**son* (by observing a little)
tunuyan (freed) → *tunuya**nsa**n* (inadequately freed)

- **with determinatives** (except verbal adjectives):

  - adjectives stem ending in "-af":
    forms: *-am- -ap- -aj- -any- -ars- -ans- -ack-* between the stem and the final category suffix.

    Ex: *favlaf* (useful) → *favl**ap**af* (very useful)
    batakaf (white) → *bataka**j**af* (dubiously white)
    kaliaf (fast) → *kali**ars**af* (too fast)

  - adjective stems ending in another vowel than "a":
    forms: *-ma- -pa- -ja- -nya- -rsa- -nsa- -cka-* between the stem and the final category suffix.

    Ex: *laof* (daring) → *lao**pa**f* (very daring)
    xuf (vertical) → *xu**rsa**f* (too vertical)
    solwif (distinct) → *solwi**cka**f* (well distinct)

  - determinatives without ending:
    forms: *-am- -ap- -aj- -any- -ars- -ans- -ack-* directly added to the stem.

- **with adverbs**:

  Only derived adverbs can receive general affixes.
  General suffixes, as for the adjectives, go between the stem and the typical "*-on*" ending.

B: Verbalising affixes [tugrayasa osta]

These affixes create verbs, either from substantive, or from determinatives. There is one suffix and four circumfixes.

1) Verbalising suffix [tugrayasa radimosta]

This is:
- *ú* : to practice an activity, a sport

  Ex: *nugaviputi* (football, soccer) → *NUGAVIPUTI**U*** (to play, to practice football)
  lexa (music) → *LEX**U*** (to play, to make music)

It applies directly to the substantive stem. When the latter ends with "-a", it disappears.

Verbs thus created are intransitive. Suffixed "-u" is then an integral part of the new stem.

2) Verbalising circumfixes [tugrayasa abduosta]

There are seven of them. Four apply to nominal stems, the other three to determiners.

- **on nominal stems**:

  - **ko- ... -** * : to enter, to introduce
  - **div- ... -** *: to out, to extract
  - **run- ... -** *: to start, to open, to clench
  - **art- ... -** *: to stop, to interrupt, to put out, to close

  * with consonant, semivowel or "-o" -final substantives, the suffix part of the verbaliser adds an "-á" to obtain a regular verbal ending. With any other vowel stems, the new stem only adds the prefix.

    Ex: *tota* (boat) → **KO**TOTA (to embark onto a boat)
    omaze (wagon) → **KO**OMAZE (to go onto a wagon)
    direm (car) → **DIV**DIREM**A** (to exit from a car)
    pako (party) → **DIV**PAKO**A** (to kick out of the party)
    afi (light) → **RUN**AFI (to turn the lights on)

- **on determinative stems**:

- **tu- ... -á** : to make something into something
- **gri- ... -á** : to cease a state
- **gu- ... -á** : to keep a given state

These three verbalising circumfixes apply to determinative stems, without their typical endings. The verbal stem thus created comprises *prefix + determinative stem + suffixed "-a"*.

Ex:			
tumtaf (holy)	→	**TU**TUMT**A** (to sanctify, to canonise)	
kristevaf (christian)	→	**GRI**KRISTEV**A** (to dechristianise)	
garif (authentic)	→	**TU**GARI**A** (to authenticate)	
ruptes (depending)	→	**TU**RUPTES**A** (to make dependant)*	
ar (other)	→	**GRI**AR**A** (to make uniform)	
parvuaf (clean)	→	**GU**PARVU**A** (to keep clean)	

* with verbal adjectives, the entire participial stem is to be used, not just the verbal stem.

All verbs created with these seven circumfixes are transitive, and can get direct objects introduced by the preposition "*va*".

C: Verbal affixes [grayosta]

These affixes create substantives and adjectives (=participles) from verbal stems. Actually, they're only suffixes. Three form participles (*cf. supra chap. III § K, participial-relative*), two others resultative and permanent quality adjectives, and the last ten substantives. They build directly upon the verbal stem.

-mb	secondary participle (secondary verbal adj.)	Ex. *ZILI* (to give)	→	*zili***mb** (receiving)	
-n	passive participle (passive verbal adj.)	Ex. *WARZE* (to produce)	→	*warze***n** (produced)	
-s	active participle (active verbal adj.)		→	*warze***s** (producing)	
-naf	verbal result (timeless)	Ex. *BUDE* (to close)	→	*bude***naf** (closed)	
-saf	permanent quality	Ex. *WARZE* (to produce)	→	*warze***saf** (productive)	
-ks	result of the action	Ex. *WARZE* (to produce)	→	*warze***ks** (product)	
-mbik	person secondary objet of the action	Ex. *ZILI* (to give)	→	*zili***mbik** (beneficiary, recipient)	
-nik	person undergoing the process	Ex. *RISTA* (to oppress)	→	*rista***nik** (oppressed person)	
-ra	verbal action (verbal noun)	Ex. *WARZE* (to produce)	→	*warze***ra** (production)	
-sik	agent, person doing the action		→	*warze***sik** (a producer)	
-siki	instrument, implement used for	Ex. *MADA* (to lift)	→	*mada***siki** (lever)	
-siko	machine, apparel	Ex. *GLUYA* (to bind)	→	*gluya***siko** (binder)	
-xa	object affected by the action	Ex. *IA* (to make)	→	*ia***xa** (manufactured object)	
-xe	building in which the action takes place		→	*ia***xe** (fabric, factory)	
-xo	place of the action	Ex. *WARZE* (to produce)	→	*warze***xo** (place of production)	

D: Nominal affixes [yoltosta]

These affixes create new substantives or adjectives from substantives.

1) Nominalising suffixes [tuyoltasa radimosta]

There are twenty-eight of them:

-a	numeral collective (on numeral stems)	Ex. *sanoy* (ten)	→	*san***a** (group of ten)
-ak	container	Ex. *eip* (salt)	→	*eip***ak** (salt shaker)
-akola	sickness, inflammation	Ex. *riz* (lung)	→	*riz***akola** (pneumonia)
-ava	language, dialect	Ex. *Franca* (France)	→	*Franc***ava** (French)
-cek	content, thing contained in	Ex. *art* (mouth)	→	*art***cek** (a mouthful)
-da	number of years (on numeral stems)	Ex. *san-* (ten)	→	*san***da** (decade)
-eba	profession	Ex. *tavesik* (professor)	→	*tavesik***eba** (professorate)
-eem	collective, ensemble	Ex. *suterot* (literary work)	→	*suterot***eem** (literature)
-eka	grade, level	Ex. *lava* (water)	→	*lav***eka** (water level)
-eva	doctrine	Ex. *selt* (society)	→	*selt***eva** (socialism)
-inda	type, variety	Ex. *reiz* (fairy tale)	→	*reiz***inda** (sort of fairy tail)
-ka	number of days (on numeral stems)	Ex. *san-* (ten)	→	*san***ka** (decade)
-ki	part, bit, piece of	Ex. *beg* (bread)	→	*beg***ki** (piece of bread)
-kril	side (on numeral stems)	Ex. *tev-* (six)	→	*tev***kril** (hexagon)

-kurke	treatment, therapy	Ex. *lizira* (movement)	→	*lizira**kurke*** (kinesitherapy)
-lent	angle (on numeral stems)	Ex. *tev-* (six)	→	*tev**lent*** (hexahedron)
-oc	direct descendant	Ex. *okol* (horse)	→	*okol**oc*** (foal)
-olk	least component unit	Ex. *bixe* (sand)	→	*bixe**olk*** (grain of sand)
-onya	making or selling place	Ex. *beg* (bread)	→	*beg**onya*** (bakery)
-opa	science, technics	Ex. *ava* (language)	→	*av**opa*** (linguistics)
-otsa	extremity, tip, end	Ex. *axoda* (dead end)	→	*axod**otsa*** (bottom of dead-end)
-roti	power	Ex. *bazaxo* (office)	→	*bazaxo**roti*** (bureaucracy)
-ugal	time, age, era, season	Ex. *imwa* (flower)	→	*imw**ugal*** (flowering period)
-xa	object, material	Ex. *rigela* (porcelain)	→	*rigela**xa*** (china)
-xe	building dedicated to a particular use	Ex. *okol* (horse)	→	*okol**xe*** (stable)
-xo	place, space	Ex. *aal* (tree)	→	*aal**xo*** (forest)
-ya	female being (human or animal)	Ex. *tavesik* (professor)	→	*tavesik**ya*** (female professor)
-ye	male being (human or animal)	Ex. *jaftol* (cattle)	→	*jaftol**ye*** (bull, ox)

Suffixes apply directly to the substantives; when those ends with "*-a*", it falls before a vowel-initial suffix.

2) Adjectivising suffixes [tusorelasa radimosta]

There are eleven of them:

-af, -f *	qualifying adjective, being characterised by	Ex. *mefta* (mountain)	→	*meft**af*** (relative to the mountain)
-eaf	ordinal adjective (on numeral stems)	Ex. *tev-* (six)	→	*tev**eaf*** (sixth)
-enjaf	lacking one or more	Ex. *gelt* (finger)	→	*gelt**enjaf*** (fingerless)
-famaf	loving	Ex. *neva* (book)	→	*neva**famaf*** (bibliophile)
-fimaf	hating	Ex. *neva* (book)	→	*neva**fimaf*** (bibliophobic)
-iskaf	lacking	Ex. *usuk* (hair)	→	*usuk**iskaf*** (bald)
-kiraf	containing, carrying	Ex. *eip* (salt)	→	*eip**kiraf*** (salted)
-koraf	shaped like, resembling	Ex. *gamda* (cross)	→	*gamda**koraf*** (cruciform)
-oy	cardinal number (on numeral stems)	Ex. *tev-* (six)	→	*tev**oy*** (six)
-toraf	eating	Ex. *cot* (flesh)	→	*cot**toraf*** (carnivorous)
-ukaf	colour of	Ex. *raltada* (rose)	→	*raltad**ukaf*** (pink)

* "*-f*" when the stem ends in a vowel (other than "*-a*").

Suffixes apply directly to the substantives; when those ends in "*-a*", it falls before a vowel-initial suffix.

E: Determinative affixes [gotuxosta]

These affixes help to create substantives and the manner adverb from determinative stems.
There are only five of them. They apply directly to the determinative stem (without the "*-af*" or "*-f*" typical suffix).
For verbal adjectives however, suffixes are added to the stem with the endings, not directly on the verbal stem.
These five suffixes are:

-aca	thing, action with the characteristic of
-e	part of a whole with the characteristic of
-ik	person with the quality of, the characteristic of
-on	manner adverb
-uca	quality

Ex: *listaf* (beautiful, pretty)
      ↪ *list**aca*** (a pretty thing)
      ↪ *list**uca*** (beauty)
      ↪ *list**e***   (the beautiful part)
      ↪ *list**ik***   (a beauty, pretty person)
      ↪ *list**on*** (beautifully, prettily)

    ar (other)
      ↪ *ar**aca*** (another thing, a difference)
      ↪ *ar**uca*** (the difference, otherness)
      ↪ *ar**e***   (the other part)
      ↪ *ar**ik***   (someone else)
      ↪ *ar**on*** (otherwise)

    ruptes (depending)
      ↪ *ruptes**aca*** (something depending)
      ↪ *ruptes**uca*** (dependency)
      ↪ *ruptes**e***   (the depending part)
      ↪ *ruptes**ik***   (someone depending)
      ↪ *ruptes**on*** (dependingly)

F: Unproductive nominal suffixes [riwefa yoltradimosta]

Thus are called a number of suffixes that work on principles similar to those of productive suffixes, but whose use is lexical, i. e. the terms they allow to create from other radicals are not limitless and are fixed in the official lexicon. Even if their use is often extensive and very easy to understand, in reality all the nouns built using these suffixes should normally be indexed and described in the dictionary.

There are various sorts, particularly in scientific fields. But here are a number of them that are useful to know (all generate nouns):

suffix	meaning	example		result
-aal	tree [agronomy, botany]	Ex. *toresta* (thorn)	→	*torestaal* (thorny bush)
-bolk	system, network [economy, social]	Ex. *skapa* (economy)	→	*skapabolk* (economic system)
-dunol	animal [zoology]	Ex. *perake* (snake)	→	*perakedunol* (reptile)
-e	fruit [agronomy, botany]	Ex. *pruva* (apple tree)	→	*pruve* (apple)
-fay	seed [agronomy, botany]	Ex. *xot* (beanstalk)	→	*xotfay* (bean)
-ie	animal call [zoology]	Ex. *vakol* (dog)	→	*vakolie* (barking)
-imwa	flower [agronomy, botany]	Ex. *kramta* (orange tree)	→	*kramtimwa* (orange flower)
-kranav	pain [medicine]	Ex. *relt* (muscle)	→	*reltkranav* (myalgia)
-nizde	mania [medicine, social]	Ex. *dubiera* (theft)	→	*dubieranizde* (kleptomania)
-pale	vegetal [agronomy, botany]	Ex. *voba* (lemon tree)	→	*vobapale* (citrus)
-sok	state, situation [general]	Ex. *selt* (society)	→	*seltsok* (social situation)
-toa	leaf [agronomy, botany]	Ex. *bilka* (banana tree)	→	*bilkatoa* (banana leaf)
-tral	electricity [technology]	Ex. *lava* (water)	→	*lavatral* (hydroelectricity)
-uti	sport [culture, way of life]	Ex. *nuba* (hand)	→	*nubuti* (boxing)
-vega	inflammation [medicine]	Ex. *alma* (skin)	→	*almavega* (skin inflammation)
-veta	cancer [medicine]	Ex. *larida* (throat)	→	*laridaveta* (throat cancer)
-zae	root [agronomy, botany]	Ex. *bemta* (mangrove)	→	*bemtazae* (mangrove root)

Chapter XI: AFFIRMATIVE DEMONSTRATIVENESS [ruyesa danedira]

There is a rule, known as the affirmative demonstrativeness rule, which allows to build a sentence without resorting to traditional syntactic constructions with a verbal clause. However, it has very specific effects and limitations.

A: Post-interrogative or post-affirmative statement [radimikoerurafa ruyera]

These statements without verbs consist in answers to questions or affirmations.

Ex: — *Do in estutul ? — Volgue.* (— Will you eat with him? —No.)
— *Tokkane in lapiyir ? — Kan direm.* (— How did he came? — By car.)

B: Predicative statement [pilkovoyafa ruyera]

Predicate determinatives generally are introduced by stative verbs, chief among them "*TI*" (to be). However, thanks to affirmative demonstrativeness, "*TI*" can be omitted. But only in the present tense, for generalities.

Ex: *sin tid gruf* (they are intelligent) or simply "***sin gruf***"
inya tir listafa (she is pretty) or simply "***inya listafa***"

C: Impersonal statement [meilkomafa gotusa ruyera]

Although it is not much employed, impersonal clauses may be introduced with only a determinative and the conjunction "*da*" (that). The implied impersonal subject is "*batcoba*". The euphonic agreement on the determinative will therefore be "***-a***"

Ex: it is important that it rain   =   *zolonafa **da** muvar*   (for *batcoba tir zolonafa da muvar*)

D: Absolute demonstrativeness [belikafa ruyera]

The verb "*TI*" (to be) is normally used for it. But "*TI*" may be omitted. Thus, a determinative or a pronoun alone are frequently translated with "*it is, that is*".
When it's a determinative, it must take an agreement ending in "***-a***", because "*batcoba*" is implied.

Ex: it's beautiful   =   *batcoba tir listafa*
or   =   *tir listafa*
or   =   ***listafa***

that's them   =   *tid sin*
or   =   ***sin***

E: Focus [ravlemafa tuanulara]

Along with the aforementioned, multiple tools are at disposal to foreground or stress a phrase or sentence component relative to the others. But there is specifically two particles specifically, known as focus particles, to highlight an element. They can be applied anywhere to any element, no matter what its nature: verbal form, determinative, substantive, adverb, preposition, etc.
The focus particle goes immediately before the affected phrase. "**To**" is positive focus, whereas "**volto**" is negative focus.

Ex: ***to** battan va gazik adjubeyer* = it was this person who murdered the king
*battan va **to** gazik adjubeyer* = it was the king whom this person murdered
*battan va gazik **to** batlize adjubeyer* = it was here that this person murdered the king
*battan va gazik **to** adjubeyer* = it was murdering the king that this person did

***volto** battan va gazik adjubeyer* = it wasn't this person who murdered the king
*battan va gazik ba **volto** miafiz adjubeyer* = it wasn't at noon that this person murdered the king

Chapter XII: COMPOUNDING [ponara]

Compounding is a frequent process in Kotava, regulated by the following rules.

A: Simple compounding [opelafa ponara]

It joins two substantives, along the following principles:

- The substantives keep their standalone shapes. However, if the determined begins with a vowel and the determiner ends in "*-a*", the latter disappears;
- determiner before determined;
- the determined (final element) defines euphonic agreement;
- one of the compounded element must have with the other either a **transitive relation** (preposition "*va*"), **genitive of possession** (preposition "*ke*"), **genitive of content** (preposition "*dem*"), **destination** (preposition "*tori*"), **purpose** (preposition "*ta*"), or **matter** (preposition "*kum*").

> Ex: **winkawidava** = *widava ke winka* (provincial town)
> **tieiaxe** = *iaxe va tie* (gas factory)
> **fadxabilaga** = *bilaga tori fadxa* (coffee cup)
> **suterabruxa** = *bruxa ta sutera* (quill for writing)
> **intakudja** = *kudja kum inta* (wood statue)

B: Merger compounding [jesa ponara]

This is the compounding between a substantive and its attribute.
The rules are:

- only one attribute;
- going before the substantive;
- the attribute is stripped to the stem (not the verbal adjectives);
- conservation of euphonic final "*-a*" on an attribute ending in *-af* if the substantive begins with a consonant.

> Ex: **pulodavertuma** = *pulodafa vertuma* (parliamentary system)
> **bemaneva** = *bemafa neva* (schoolbook)

C: Adverbial compounding [tumugeasa ponara]

Compounding is much used with an adverbial function, to express temporality or an idea of progression.

1) Temporal adverbial compounding

In the manner of adverbial series, it is possible to make an adverb from a determiner (demonstrative, collective, indefinite, etc.) and a substantive with a temporal meaning, when the corresponding temporal phrase would be introduced by the prepositions "*ba*" (at, in), "*bak*" (during) or "*remi*" (while).

The main affected substantives are:

bartiv	hour	*viel*	day	*afiz*	daytime
verast	second	*safta*	week	*vanafiz*	dawn
wexa	minute	*aksat*	month	*gazda*	early morning
gemelt	moment	*tanda*	year	*riel*	morning
vula	instant	*nom*	twilight	*miafiz*	noon
ugal	time	*miamiel*	midnight	*kiel*	afternoon
sare	age	*miel*	night	*siel*	evening

and their derivates in "*-cek*" (content).

> Ex: **kotbartivon** = *ba kot bartiv* (every hour)
> **kotgazdon** = *ba kota gazda* (every morning)
> **betsareon** = *bak bete sare* (from times immemorial, in any age)
> **batvulon** = *ba bata vula* (in this instant)
> **mekgemelton** = *ba mek gemelt* (in no moment)

It is also possible to combine the prepositions "*mali*" (since) and "*kali*" (until) with time adverbs.

> Ex: **maliarinton** = *mali arintaf viel* (since yesterday)
> **kalieldeon** = *kali eldef viel* (until tomorrow)

2) Distributive-iterative adverbial compounding

Already seen a bit in previous chapters, reduplicative compounding expresses progression and repetition. The first term is stripped to the stem with an euphonic -a if need be (=second term beginning with a consonant), while the second gets the endings (e.g. adverbial).

Ex: *barbaron* (three by three)
        abicabicon (little by little)
        kalikalion (making great strides)
        tuveltuvelon (from door to door)

Chapter XIII: WORD ORDER [ravlemvura]

In Kotava, there is no strict word order, except for some particular cases seen in the preceding chapters. However, we can find some general tendencies:

- prepositions are necessarily in front of the governed noun phrase;
- verbal particles are necessarily in front of the verb;
- attributive adjectives are in front of the qualified noun phrase;
- the subject is in front of the verb;
- adverbs are in front of the governed element;
- verbal complements (transitive and secondary) come before the verb;
- the nominal complement object follows the noun or adjective that it expands;
- pronominal complements come generally before the verb.

Chapter XIV: PRINCIPLES OF EXPRESSION [muxarindeem]

The aforementioned rules make up the grammar, strictly speaking, of Kotava. However, spoken and written expression follows some number of big principles as well that must be kept in mind. These are, in sort of an order of importance:

1) Contextuality [orkuca]

The first of the big principles. That is to say, an utterance must always be considered in context, in relation to the people involved. Something that is obvious to them does not need to be clarified or repeated. This applies in particular to the notion of the definiteness/indefiniteness of phrases, hence the virtual absence of articles for example. Or the inferences in complements, nominal sentences, simple verbal forms.

2) Minimality [vuguca]

Principle which follows in part from the previous one. Among the many grammatical and lexical possibilities available, the simplest and shortest will always be preferred, unless there is a specific desire. Thus in the choice of certain affixes or modalities. Still according to this principle, everything that may appear redundant will be removed, the personal pronouns being a good illustration of this, since verbal endings already express person.

3) Univocity [tanpestuca]. Strict respect of the morphology

A strong principle in Kotava, the language does not admit the overriding of morphological nature. A word belongs to only one category at a time. Derivations like "verb → noun" or "noun → adjective" and other derivations must be based on specialized affixes.

4) Persistence [linvesuca]

This principle applies above all to the expression of the third person subject. Within an entire paragraph, that is on a set of several sentences, until a new topic is explicitly stated, the actant is always the initial topic. This principle also explains the wide use of distributive forms of binding conjunctions.

5) Unambiguity [mevokuca]

An essential characteristic of Kotava, expression is generally precise, taking into account the preceding principles. Speaking or writing in a vague way always seems to be a particular desire. Precision is implicit, hence the frequent use of forms, adverbs or affixes eliminating any risk of ambiguity.

6) Position of enunciator [slemasikuca]. Centred on the enunciator. Direct speech

Kotava use always favours direct and personalised expression, active voice, the enunciator's involvement. Impersonal forms, leaving aside inherently impersonal verbs like "to rain" or "to be night", are not very popular and complicated.

7) Syntactical freedom [vuranuyuca]

Provided compliance with the mandatory constraints (preposition preceding substantives or Object-Verb order, for example), there is a good deal of freedom for word order in Kotava.

ANNEXES [yona notraca]

Below are exposed some lists of prepositions, classifiers, verbs, expressions, etc.

A: Prepositions [yaz]

A comprehensive listing of Kotava prepositions:

A.1: Miscellaneous prepositions (neither locative nor temporal) [meugalaf is mexof yaz]

Kotava prep.	English	Antonymic	English
a	without	*dem*	of (partitive)
arbe	for want of, for lack of	*kan*	by, with, by mean of
bas	from, off; less	*pu; do*	for (attribution); plus
bro	at the imitation of, like	*kevie*	contrary to
damo	despite	*tornoce*	considering
defre	able to, in shape for	*voldefre*	unable to
dem	of (partitive)	*a*	without
dim	(coming back to an original state)		
do	with (comitative); plus	*voldo; bas*	without; less
dolge	regarding		
don	included	*vaxe, rade*	to the exception of, apart from
fuxe	by (proportion), divided by	*jon*	time(s), multiplied by
gan	by (agent)		
golde	because of (negatively)	*tuke*	thanks to
gu	of, to (adjective compl.; indirect)		
icde	about, on		
ika	instead of	*wetce*	as, in quality of
joke	to the profit of	*kunte*	to the detriment of
jon	by, multiplied by	*fuxe*	by (proportion), divided by
kabe	for lack of, for want of	*kan*	by, with, by mean of
kan	by, with, by mean of	*arbe, kabe*	for lack of, for want of
kapbure	in relation to, compared to		
kare	on the basis of, based on	*volkare*	regardless of
ke	of (genitive, possessor)	*volke*	not pertaining to, not… 's
kepte	to the point of		
kev	against	*mu*	for, pro, benefitting, in favour of
kevie	contrary to	*bro*	at the imitation of, like
krede	provided that, by means of	*volkrede*	without condition of
kum	in (material)		
kunte	to the detriment of	*joke*	to the profit of
luke	not considering	*oye*	considering
luxe	as for, relatively to, concerning		

mu	for, pro, to the benefit of, in favour of	*kev*	against
nekev	despite	*tornoce*	considering
nope	by virtue of, according to	*volnope*	in contradiction with, not depending on
oye	since, given that	*luke*	without regard to, regardless of
pu	to (attribution)	*bas*	from, off; less
rade	to the exception of, apart from	*don*	included
rape	in accordance with	*trace*	with no regard for
rolde	longing for		
sedme	according to, for		
seye	in lieu of		
sol	off with (separation)		
sotre	at the rate of		
stopre	at the mercy of	*volstopre*	independently of, not depending on
ta	to, such as to (goal)		
ton	in (manner, state)		
tori	for (destined use)		
tornoce	considering	*damo, nekev*	despite, in spite of
tove	with regards to, towards		
trace	with no regard for	*rape*	in accordance with
tre	after so many/much	*voltre*	without showing any
tuke	thanks to (positively)	*golde*	because of (negatively)
ute	instead of		
va	(object prep., transitivity)		
valey	besides, in addition to	*volvaley*	aside from, regardless of
varze	with, towards		
vas	worth, for, to the amount of		
vaxe	except	*don*	including
vey	by, from, through (filiation, source)		
vile	from the point of view of, according to		
voldefre	unable to	*defre*	able to, in shape for
voldo	without (≠ with)	*do*	with (comitative)
volkare	regardless of	*kare*	on the basis of, based on
volke	not pertaining to, not… 's	*ke*	of, pertaining to
volkrede	with no condition of	*krede*	provided that, by means of
volkunte	to the profit of	*kunte*	at the expense of
volnope	in contradiction with, not depending on	*nope*	by virtue of, according to
volstopre	independently of, not depending on	*stopre*	to the mercy of
voltre	without showing any	*tre*	after so many/much
volvaley	aside from, regardless of	*valey*	besides, in addition to
volyoke	not because of, with no cause from	*yoke*	because of
wal	between		
wetce	as, in quality of	*ika*	instead of
yoke	because of	*volyoke*	not because of, with no cause from

A.2: Temporal prepositions [ugalaf yaz]

Kotava prep.	English	Antonymic	English
abdi	before	*radimi*	after
arti	by the end of, after	*runi*	since (the beginning of, the inception of)
ba	at, at the moment of		
bad	in (time needed for)		
bak	during		
bal	on the occasion of		
drumi	around (short time)		
ezi	outside	*remi*	during, while, as
ili	long after		
isti	in the (exact) middle, mid-		
kabdi	(just) before	*kadimi*	(just) after
kadimi	(just) after	*kabdi*	(just) before
kaiki	after	*vomi*	before
kali	until	*mali*	since
keri	until, waiting for		
kevi	towards, by (very soon)		
koi	at, at the instant of		
levi	(just) before	*moi*	(juste) after
mali	since	*kali*	until
moi	(just) after	*levi*	(juste) before
moni	towards, by		
poki	not long before	*sumi*	long before (many times ago)
radimi	after	*abdi*	before
remi	during, while, as	*ezi*	outside
runi	since (the beginning of)	*arti*	au bout de
sumi	long before (many times ago)	*moni*	not long before
teni	following	*tozi*	preceding
tidi	at the end of	*titi*	at the beginning of
titi	at the beginning of	*tidi*	at the end of
tozi	preceding	*teni*	following
vabdi	in the beginning of	*vadimi*	in the end of
vadimi	in the end of	*vabdi*	in the beginning of
vamoi	(long) after	*valevi*	(long) before
vani	near, not long after	*ili*	long after
valevi	(long) before	*vamoi*	(long) after
voki	before and after …	*wali*	between

vomi	before	*kaiki*	after
wali	between	*voki*	before and after …
weti	ago		

A.3: Locative prepositions [xof yaz]

Kotava prep.	English	Antonymic	English
abdu	in the front of, before	*radim*	behind, after
anam	around	*ist*	in the centre of, in the middle of
art	down, at the end of	*run*	at the doors of, at the start of
ben	after, to		
bid	perpendicularly to	*vaken*	parallelly to
can	in the periphery of	*ist*	in the centre of, in the middle of
dad	diagonally of		
den	at… 's		
div	without, outside	*ko*	in, within
drum	close to	*kev*	against
ez	away, outside, off from	*vanmia*	among
ge	back to; south of	*lent*	facing; north of
geron	southeast of	*lenttalt*	northwest of
getalt	southwest of	*lentron*	northeast of
ic*	to, of (adverbial prep.)		
il	far from	*van*	towards (approach)
ist	at the centre, in the middle	*can*	on the outskirts of
kabdu	before	*kadim*	behind
kadim	behind	*kabdu*	before
kaik	beyond, across	*vom*	below, from this side of
kak	back against	*kev*	against
kal	till	*mal*	from (origin)
katic	upstream of, higher than	*katit*	downstream of, lower than
katit	downstream of, lower than	*katic*	upstream of, higher than
ken	along		
kev	against	*kak*	back against
ko	in, within	*div*	without, outside
lent	facing; north of	*ge*	back to; south of
lentron	northeast of	*getalt*	in the southwest of
lenttalt	northwest of	*geron*	in the southeast of
lev	under (with contact)	*mo*	on
mal	from (origin)	*kal*	till
mo	on	*lev*	under (with contact)
mon	in the vicinity of, near		
pok	near	*sum*	far from
radim	in the rear of	*abdu*	in the front of
rem	through, across		
ron	to the right of; east of	*talt*	to the link of; to the west of
run	at the doors of, at the start of	*art*	down, at the end of
sum	far from	*pok*	near
talt	to the link of;west of	*ron*	to the right of; to the east of
tic	on top of	*tit*	at the bottom of
tit	at the bottom of	*tic*	on top of
vabdu	at the front of	*vadim*	at the back of
vadim	at the back of	*vabdu*	at the front of
vage	in the south of	*valent*	in the north of
vageron	in the southeast of	*vagetalt*	in the southwest of
vagetalt	in the southwest of	*vageron*	in the southeast of
vaken	parallelly to	*bid*	perpendicularly to, athwart
vakril	in the side of		
valent	in the north of	*vage*	in the south of
valentron	in the northeast of	*valenttalt*	in the northwest of
valenttalt	in the northwest of	*valentron*	in the northeast of
valev	under	*vamo*	over
vamo	over	*valev*	under
van	towards (approach)	*il*	far from
vanmia	among(st)	*ez*	away, outside, off from
varon	in the east of	*vatalt*	in the west of
vatalt	in the west of	*varon*	in the east of
vatic	in the top of	*vatit*	in the bottom of
vatit	in the bottom of	*vatic*	in the top of
vok	on either side of	*wal*	between
vom	on this side of	*kaik*	beyond
wal	between	*vok*	on either side of

A.4: Adverbial prepositivisation (prepositional locutions) [mugeyaz]

A (not comprehensive) listing of locative prepositional locutions based on adverbs, using the generic preposition ic (ic/ice/icu/ico).

English keyword	English locative locution	Kotava locative locution
alignment	in the alignment of	conyon ic
angle	at the angle of	gentimon ic

antipode	at opposite ends of the earth from	arkuon ic
sheer cliff	on the sheer cliff of	xuon ic
atmosphere	in the atmosphere of	alpozon ic
axis	in the axis of	lyon ic
azimuth	at the azimuth of	brogon ic
base	at the base of	omavon ic
edge, brim	on the brim of, bordering	domon ic
road	on the way of, on the road to	keldon ic
way	halfway between, midway between	keldalikon ic, keldackuon ic
peak	at the peak of	voklibon ic
corner	in the corner of	alavon ic
coast	in the coast of	krimpon ic
side	on the side of, laterally to	krilon ic
turn	at the turn of	darimon ic
curb	in the curb of	livon ic
recess	in the recess of	suxon ic
crossroad	at the crossroads of	gamdon ic
detour	in the vicinity of, behind	darimon ic
strait	in the strait of	vedilon ic
line	in the line of	conyon ic
face side	on the face side of	banton ic
flip side	on the flip side of	trovgon ic
space	in the space of	darkon ic
floor	in the floor of	vegemon ic
expense	in the expense of	divatceon ic, welmon ic
flank	at the flank of	eliwon ic
bottom	at the bottom of	ludevon ic
border	on the border of	jowon ic
level, height	at a height with, level with	vwon ic
height	in the height of	ontinon ic, xuon ic, ticxuon ic
horizon	in the horizon of	zidon ic
interval	in the interval between	walukon ic
junction	in the junction between	uzeson ic
lagoon	in the lagoon of	anodon ic
open sea	off, at large from	grocelon ic
width	in the width of	manton ic
straight	in line with	ronton ic
limit	at the limit of	kimon ic
edge	at the edge of	domon ic
length	in the length of	abrotcon ic
margin	at the margin of	raston ic
world	in the world of	tamavon ic
level	level with	vwon ic
orbit	in the orbit of	litokon ic
flatness	in the flatness of	azekon ic
profile	in the profile of	lioton ic
depth	in the depths of	aludevon ic, xuon ic, titxuon ic
prolongation	in the prolongation of	lyon ic
linking	at the linking of, at the junction of	webokon ic
district	in the district of	kosiston ic
bank	on the bank of	domegon ic, krimton ic
direction	in the direction of	woyokon ic
threshold	on the threshold of	pikayon ic
top	on top of, at the head of	ontineon ic, voklibon ic
surface	on the surface of	welmon ic
overhang	overhanging over	wexayon ic
land	on the land of	tawayon ic
territory	on the territory of	tawavoon ic
roof	on the roof of	kepaiton ic
turn, corner	around the corner of	viankon ic, darimon ic
hillside	on the hillside of	datcon ic
volume	in the volume of	krotcon ic

B: Classifiers [pulaxa]

Below is a non-exhaustive list of the main classifiers for proper nouns in Kotava:

Type of classifier	Classifier (Kotava)	Classifier (English term)
Individuals	ayik	human being, individual
	guazik	old person
	jotik	youth
	korik	person, individual
	rumeik	little child
	velik	child
	yik	young people
		and other words referring to individuals
Kinship terms	kosayik	cousin
	ziavik	uncle, aunt

		and all other kinship words
Politeness distinctions, titles	eyik	individual, citizen, sir
	jiomik	lord
	weltik	Mr., Mrs.
	jadiwik	general; and all other military grades
Places	bira	sea
	bost	big river
	kuksa	small river
	mefta	mount
	uzda	lake
		and all other geographical words
Geographic entities	dota	commune
	gola	region
	patecta	country
	tadava	continent
	winta	planet
		and all words for geographic or administrative entities
Species	- tamava	- World
	-- bliind	-- Kingdom
	--- dansok	--- Phylum
	---- pula	---- Class
	----- veem	----- Order
	------ yasa	------ Family
	------- grelt	------- Tribe
	-------- oxi	-------- Genera
	--------- katca	--------- Species
	---------- apta	---------- Subspecies
Groups, orders, enterprises	gesia	association
	ja	enterprise
	lospa	group, grouping
	pako	party
	sistu	company
	veem	order
		and other similar words
Works of art, media	fela	journal
	gabot	section
	luz	chapter
	neva	book
	teliz	article
		and other similar words
Currencies	tal	currency
Languages	ava	language

c: Lists of verbs [gray]

Below are some verbal categories grouped as such in Kotava:

C.1: Weather verbs [sazaf ilkomiskaf gray]

abdar	it is wet	*noldar*	it is snowing
afizar	it is day	*noldotar*	there is a blizzard
aftar	the weather is clear	*onotcar*	it is hailing
awaltar	it is sunny	*orikar*	it is dark
bicar	it is thawing	*rambar*	there is monsoon
bixedar	there is a sandstorm	*rodar*	it is dry
cankar	there is a hurricane	*rubixar*	there is a drizzle
brar	it is foggy	*rujodar*	it is cloudy
ediar	there is thunder	*selar*	there is mist
fedar	it is chilly	*selekar*	there is thunder
fentar	it is cold	*sukar*	there is wind
gopadar	there is a dust storm	*taelar*	the moon is here
idular	it is hot	*tapar*	it is freezing
kentar	there is a flood	*tcandar*	there is a shower
kewar	the weather is good	*teyadar*	there is a firestorm
koafimar	there is lightning	*ticawaltar*	the sun goes up
ludjar	there is a sunny spell	*titawaltar*	the sun goes down
mielar	it is night	*xeftoar*	there is a storm

mutar	the weather is bad	*zakodar*	it is warm
muvar	it is raining	*zivotcar*	there is a tempest

Note: there is an alternative to these impersonal verbs, the intransitive verb **dú** used with the names of the phenomena. For example: noldar (*it is snowing*) = nolda **dur**; mielar (*it is night*) = miel **dur**.

C.2: Sensation verbs [pestaleraf gray]

aelé	to hunger	*lité*	to have impressions
akolé	to be sick	*miavé*	to have a headache
aundé	to have spite	*modé*	to feel asleep
awalké	to die	*molé*	to have an appetite
bidgé	to have delusions	*multufté*	to decease
bogé	to feel hate	*namié*	to have a good memory
boré	to cry	*nigé*	to be grieving
broyé	to be superstitious	*nizdé*	to have manias
coré	to get visions	*ové*	to be right
cué	to be tired	*pilkandé*	to have self-esteem
dezé	to have cramps	*puidé*	to be hurting, to feel sorry
djoré	to have tics	*polé*	to have angst
fenté	to feel cold	*relé*	to be in a coma
fogré	to have vice	*rieté*	to get ideas
folixé	to have faith	*roklé*	to err
forendé	to feel empathy	*roté*	to be in pain
gaelé	to get breath	*setré*	to get nightmares
galé	to be healthy	*sfiannué*	to have rheumatism
gesté	to have imagination	*sidjé*	to get remorses
jlatodé	to be faced with a dilemma	*siputé*	to thirst
kicé	to smile	*sundé*	to have good reflexes
kiewé	to feel good	*tacoké*	to fantasize
kiové	to be in the wrong	*veté*	to have a cancer
kipé	to laugh	*vorvé*	to twitch, to be in spasm
kloké	to dream	*vozé*	to run a fever
konjoté	to faint	*vudé*	to be afraid
kontegé	to be moved, touched	*wabergé*	to be traumatised
kranavé	to feel some amount of pain	*waeské*	to have tics
krelé	to have sore muscles	*wegayé*	to get scruples
krezé	to faint	*wendé*	to be in ecstasy
kublé	to feel the vocation	*wolgé*	to have a tumour
laoné	to hallucinate	*zidé*	to be angry

Not a complete listing

D: Lists of particles [vragiz is mugeot]

Below are all the particle used in Kotava:

D.1: Particles [vragiz]

These are mostly verbal morphemes that cannot occur independently. There are only preposed particles, plus two circumposed ones and two obsolete postposed nominal particles.

Preposed verbal aspectual particles
al	Anterior aspect
di	Posterior aspect
dun	Non-discontinuous aspect
fu	Relative prospective aspect
gin	Resumptive aspect
non	Discontinuous aspect
su	Relative perfect aspect
ten	Terminative aspect
toz	Inchoative aspect
ve	Instantaneous aspect
wan	Continuous aspect

Preposed verbal voice particles
mbi	Secondary voice
zo	Passive voice

Preposed presentative particles
banse	Secondary presentative
batse	Primary presentative

Preposed focus particles

ale	*Thematic focus*
to	*Positive focus*
volto	*Negative focus*

Circumposed digression and quotation particles

djak	*Digression, incise*
djam	*Quote*

Postposed obsolete nominal particles

se	*Pluraliser (obsolete)*
yo	*Pluraliser (obsolete)*

D.2: Adverbial particles [mugeot]

Unlike pure particles, adverbial particles may occur on their own, like adverbs.

Polarity particles

en	yes, indeed	*Affirmative polarity*
me	no, not	*Negative polarity*
mea	not … anymore	*Post-fact negative polarity*
men	not yet	*Pre-fact negative polarity*
vol	to the contrary	*Contraritive polarity*

Pragmatical particles

co	it would	*Conditional-hypothetical irrealis*
nuve	allegedly	*Inferential irrealis*
acke	normal, well, good, so be it	*No opinion*
ae	well, amen, the truth is, I see	*Strict neutrality*
aje	too bad, our loss, unfortunately	*Regret*
ame	hem, doubtful, unlikely	*Reasonable doubt*
anse	nonsense, wrong, lies!	*Absolute doubt*
anye	oh, well, good, much better, luckily, super	*Satisfaction*
ape	probably, presumably, surely	*Measured adherence*
arse	absolutely, really, no doubt	*Complete adherence*
inc	I've seen it myself	*Personal witness evidential*
nuve	seemingly, it's said that, it seems that, from hearsay, got it from an indirect source	*Hearsay, indirect Information evidential*
soye	by necessity, it's a (natural) fact that	*Postulate evidential*
tire	obviously, naturally, it goes without saying	*Natural Evidence evidential*
volinc	got it from a direct source	*Direct Witness evidential*
awe	huh! I don't know a thing, no idea	*Ignorance*
cwe	seems to me, I got the feeling that	*Feeling, Impression*
gue	yes, absolutely, I can confirm that	*Confirmation*
sye	it's anticipated that, normally, it should be	*Anticipation, Foresight*
tce	I suppose, supposedly, probably, I guess	*Supposition*
volgue	yes it does, no it doesn't, I deny that	*Denial*
fiste	it is necessary that	*External necessity*
vode	it would be good to, it would be preferable to	*External preference*
volfiste	it is not necessary that	*External refusal*
volvode	it would be bad that, better to not	*External reticence*
rotir	maybe, it could be that, it is possible that	*Uncertain*
vay !?	please	*Polite imperative, wishfulness, prayer*
djay ‼	go for it! I tell you! I insist!	*Insisting imperative, simple command*
xay ‼	that is an order!	*Absolute imperative, absolute order*
kas ?	is…, does… ?	*Interrogative of existence, global direct interrogation*
mex ?	isn't it?	*Interrogative of doubt*

E: Lists of conjunctions [skedaxa]

Below are all conjunctions in Kotava:

E.1: Derived conjunctions with adverbial value [skedaxa]

A certain number of primary conjunctions can attach to some particles and thus form derived conjunctions, with a chiefly "adverbial" value:

	beka	dumede	ede	goke	kore
en	bekaen	dumedeen	edeen	gokeen	koreen
me	bekame	dumedeme	edeme	gokeme	koreme
mea	bekamea	dumedemea	edemea	gokemea	koremea
men	bekamen	dumedemen	edemen	gokemen	koremen
vol	bekavol	dumedevol	edevol	gokevol	korevol
soye	bekasoye	dumedesoye	edesoye	gokesoye	koresoye
tire	bekatire	dumedetire	edetire	goketire	koretire
awe	bekaawe	dumedeawe	edeawe	gokeawe	koreawe
cwe	bekacwe	dumedecwe	edecwe	gokecwe	korecwe
gue	bekague	dumedegue	edegue	gokegue	koregue
sye	bekasye	dumedesye	edesye	gokesye	koresye
tce	bekatce	dumedetce	edetce	goketce	koretce
volgue	bekavolgue	dumedevolgue	edevolgue	gokevolgue	korevolgue
fiste	bekafiste	dumedefiste	edefiste	gokefiste	korefiste
vode	bekavode	dumedevode	edevode	gokevode	korevode
volfiste	bekavolfiste	dumedevolfiste	edevolfiste	gokevolfiste	korevolfiste
volvode	bekavolvode	dumedevolvode	edevolvode	gokevolvode	korevolvode
rotir	bekarotir	dumederotir	ederotir	gokerotir	korerotir

	larde	teka	vaxede	wotce	zobe
en	lardeen	tekaen	vaxedeen	wotceen	zobeen
me	lardeme	tekame	vaxedeme	wotceme	zobeme
mea	lardemea	tekamea	vaxedemea	wotcemea	zobemea
men	lardemen	tekamen	vaxedemen	wotcemen	zobemen
vol	lardevol	tekavol	vaxedevol	wotcevol	zobevol
soye	lardesoye	tekasoye	vaxedesoye	wotcesoye	zobesoye
tire	lardetire	tekatire	vaxedetire	wotcetire	zobetire
awe	lardeawe	tekaawe	vaxedeawe	wotceawe	zobeawe
cwe	lardecwe	tekacwe	vaxedecwe	wotcecwe	zobecwe
gue	lardegue	tekague	vaxedegue	wotcegue	zobegue
sye	lardesye	tekasye	vaxedesye	wotcesye	zobesye
tce	lardetce	tekatce	vaxedetce	wotcetce	zobetce
volgue	lardevolgue	tekavolgue	vaxedevolgue	wotcevolgue	zobevolgue
fiste	lardefiste	tekafiste	vaxedefiste	wotcefiste	zobefiste
vode	lardevode	tekavode	vaxedevode	wotcevode	zobevode
volfiste	lardevolfiste	tekavolfiste	vaxedevolfiste	wotcevolfiste	zobevolfiste
volvode	lardevolvode	tekavolvode	vaxedevolvode	wotcevolvode	zobevolvode
rotir	larderotir	tekarotir	vaxederotir	wotcerotir	zoberotir

Examples of meanings:

edeen	if really, if yes, if it's the case (then)
edeme	if not, if it's not the case (then)
edemea	if it's not the case anymore (then)
edemen	if it's not already the case (then)
edevol	if on the contrary (then)
edesoye	if that's a natural fact, natural truth (then)
edetire	if that's an evidence (then)
edeawe	if nothing is known about it (then)
edecwe	if one has the feeling (then)
edegue	if it's confirmed (then)
edesye	if it should be (then)
edetce	if it is probable (then)
edevolgue	if it is found to be invalid (then)
edefiste	if need be (then)
edevode	if it would be better (then)
edevolfiste	if it shouldn't be (then)
edevolvode	if it would be worse (then)
ederotir	if possible, if it's possible (then)

F: Lists of adverbs [muge]

Below is a list of all underived adverbs in Kotava:

F.1: Underived root adverbs [xantafe muge]

acum	therefore, thus, so	*loxe*	no big deal! it's nothing! all's good!
adim	finally	*mes*	why not? possibly
ant	alone, all alone	*miv*	by one's own
balte	willingly, agreed, quite so	*moekote*	above all
bam	then, at this instant	*mon*	more or less
berde	it's the best time (for)	*nore*	momentarily, temporarily
bexe	luckily, by good fortune	*onton*	sometimes
biwe	a little too, hardly	*oskon*	anyhow, anyway, either way
cwade	like this	*ostik*	moreover, what is more
dace	even, included	*oxam*	only
dalebam	since then	*re*	now, this instant
daletoe	from now on	*riwe*	nearly
dare	yesterday, yore, long ago	*rotaxe*	too bad! never mind!

dere	too, also	*skre*	still, after all
dile	it happens sometimes, some days	*soe*	however, nevertheless
dire	tomorrow, in the future	*sopron*	all things considered, after all
dure	always, without an end	*sure*	not long ago, before, just before.
efe	sure, certainly	*tere*	at the end
fure	soon	*tolke*	very
gire	again, one time more	*tore*	at the beginning
goxe	sadly, regretfully, unfortunately, alas	*trabe*	that is to say, let's consider
icle	at least	*turkon*	finally, all in all
iclo	at most	*unt*	to -self, besides -self, quietly, lowly
ins	voluntarily (from one's own accord)	*vere*	at this moment, immediately, on the spot
ixam	already	*vexe*	but
jonte	so, so much	*volant*	with others, collectively
kaxe	alas, alas!	*volins*	involuntarily (from one's own accord)
kevoke	on the other hand, but	*volmiv*	by having others do
kiewaxe	all the better, so much the better	*volunt*	outward, publicly, out loud
kle	so, consequently	*ware*	still
kre	rather	*wori*	however, nonetheless
kreme	immediately	*xabe*	whatever, it doesn't matter
lexe	doesn't work! nothing works!	*xuye*	it turns out that, it just happens that
lie	as well		

G: Lists of phrases [muxaks]

Some common phrases in Kotava:

G.1: "etc." phrases

"etc." (as in *et caetera*) may be translated six different ways, depending on the underlying coordinative conjunction.

is, ise, isu	and	→	*is kot zavzaks*	(abbreviated: *ikz-*)	etc.
ok, oke, oku	or	→	*ok kot zavzaks*	(abbreviated: *okz-*)	etc.
ik, ike, iku	and/or	→	*ik kot zavzaks*	(abbreviated: *ikz-*)	etc.
mei, meie, meiu	nor	→	*mei kot zavzaks*	(abbreviated: *mkz-*)	etc., nor the rest
vols, volse, volsu	but not	→	*vols kot zavzaks*	(abbreviated: *vkz-*)	but nothing of the rest
az, aze, azu	and (then)	→	*az kot zavzaks*	(abbreviated: *akz-*)	etc.

Thus, the phrase (and the abbreviation retained) will be that induced by the conjunctions listed above.

G.2: Partitive phrases

Partitive phrases are introduced with:

- lok : most of, the majority of, the greatest number of, the greatest part of
- lik : half of
- lek : the minority of, a small number of, the smallest part of
- arak : the rest of, the remaining of
- kotak : the totality of
- mekak : the absence of
- cugak : almost all of, the vast majority of
- vugak : the near absence of, almost nothing of

The complements are introduced by the preposition "ke" (of).

Ex: **lok ke** *irubasikeem tir jotaf* (most of the residents are young) [subject is: *lok*]
lek ke *yone rinafe blucte tir zionaf* (a small number of your cloths are dirty) [subject is: *lek*]
lik ke *zubi al zo skur* (half of the contract has been realised) [subject is: *lik*]
arak ke *ervolia di rembliyir* (the rest of the army survived) [subject is: *arak*]
cugak ke *ervolia zo kalvilar* (nearly all the army was anihilated) [subject is: *cugak*]

G.3: Expression of date, hour and numbered location

Although logically the expression of a date, a time or a numbered location should be with ordinal numbers (since it refers to a grade in a (time)scale), like in many languages cardinal stems are used instead, to which is added the suffix identifier "-e" which makes them self-designing nouns. These are then used directly or affixed with the appropriate classifier.

G.3.a   Date

Ex: *san-lerde (viel) ke pereaksat ke tol-decit-teve (ilana)* = July 19th 2006
tane (viel) ke taneaksat ke decite (ilana) = January 1st of the year 1000
mali bare (viel) ke aksat kali teve = from the 3[d] to the 6th (of the month)
ba tane ke kot aksat = the 1st of each month (*ba taneaf viel* can also be used)

G.3.b   Hour

Ex: *ba pere (bartiv) ke viel* = at seven a.m.
ba pere (bartiv) is tol-sane (wexa) = at twenty past seven (7h 20)
ba pere (bartiv) is amu = at quarter past seven (7h 15)
ba pere (bartiv) is acku = at half past seven (7h 30)
ba pere (bartiv) is apu = at quarter to eight (7h 45)
mali pere (bartiv) kali lerde = from seven to nine
wali pere (bartiv) is lerde = between seven and nine

G.3.c   Numbered location

These are expressions relating to an address, to a position referenced by a number.

Ex: *in dene bar-sane (otuk) keve Lachine vawila irubar* = he lives in the 30th, Lachine street
tol-decem-tev-san-lerde vorala moe liwot = the elevation 269 on the map
tol-decit-alub-sane winta = the planet n° 2050

H: Abbreviations [tuloliaks]

Below are presented shortening strategies in Kotava:

H.1: Principles of abbreviation

There is the possibility to shorten some common phrases in Kotava. Though there are no definite rules, it can be seen that:

- the hyphenation of an abbreviated word is indicated by a hyphen "**-**", in contrast to most written languages which use the dot.

Ex: *J- P- Martin W-* (Mr. J. P. Martin, for *Jean Pierre Martin Weltik(ye)*)
pulv- (phone, for *sumepulvisiki*)
ikz- (etc., for *is kot zavzaks*)

- in the same fashion, numbers can be written symbolically and their suffix will then be noted after a hyphen "**-**".

Ex: *100[-da]* (a century, for *decemda*)
5[-eaf] (fifth, for *alubeaf*)
9[-aksat] (September, for *lerdeaksat*)

H.2: Date notation

En Kotava, most dates are written symbolically, even in literary texts:

Ex: *10/07/2006* (July 10th 2006). First the day, then the month, then the year, separated by slashes.
It reads: *sane (viel) ke pereaksat ke tol-decit-teve (ilana)*.
Note that the day and the year are in apposition as numeral substantives, that is to say with an -e suffix, thus without ordinal or cardinal readings.