A complete Lemizh reference grammar

Writing and phonology

- Alphabet: เมตุอุตุธ ๛ ๛ ๛ ๛ ๛ ฯ พ v พ ภ ภ ภ ม ม บ บ ๆ ผ ก ก ก ก ก
- The alphabet of the language is **phonetic.** The direction of writing is **left to right**.
- The letters' transcriptions and phonetic values are as follows:

Vowels	front		back	
	unrounded	rounded	unrounded	rounded
close	a i [i]	хü[y]	a y [tt]	œ u [u]
open	ие[ε]	кö[œ]	ı a [л]	c o [ə]

Consonants		bilabial	dental	alveolar	postalveolar	velar
	lateral approximant			တ l [l]		
liquids	approximant			co rh [ɹ]		
	trill			ထ r [r]		
nasals		ч m [m]				r ng [ŋ]
plosives		₩ b [b]		v d [d]		w g [g]
		м p [p]		∧ t [t]		₩ k [k]
fricatives		u w [β]	9 dh [ð]	0 z [z]	6 zh [3]	ν gh [ɣ]
		α f [φ]	\mathfrak{g} th $[\theta]$	o s [s]	რ sh [ʃ]	$n \times [x]$

• Vowels can carry low-pitch or high-pitch **accent**, or be unaccented:

Accent type	Symbol	Accented vowels	Transcription
low	J	၂၂၂၀၁၂၄၄၄	`(à etc.)
high	1	ମ ନ ଧ ଧ ଓ ଓ ପ	′ (á etc.)

• **Numbers** are written in the hexadecimal system:

Name	Symbol	Transcription
digits	01#9471+6016655556	0-9, A-F
negation sign (preceding)	=	_
hexadecimal separator	•	
recurring part separator (preceding)	0	r

• Punctuation:

Group	roup Name Symbol Transcription Function					
pauses of spee	space	[space]	[space]	barely audible	see 'Morphology'	
pauses of speech	comma	•	,	a bit longer	on the next page	
h h	full stop	:		the longest one		
em	space	[wide space]	(!)	have the same function		
emphases	comma	-	,(!)	pauses, but add emphasis to the preceding sentence or object		
es	full stop	:	!			
sepa (das	straight	-	-	separate parts of text, for stylistic reasons such as enhancing readability of compour or long sentences. The straight dash is the		
separators (dashes)	round	^	_			
rs	pointy - weakest		veakest, the pointy dash the strongest.			
encl (par	straight	/ \	()	enclose parts of text. A sentence without the contents of the enclosure must be grammatically complete.		
enclosures (parentheses)	round	()	[]			
es eses)	pointy	()	{}	The straight enclosure outermost), the pointy	s are the weakest (also	
enc] (qua	straight	/ \	strongest (also inner	strongest (also innerm	most). The accent of the	
enclosures (quotes*)	round	()	<i>""</i>	last word in front of the enclosure determines the level of the first word in		
es	pointy	< >	>>>	enclosure.		
ellipses	short	_		marks omission of one in abbreviations	or several letters, as	
Š	long	_		marks omission of one or several words		

 $[\]ensuremath{^{*}}$ Quotes enclose $\ensuremath{\textit{mentioned}}$ parts of text, including quotations.

Morphology (word grammar)

- Parts of a word: prestem + inner case + poststem + outer case
- Level as defined below. Only positive levels are allowed for words. The agent is the source of the intention.

Following pause	Accented vowel	Type of accent	The level of the next word is		
	innan aaaa	low	lower by 1		
snaco	inner case high		lower by 1, and agentive		
space	outer case	low	equal		
		high	higher by 1		
	innon aga	low	higher by 2		
	inner case	high	lower by 1, and agentive equal higher by 1		
comma (·)	outer case	low	higher by 4		
		high	higher by 5		
full stop (:)	inner case	low	none; end of sentence		

- Case descriptors as defined below, with rows 5 to 8 being agent-centered; plus the two secondary case suffixes denoting
 - ▶ partitive (▷, 'the set from which the sender [recipient, place, etc.] is thought to be taken') &
 - p qualitative cases (4, 'the basis of comparison located in the same hypothetical world as all others for the sender [recipient, place, etc.]')

	_	Primary case suffix						
No.	vowel	none	တ	co	ယ			
		Plot cases	Causal cases	Temporal cases	Spatial cases			
1	I	factive (FACT): action	affirmative (AFF): fact (point in causal chain)	temporal (TEMP): time	locative (LOC): place/region			
2	И	nominative (NOM): source, sender	causative (CAUS): direct cause	ingressive (ING): starting time	elative (ELA): starting point/region			
3	a	accusative (ACC): content	contextual (cTX): causal context	durative (DUR): duration	extensive (EXT): spatial extent			
4	э	dative (DAT): sink, recipient	consecutive (CONS): direct consequence, effect	egressive (EGR): closing time	illative (ILL): end point / ending region			
5	c	tentive (TEN): intention	intentive (INT): intention (intended point in causal chain)	episodic (EPS): episode, 'act'	scenic (SCE): scene, 'stage'			
6	lc	comitative (сом): company	persuasive (PSU): reason	digressive (DIG): time away from which	ablative (ABL): place/region away from which			
7	\propto	instrumental (INS): means, tool	motivational (мот): motivational context	progressive (PROG): time that is passed	prolative (PROL): crossing point/region			
8	∞	benefactive (BEN): beneficiary	final (FIN): purpose, aim	aggressive (AGG): time towards which, temporal aim	allative (ALL): place/region towards which, spatial aim			

• The **stem** of a word always denotes an action, and the **inner case** describes the word's relation to this action.

• The stems of the **relative pronouns** are defined here:

Level	Type I		Type II		
revei	Verb	Verb The target is the stem of		The target is the stem of	
n	_		յ ։	its preceding same-level word	
n-1	aj:	its predicate	ul:	its predicate's preceding same-level word or parole	
n-2	ျှ း	its predicate's predicate	ડ્યાઃ	its predicate's predicate's preceding same-level word or parole	
n-3	oj:	its predicate's predicate's predicate	റ്വ:		
n-4	(ပျ		h <u>၂</u> :		
n-5	ωj:		nj:		

Derivational morphology (compound words)

- One. A compound word is constructed from a two-word sentence predicate and object of which become modifier and head of the compound, respectively in the following way:
 - 1. Prestem:
 - a. the object's prestem
 - b. the object's inner case
 - c. the object's poststem
 - d. an optional separator: -, or -
 - e. the predicate's prestem
 - 2. Inner case
 - 3. *Poststem:* the predicate's poststem
 - 4. Outer case
- **Two.** In the relationship between the original predicate and object, the rules of sentence grammar are retained as far as applicable.
- Three. Regarding all outward relations, cases refer to the head.

Syntax (sentence grammar)

- One. Sentence structure. A word of level n is subordinate to the nearest word of level n-1 in front of it; the parole acts as a word of level zero.
- **Two. Definition of objects.** An object of a word in a sentence is a word subordinate to the former, its predicate, plus all of its own objects.
- **Three. Outer case.** The outer case of the first word of an object defines its relation to its predicate's stem via its descriptor; the outer case of a level 1 word is zero.
- **Four. Identity of action.** An instance of a word stem designates a specific action.
- **Five. Completeness of cases.** A case characterises the action it refers to completely with regard to its case descriptor.
- **Six. Missing objects.** A missing object is equivalent to the absence of information about its descriptor.
- **Seven. Degree of reality.** Given an object and its predicate, the predicate is considered more real and the object more hypothetical.