

CONSTRUCTED LANGUAGE COURSE

Dothraki 1

How Dothraki works: sounds, nouns and cases, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, numbers, colours and whole sentences.

10 Chapters

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Generated with Claude

DOTHRAKI 1

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Dothraki 1

Course 1 · Chapter 1 · What Dothraki Is

Dothraki is the language of the horse-riding people of the grass sea in *Game of Thrones*. You met it briefly in Constructed Languages 5 as an example of a language made for a screen. In this course you learn how it works: its sounds, its nouns and cases, its verbs and finally whole sentences. This first chapter explains where Dothraki came from, how much of it is official and how this course writes and marks its examples.

> **THE IDEA IN A BOX**
>
> Dothraki is a constructed language built by one linguist, David J. Peterson, for the HBO series. It grew from a very small number of words in George R. R. Martin's novels into a full language with thousands of words, and it has since been learned and extended by a community of fans.

Where Dothraki Comes From

When HBO began making *Game of Thrones*, its producers needed a real spoken language for the Dothraki. They turned to the Language Creation Society, and the job went to **David J. Peterson**. Martin's novels give very little to work with: one account counts just 56 Dothraki words, 24 of them names, and Peterson himself has spoken of about fifty words and phrases. What the books do contain is a description of how the language sounds and the names, and Peterson has said these strongly shaped the sound system he built.

The language also had to be usable by actors. Peterson aimed to keep it pronounceable and learnable, because performers needed to say it convincingly on screen. His inspirations, according to published accounts, included Russian, Turkish, Estonian, Inuktitut and Swahili; Peterson has also said that to him Dothraki sounds like a mixture of Arabic and Spanish. That last remark is his impression of the sound, not a claim that Dothraki was built on those languages.

How Big Is It?

The size of the vocabulary depends on when you ask, because it has grown over time. The numbers below are dated reports, not one authoritative count.

SOURCE AND DATE	REPORTED VOCABULARY
Novels (before the show)	about fifty to fifty-six words and phrases, many of them names
HBO announcement, 2010	more than 1,800 words
September 2011	3,163 words, not all of them published
Later reports (about 2016)	about 4,000 words
Living Language book	a small teaching selection of that vocabulary

What Counts as Official

Because Dothraki grew in stages, a form can have different standing. This course tells you which kind you are looking at wherever it can:

- **From the novels:** words and names that Martin wrote, such as *khal* and *khalasar* (the words, as Martin spelled them).
- **Heard on the show:** lines Peterson wrote for the scripts, including the phrases below.
- **In the published book or Peterson's own posts:** forms and words that he gave in print or online.
- **Community-built:** words invented by learners to fill the gaps (the vocabulary was designed for the show's world, so there is little for modern everyday life).

> **WATCH OUT: DO NOT ASSUME EVERY DOTHRAKI WORD IS OFFICIAL**
>
> A word you find on a fan website may be community-built. When this course gives you a word it will say if it is a show phrase or comes from Peterson's own material, and the end of each chapter lists the forms to check against the dictionary.

Your First Phrases

Here are phrases to recognise by sight now. You do not need to analyse them yet; the parts are explained in later chapters. The English meanings are the glosses Peterson gave.

DOTHRAKI	MEANING	NOTE
Me nem nesa	"it is known"	a formula spoken in the show
Shekh ma shieraki anni	"my sun and stars"	a term of affection used of a man
Jalan atthirari anni	"moon of my life"	the matching term of affection used of a woman
Qoy qoyi	"blood of my blood"	the reply in the bloodrider oath

You will also see *khal* and *khalasar*. In the show a *khal* is a Dothraki leader and a *khalasar* is his people, a group of Dothraki riders. These meanings come from how the words are used in the show; this course will check them against the dictionary when it reaches nouns in Chapter 3.

> **WATCH OUT: DOTHRAKI IS NOT VALYRIAN**
>
> Peterson also made High Valyrian for the series. It is a different language, with its own course, and has nothing in common with Dothraki beyond the same creator.

Writing Dothraki

Dothraki is written here in the **Latin alphabet**, the form used in the novels and in learner materials. In the story, the Dothraki do not write. Chapter 2 explains the sounds and the spelling in detail.

```
# reading a phrase: word, meaning
Me nem nesa             it is known
Shekh ma shieraki anni  sun and stars of-me
Jalan atthirari anni    moon of-life of-me
```

The word-for-word glosses on the right are a first guess at how the parts fit together; Chapters 4 and 5 will show the real structure.

How This Course Is Organised

The ten chapters move from the bottom up: sounds and spelling (Chapter 2), nouns and gender (3), cases (4), pronouns and possessives (5), verbs (6 and 7), adjectives and numbers (8),

sentences and phrases (9), and reading real passages (10). Every example is given with a gloss. At the end of each chapter the forms used are listed, so you can check them in the dictionary and Peterson's own notes.

Hands-On Exercises

EXERCISE 1

Match each phrase to its meaning: (a) *Me nem nesa*; (b) *Shekh ma shieraki anni*; (c) *Jalan atthirari anni*; (d) *Qoy qoyi*. The meanings are: moon of my life, blood of my blood, it is known, my sun and stars.

View solution

EXERCISE 2

Say who made Dothraki, who asked for it and what he had to start from. Then explain why the vocabulary figure for Dothraki is different in different sources.

View solution

EXERCISE 3

Sort these into "from the novels", "heard on the show", "published by Peterson" or "community-built", and say which you can be sure about: the word *khal*, the phrase *Me nem nesa*, and a new Dothraki word for "smartphone" posted on a fan site.

View solution

CHAPTER 1 QUICK REFERENCE

- **Dothraki**: built by David J. Peterson for *Game of Thrones*, chosen through the Language Creation Society; started from about fifty to fifty-six words in the novels
- Vocabulary: over 1,800 (2010), 3,163 (2011), about 4,000 (later); the book teaches a small selection
- Standing of a form: from the novels, heard on the show, published by Peterson, or community-built

- Phrases: *Me nem nesa* (it is known), *Shekh ma shieraki anni* (my sun and stars), *Jalan atthirari anni* (moon of my life), *Qoy qoyi* (blood of my blood)

COMING NEXT

Dothraki 1, Chapter 2 takes the spelling apart: which sound each letter stands for, how stress works and the pronunciation traps.

Dothraki 1

Course 1 · Chapter 2 · Sounds and Spelling

Dothraki is spelled with the Latin alphabet, and the spelling is very regular: almost every letter has one sound. That makes it far easier to read aloud than English. This chapter gives you the four vowels, the consonants and digraphs, the effect of doubled letters, the rolled *r* and the stress rule, with the traps that catch learners. You will be able to say every phrase from Chapter 1 correctly.

> **THE IDEA IN A BOX**
>
> Dothraki has only four vowels and no diphthongs, and its consonants include a few that English lacks (*kh*, *q*, a tapped or trilled *r*). Doubling a letter changes the word, so double letters are said in full.

The Four Vowels

Dothraki has four vowels. Each is a pure sound, held steady; none glides into another, and there are no diphthongs, so two vowels written next to each other are two separate syllables (as in *shieraki*, *shi-e-ra-ki*).

LETTER	SOUND	EXAMPLE
a	"ah", as in "father"	*anni* "of me"
e	"eh", as in "bed"	*nem*
i	"ee", as in "machine"	*anni*
o	"oh", as in "more" (without the glide)	*qoy*

Two refinements: next to *q* the vowels move a little further back in the mouth (so *qoy* sounds different from a plain *koy*), and *o* can sound close to "oo" after *k*, *g* or *kh*. You do not need to hunt for these at first; just say each vowel cleanly and let them move naturally.

Consonants You Already Know

Most consonants sound as they do in English: *b*, *d*, *f*, *g* (always hard, as in "go"), *h*, *k*, *l*, *m*, *n*, *p*, *s*, *t*, *v*, *y* and *z*. Dothraki has about twenty-two consonants in all, counting the digraphs below.

Digraphs and Special Letters

A **digraph** is two letters that together stand for one sound. Dothraki has several, and one letter that English does not use at all.

SPELLING	SOUND	EXAMPLE
kh	the rough "ch" of Scottish "loch" or German "Bach"	*khal*, *shekh*
sh	English "sh" in "ship"	*shekh*, *shieraki*
zh	the "s" in "measure"	(a rarer sound)
th	"th" in "thin", not "this"	*atthirari*
ch	"ch" in "check", always with a puff of air	(see the vocabulary in Chapter 3)
q	a "k" made further back, at the very back of the mouth (a uvular stop)	*qoy*, *qoyi*

WATCH OUT: *KH* IS NOT "K" PLUS "H"

In *khal* and *shekh* the *kh* is one rough sound made by scraping air at the back of the mouth. English speakers often say "k-hal". Practise it with "loch", then drop it into *khal*.

WATCH OUT: Q IS NOT "KW"

The *q* in *qoy* is not the English "kw" of "queen". It is a deeper "k", made with the back of the tongue against the very back of the mouth, and no "w" sound follows.

Doubled Letters

A doubled consonant is pronounced for longer; it is not the same as a single one, and it can change the meaning. Two words from the sources make the point: *jelli* "cheese" and *jeli* "lemon"

differ only in the *l*. For the digraphs, doubling is written by doubling the first letter and keeping the second: *kkh*, *ssh*, *zzh*, *tth* and *cch*.

```
# single vs. double: hold the double consonant
jeli      (lemon)    je-li
jelli     (cheese)   jel-li   hold the l for twice as long

# doubled digraphs
atthirari  has  tth   (a long "th")
anni       has  nn    (a long "n")
```

The Rolled R

Dothraki *r* is not the English "r". The Living Language-style description is that it is **trilled** (rolled, like Spanish *perro*) when doubled, at the end of a word, or at the start of a word before a vowel, and **tapped** (a quick flick, like the "tt" in American "butter") elsewhere. If you cannot roll your *r* yet, use the tap everywhere: it is understood, and the trill comes with practice.

Where the Stress Falls

Stress is predictable, according to one learner guide:

- **Words ending in a consonant** are stressed on the **last syllable**: *lajak* is said *la-JAK*.
- **Words ending in a vowel** are stressed on the **first syllable**: *khaleesi* is said *KHA-lee-si*.

```
# stress marked in capitals
lajak      la-JAK     (ends in a consonant: last syllable)
khaleesi   KHA-lee-si  (ends in a vowel: first syllable)
```

> **WATCH OUT: EVEN OFFICIAL SOURCES DISAGREE ON SOME WORDS**
>
> The Living Language book notes that *khaleesi* has three different pronunciations. Treat the stress rule as the standard pattern and expect speakers, and actors, to vary on some words.

Reading the Phrases from Chapter 1

```
Me nem nesa              me nem NE-sa
Shekh ma shieraki anni   shekh ma shi-e-RA-ki AN-ni   # stress is a rule of thumb here
Jalan atthirari anni     ja-LAN at-thi-RA-ri AN-ni   # stress is a rule of thumb here
Qoy qoyi                 qoy QO-yi
```

The stress marks on these phrases come from applying the rule above to each word, so treat them as the standard pattern, not a recording of a particular actor.

Hands-On Exercises

EXERCISE 1

Say each word aloud, then say which letters are digraphs or doubled: *khal*, *shekh*, *qoy*, *anni*, *atthirari*, *jelli*.

View solution

EXERCISE 2

Apply the stress rule to these words and mark the stressed syllable in capitals: *lajak*, *khaleesi*, *khalasar*, *nesa*. Then say which rule you used for each.

View solution

EXERCISE 3

Explain, in your own words, why *jeli* and *jelli* are different words, and why *q* in *qoy* is not the English "kw".

View solution

CHAPTER 2 QUICK REFERENCE

- **Vowels:** *a e i o*, pure sounds, no diphthongs

- **Digraphs:** *kh* (loch), *sh* (ship), *zh* (measure), *th* (thin), *ch* (check, with a puff); *q* is a back-of-the-mouth "k"
- **Doubling:** say double letters for longer; doubled digraphs are *kkh ssh zzh tth cch*
- **R:** trilled when doubled, final, or word-initial before a vowel; tapped elsewhere
- **Stress:** last syllable if the word ends in a consonant; first syllable if it ends in a vowel

COMING NEXT

Dothraki 1, Chapter 3 turns to nouns: the two genders, the endings that tell you a noun's class, and how Dothraki builds plurals.

Dothraki 1

Course 1 · Chapter 3 · Nouns

Now that you can say Dothraki words, you can start to build with them. This chapter covers nouns: the split between **animate** and **inanimate** nouns, how plurals are made, and how adjectives follow the noun's number. Dothraki has no "he/she/it" gender like French or German; its division is between things that are alive (or treated as living) and things that are not.

> **THE IDEA IN A BOX**
>
> Every Dothraki noun belongs to one of two classes. **Animate** nouns have a separate plural. **Inanimate** nouns look the same in the singular and the plural. Which class a noun belongs to is something you learn with the noun.

Two Classes of Noun

Peterson's own site describes the two classes with names from the world of the Dothraki: **"sky" nouns** and **"grass" nouns**. Sky nouns are the animate ones and have a plural form. Grass nouns are the inanimate ones and do not distinguish singular from plural. He also says the class of a noun is a matter of memorising, not of guessing from meaning.

	ANIMATE ("SKY")	INANIMATE ("GRASS")
Separate plural?	yes	no: one form for one or many
Case endings	full set, with different plural forms	the same endings in both numbers
How to know	learn the class with each noun	

> **WATCH OUT: THIS IS NOT GRAMMATICAL GENDER**
>
> English speakers sometimes call this "gender" because French and German have it, but Dothraki has no masculine and feminine. The split is animate versus inanimate, and it matters for plurals and for case.

Making the Plural

Animate nouns form the plural by adding an ending to the stem, and the ending depends on how the stem finishes:

- **After a consonant:** add *-i*.
- **After a vowel:** add *-si*.

SINGULAR	PLURAL	MEANING	RULE
khalasar	*khalasari*	horde, group of riders	consonant stem + *-i*
khado	*khadosi*	body, bodies	vowel stem + *-si*
rakh	*rakhi*	boy, boys	consonant stem + *-i*

```
# the plural rule
stem ends in a consonant   stem + -i     khalasar -> khalasari
stem ends in a vowel       stem + -si    khado    -> khadosi
```

Inanimate nouns

An inanimate noun keeps one form for "one" and "many", so you tell the number from the context. This is common in languages that have such a split, and the class of each noun is listed in the dictionary entry.

Adjectives Agree in Number

An adjective follows its noun's number, so a plural noun takes a plural adjective. The example from the sources:

```
rakh haj      strong boy
rakhi haji    strong boys
```

In both phrases the noun *rakh* "boy" comes first and the adjective *haj* "strong" follows it. In the plural both words take *-i*: the noun *rakhi* and the adjective *haji*. Chapter 8 returns to adjectives in full.

Looking Ahead: Cases

Animate nouns also take case endings that mark their job in the sentence. One example: the accusative singular of an animate noun is formed with *-es*. The full case system is the subject of Chapter 4. You will meet the nominative, which has no ending, first.

> **WATCH OUT: SOME OF THIS CHAPTER IS STILL TO BE CHECKED**
>
> This chapter covers the plural rule and the examples that are documented. The wider classification of noun stems (the different endings a noun can have in the singular) is not covered here and is best checked in the dictionary. When you look up a noun, check its class and its listed plural. The word *khal* from Chapter 1 is not given a plural here, because no plural of it is documented in this course's sources.

Hands-On Exercises

EXERCISE 1

Apply the plural rule to these invented practice stems (they are not real Dothraki words), saying which ending you used and why: *tark*, *mero*, *dran*, *sila*.

View solution

EXERCISE 2

Write the plural of *khalasar*, *khado* and *rakh*. Then write "strong boys" in Dothraki and say how the adjective *haj* "strong" changes.

View solution

EXERCISE 3

Explain the difference between animate and inanimate nouns in Dothraki. Why is "gender" a misleading word for it, and how do you find out which class a noun belongs to?

View solution

CHAPTER 3 QUICK REFERENCE

- **Two classes:** animate ("sky") nouns have a separate plural; inanimate ("grass") nouns do not
- **Plural of animate nouns:** *-i* after a consonant, *-si* after a vowel
- **Examples:** *khalasar -> khalasari*, *khado -> khadosi*, *rakh -> rakhi*
- **Adjectives follow the noun and agree:** *rakh haj* "strong boy", *rakhi haji* "strong boys"
- Learn the class with each noun; it cannot be guessed from the meaning

COMING NEXT

Dothraki 1, Chapter 4 covers the cases: the endings that mark who does what to whom, with sentences you can read.

Dothraki 1

Course 1 · Chapter 4 · Cases

English tells you who does what to whom mainly by word order: "the khal sees the rider" is not "the rider sees the khal". Dothraki also uses **endings on the noun**, called **cases**. This chapter gives the five cases, what each one is for and the endings you will meet most often. It builds on the animate and inanimate split from Chapter 3.

> **THE IDEA IN A BOX**
>
> A **case** is a form of a noun that shows its job in the sentence. Dothraki has **five**: nominative (subject), accusative (object), genitive (possession), allative (towards) and ablative (from).

The Five Cases

CASE	WHAT IT MARKS	ENGLISH CLUE
Nominative	the subject; the dictionary form	"the rider" doing something
Accusative	the object of a verb	"sees the rider"
Genitive	possession and "of"	"the rider's", "of the rider"
Allative	movement towards	"to", "towards"
Ablative	movement away from	"from", "out of"

> **WATCH OUT: FIVE CASES, NOT SIX**
>
> Some summaries of Dothraki list a sixth case, a locative, to mean "in" or "at". The sources used in this course describe five cases, so this course teaches five. If you meet a locative elsewhere, treat it as something to check, not as part of the core system.

Endings on Inanimate Nouns

For inanimate nouns the accusative is simply the bare stem, the same as the nominative. The other endings, taken from the paradigm of *ato* "one", are:

CASE	FORM	ENDING
Nominative	*ato*	(none)
Accusative	*ato*	(none: same as nominative)
Genitive	*ati*	*-i* replaces the final vowel
Allative	*ataan*	*-aan*
Ablative	*atoon*	*-oon*

```
# the inanimate pattern on a consonant-final noun (vekhikh)
vekhikh        (nominative / accusative: the bare stem)
vekhikhi       (genitive: of ...)
vekhikhaan     (allative: towards ...)
vekhikhoon     (ablative: from ...)
```

Endings on Animate Nouns

Animate nouns have a separate plural, so the table has two columns. The animate accusative singular is formed with *-es*. For the plural accusative one source gives *-is*; the plural allative and ablative are *-ea* and *-oa*. The model noun below is *vekhikh*, used as an example stem on the Dothraki wiki.

CASE	SINGULAR	PLURAL
Accusative	*vekhikhes*	*vekhikhis*
Genitive	*vekhikhi*	(see the note below)
Allative	(like the inanimate: *-aan*)	*vekhikhea*
Ablative	(like the inanimate: *-oon*)	*vekhikhoa*

WATCH OUT: THE SOURCES DIFFER ON SOME DETAILS

The wiki pages that give these paradigms are maintained by fans and do not always agree with each other. One account gives the plural accusative as *-is* after a consonant and *-es* after a vowel; there is also a small irregularity where a final *-i* turns into *-y-* before an ending (*mai* becomes *mayes*). The

model noun *vekhikh* is also glossed differently in different places ("object" in some, "person" in another). Treat the endings as the pattern and the dictionary as the final word.

Cases on Pronouns

Pronouns take the same kind of endings. Here are the allative and ablative forms of the main pronouns, from the pronoun table:

PRONOUN	ALLATIVE ("TO")	ABLATIVE ("FROM")
I (first person singular)	*anhaan* "to me"	*anhoon* "from me"
we	*kishaan* "to us"	*kishoon* "from us"
you (singular)	*yeraan* "to you"	*yeroon* "from you"
you (plural)	*yerea*	*yeroa*
he, she, it	*maan*	*moon*

You can already see the same endings: *-aan* "towards" and *-oon* "from". Chapter 5 gives the full pronoun system, including the genitive forms that become "my", "your" and so on.

Reading a Short Phrase

Return to the phrase from Chapter 1: *shekh ma shieraki anni* "my sun and stars". The last word, *anni*, is the genitive of *anha* "I" ("of me"), which is exactly the genitive function you have just learned. Chapter 5 gives the full set of genitive forms.

Hands-On Exercises

EXERCISE 1

Name the five Dothraki cases and say what each one marks. Then say which of them is shown by no ending at all on an inanimate noun.

View solution

EXERCISE 2

Using the pattern of *vekhikh*, build the genitive, allative and ablative of the invented consonant-final practice noun *dorak* (not a real word). Then translate *anhaan* and *anhoon*.

View solution

EXERCISE 3

Why does this course teach five cases and not six? And what is wrong with saying that every form in this chapter is official Dothraki?

View solution

CHAPTER 4 QUICK REFERENCE

- **Five cases:** nominative (subject), accusative (object), genitive (of), allative (towards), ablative (from)
- **Inanimate:** accusative = bare stem; genitive *-i*; allative *-aan*; ablative *-oon*
- **Animate:** accusative singular *-es*, plural *-is*; plural allative *-ea*, plural ablative *-oa*
- **Pronouns:** *anhaan* "to me", *anhoon* "from me", *kishaan / kishoon* "to / from us", *yeraan / yeroon* "to / from you"
- Fan-maintained sources differ on some details; check the dictionary

COMING NEXT

Dothraki 1, Chapter 5 gives the full set of pronouns and the possessive forms, and puts the cases to work in short phrases.

Dothraki 1

Course 1 · Chapter 5 · Pronouns

You can now name a thing and mark its job in a sentence. This chapter adds the words that stand in for people and things: the personal pronouns ("I", "you", "we"), the way possession is shown ("my", "your"), and the demonstratives ("this", "that"). Pronouns take case endings just like nouns, so everything from Chapter 4 applies.

> **THE IDEA IN A BOX**
>
> Dothraki has no separate set of possessive words like "my" and "your". The **genitive** of the pronoun does that job: *anni* is "of me", and so "my". It also has a **three-way** "this/that" system, and a formal "you".

The Personal Pronouns

Here is the full table, with the nominative (subject) and the genitive (possessive) side by side, from Peterson's own pronoun post and the Dothraki wiki:

ENGLISH	NOMINATIVE	GENITIVE
I	*anha*	*anni*
we	*kisha*	*kishi*
you (singular)	*yer*	*yeri*
you (plural)	*yeri*	*yeri*
you (formal, respectful)	*shafka*	*shafki*
he, she, it	*me*	*mae*
they	*mori*	*mori*

- **Three kinds of "you":** *yer* for one person, *yeri* for several, and *shafka* for either when you wish to be formal or respectful.
- **No gender in the third person:** *me* covers "he", "she" and "it".

- **Overlaps:** *yeri* is both the plural "you" and the genitive of the singular "you"; context tells you which.

All the Cases of the Pronouns

PRONOUN	NOM.	ACC.	GEN.	ALLATIVE	ABLATIVE
I	*anha*	*anna*	*anni*	*anhaan*	*anhoon*
we	*kisha*	*kisha*	*kishi*	*kishaan*	*kishoon*
you (sg.)	*yer*	*yera*	*yeri*	*yeraan*	*yeroon*
you (pl.)	*yeri*	*yeri*	*yeri*	*yerea*	*yeroa*
you (formal)	*shafka*	*shafka*	*shafki*	*shafkea*	*shafkoa*
he/she/it	*me*	*mae*	*mae*	*maan*	*moon*
they	*mori*	*mora*	*mori*	*morea*	*moroa*

Look for the patterns you met in Chapter 4: *-aan* or *-ea* for "towards", *-oon* or *-oa* for "from".

> **WATCH OUT: SOURCES DISAGREE ON A FEW GENITIVES**
>
> The two sources used here agree on the genitive forms in the table above. A wiki entry for *moon*, however, describes the ablative as able to express certain close ("inalienable") possession, such as a body part, in contrast with the genitive. This is a detail to check in the dictionary.

Possession with the Genitive

Put the genitive pronoun after the noun it describes: *shekh ma shieraki anni* is "my sun and stars", with *anni* "of me" at the end. Chapter 1's second phrase, *jalan atthirari anni* "moon of my life", ends the same way.

```
shekh ma shieraki anni      my sun and stars    (anni = genitive of anha)
jalan atthirari anni        moon of my life
# the same word, in the other persons
... kishi     of us, our
```

```
... yeri      of you, your
... mae       of him / her / it, his / her / its
```

This, That and That Over There

Dothraki separates **three** distances, where English uses two. Each has a root:

ROOT	MEANING	ENGLISH
jin	near the speaker, often within reach	"this"
haz	nearer the person spoken to than the speaker	"that (by you)"
rek	near neither of you	"that over there"

As a modifier before a noun the demonstrative does not change form. As a pronoun ("this one") it has animate singular, animate plural and inanimate forms:

NOMINATIVE	ANIMATE SG.	ANIMATE PL.	INANIMATE
this	*jinak*	*jinaki*	*jini*
that (by you)	*hazak*	*hazaki*	*hazi*
that over there	*rekak*	*rekaki*	*reki*

The accusative of the inanimate forms is the bare root (*jin*, *haz*, *rek*), and the animate accusative singular ends in *-es* (*jinakes*), as in Chapter 4.

Hands-On Exercises

EXERCISE 1

Give the Dothraki for: "I", "we", "you" (to one person), "you" (to a group), "you" (very respectfully), and "he/she/it". Which of these is also the genitive of another?

View solution

EXERCISE 2

Using the table, say "to me", "from us", "to you" (singular), and "of them". Then explain how *shekh ma shieraki anni* expresses "my".

View solution

EXERCISE 3

Which demonstrative root would you use for something in your hand, something on the other person's table, and something on a hill in the distance? Give the inanimate nominative of each.

View solution

CHAPTER 5 QUICK REFERENCE

- **Nominative:** *anha* I, *kisha* we, *yer* you (sg.), *yeri* you (pl.), *shafka* you (formal), *me* he/she/it, *mori* they
- **Genitive (possessive):** *anni, kishi, yeri, yeri, shafki, mae, mori*
- **Allative/ablative:** I *anhaan/anhoon*; we *kishaan/kishoon*; you *yeraan/yeroon*
- **Demonstratives:** *jin* this, *haz* that (by you), *rek* that over there; before a noun they do not change

COMING NEXT

Dothraki 1, Chapter 6 begins the verbs: the verb stem, the infinitive and the present tense.

Dothraki 1

Course 1 · Chapter 6 · Verbs 1: The Basics

Now you can build a sentence: a subject pronoun from Chapter 5 and a verb. This chapter covers how Dothraki verbs are named (the infinitive), how to find the stem, how to make the present tense for both kinds of stem, and how the present is made negative. The past and future come in Chapter 7.

> **THE IDEA IN A BOX**
>
> A Dothraki verb is listed by its **infinitive**, which ends in *-at* or *-lat*. Remove that ending to get the **stem**, then add person endings for the present tense. Which endings you add depends on whether the stem ends in a consonant or a vowel.

The Infinitive and the Stem

The infinitive is the dictionary form ("to say", "to ride"). Its ending depends on the stem:

- **-at** after a stem that ends in a consonant: *astat* "to say", stem *ast*.
- **-lat** after a stem that ends in a vowel: *dothralat* "to ride", stem *dothra*.

To find the stem, take off the ending. *Ifat* "to walk" gives the stem *if*. A small warning from the sources: a few stems end in *l*, so for those it is best to check the dictionary entry (for example *zalat* "to hope" has a consonant-final stem).

The Present Tense

Add a person ending to the stem. The two kinds of stem take different endings:

PERSON	CONSONANT STEM: *ASTAT* "TO SAY"	VOWEL STEM: *DOTHRALAT* "TO RIDE"
I (1SG)	*astak*	*dothrak*
we (1PL)	*astaki*	*dothraki*
you (2SG)	*asti*	*dothrae*

PERSON	CONSONANT STEM: *ASTAT* "TO SAY"	VOWEL STEM: *DOTHRALAT* "TO RIDE"
you (2PL)	*asti*	*dothrae*
he/she/it (3SG)	*asta*	*dothrae*
they (3PL)	*asti*	*dothrae*

```
# consonant stem: stem + ak / aki / i / i / a / i
ast + ak    -> astak      I say
ast + a     -> asta       he / she / it says

# vowel stem: stem(a) + k / ki / e / e / e / e
dothra + k    -> dothrak    I ride
dothra + e    -> dothrae    you / he / she / they ride
```

Notice how much the pronoun does: in the vowel-stem verbs *dothrae* serves for four different persons, so the subject pronoun from Chapter 5 is what tells you who is riding.

Simple Sentences

Put the pronoun first, then the verb:

```
Anha dothrak.        I ride.
Yer dothrae.         You ride.
Me dothrae.          He / she rides.
Kisha dothraki.      We ride.
Mori dothrae.        They ride.
Anha astak.          I say.
Me asta.             He / she says.
```

Anha dothrak appears in the sources as an example; the others are built by the rule in the table above.

Making the Present Negative

The sources give the negative words *vo* and *vos*, and the negative verb endings change a little:

- **Consonant stems:** 1SG *-ok*, 1PL *-oki*, 3SG *-o*; the plural "you" and "they" stay *-i*.
- **Vowel stems:** *-ok* and *-oki* in the first person, *-o* in the others.

Applied to the examples above, the negative of *astak* is *astok* and the negative of *dothrak* is *dothrok*. The word that goes with them (*vos* in the source's example *Me vos essa* "it did not return") is placed before the verb. How *vo* and *vos* divide their work is a detail to check in the dictionary.

WATCH OUT: THE NEGATIVE FORMS ARE BUILT BY RULE HERE

The sources document the negative endings and one past-tense negative sentence. The present negatives *astok* and *dothrok* in this chapter are produced by applying those endings, so treat them as the pattern, not as attested lines from the show.

WATCH OUT: "TO BE" AND "TO HAVE"

The outline for this chapter planned to cover "to be" and "to have". Neither is covered by the sources used so far, so they are not taught here rather than guessed. Check the dictionary entries for these verbs when you need them.

Hands-On Exercises

EXERCISE 1

Find the stem and say whether it is consonant-final or vowel-final: *astat*, *dothralat*, *ifat*. Then give the infinitive ending that goes with each kind of stem.

View solution

EXERCISE 2

Write the full present tense of *ifat* "to walk" (stem *if*), using the consonant-stem endings, and then say "you walk" and "we walk" with the pronoun in front.

View solution

EXERCISE 3

Explain why *dothrae* can mean "you ride", "he rides" or "they ride", and what tells the listener which one is meant. Then build the negative first-person singular of *dothralat* and of *astat*.

View solution

CHAPTER 6 QUICK REFERENCE

- **Infinitive:** *-at* (consonant stem), *-lat* (vowel stem); remove it to get the stem
- **Consonant stem present:** *-ak, -aki, -i, -i, -a, -i* (*astak, astaki, asti, asti, asta, asti*)
- **Vowel stem present:** *-k, -ki, -e, -e, -e, -e* (*dothrak, dothraki, dothrae* ...)
- **Negative present:** *-ok, -oki, -o* with *vo / vos* before the verb
- Word order in these examples: pronoun, then verb

COMING NEXT

Dothraki 1, Chapter 7 adds the past and the future, the commands and how to ask questions.

Dothraki 1

Course 1 · Chapter 7 · Verbs 2: Past, Future and Commands

In Chapter 6 you built the present tense. This chapter adds the other two tenses, shows how negation changes across all three, and introduces the imperative, the form used to give commands and make requests. Most of it is simple, because the past and future are made from forms you already know.

> **THE IDEA IN A BOX**
>
> The **past** is the bare stem. The **future** is the present with a prefix (*a-* or *v-*). The **imperative** has an informal and a formal form. Each one also has a negative.

The Past Tense

The past tense is very light. For a singular subject it is simply the **bare stem**: remove *-(l)at* from the infinitive, and sometimes an *-e* is added for the sake of pronunciation. The past does not change with the person, so one form serves for "I", "you" and "he". For a plural subject the sources add *-(i)sh*.

```
# essalat = to return;  stem = essa
Me essa.          It returned.          # from the wiki
Me vos essa.      It did not return.    # from the wiki
```

The negative past singular replaces the final vowel of the stem with *-o* (and the negative plural uses *-osh*), and a negative word (*vos* in the example above) stands before the verb. A past plural built from *essa* by the rule above would be *essash*, but that form is built by rule here, not quoted from a source.

The Future Tense

The future is the **present tense with a prefix**:

- **a-** before a verb whose stem begins with a consonant: *dothrak* "I ride" becomes *adothrak* "I will ride".
- **v-** before a verb whose stem begins with a vowel: *astak* "I say" becomes *vastak* "I will speak".

```
Anha dothrak.     I ride.       # present
Anha adothrak.    I will ride.  # future: a- + dothrak
Anha vastak.      I will speak. # future: v- + astak (the wiki's example)
```

The negative future changes the prefix *a-* to *o-*, and vowel-initial verbs keep *v-*. One sourced example: *Anha vos odothrok* "I will not ride".

Negation at a Glance

TENSE	POSITIVE	NEGATIVE
Present	*-ak, -aki, -i, -a* ... (consonant stem)	*-ok, -oki, -o*, with *vo / vos*
Past, singular	bare stem: *essa*	final vowel becomes *-o*, with *vos*
Past, plural	stem + *-(i)sh*	stem + *-osh*
Future	prefix *a-* or *v-*	prefix *o-* or *v-*

The Imperative: Commands and Requests

Dothraki has two imperatives, one friendly and one formal:

KIND	USED FOR	ENDING
Informal	requests, to someone you know	*-(a)s* (negative *-os*, with an *o* replacing a final vowel)
Formal	commands, to someone you address as a superior or stranger	consonant stem + *-i*; vowel stem: just the stem (negative: *-o*)

The sources give one full example: *Vo lekhos jin mawizze* "Don't taste this rabbit". It shows the negative informal ending *-os* (on *lekhos*), the negative word *vo* before the verb, and the demonstrative *jin* "this" from Chapter 5 placed before its noun.

```
Vo lekhos jin mawizze.
 vo       negative word
 lekhos   don't taste (negative informal imperative)
 jin      this
 mawizze  rabbit

 = Don't taste this rabbit.
```

WATCH OUT: THE SOURCES DO NOT COVER QUESTIONS HERE

This chapter's plan included asking questions. The sources used so far give one question word (the pronoun *fin*, used for "who" or "what") but do not give a yes/no question pattern, so questions are left for the chapter on sentences, where they can be checked properly. The wiki's syntax page could not be read when this chapter was prepared.

Hands-On Exercises

EXERCISE 1

From *essalat* "to return", write the past singular and say how you know. Then write "It did not return" using the pattern of the sourced example.

View solution

EXERCISE 2

Turn *Anha dothrak* into the future and then into the negative future. Then do the same with *Anha astak* (use the vowel-initial prefix rule).

View solution

EXERCISE 3

Break down *Vo lekhos jin mawizze* word by word, naming the part that makes it negative and the part that makes it a command. Which imperative is it, formal or informal?

View solution

CHAPTER 7 QUICK REFERENCE

- **Past:** bare stem (singular), stem + *-(i)sh* (plural); negative: final vowel to *-o* / *-osh*
- **Future:** prefix *a-* (consonant start) or *v-* (vowel start); negative *o-* or *v-*
- **Imperative:** informal *-(a)s* (neg. *-os*); formal consonant stem + *-i*, vowel stem bare (neg. *-o*)
- **Negative words:** *vo*, *vos*

COMING NEXT

Dothraki 1, Chapter 8 turns to adjectives, numbers and colours, and the words for things of the grass sea.

Dothraki 1

Course 1 · Chapter 8 · Adjectives, Numbers and Colours

You can name things, mark their roles and use verbs. This chapter lets you describe: adjectives (how they sit, agree and compare), the numbers, and the ten basic colour words. All the vocabulary here comes from Peterson's own posts and the Dothraki wiki's adjective and number pages.

> **THE IDEA IN A BOX**
>
> An adjective **follows** its noun. A consonant-final adjective takes *-i* in the plural; a vowel-final adjective never changes. Numbers come **before** the noun and the noun can stay singular or plural. Colours are adjectives that can also turn into verbs.

Adjectives

Position and agreement

An adjective comes **after** the noun it describes. Whether it agrees with the noun depends on the adjective's last sound:

- **Consonant-final adjectives** add *-i* in the plural: *rakh haj* "strong boy", *rakhi haji* "strong boys".
- **Vowel-final adjectives** do not change at all: *zheana* "beautiful" is the same in every form.
- **Case:** in the singular, a noun that is not in the nominative takes an adjective ending in *-a*: the source's example is *alegre ivezha* (a wild duck as an object), where *ivezh* "wild" becomes *ivezha*. In the plural this extra *-a* does not appear.

```
rakh haj        strong boy        (noun + adjective)
rakhi haji      strong boys       (both take -i)
alegra haj      a strong duck
alegra haji     strong ducks
zheana          beautiful (never changes)
```

Some adjectives

DOTHRAKI	MEANING
haj	strong
ivezh	wild
zheana	beautiful
afazh	hot
samva	broken
hakeso	famous

Comparing

Comparison uses affixes on the adjective:

DEGREE	PATTERN	EXAMPLE
positive	the adjective	*haj* strong
comparative	*a-* + adjective + *-an*	*ahajan* stronger
superlative	*a-* + adjective + *-anaz*	*ahajanaz* strongest
negative	*o-* + adjective	*ohaj* not strong
"less"	*o-* + adjective + *-an*	*ohajan* less strong
"least"	*a-* + adjective + *-anoz*	*ahajanoz* least strong

Adjectives as verbs

Instead of a separate word for "is", Dothraki turns the adjective into a verb with the same ending you know from Chapter 6: *-at* after a consonant, *-lat* after a vowel. *Zheana* becomes *zheanalat* "to be beautiful", and *ivezh* becomes *ivezhat* "to be wild". Those verbs then conjugate like any other.

The Numbers

0	1	2	3	4	5
som	*at*	*akat*	*sen*	*tor*	*mek*

6	7	8	9	10
zhinda	*fekh*	*ori*	*qazat*	*thi*

- **Teens:** the digit followed by *thi*, joined together: *atthi* 11, *akatthi* 12, *senthi* 13, *mekthi* 15, *zhindatthi* 16, *qazatthi* 19.
- **Tens:** *chi-* + digit, except 20: *chakat* 20, *chisen* 30, *chitor* 40, *chimek* 50, *chori* 80.
- **Hundreds and above:** *ken* 100, *akatken* 200, *senken* 300; *dalen* 1,000; *yor* 1,000,000.
- **Joining parts:** the word *ma* joins the parts of a number: 2,431 is *akat dalen ma torken ma chisen m'at*. The same small word appears in *shekh ma shieraki* "sun and stars".
- **Ordinals:** add *-(a)k* to the last word, and they decline like animate nouns: *mekthikes* "15th" (accusative).

Numbers with nouns

The number comes **before** the noun, the number does not decline, and the noun can be singular or plural with no change in meaning. The wiki's example is *Torthi vezhak zali…* "Fourteen horselords…", where *torthi* "fourteen" stands before *vezhak*.

Colours

Dothraki has ten basic colour words, from Peterson's post on colour:

COLOUR	DOTHRAKI	AS A VERB ("TO BE …")
red	*virzeth*	*virzethat*
blue	*thelis*	*thelisat*
green	*dahaan*	*dahaanat*
yellow	*veltor*	*veltorat*
purple	*reaven*	*reavenat*

COLOUR	DOTHRAKI	AS A VERB ("TO BE ...")
pink	*theyaven*	*theyavenat*
brown	*nozhoven*	*nozhovenat*
grey	*shiqeth*	*shiqethat*
white	*zasqa*	*zasqalat*
black	*kazga*	*kazgalat*

A sourced sentence: *Haz rhaggat virzetha* "That cart is red", where *haz* is the "that (by you)" demonstrative from Chapter 5 and the colour takes the *-a* case ending. For lighter and darker shades, the colour is followed by *dei* "shallow" (lighter) or *ao* "deep" (darker): *virzeth ao* "deep red". The general word for "colour" is *visshiya*.

WATCH OUT: THERE IS NO WORD FOR ORANGE

Dothraki has no basic term for "orange". The post says it is usually covered by *veltor* (yellow) and sometimes by *virzeth* (red). The set of basic colours was also revised over time, so older lists may differ.

WATCH OUT: *AT* AND *ATO*

In counting, "one" is *at* (the cardinal on the number page). Chapter 4 used the entry *ato* "one" as an example of the inanimate case endings. How the two forms are related is not explained in the sources used, so check the dictionary before using either one in a new sentence.

Hands-On Exercises

EXERCISE 1

Write the Dothraki for: 3, 7, 10, 13, 20, 50, 100. Then say what the word *ma* does in a number like 2,431.

View solution

EXERCISE 2

Build "stronger", "strongest" and "not strong" from *haj*. Then turn *zheana* and *virzeth* into verbs meaning "to be beautiful" and "to be red".

View solution

EXERCISE 3

Say "strong boys" and "a strong duck" in Dothraki and explain what happens to the adjective in each. Then say "deep red" and explain why Dothraki has no single word for "orange".

View solution

CHAPTER 8 QUICK REFERENCE

- **Adjectives:** follow the noun; consonant-final take *-i* in the plural; vowel-final never change; a case *-a* in the singular outside the nominative
- **Comparison:** *a-…-an* (-er), *a-…-anaz* (-est), *o-* (not), *o-…-an* (less), *a-…-anoz* (least)
- **As verbs:** add *-at* (after a consonant) or *-lat* (after a vowel)
- **Numbers:** *at akat sen tor mek zhinda fekh ori qazat thi*; teens digit + *thi*; *chi-* tens; *ken* 100, *dalen* 1,000, *yor* 1,000,000; *ma* joins parts
- **Colours:** *virzeth thelis dahaan veltor reaven theyaven nozhoven shiqeth zasqa kazga*

COMING NEXT

Dothraki 1, Chapter 9 puts the grammar to work in whole sentences, with greetings, courtesy and the phrases people quote.

Dothraki 1

Course 1 · Chapter 9 · Sentences and Phrases

You now have nouns, cases, pronouns, verbs and adjectives. This chapter puts them together: how a whole sentence is built, how who-does-what-to-whom is shown, a first question, and the greetings and farewells that Dothraki characters actually use. The examples come from Peterson's own posts and a few published phrase lists.

> **THE IDEA IN A BOX**
>
> In the examples Peterson gives, the order is **subject, verb, object**, with adjectives after their nouns. Because nouns carry case endings, the endings, and not the order alone, tell you who did what.

A Simple Sentence

The sentences below come from Peterson's introduction to the grammar:

```
Anha hajak.            I am strong.            # haj + -ak: an adjective used as a verb
Chiorisi haji.         The women are strong.   # plural noun + plural adjective
Fonak tih jan.         The hunter saw the dog.
Jano tih fonakes.      The dog saw the hunter. # the object takes -es
Jano lan fonakaan.     The dog ran to the hunter.   # -aan: towards
Jano lan fonakoon.     The dog ran from the hunter. # -oon: from
Jano fonaki lavakha.   The hunter's dog is loud.    # fonaki: genitive
```

- **Adjectives as verbs.** *Anha hajak* is "I am strong": the adjective *haj* takes the present ending *-ak*, exactly as in Chapter 8.
- **Order.** In these examples the subject comes first, then the verb, then the object. Adjectives follow their nouns.
- **Endings carry the meaning.** Compare *Fonak tih jan* and *Jano tih fonakes*: the hunter and the dog swap roles and the endings change (the object of the second sentence has *-es*).
- **Prepositions live in the endings.** "To" and "from" are the case endings *-aan* and *-oon* from Chapter 4. The genitive *fonaki* gives "of the hunter".

WATCH OUT: DO NOT TRANSLATE WORD FOR WORD

The pair *jan* and *jano* shows that a noun's spelling changes with its role. Always look at the ending as well as the word, and check the dictionary before building your own sentence with a noun you have only seen once.

Asking Questions

The sources give one question word, the pronoun *fin*, used for "who" or "what". For a yes/no question they give a full sentence rather than an explanation:

```
Hash yer dothrae chek?   How are you today?        # literally: Do you ride well?
Anha dothrak chek asshekh.   I feel well today.
```

Here *hash* opens the sentence, and the rest is a normal statement: *yer dothrae* "you ride", *chek* "well". A language-feature survey says Dothraki yes/no questions use a particle at the start of the sentence, and *hash* fits that description. The sources used here do not state it outright, so treat *hash* as "very probably the question particle".

Greetings and Farewells

DOTHRAKI	MEANING	NOTE
Athchomar chomakea!	"Welcome!" or "Greetings to you all!"	used to outsiders and groups; one source describes it as "respect us, and you will be treated with respect"
Hash yer dothrae chek?	"How are you today?"	literally "do you ride well?"
Anha dothrak chek asshekh.	"I feel well today."	the reply
Hajas!	"Be strong!"	a farewell; informal imperative of *haj*
Dothras chek!	"Ride well!"	a farewell; informal imperative of *dothralat*
Fonas chek!	"Goodbye"	listed in one mirror of the Living Language book; treat with caution

Look at the farewells: *hajas* is *haj* + *-as* and *dothras* is *dothra* + *-s*. They are the informal imperatives you learned in Chapter 7. The phrases from Chapter 1 round out the set: *Me nem nesa* "it is known", *Shekh ma shieraki anni* "my sun and stars", *Jalan atthirari anni* "moon of my life", *Qoy qoyi* "blood of my blood".

WATCH OUT: THE SOURCE FOR SOME PHRASES IS UNEVEN

Fonas chek appears only in an unofficial copy of the Living Language book, and the English for *Athchomar chomakea* differs slightly between sources ("welcome" and "greetings to you all"). Learn them as quoted phrases, and check them in the dictionary if accuracy matters.

Hands-On Exercises

EXERCISE 1

Translate: *Anha hajak*; *Chiorisi haji*; *Jano tih fonakes*. For each, say which word is the subject and what tells you.

View solution

EXERCISE 2

Explain how *Jano lan fonakaan* and *Jano lan fonakoon* differ in meaning, and why Dothraki needs no word for "to" or "from" here.

View solution

EXERCISE 3

Ask someone "How are you today?" and give the reply. Then say "Be strong!" and "Ride well!" and name the verb form used in each.

View solution

CHAPTER 9 QUICK REFERENCE

- **Order in the examples:** subject, verb, object; adjectives after nouns; endings show roles
- **Sentences:** *Anha hajak* (I am strong), *Fonak tih jan* (the hunter saw the dog), *Jano lan fonakaan / fonakoon* (to / from the hunter)
- **Question:** *Hash yer dothrae chek?* (how are you today?); *fin* for "who/what"
- **Farewells:** *Hajas!* (be strong), *Dothras chek!* (ride well), *Fonas chek!* (goodbye, uncertain source)

COMING NEXT

Dothraki 1, Chapter 10 reads whole passages from the show with the glossary built up so far, and ends the course with a recap and pointers to further study.

Dothraki 1

Course 1 · Chapter 10 · Reading Dothraki

This last chapter is a test of what you can do. You will read real sentences, written by David J. Peterson, and take them apart using the nine chapters behind you: the sounds, the nouns and cases, the pronouns, the verbs and the adjectives. It ends with a glossary, a recap of the course and a short guide to where to go next.

> **THE IDEA IN A BOX**
>
> You do not need to know every word to read a Dothraki sentence. Spot the pronoun, find the verb and its ending, check the case endings on the nouns, and look up only what is left.

Reading Real Sentences

The sentences below are taken from Peterson's list of phrases on his Dothraki blog. Each one is broken down with the chapter that explains each part.

1. A question about the future

```
Hash anha atihak yera save?      Will I see you again?
 hash      opens the question (Chapter 9)
 anha      I (Chapter 5)
 atihak    a- + tihak: "I will see", future of tihat "to see" (Chapters 6 and 7)
 yera      you, accusative (the object; Chapter 5)
 save      again
```

2. Speaking

```
Hash yer asti k'athijilari?      You're speaking truthfully?
 hash         opens the question
 yer          you (singular)
 asti         you say / speak: astat, consonant stem, 2SG -i (Chapter 6)
 k'athijilari "truthfully" (a word not analysed in this course)
```

3. A compliment

```
Yer zheanae.      You're beautiful.
 yer       you (singular)
 zheanae   zheana + e: the adjective "beautiful" made a verb, vowel stem, 2SG -e (Chapte
```

4. Something is good

```
Hazi davrae.      That's good.
 hazi      that (near you), inanimate form (Chapter 5)
 davrae    is good: a verb ending in -e, as for a vowel-stem verb (Chapter 6)
```

5. Disagreement

```
Anha efichisak haz yeroon!      I disagree!
 anha         I
 efichisak    efichis + ak: "I disagree", consonant stem, 1SG -ak (Chapter 6)
 haz          that (Chapter 5)
 yeroon       yer + oon: "from you", ablative (Chapters 4 and 5)
```

6. A promise

```
Anha vazhak yeraan thirat.      I will let you live.
 anha       I
 vazhak     v- + azhak: future of a vowel-initial verb, 1SG (Chapter 7)
 yeraan     yer + aan: "to you", allative (Chapters 4 and 5)
 thirat     the infinitive "to live" (-at; Chapter 6)
```

WATCH OUT: SOME MEANINGS ARE READ FROM THE TRANSLATION

Where a word is not in the sources used for this course (*save*, *k'athijilari*, *davrae*, the verbs *tihat*, *azhak* and *thirat* in their roots), the meaning is taken from Peterson's translation of the whole sentence. The grammar around each word fits the chapters, but the dictionary should confirm the word itself.

The Course Glossary

DOTHRAKI	MEANING	CHAPTER
anha, kisha, yer, yeri, shafka, me, mori	I, we, you (sg.), you (pl.), you (formal), he/she/it, they	5
jin, haz, rek	this, that (by you), that over there	5
khalasar / khalasari	horde / hordes	3
khado / khadosi	body / bodies	3
rakh / rakhi	boy / boys	3, 8
haj	strong	8
astat	to say	6
dothralat	to ride	6
ifat	to walk	6
essalat	to return	7
vo, vos	negative words	6, 7
chek	well	9
at akat sen tor mek zhinda fekh ori qazat thi	1 to 10	8
virzeth thelis dahaan veltor reaven theyaven nozhoven shiqeth zasqa kazga	red, blue, green, yellow, purple, pink, brown, grey, white, black	8
Me nem nesa	it is known	1
Shekh ma shieraki anni	my sun and stars	1
Jalan atthirari anni	moon of my life	1
Hajas! Dothras chek!	Be strong! Ride well! (farewells)	9

Course Complete: What You Can Now Do

CHAPTER	YOU CAN NOW...
1 What Dothraki Is	say who made it, from what, and how official a given form is

CHAPTER	YOU CAN NOW...
2 Sounds and Spelling	read and say Dothraki words, with the right stress
3 Nouns	tell animate from inanimate nouns and make plurals
4 Cases	use the five cases, and read *-aan* and *-oon*
5 Pronouns	use every personal pronoun, the genitive as "my", and the three-way "this/that"
6 Verbs 1	find a stem and conjugate the present, positive and negative
7 Verbs 2	use the past, the future and the imperative
8 Describing	use adjectives, the numbers and the ten colours
9 Sentences	build sentences and use a few greetings and farewells
10 Reading	take a real Dothraki sentence apart

Where to Go Next

- **Peterson's own blog, dothraki.com,** where much of this course's material comes from: posts on grammar, vocabulary and phrases.
- **The Dothraki wiki** (the Language Invention wiki), which lays out the paradigms in tables. It is fan-maintained, so compare it with Peterson's posts.
- **The Living Language Dothraki course book,** an official teaching selection of the language.
- **The other conlang courses,** such as Klingon Grammar 1 and Na'vi 1, to compare how three made-for-the-screen languages are built, and Sindarin Grammar 1 and Quenya Grammar 1 for languages made for a book.

WATCH OUT: THIS COURSE IS A FIRST STEP

Several areas are only partly covered, because the sources used were incomplete: the verbs "to be" and "to have", yes/no and "wh-" questions in detail, the full range of noun classes, and everyday vocabulary beyond the show's world. Treat everything here as a starting point and check the dictionary for anything you plan to rely on.

Hands-On Exercises

EXERCISE 1

Break down *Yer zheanae* and *Anha vazhak yeraan thirat* in your own words: name each pronoun, verb form, tense and case, and give the chapter that explains it.

View solution

EXERCISE 2

Using only forms from the course, build and translate a sentence meaning "I will see you" and "you are strong" (use the adjective-as-verb pattern). Mark which parts are sourced and which you built by rule.

View solution

EXERCISE 3

List three things about Dothraki that are well documented and three that this course could not fully check, and say how you would verify each of the second three.

View solution

CHAPTER 10 QUICK REFERENCE

- **Reading method:** find the pronoun, find the verb and its ending (tense and person), check the case endings, then look up what is left
- **Sentences read:** *Hash anha atihak yera save?*, *Hash yer asti k'athijilari?*, *Yer zheanae.*, *Hazi davrae.*, *Anha efichisak haz yeroon!*, *Anha vazhak yeraan thirat.*
- **Next:** dothraki.com, the Dothraki wiki, the Living Language book, and the other conlang courses