

Emendations to the Specification

In the first few months of using the Standard Written Form there were a number of queries and confusions reported. The Management Group agreed that these should be collated and that the language representatives on the group would consider them, with input from the authors of the specification and if, and only if, all were in agreement, make any necessary changes or clarifications.

A. The agreements at the meeting were as follows (in alphabetical order to make them easier to reference in the specification):

1. **arlodh** 'lord'. Changed to **arludh / arlodhes / arlydhi**
2. **bledhen / bledhenyow**. 'year / years'. Plural changed to **bledhynnyow ~ bledhydnyow** to reflect vocalic alternation as in Nance, as agreed.
3. **bosa** 'to feed' Changed to **boosa**
4. **budhi ~ beudhi** 'to drown'. Omit **budhi**
5. **chy ~ che** 'thou' Omit **chy**
6. **dew ~ dow**. 'two' Omit **dow**
7. **drefen ~ dreven** 'because' Omit **dreven**.
8. **egeri** 'to open' . Changed to **ygeri ~ 'geri**
9. **euthek ~ uthik** 'terrible'. Change **uthik** to **ithik**
10. **fatell** 'how' Changed to **fatel**
11. **hemm ~ hebm ~ helm** 'this' Omit **helm**
12. **kyttrin ~ kytterin** 'bus' Omit **kytterin**
13. **melin ~ belin**. 'mill' Omit **belin**
14. **myghtern ~ mytern** 'king' Change **mytern** to **my'tern**
15. KK **roevya** 'to row' Change to **revya** and not **rovya**
16. **skodhya** 'support' Change to **skoodhya**
17. **taves / tavas**. 'language' Accepted as alternatives.
18. **unyes / unys**. 'unified' Accepted as alternatives
19. **yowyнк ~ youнк** 'young' Change **youнк** to **yonк**

B. Hyphens and apostrophes

The SWF generally follows the practices of earlier Cornish orthographies with respect to punctuation. Since, however, UC, UCR, KK, and RLC have very different rules with respect to apostrophes and hyphens, it seemed useful to outline how hyphens and apostrophes are used in the SWF specification.

However, it should be emphasised that outside the specification and dictionaries this is entirely a matter of personal choice.

Apostrophes

An apostrophe is used to indicate that one or more letters have been omitted. This occurs in the RLC forms of some words like *ene** 'soul' (RMC *enev*) and *hor** (RMC *hordh*) 'ram', where a word-final consonant which is preserved in the RMC form has been dropped. Similarly, an apostrophe may be used to indicate the loss of original initial <y-> in words like *'ehes* (RMC *yehes*) 'health' and *'Edhow* (RMC *Yedhow*) 'Jew'. In RLC forms like *'dadn* 'under' or *'gan* 'our', the apostrophe shows the loss of an initial syllable which is preserved in the equivalent RMC forms *yn-dann* and *agan*.

Apostrophes are used in compounds and contractions like *wos'tiwedh* 'at last' (from *wosa* 'after' + *diwedh* 'end') and *ha'y* 'and his, and her' (from *hag* + *y* or *ha* + *hy*) to show that one or more letters have been elided. They are also used by convention before the infixed pronouns (*'m*, *'th*, *'n*, *'s*, *'gan*, and *'gas*) and in a few compounds like *a'y* 'of his, from his' (*a* 'of, from' + *y* 'his'), where they help to distinguish the two constituent elements, and in the verbal construction *a'm beus*.

Hyphens

Hyphens are often used in compound prepositions and adverbs like *a-dal* (from *a* 'of, from' + *tal* 'forehead, brow') and *war-barth* *~ war-bar** 'together' (from *war* 'on' + *parth ~ par** 'side'), where they indicate that the two elements retain their original stress pattern, with the accent falling on the final syllable rather than the first syllable as would normally be the case. Hyphens may also be used in other compounds like *kador-vregh {cador-vregh}* 'armchair' (from *kador {cador}* 'chair' + *bregh* 'arm'), where they help to distinguish the position of the stress accent.

Hyphens are not used in the specification to join enclitic pronouns or demonstratives like *vy ~ ve* 'I, me', *va* 'he', *ma* 'this', or *na* 'that' to a preceding element, nor to join particles to verbs or infixed pronouns.

C. The Future

Following these clarifications, the SWF will not be subject to any change until 2013. The Partnership will institute mechanisms for that review and for ongoing discussion and evaluation during the interim period in due course.

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