

# VOLAPÜK FOR EVERYONE (I)

## 1. OFF WE GO!

A **NOUN** is the name of a person or a thing.

For example, **man**, **lady** and **house** are all nouns.

In Volapük, these words are: **man**, **läd**, **dom**.

A **VERB** is generally a word which *does* something; an **ACTIVITY** word.

For example: **to see**, **to kiss**, **to bite** are all verbs.

In Volapük, these are: **logön**, **kidön**, **beitön**

How do verbs work in Volapük?

Without the ending *-ön*, we are left with the essential part of the verb, which is called the **root**. To make the verb work, we add these endings to the root:-

<i>logob</i> - I see	<i>logobs</i> - we see
<i>logol</i> - you see	<i>logols</i> - you see
<i>logom</i> - he sees	<i>logoms</i> - they see
<i>logof</i> - she sees	<i>logofs</i> - they see
<i>logon</i> - it sees	<i>logons</i> - they see
<i>logoy</i> - one sees	(No plural)

By adding *-s*, we make any word mean ‘more than one,’ which is called the plural.

When we say:: The man sees the lady, the man is doing something (he is seeing), and the lady is the person who is being seen. (She is the object of the action).

In Volapük we say: Man logom lädi.

The ending *-i* always shows the person or thing which is the object of an action.

In the same way we say: Läd kidof mani; dog beiton cilis, which mean: The lady kisses the man; the dog bites the children.

You will already have noticed that the word in Volapük: ‘man’ means ‘a man’ or ‘the man’ and so on.

CAN YOU SAY IN VOLAPÜK:

The man sees the dogs. The lady kisses the child. The dog bites the lady.

Here are some more nouns: **flen** = friend; **gad** = garden; **buk** = book; **juk** = shoe; **flor** = flower.

Here are also some more verbs: **labön** = to have; **reidön** = to read; **remön** = to buy; **konletön** = to collect; **visitön** = to visit; **plökön** = to pluck; **kolkömön** = to meet.

Here are some examples:

**Konletob bukis; logol gadi; kidof flenis; remoy jukis, visitom domi, kolkömobs flenis** which mean: I collect books; you see a (or the) garden; she kisses (the) friends, one buys shoes; he visits a (or the) house; we meet (the) friends.

If we say: **plökofs floris**, we know that they are all women who are plucking the flowers, but we can also say: **plökons floris**, and this means there are people of both sexes plucking the flowers.

Animals and things also have the endings: *-on/-ons*. (Dogs *beitons cilis*; kat *beiton dogi*)

Similarly, **konletol bukis** means that there is only one person collecting books, whereas **konletols bukis** means that there is more than one.

CAN YOU SAY IN VOLAPÜK:

A friend (**m**) reads the book. The ladies buy shoes. The man has a garden. A dog sees the friends. The children pluck the flowers. The men visit the house. The ladies meet the men. One buys shoes.

Please do not forget to check the exercises you have done with the KEY.

## VOLAPÜK FOR EVERYONE (II)

2.

### WE'RE IN GEAR!

To-day I'm in a good mood. I want to give a present to a friend.

I say: „Givob fleng legivoti” = I give (to) a friend a present.

When I want to give more than one present to more than one friend, I say: „Givob flenes legivotis = I give (to) the friends presents.

By adding **-e** to the end of a word, it means „to” Simple, isn't it? This is what is called the indirect object.

Here's a little practice for you:

<b>Givob</b>	<b>cil</b> (child)	<b>buk</b> (book)
<b>Givol</b>	<b>läd</b> (lady)	<b>flor</b> (flower)
<b>Givom</b>	<b>söl</b> (gentleman)	<b>mon</b> (money)
<b>Givof</b>	<b>vom</b> (woman)	<b>delagased</b> (newspaper)
<b>Givobs</b>	<b>blod</b> (brother)	<b>tied</b> (tea)
<b>Givols</b>	<b>sör</b> (sister)	<b>dog</b> (dog)
<b>Givoms</b>	<b>man</b> (man)	<b>kat</b> (cat)
<b>Givofs</b>	<b>fat</b> (father)	<b>cäk</b> (cheque)
<b>Givons</b>	<b>mot</b> (mother)	<b>legivot</b> (gift)
<b>Givoy</b>	<b>flen</b> (friend)	<b>kaf</b> (coffee)

For example:

Givom söles cäki. Givobs blode legivoti. Givof ciles floris.

Now it's your turn!

CAN YOU SAY IN VOLAPÜK:

I give (to) the gentleman books. He gives (to) a child money. They (**m**) give (to) the mother tea. They (**f**) give (to) a friend the newspaper. They (= both men and women) give (to) a man a book. One gives (to) ladies flowers.

An **ADJECTIVE** is a word which describes . . . . .

For example: **beautiful, small, lazy, strong, interesting** are all adjectives.

In Volapük these are: **jönik, smalik, trögik, nämik, nitedik**.

Adjectives always have the ending: **-IK**.

Here's how adjectives are used in Volapük:

1. An adjective generally comes AFTER its noun:

Logob lädi **jönik** = I see a (the) beautiful lady;  
Logobs cilis **smalik** = We see the small children.

2. When another word which is NOT A NOUN comes before the adjective, it must agree with its noun:

Logob lädi **vemo** jöniki = I see the very beautiful lady;

Logobs *cilis* **mu** *smalikis* = We see the extremely small children.

3. When the adjective comes BEFORE its noun, **it is emphasized** and must agree with its noun:

Logob *jöniki lädi* = I see the BEAUTIFUL lady;

Logobs *smalikis cilis* = We see the SMALL children

4. An adjective can also play the part of a noun:

Ekö pods. Desirob (*þædis*) *smalikis* = Here are apples. I want the small ones.

### CAN YOU SAY IN VOLAPÜK:

I give (to) the lazy children money. You (**sing.**) see the small women. The children gather the very beautiful flowers. We meet the strong men. I read an interesting book. I have a BEAUTIFUL cat.

Please do not forget to check the exercises you have done with the KEY.

## **VOLAPÜK FOR EVERYONE (III)**

3. IN FIRST GEAR

We have learnt that verbs are ACTIVITY words, but here is one which is completely static and at rest.

It is the verb **TO BE**. Take a look at it now:-

**BINÖN** = to be

### Singular

*Binob* = I am

*Binol* = you are

*Binom* = he is

*Binof* = she is

*Binon* = it is

*Binoy* = one is

### Plural

*binobs* = we are

*binols* = you are

*binoms* = they are (masculine)

*binofs* = they are (feminine)

*binons* = they are (neuter)

(No plural)

The root of the verb is shown in *italics*, and the persons appear **in black**.

Because it is an inactive verb and completely at rest, it does not change words accompanying it, except, of course for the plural.

For example:

Cil binon flen = The child is a friend; man binom blod = the man is a brother; läd binof mot = the lady is a mother; dog binon legivot = the dog is a gift.

But: Cils binons flens = The children are friends; mans binoms blods = the men are brothers; läds binofs mots = the ladies are mothers; dogs binons legivots = the dogs are gifts.

Please note : mans binoms nämiks; delagaseds binons nitediks. The reason for this is because a word which is not a noun (it is a verb) comes before them. [See Volapük for Everyone (2)]

CAN YOU SAY IN VOLAPÜK:

The child is beautiful; the woman is a sister; the man is lazy; the newspaper is interesting; A cat is an animal (= nim).

Now say: The children are beautiful; the women are sisters; the men are lazy, the newspapers are interesting; Cats are animals.

By adding **pa-** to an ACTIVE verb, we ‘de-activate’ it, so to speak, and make it **PASSIVE**, or in other words, make it just as inactive as the verb ‘to be’.

For example:

Delagased **pagivon** söle = The newspaper **is given** to the gentleman; sör **pakidof** fa blod = the sister **is kissed** by the brother; man **palogom** fa cil = the man **is seen** by a/the child; **palogob** fa flen = I **am seen** by a/the friend.

And in the plural:-

Delagaseds **pagivons** söles = The newspapers **are given** to the gentlemen; sörs **pakidofs** fa blods = the sisters **are kissed** by the brothers; mans **palogoms** fa cils = the men **are seen** by the children; **palogobs** fa flens = we **are seen** by friends.

Some of the sentences are completed by **fa** + a person or the name of an animal. We have already learnt the personal pronouns from the verb endings: **ob, ol, om, of, on** = I, you, he, she, it, etc.

After **fa** = *by*, they mean the same, except for **ob, om, of, obs, oms, ofs, ons**, when, just as in English, **fa ob** = *by me*; **fa om** = *by him*; **fa of** = *by her*; **fa obs** = *by us* and **fa oms/ofs/ons** = *by them*.

#### CAN YOU SAY IN VOLAPÜK:

The brother is a father; the mother is small; the dog bites the brother; the brother is bitten by the dog; coffee is given to the lady; tea is given by me to the sister; the friends are bitten by the dogs; books are read by us; the garden is beautiful; the shoes are small; the friends are brothers.

Please do not forget to check the exercises you have done with the KEY.

## VOLAPÜK FOR EVERYONE (IV)

### 4. IN SECOND GEAR

When **-a** and **-as** are added to the end of a word, it has the meaning “*of the*”

For example:

Dog **fata** = the dog *of the* father (The father’s dog); kats **motas** = the cats *of the* mothers (the mothers’ cats); flors **cila** = the flowers *of the* child (the child’s flowers); dom **blodas** = the house *of the* brothers (the brothers’ house).

CAN YOU SAY:

The brother’s newspaper. The father’s books. The men’s money. The sisters’ flowers. The lady’s animals. The children’s friends. The gentleman’s cheque. The men’s houses. The women’s shoes. The child’s gifts.

The numbers from 0 – 60 in Volapük are:

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13  
ser bal tel kil fol lul mäl vel jöl zül deg degbal degtel degkil

14 15 16 17 18 19 20  
degfol deglul degmäl degvel degjöl degzül teldeg

21 22 23 24 25 26 27  
teldegbal teldegtel teldegkil teldegfol teldeglul teldegmäl teldegvel

28 29 30 31 32 33 34  
teldegjöl teldegzül kildeg kildegbal kildegtel kildegkil kildegfol

35      36      37      38      39      40  
 kildeglul kildegmäl kildegvel kildegjöl kildegzül foldeg . . . .  
 50                  60  
 luldeg . . . . mäldeg.

Now for a little arithmetic!

1 + 2 = 3 // 2 — 1 = 1 // 2 X 3 = 6 // 2 ÷ 6 = 3  
 bal *sa* tel binos kil; tel *nä* bal binos bal; tel*na* kil binos mäl; tel *mü* mäl binos kil.

(The suffix **-na** *multiplies* a number)

(The form BINOS is used with figures, dates and clock times).

It's your turn, now! Look at these examples:

kil sa deg binos degkil = 3 + 10 = 13;    vel nä fol binos kil = 7 — 4 = 3;  
 kilna jöl binos teldegfol = 3 X 8 = 24;    fol mü degtel binos kil = 4 ÷ 12 = 3.

CAN YOU WRITE THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS IN FIGURES AS ABOVE:

Deg sa deg binos teldeg; foldeg nä teldeg binos teldeg; lulna deg binos luldeg; mäl mü teldegfol binos fol.

By adding **-ID** to the end of a number, it becomes an ordinal number; for example:

bal = one; bal**id** = *first*.    tel = two; tel**id** = *second*;    kil = three; kil**id** = *third*, etc.

WHAT TIME IS IT? = Döp (= *hour*) kinid (= *which*) binos-li?

(**-LI** aska a question, but is **not** emphasized).

7.00    binos döp velid  
 7.05    binos minuts lul pos (= after) döp velid            (or: pos vel);  
 4.15.    binos foldil (= quarter) pos döp velid;            (or: pos vel);  
 7.25    binos minuts teldeglul pos döp velid            (or: pos vel);  
 7.30    binos döp velid e laf (= half);                    (or: binos düpalaf pos vel);  
 40.    binos minuts teldeg bü (= before) döp jölid;        (or: bü jöl);  
 7.45    binos foldil bü döp jölid;                            (or: bü jöl);  
 7.50    binos minuts deg bü döp jölid;                    (or: bü jöl);  
 8.00    binos döp jölid.

(For the 24 hour system : düp *balid* becomes : düp *degkilid*).

To be precise one says:

Binos düp mälid göda (of the morning) or binos düp mälid soara (of the evening)  
Binos düp balid poszedela (= of the afternoon) or binos düp balid neita (= of the night)

Also note : binos zeneit (= it's midnight); binos zedel (= it's midday).

CAN YOU SAY:

5.35 p.m; 9.00 a.m; 4.00 p.m; 2.24 a.m; 11.07 p.m; 10.45 a.m; 3.30 p.m; 12.00 noon; 12.00 midnight.

The months in Volapük are:

yanul, febul, mäzul, prilul, mayul, yunul, yulul, gustul, setul, tobul, novul, dekul.  
(They are **not** written with a capital letter!)

WHAT IS THE DATE? = Dät (= date) kinid binos-li?

Binos del (= day) balid setula; binos del degid mayula; binos del teldegid tobula.

CAN YOU SAY:

It's 3<sup>rd</sup> May. It's 28<sup>th</sup> June. It's 6<sup>th</sup> July. It's 25<sup>th</sup> December.

## **VOLAPÜK FOR EVERYONE (V)**

### 5. IN THIRD GEAR

We can now see the **PERSONAL PRONOUNS** as a whole:

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
ob = I;	obi = me;	oba = of me (= my);	obe = to (or: for) me.
ol = you;	oli = your;	ola = of you (= your);	ole = to (or: for) you;
om = he;	omi = him;	oma = of him (= his);	ome = to (or: for) him;
of = she;	ofi = her;	ofa = of her (= her);	ofe = to (or: for) her;
on = it;	oni = it;	ona = of it; (= its);	one = to (or: for) it;
oy = one;	oyi = one;	oya = of one (= one's);	oye = to (or: for) one.

In the plural, these endings (in **black**) come **BEFORE** –s:

obs = we; obis = us; obas = of us (= our); obes = to (or: for) us;  
ols = you; olis = you; olas = of you (= yours); oles = to (or: for) you;  
oms = they; omis = them; omas = of them (= their); omes = to (or: for) them;  
ofs = they; ofis = them; ofas = of them (= their); ofes = to (or: for) them;



ons = they; onis = them; onas = of them (= their); ones = to (or: for) them.

For example: Fat obas = our father; logob ofi = I see her; blod oma = his brother; givom omes legivoti = he gives (to) them a gift.

KEY: (1) = Subject; (2) = Direct object; (3) = Possessive; (4) = Indirect object. (m) = Masculine; (f) = Feminine; (n) = Neuter; (s) = Singular; (pl) = Plural.

CAN YOU SAY:

We give (to) her the newspaper. She kisses him. I read his book. One sees them (m). They (f) visit us. You (s) pluck them. We send (= sedobs) it to you (pl).

*My, your, his, her, its, one's, our, your, their* can also be translated by adding **-IK** to **ob, ol, om, of, on, oy, obs, ols, oms, ofs, ons**. These are now **ADJECTIVES** and must obey the relevant rules. [See "Volapük for Everyone" (2)]

For example:

Logobs cilis olik = We see your children. (Unchanged, because AFTER its noun);

Cils binons olik<sub>s</sub> = The children are yours (A word not a noun comes BEFORE it);

Logob olik<sub>s</sub> cilis = I see your children. (It comes BEFORE its noun);

Logob olik<sub>s</sub> = I see yours. (It plays the part of a noun).

USING THE ENDING -IK, CAN YOU SAY:

My children. She reads our books. Her mother. The houses are yours (s). I visit theirs (f). The newspapers are ours. Their (f) sisters' newspapers are interesting. One's shoes.

**KEL** is a very useful word. It means : *who, which*.

Look at these examples:

KEL = who, which; KEL<sub>I</sub> = whom, which; KEL<sub>A</sub> = whose, of which, KELE<sub>E</sub> = to (for) whom, to (for) which.

(The plural forms are : kels, kelis, kelas, keles)

Voms, kels visitofs obi, binofs sörs obik = The women who visit me are my sisters;

Man, keli visitob, binom fat oba = The man whom I visit is my father;

Flens, keles givob bukis, binoms trögiks = The friends to whom I give books are lazy;

Läd, kela dogi logobs, binof jönik = The lady whose dog I see is beautiful.

CAN YOU SAY:

The lady whom I kiss is my sister. The gentlemen to whom I send books are my friends. I visit the woman whose cat is strong. The children who see me are small.

Please do not forget to check the exercises you have done with the KEY.

## VOLAPÜK FOR EVERYONE (VI)

### 6. IN TOP GEAR

An ADVERB describes the MANNER in which something is done.

For example:

She walks *quickly*; we think *deeply*; they speak *interestingly*; he reads *easily*.

*Quickly, deeply, interestingly, easily* are all **adverbs**.

In Volapük these are: vifiko, dibiko, nitediko, fasiliko.

We make an adverb by adding **-O** after the adjective ending **-IK**.

Any word which has the ending **-O** is an adverb. This ending **never changes**.

Therefore:

Golof vifiko = She walks quickly; tikobs dibiko = we think deeply; spikoms nitediko = they speak interestingly; reidom fasiliko = he reads easily.

CAN YOU SAY:

She reads quickly. They (**f**) walk easily. He studies (= studom) deeply. We speak interestingly.

By adding **-UM** and **-ÜN** to the adjective ending **-IK**, we express **-ER** and **-EST**.  
(Do not forget that such words are still adjectives and must obey the rules!)

For example:

Sör oma binof jönik. Sör oba binof jönikum, ab sör ofas binof jönikün.

His sister is beautiful. My sister is more beautiful, but their sister is (the) most beautiful.

Blod ola binom nämikum ka blod obik. = Your brother is stronger than my brother.

Buks obas binons nitediküns = Our books are (the) most interesting.

CAN YOU SAY:

Our father is strong, but her father is (the) strongest. Their (**m**) brothers are lazier than ours. Your mother is beautiful, but his mother is more beautiful. The sister is smaller than our brother, but their (**f**) child is the smallest. Her flowers are more beautiful than his.

By adding **-O** to **-UM** and **-ÜN** we can also make adverbs.  
(Remember that such words are now **adverbs** and so never change!)

For example:

Golom vifikumo = he walks quicker (= in a quicker way);  
Spikof nitediküno = She speaks most interestingly (= in a most interesting way);  
Reidom mödikumo ka oms = He reads more than they (do);  
Sör olik kanitof jöniküno = Your sister sings most beautifully.

CAN YOU SAY:

He reads quickest. We study more than she (does). The gentleman sings more beautifully than our sister. He works (= vobom) more than I (do). The children speak quicker than us. They (**m**) speak in a most interesting way.

Please do not forget to check the exercises you have done with the KEY.

## **VOLAPÜK FOR EVERYONE (VII)**

### 7. IN OVERDRIVE

The NEGATIVE meaning is expressed by the word **NO** in front of the verb, for example:-

Reidom vifiko = he reads quickly; **NO** reidom vifiko = he doesn't read quickly.

**NEAI** (Pronounce all three syllables!) means **NEVER**. It may appear anywhere in the sentence, but for our purpose it will come before the verb, like NO:-

No logof cilis = She doesn't see the children; NEAI logof cilis = She never sees the children.

CAN YOU SAY:

The man never sees the dogs. The book is not interesting. The garden is not beautiful. The cat never bites the children.

**AT** and **ET** mean THIS/THESE and THAT/THOSE. They generally come after the noun, but when there is more than one noun, they add the plural –s:

Man at = this man; vom et = that woman, but: mans e voms ets = those men and women.

KIM(S)? = Who? (**m**); KIF(S) = Who? (**f**); KIN(S) = Who, which (**n**) are question words. For example:-

Kim remom delagasedis e bukis ats = Who buys these newspapers and books?

Kif kidof mani et? = Who kisses that man?

Kins binons cils at = Who are these children?

Do not confuse these words with **KEL**, which joins two parts of a sentence:-

Kif binof vom at, kel visitof obis? = Who is this woman who visits us?

#### CAN YOU SAY:

Who (**n**) is plucking these flowers? Who is the lady who has those dogs? Which is that cat which bites the children? Who is that lady who never buys shoes? This man and that woman are lazy. Those women and children never visit the gardens.

When I wash myself, *I* and *the person washed* are the same. Here is how we say this in Volapük:-

#### LAVÖN OKI = to wash oneself

Lavob obi = *I wash myself*;

Lavol oli = *you wash yourself*;

Lavom oki = *he washes himself*;

Lavof oki = *she washes herself*;

Lavon oki = *it washes itself;/he/she washes him-/herself*;

Lavoy oki = *one washes oneself*;

Lavobs obis = *we wash ourselves*;

Lavols olis = *you wash yourselves*;

Lavoms okis = *they wash themselves (m)*;

Lavofs okis = *they wash themselves (f)*;

Lavons okis = *they (= both sexes) wash themselves*.

*To enjoy oneself* is **juitön oki** in Volapük. Can you say: *I enjoy myself, you enjoy yourself, he enjoys himself*, etc.

If we say : lavom *omi*, lavof *ofi*, a different person is involved. For example:

Givom obe buki oka = He gives me his (*own*) book; but  
Givom obe buki oma = He gives me his (*someone else's*) book.

Vom e flen oka = The woman and her (*own*) friend;  
Vom e flens ofa = The woman and her (*someone else's*) friend.

#### CAN YOU SAY:

He reads his (*own*) newspaper. She sees her (*someone else's*) friend. The mother kisses her (*someone else's*) child. My sister feeds (= fidof) her (*own*) cat. My father and his (*someone else's*) children are friends. The lady and her (*own*) dog.

Please do not forget to check the exercises you have done with the KEY.

## **VOLAPÜK FOR EVERYONE (VIII)**

### 8. STOP! WE'RE GOING THE WRONG WAY!!

In Volapük there are two kinds of **IMPERATIVE** - one is a polite request; the other is an order not to be disobeyed.

For example:        **Seadolös!** = Sit down, please! (*a polite request*) (singular)  
                         **No seadolsöd!!** = Don't sit down!! (*an order*) (plural)

You will see that it is formed by adding **-ÖS!** (= polite request) or **-ÖD!!** (= an order) to the verb ending in **OL(S)**, either singular or plural, positive or negative.

#### CAN YOU SAY:

See!! (**sing.**); Please don't buy! (**plural**); Please give! (**plural**); Eat!! (**sing.**)

Although the imperative is mostly used with verbs ending in **OL(S)**; it can also be used with the other persons.

For example:        **Kömofös!** = Let her come, please!  
                         **Golomöd!!** = Off with him!!  
                         **No remobsös bukis!** = Please don't let us buy books!  
                         **Seadonsös!** = Please let them (= both sexes) sit down!

#### CAN YOU SAY:

Let him see the dogs, please! Kiss your sister!! Please let them come! Give flowers to your mother!! Let's read the papers!! Off with her!! Wash yourselves!! Please don't visit the gardens! Drink (= drinön) your coffee!!

Words are not always adequate to signify different shades of meaning. In order to do so, Volapük uses a series of **PREFIXES** and **SUFFIXES** consisting of two or three letters, which extend the meaning of words.

Here is a short introduction to some very common **PREFIXES**:

<b>HI-</b>	indicates that the word is <i>masculine</i> :	dog = dog; <i>hidog</i> = a (male) dog.
<b>JI-</b>	“ “ “ “ “ <i>feminine</i> :	dog = dog; <i>jidog</i> = a bitch.
<b>LE-</b>	“ <i>big, great</i> (in all senses):	dom = house; <i>ledom</i> = mansion. gad = garden; <i>legad</i> = park stüm = respect; <i>lestüm</i> = esteem.
<b>LU-</b>	“ <i>baseness, wretchedness</i> :	dom = house; <i>ludom</i> = hovel. drinön = to drink; <i>ludrinön</i> = to booze.
<b>GE-</b>	“ <i>to return</i> (re-)	kömön = to come; <i>gekömon</i> = to return.

#### CAN YOU SAY:

The mansion is beautiful. The bitch bites the gentleman. He reads a scandalous book. She lives (= lödön) in a hovel. The ladies come back to us. (= lü obs). They (**m**) give me a fake cheque. We respect the children and esteem the lady.

Now here are some very common **SUFFIXES**:

<b>-AN</b>	indicates <i>an ordinary person</i> :	at = this; <i>atan</i> = this person.
<b>-IÄL</b>	“ <i>a tendency</i> :	givön = to give; <i>giviäl</i> = generosity. labön = to have; <i>labiäl</i> = greediness. mon = money; <i>moniäl</i> = avarice.
<b>-IL</b>	“ <i>smallness</i> :	dom = house; <i>domil</i> = a small house
<b>-NA</b>	“ <i>multiplication</i> :	<i>telna kil binons mäl</i> = twice three are six.
<b>-ÖF</b>	“ <i>an essential quality</i> :	flen = friend; <i>flenöf</i> = friendship. man = man; <i>manöf</i> = manliness.
<b>-EF</b>	“ <i>a group</i> (of people):	flen = friend; <i>flenef</i> = a group of friends.

#### CAN YOU SAY:

That person lives in this mansion. Generosity is a gift. They (**m**) live in a small house. Six times two are twelve. I see a group of children. Manliness is beautiful.

If necessary, more than one **PREFIX** or **SUFFIX** can be used with the same word; such words can also become adjectives or adverbs, like ordinary nouns.

For example:

*hitidan* = a (male) teacher; *jitidanef* = a group of (female) teachers; *tifan* = a thief; *hitifan* = a male thief; *jitifan* = a female thief; *tifanef* = a group of thieves (= both sexes!) *vomil binof moniälik* = the small woman is avaricious.

#### CAN YOU SAY:

My father is very manly. A group of children pluck flowers. Our little brother walks around the mansion. Generous people always (= ai) visit us. They (**m**) come back quickly. We see a group of friends in the park.

Please do not forget to check the exercises you have done with the KEY.

# VOLAPÜK FOR EVERYONE (IX)

9.

## IN REVERSE GEAR

It is very easy to express the **PAST** in Volapük.

A single action in the past, an action which is done regularly and a continuous action in the past are expressed by means of the prefix **Ä-** added to the verb as follows:

- Älogob lädi = I saw the lady (= a single action in the past)  
Äreidobs buki = We were reading a book (= a continuous action in the past)  
Älogom dogi = He used to see the dog (= an habitual action in the past)

### CAN YOU SAY:

We used to pluck flowers. The ladies met the children. He was buying shoes.

There is also the **PAST BEYOND THE PAST** (which is called the Pluperfect) and this is formed by adding the prefix **I-** to the verb as follows:

- Ilogob lädi = I *had* seen the lady  
Ilogobs cilis = We *had* seen the children

### CAN YOU SAY:

The friends had read the books. The ladies had bought the shoes. This dog had bitten the man.

However, the **RECENT PAST**, such as is used in conversation or conversational dialogue, is formed by the prefix **E-** added to the verb as follows:

- Elogob lädi = I *have seen* the lady  
Elogobs cili = We *have seen* the child  
Ereidofs buki = They *have read* the book

### CAN YOU SAY:

She has kissed the man. We have visited the gardens. She has bought the shoes.

An unusual feature of Volapük is the so-called **FUTURE IN THE PAST**, which is formed by means of the prefix **Ö-** added to the verb as follows:

- Ölogob lädi = I would see the lady (= only in the past)  
Ölogobs cili = We would see the child “ “ “  
Öreidoms bukis = They would read the books “ “

Please note that in Volapük this **FUTURE ACTION** is **ALWAYS CONFINED TO THE PAST**. It must not be confused with the conditional..

CAN YOU SAY:

She would give money to her boy-friend. The friends would drink tea. We would give flowers to our mother.

The above prefixes represent the **PAST ONLY**. Now that you are familiar with them, translate the following text into Volapük:

The little girl (= jicil) was in the garden. „I have plucked these flowers,” she said (= sagön) Her sister used to say that (= das) her flowers would be the most beautiful. This sister was always working in the garden.

Please do not forget to check the exercises you have done with the KEY.

## VOLAPÜK FOR EVERYONE (X)

10.

FULL SPEED AHEAD!

By adding the prefix **O-** to a verb, we look into the **FUTURE**, for example:

Flens **o**visitons legadi = The friends *will* visit the park.

Mans **o**givoms blode oba cäki = The men *will* give my brother a cheque.

CAN YOU SAY:

The woman will give milk (= milig) to the cat. The sisters will buy these beautiful shoes. The father will read the newspaper.

By adding the prefix **U-** to a verb, we **COMPLETE THE FUTURE**, for example:

Flens **u**visitons legadi = The friends *will have* visited the park.

Mans **u**givoms blode oba cäki = The men *will have* given my brother a cheque.

Now **COMPLETE THE FUTURE** in the above three sentences.

In Volapük, when two verbs follow each other, one is generally joined to the other by means of the word **AD**, for example:

Spelobs **ad** kömön suno = We hope to come soon.



Desinobs **ad** remön domi nulik = We intend to buy a new house.

**AD** also means „in order to,” for example:

Spelobs ad kömön **ad** visitön olis = We hope to come (in order) to visit you.

Fidob **ad** lifön – no lifob **ad** fidön! = I eat to live - I don't live to eat!

CAN YOU SAY:

We will meet the children (in order) to pluck flowers. She hopes to see you soon. He collects books (in order) to study them. Do you (**sing.**)intend to read this book? I kiss the children (= jicils) (in order) to comfort (= trodön) them.

But **AD** does not always join two verbs together. Here are some of the most frequently used verbs which have no linking word:

**dalön** = to be allowed to; **jinön** = to seem; **kanön** = to be able to; **mutön** = to be compelled to, **nedön** = to need, **vilön** = to want

For example:

Kanof kanitön legudiko = She can sing excellently

Imutom golön sunädo = He had to go immediately

Oviloms vobön mödiko = They will want to work a lot.

Unedom visitön flenis oka = He will have needed to visit his friends.

Edaloms plökön floris = They have been allowed to pick flowers.

Jinof getön moni mödik = She seems to receive a lot of money.

CAN YOU SAY:

She will have to go immediately. He has bought these books (in order) to study them. They (**f**) will need to comfort their friends. We shall be able to visit you tomorrow (= odelo). I study in order to learn (=lärnön). She wants to buy these flowers. Must he drink tea? We visit her to see the children. Do you (**sing.**)need to come? I seem to receive a lot of gifts.

Please do not forget to check the exercises you have done with the KEY.

## **VOLAPÜK FOR EVERYONE (XI)**

11.

DAMN IT! WE HAVE A PUNCTURE!!

**PLEASE READ ONCE MORE** the second part of *Volapük for Everyone (III)*, which explains the **PASSIVE**.

There you will see that we added the prefix **PA-** to the **PRESENT TENSE** of the verb.

However, for all the other verb tenses only the letter **P-** is added, for example:

Kidof = she kisses; *pakidof* = she *is* kissed; *pekidof* = she *has been* kissed.

Logob = I see; *pologob* = I *will be* seen; *pulogob* = I *will have been* seen.

Dog beiton = the dog bites; *dog päbeiton* = the dog *was* bitten; *dog pibeiton* = the dog *had been* bitten.

In the first (underlined) example, the person/thing is **DOING SOMETHING**, but afterwards, by means of the **PASSIVE**, the rôle is reversed; now the person/thing which was doing something is **HAVING SOMETHING DONE TO IT!**

CAN YOU SAY:

He has been kissed. I will be seen. The coffee will be drunk. The book was read.  
The lady was bitten. The flowers will have been plucked.

LOOK AT THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES AND SEE HOW A SENTENCE CAN BE COMPLETELY „TURNED AROUND” :

Kidof cilis = she kisses the children. Cils pakidons fa of = The children are kissed by her;

Ereidom buki = he has read the book. Buk pereidon fa om = the book has been read by him.

Äplököf floris = she plucked the flowers; Flors päplökons fa of = The flowers were plucked by her.

Dog obik ibeiton kati = My dog had bitten the cat. Kat pibeiton fa dog obik = The cat had been bitten by my dog.

Man odrinom tiedi = the man will drink the tea. Tied podrinon fa man = The tea will be drunk by the man.

Läd ulogof flenis = The lady will have seen the friends. Flens pulogons fa läd = The friends will have been seen by the lady.

(In the first sentence, we see **SUBJECT + OBJECT**, but in the second sentence the **OBJECT HAS NOW BECOME THE SUBJECT!**)

CAN YOU „TURN AROUND” THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES AS ABOVE:

Oreidom buki. Drinof kafi. Kat äbeiton dogi. Vom ukidof manis. Ivisitobs jiflenis. Ereidoms delagasedis. Givom moni. Ekolkömobs sölis. Äremofs floris. Ilavob blodi oba.

The **ACTION** of most verbs passes **DIRECTLY** to the noun which accompanies it.

However there are some verbs which cannot do this without help. Look at these sentences:

Man logom jevodi = The man sees the horse, but:  
Man seadom *su* jevod = The man sits on the horse.

Vom ästunidof gadi = The woman admired the garden, but:  
Vom ävobof *in* gad = The woman worked in the garden.

No elabobs slipacemi = We haven't got a bedroom, but:  
Eslipobs *su* glun = We have slept on the ground.

**LOGÖN** (= to see); **STUNIDÖN** (= to admire); **LABÖN** (= to have) are called **TRANSITIVE**

**VERBS** because they need no help to join up with the following word (= *noun*);  
But **SEADÖN** (= to sit); **VOBÖN** (= to work); **SLIPÖN** (= to sleep) are called **INTRANSITIVE**

**VERBS** because they need the help of **SU** (= on) and **IN** (= in) to join up with the following word (= *noun*).

How shall we recognize these two kinds of verbs? We will assume that all verbs are **TRANSITIVE** unless they have the word **I/T** in brackets after them; for example:

**SEADÖN** (i/t) = to sit; **VOBÖN** (i/t) = to work; **SLIPÖN** (i/t) = to sleep

We shall then know that these are **INTRANSITIVE VERBS** and need the help of a **PREPOSITION**. (We shall learn more about prepositions on the next stage of our journey!)

CAN YOU SAY:

I had a beautiful bedroom; I slept in a small bed. She has seen my cat; it was seated on a book. He will have a mansion; he will work in the garden every day (= *aldeliko*).

Please do not forget to check the exercises you have done with the KEY.

## **VOLAPÜK FOR EVERYONE (XII)**

**PREPOSITIONS** are short words which precede nouns/pronouns, and which relate to a previous word, for example:

*Vom binof in gad = The lady is in the garden*

**DA DE DIS FA FO PO IN NEN PRO SU VÜ**  
through, from, under, by, in front of, behind, in, without, for, on, between

are all prepositions.

Here are some examples:

Läds kömofs de dom oba = The ladies come from my house.  
Dog äseadon dis tab = The dog sat under the table.  
Gased at binon pro tidans = This magazine is for teachers.  
Ostanob vü cils tel = I will stand between the two children.  
Igolobs da legad = We had walked through the park.  
Pened pepenon fa söl et = The letter has been written by that gentleman.

CAN YOU SAY:

We walked behind our friends. She is without tea. He sat on a chair (= stul). They (f) stand in front of the house. I shall be in bed. During (= dü) the evening I will read the newspaper.

By adding the suffix **-Ü** to another word, such as **DOM** = house, **NEM** = name, **BÜD** = command, **LAB** = possession, and other suitable words, it changes them into **PREPOSITIONS**, for example:

**DOMÜ** = *at the house of* // Lödob domü om = I live in his house.  
**NEMÜ** = *in the name of* // Cäk at binon nemü söl Smith = This cheque is in the name of Mr. Smith.  
**BÜDÜ** = *on the order of* // Ereidof buki at bünü tidan = She has read this book on the order of the teacher.  
**LABÜ** = *in the possession of* // Man labü dog binom son oba = The man who has the dog is my son.

CAN YOU SAY:

They (m) spoke in the name of the king (= reg). She has always visited me at my house. I admire women who have a lot of children.

It is quite some time since we looked at NUMBERS in Volapük. Read *Volapük for Everyone (IV)* again, then write:

**INTERJECTIONS** are words which express PAIN, JOY, AMAZEMENT, NAUSEA, for example:

**YÖ! SÖ! AG! O! FÖ! ADYÖ! Ö!**  
Hurray! Shush! Oh, dear! Oh! Get out! Goodbye! It's nauseating!

**INTERJECTIONS**, like prepositions, can also be made from other suitable words by adding the suffix **-Ö**, for example, from the words: **DAN** = thank, **FÜM** = certainty, **PRÜD** = prudence, **SEIL** = silence, **SPID** = haste, **STOP** = stop, **LIED** = grief, and **ZED** = resignation, we can make the following words:

**DANÖ!** = Thanks! **FÜMÖ** = Certainly! **PRÜDÖ!** = Take care! **SEILÖ!** = Shut up!  
**SPIDÖ!** = Hurry up! **STOPÖ!** = Stop! **LIEDÖ!** = Unfortunately! **ZEDÖ!** =  
Never mind!

CAN YOU SAY:

I have your gift – thanks! Oh dear! She wants to sing. Take care! The coffee is very hot (= levamik). It's eight o'clock – hurry up! Never mind! We will meet him to-morrow. Shush! The children are asleep.

Please do not forget to check the exercises you have done with the KEY.

## **VOLAPÜK FOR EVERYONE (XIII)**

13. HAVE A GOOD JOURNEY!

**CONJUNCTIONS** are small words which join sentences, or parts of sentences together.

Here are some conjunctions: **BUT, BECAUSE, AND, OR, THAT** .

In Volapük these are: **AB, BI, E, U, DAS**

For example:

Dog **e** kat = A dog and a cat.

Sevob, **das** cils eplökons floris = I know that the children have plucked the flowers.

Eremof jukis at, **bi** äbinons jöniks = She has bought these shoes because they were beautiful.

Ävilom reidön, **ab** no ilabom buki = He wanted to read, but he did not have a book.

Drinobs tiedi **u** kafi = We drink tea or coffee.

CAN YOU SAY:



The washed woman (= the woman who has been washed). The plucked flowers (= the flowers which have been plucked). The read newspaper = (= the newspaper which has been read).

The book which had been read; the friend who was being kissed, the flowers which had been plucked, the man about to be washed.

### THE DAYS OF THE WEEK (DELS VIGA)

**sudel, mudel, tudel, vedel, dödel, fridel, zädel**

Sunday . . .

Please note:

Ekömobs ad visitön oli vedelo = We came to visit you *on* Wednesday.

Okolkömof obis fridelo *okömöl* = She will meet us *next* Friday.

Elogob lädis mudelo *epasetöl* = I saw the ladies *last* Monday.

CAN YOU SAY:

I shall buy a newspaper on Tuesday. The children plucked flowers last Saturday.

The woman saw the man on Sunday. She will sing on Thursday next.

Please do not forget to check the exercises you have done with the KEY.

## **VOLAPÜK FOR EVERYONE (XIV)**

14.

### HOME AT LAST!

In Volapük the **CONDITIONAL** is expressed by the ending **-ÖV** which is added to the **PERSONAL PRONOUN** of the verb.

For example:

If binom**öv** smalikum, flapoföv omi = If he were smaller, she would hit him.

Üf kömof**öv**, givoböv ofe buki = In case she should come, I'd give her a book.

If stom binon**öv** koldikum, ba nifosöv = If the weather were colder, perhaps it would snow.

Please note that the use of the **CONDITIONAL** is entirely dependent on the existence of a condition. It must never be used if such a condition does not exist. For this reason, it generally, But not always, follows the word **IF** (= if) or **ÜF** (= in case

that), which indicate the existence of such a condition, but may also be used in other ways, *providing that a condition is present*.

### CAN YOU SAY:

If she should visit us, I would buy coffee. In case the dog should bite her, I would stand in front of it. If he should come, would you give him this book? In case we couldn't meet him, we'd return immediately. If I were smaller, I'd eat to live!

To express **DOUBT**, the small word **-LA** is added to the end of the verb. It is **NEVER** accentuated!

### For example:

No sevob, va okömof-**la** = I don't know whether she'll come (but I very much doubt it!)

Sagoy, das reg binom-**la** pöfik = They say (= One says) that the king is poor (but I very much doubt it!)

### CAN YOU SAY:

He says that she is most beautiful (but I very much doubt it!) My sister says that her brother is stronger than me (but I very much doubt it!) They say that his cat will bite you (but I very much doubt it!)

### Finally, a last word about NUMBERS:

100	=	<b>tum</b> ; 101 = <b>tum bal</b> , 102 = <b>tum tel</b> . . . .
100	=	<b>baltum</b> , 200 = <b>teltum</b> , 300 = <b>kiltum</b> . . . .
1000	=	<b>mil</b> ; 1001 = <b>mil bal</b> , 1002 = <b>mil tel</b> . . . .
1000	=	<b>balmil</b> , 2000 = <b>telmil</b> , 3000 = <b>kilmil</b> . . . .
1,000,000	=	<b>balion</b> ; 2,000,000 = <b>telbalion</b> ;
3,000,000	=	<b>kilbalion</b> . . . .

Numbers generally **FOLLOW** nouns, for example:

Mans *tum*, voms *mil*, cils *balion*

To make **ORDINAL NUMBERS**, we simply add the suffix **-ID** to the number.

### HOW TO WRITE THE DATE:

On 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1943 = tü del kil**id** mayula, yela (bal)mil zültum foldegkil.

On 8<sup>th</sup> June 1892 = tü del jöl**id** yunula, yela (bal)mil jöltum züldegtel.

On 27<sup>th</sup> August 2005 = tü del teldegv**id** gustula, yela telmil lul.



CAN YOU SAY:

On 4<sup>th</sup> May, 1792; on 19<sup>th</sup> September 1905; on 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2004; on 1<sup>st</sup> December, 1893.

Do not forget to check the exercises you have done with the KEY.

Now that you have acquired the grammar of Volapük, the next part of the course entitled : VOLAPÜK IN ACTION (VIA) will concentrate on a much wider vocabulary, finally giving you an excellent working knowledge of the language.

Hoping you will enjoy this second part of the course.