

Basic Cornish affixes and clitics

1. Affixes

<i>Affixes</i>	= Syllables you add to a word in order to nuance its meaning.
<i>Prefixes</i>	= Go in front of the word you combine them with.
<i>Suffixes</i>	= Come after the word you combine them with.
e.g.	
gwel	= sight
das- + gwel	→ daswel = again + see → review; das- is a <i>prefix</i> .
gwel + -es	→ gweles = to see, verbal noun; -es is a <i>suffix</i> .
Affixes can be stressed if they land in penultimate position (some, like -he , even in other positions).	
This document focuses mainly on <i>derivational affixes</i> , i.e. those which help you construct new words from existing roots.	
Expect initial mutations to happen to the modified word after a proclitic or a prefix.	

Common prefixes:

Examples:

das-	=	again	das + dalleth →	dastalleth , restart
dis-	=	un-	dis + gul →	diswul , undo
gor-	=	super-, over-	gor + marhas →	gorvarhas , supermarket
kes-	=	together, co-	kes + oberi →	kesoberi , cooperate
kamm-	=	wrong(ly)	kamm + gul →	kammwul , do wrong
meur-	=	much, greatly	meur + kerys →	meurgerys , much loved
oll-	=	all	oll + kemmyn →	ollgemmyn , universal
om²-	=	self-; one another	om + tewlel →	omdewlel , wrestle
rag-	=	before, fore-, pre-	rag + gwel →	ragwel , preview

Common suffixes:

Examples:

-ans	=	-ment, -ing (<i>abstract</i>)	movya + -ans →	movyans , movement
-der/-ter	=	-ness (<i>abstract</i>)	pell + -der →	pellder , distance
-ek	=	-y, "has big ..."	lagas + -ek →	lagasek , big-eyed
-el	=	tool, means	chanj + -el →	chanjyel , editing tool
-en	=	<i>singulative (f.)</i>	ster + -en →	steren , single star
-er	=	-er, person who (<i>m.</i>)	rewl + -er →	rewler , boss
-es	=	-ess, woman who	tiek + -es →	tioges , farmer (<i>f.</i>)
-he	=	-ify, -icise	Sowsnek + -he →	Sowsnekhe , Anglicise
-ji/-ti	=	building	arhans + -ti →	arhantti , bank
-va	=	area, space, place	gwari + -va →	gwariva , theatre
-ya	=	<i>loan verb</i>	Engl. use + -ya →	usya , use
-yas	=	person who (<i>m.</i>)	gwith- + -yas →	gwithyas , guardian
-ydh	=	person who (<i>m. or f.</i>)	lew + -ydh →	lewydh , president

Some derivational suffixes can be combined, as in:

gwel + yek + he + ans → **gwelyekheans**, visualisation, lit. "sight+y+ise+ment"

2. Clitics

Clitics = Structure words you put beside another word in order to nuance its meaning.
Proclitics = Go in front of the modified word.
Enclitics = Come after the modified word.

e.g.

ow(th) + gweles → **ow kweles** = seeing, ~ present participle. **ow(th)** is a *proclitic*.
an + gwel + ma → **an gwel ma** = this sight here, demonstrative. **ma** is an *enclitic* whereas the article **an** is a *proclitic*.

Clitics are not normally stressed in speech, e.g. **an den ma** is stressed on **den** and not on **an** or **ma**.

Common proclitics (incl. verbal particles): Examples:

a ²	=	<i>verb after subject or direct object</i>	a + miras	→	a viras , saw
ow ⁴ (th)	=	<i>-ing (cont. form)</i>	ow(th) + dybri	→	ow tybri , eating
pur ²	=	<i>very, completely</i>	pur + da	→	pur dha , very good
yn ⁵	=	<i>adverb marker</i>	yn + da	→	yn ta , well
y ⁵ (th)	=	<i>verb before subject and direct object</i>	yth + yw	→	Yth yw... , he/she is

Common enclitics:

Examples:

ma	=	this (here)	an gwari ma	→	an gwari ma , this game
na	=	that (there)	an gwari na	→	an gwari na , that game

Personal pronouns may also be used as enclitics. In Middle Cornish, they are used for emphasis: Take care: enclitic pronouns appear in lenited (2nd state) form! **My** → **vy** etc.

ow hath vy = *my* cat (but: **ow hath** = my cat, without special emphasis)

In Late Cornish, enclitic pronouns tend to replace the older possessive pronouns **ow**, **dha** etc.:

an gath vy = my cat, lit. "the cat of me"