

Mennonite Low German Grammar

Khortitza Version



Plautdietsche Gramatikj

Khortitza Utgow

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Dedication: To the memory of Reuben Epp and of Herman Rempel.

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PREFACE

The intention in this work is to give a brief and precise view of the grammar of Mennonite Low German (MLG), also known as Plautdietsch. It is envisioned that the work will be useful in a first Plautdietsch class to Mennonites who have an oral knowledge of the language and who wish to acquire a literary knowledge. The work may also be helpful for those attempting to learn the language with no prior knowledge. Some students of MLG may have a High German (HG) or English background. Similarities and differences between these languages and MLG are pointed out in this work to help clarify the content. The MLG orthographic systems adopted for this work is that of the E. H. Zacharias dictionary. It must be mentioned that some MLG users omit the ‘terminal **n**’ of verbs and other words, but in the present work it is included, making this a ‘Khortitza’ version of the grammar.

The subject matter is divided into fourteen chapters, which deal with the MLG language, alphabet and spelling, different parts of speech, numbers, and with MLG sentence structure. Three appendices are given; the first contains basic vocabulary lists, the second gives tables for MLG verbs, and the third lists essential grammar terms and abbreviations.

This work concentrates on grammar, and no comprehensive glossary is given. It is assumed that the student has easy access to the Zacharias dictionary as many of the topics herein are closely related to that work. It is also assumed that the student is using a personal strategy for vocabulary acquisition. To assist in this latter effort, basic lists of common nouns, verbs, pronouns, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, and conjunctions are given in Appendix A. As well, word lists are provided in most chapters, mainly to assist in the understanding of the grammatical theory being presented. A further means of vocabulary acquisition open to students is through the study of the bilingual and trilingual books on the Cope-Plautdietsch website.

The basic vocabulary lists of Appendix A provide the MLG counterparts to the most common HG words, with English translations. Students with no prior MLG experience are urged to consult these lists and other appropriate word lists before studying the grammar topics. As well, such students are strongly urged to first study the grammar terminology of Appendix C.

Throughout the work, sample MLG sentences are presented, usually accompanied with full English translations shown in brackets. Exercises are provided at the end of each of the first thirteen chapters, consisting of two types of questions. The first type requires answers in English and serves to test the student's recollection of the grammar topics of the chapter. The second type invites answers in MLG and serves to test the student's comprehension of a Dialog or Text presented in the chapter.

The current work must be considered introductory in nature, providing an expanded view relative to the precise presentation in the Zacharias dictionary. Students are encouraged to consult the MLG dictionaries and grammars listed in the reference section for additional coverage of the subject. A definitive MLG grammar book written by a trained expert is still pending.

1. INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, an overview is given of the grammar of the Mennonite Low German (MLG) language. Important features of the alphabet and of nouns, verbs, and other parts of speech are mentioned, as well as sentence structure. The various features are discussed in detail in the following chapters.

The student is encouraged to make serious efforts at vocabulary acquisition while studying the grammar. The word lists in Appendix A give a good start to MLG vocabulary study. Reference to the word list in the various chapters will be of further benefit.

A. Alphabet

MLG uses mostly the same characters as English. The most notable exception is the use of the umlaut ä, Ä. A detailed coverage of the MLG alphabet is given in Chapter 2.

B. Capitalization

In MLG, all nouns are capitalized regardless of their place in the sentence. This practice is the same as in HG, but unlike that in English. The personal pronoun **ekj** is not capitalized, unlike the 'I' in English, but the formal (**form**) pronoun, **See**, which signifies 'you' in singular (**sing**) and plural (**plu**) is.

Miene Mutta un mien Voda gonen enkjeepen, oba ekj bliew Tus.
(My mother and father are going shopping, but I am staying home.)

C. Three genders

In MLG, nouns may be masculine (**masc**), feminine (**fem**) or neuter (**neut**) gender. In the nominative case, the singular definite article for the masculine and feminine is **de**, while **daut** is used for the neuter. Objects which are neuter (it) in English, can be any of the three genders in MLG:

de Hunt (masc)	the dog
de Kaut (fem)	the cat
daut Schop (neut)	the sheep

On learning a new noun in MLG, it is good practice to learn its gender as well. In the listing of nouns the letters **m**, **f**, **n** are used to indicate the masculine, feminine, and neuter gender.

Vocabulary 1

(nouns:
f – feminine,
m – masculine,
n – neuter)

ät / äten eat
aut / eet ate
best are
Bilt n picture
bitt bites

bitte please
bliewen stay
Brooda m brother
däm the
daut the

de the
die to you
dien your
diene your
dit this

Dochta f daughter
du you
een a, one
eene a, one
ekj I

enkjeepen shop
es is
foa drive
fuaz at once
go/gonen go

Goondach Hello
haben have
haft has
haud had
hee he
heet called (I)
heeten called
heetst called (you)

D. Endings of adjectives

In MLG, articles and also adjectives generally have different endings for different genders when they precede the noun:

een kjliena Hunt m	a small dog
eene kjliene Kaut f	a small cat
een kjlienet Schop n	a small sheep.

Hunt m dog
Hus n house
jeist go (you)

jejäten eaten
jinjra younger
jinjre younger
jistren yesterday
jo yes

E. Cases for nouns

Nouns can perform different functions in a sentence, e.g. serve as subject or object. In MLG, articles that precede the noun indicate the nature of its function, i.e. its case.

De Hunt bitt däm Maun. (The dog bites the man.)

In this sentence, **Hunt** performs the action, and is the subject. **Maun** is the receiver of the action, or object. The subject and object are in different cases, and in MLG the articles are different even though both nouns are masculine.

Jung m boy
kaun can
Kaut f cat
kjeene none
kjlien small

komen come
Liera m teacher
Maun m man
Mejal f girl
met with

F. Word order

The verb is the second word in most MLG sentences:

Hee haft twee Sestren.	(He has two sisters.)
Ekj go wellich no School.	(I willingly go to school.)

mien my
miene my
morjen tomorrow
mott must
Mutta f mother

The verb is the first word in sentences giving orders or questions:

Go fuaz no Hus!	(Go home at once!)
Jeist du werkjlich no Hus?	(Are you really going home?)

nä no
no towards
nich not
nu now
oba but

The verb goes to the end in a subordinate clause:

Ekj kaun nich met die komen, wiels ekj no Hus **foa**.
(I can't come with you, because I'm going home.)

Oomkje m mister
Säns m sons
School f school
Schop n sheep
see she

When there are two verb forms, one of them goes to the end of the clause or sentence:

Nu mott ekj no Hus **foaren**. (Now I must drive home.)

See they
Sesta f sister
Sestren f sisters
sie am
Tus n home

G. Tenses

In MLG, there are three basic tenses: present (**pres**, Jäajenwuat), **past** (Vegonenheit) and future (**fut**, Tookunft). Associated with each of these is a perfect tense: present perfect (**pres perf**, Foadje Jäajenwuat), past perfect (**past perf**, Foadje Vegonenheit), and future perfect (**fut perf**, Foadje Tookunft).

pres	Ekj ät.	I eat. I am eating.
past	Ekj aut jistren.	I ate yesterday.
fut	Ekj woa morjen äten.	I will eat tomorrow.
pres perf	Ekj hab jejäten.	I have eaten.
past perf	Ekj haud jejäten.	I had eaten.
fut perf	Ekj woa jejäten haben.	I will have eaten.

The three basic tenses respectively refer to action occurring now, having occurred in the past, and going to occur in the future. The **present perfect** tense describes an event which happened recently or has a connection to the present. The **past perfect** is used for an event having occurred prior to an event that occurred in the past. The **future perfect** is used for an event that occurred prior to a stated event that is to occur in the future.

Dialog 1a

Hein	Goondach!	Hello!
Leni	Goondach!	Hello!
Hein	Woo heetst du, bitte?	What's your name, please?
Leni	Ekj heet Leni, un du?	I am Leni, and you?
Hein	Ekj heet Hein, Panasch Hein.	I'm Hein, Hein Penner.
Leni	Ekj sie Rampels Leni.	I'm Leni Rempel.

Dialog 1b

Leni	Hein, best du een Liera?	Hein, are you a teacher?
Hein	Nä, ekj sie een Student. Un du?	No, I'm a student. And you?
Leni	Ekj sie uk een Student. Best du een Mennonit?	I'm a student too. Are you a Mennonite?
Hein	Jo, ekj sie een Mennonit. Best du von Kanada?	Yes, I'm a Mennonite. Are you from Canada?
Leni	Jo, ekj sie eene Kanadia.	Yes, I'm Canadian.

twee two
 uk also
 un and
 Voda m father
 von from
 wää who
 wellich willingly
 werkjlich really
 wiels because
 woa will
 woo how

Vocabulary 2

äajden cultivate
 Äarport f airport
 acht eight
 ajcht authentic
 am him
 Ama m pail
 Anka m anchor
 auf off
 aum on the
 Aunfank m beginning
 Aunroop m call
 aunsiedlen settle
 Aupel m apple
 aus as
 äwarigj backward
 Bää f berry
 bäden pray
 Bea m beer
 betta bitter
 biem by the
 Bläda n leaves
 blitzen flash
 Boajch m hill
 boden bathe
 Boom m tree
 Botta f butter
 Breef m letter
 Brigj f bridge

Dialog 1c

Ana	Peeta, es daut dien Bilt?	Peter, is that your picture?
Peeta	Jo. Dit es mien Voda un miene Mutta.	Yes. This is my father and mother.
Ana	Wää es de Jung?	Who is the boy?
Peeta	Daut es mien jinjra Brooda.	That is my younger brother.
Ana	Es de Mejal diene jinjre Sesta?	Is this girl your younger sister?
Peeta	Nä, see es Oomkje Faulk siene Dochta.	No, she is Mr. Falk's daughter.
Ana	Haft Oomkje Faulk uk Säns?	Does Mr. Falk have any sons?
Peeta	Nä, hee haft kjeene.	No, he doesn't have any.

Broot n	bread
bruck	need
Brut f	bride
bute	outside
Darp n	village
deit	does
denkjen	think
dia	expensive
Dietsche m	German
doa	there
Dol n	glade
doll	angry, hard
doonen	do
dort	there
drinkjen	drink
drock	busy
Duak n	kerchief
ducken	duck
duschen	shower
ea	before
eena	one (m)
eewe	practice
eewje	eternal
Eifst m	harvest
en	in
Enj n	end
enjekroacht	invited
ennen/bennen	inside
fa	for
Fäla m	error
fangen	catch
Faspa n	dessert
faust	nearly
Feet m	feet
fein	fine
Finja m	finger
finjen	find
fot	grasp
frie	free
Frint m	friend
Frucht f	fruit
ful	lazy
funk	found
Gauss f	street
Glauss n	glass
glaut	smooth

Exercise 1.1

Answer briefly in English.

1. What is the rule for capitalization of nouns in MLG?
2. How does the gender system in MLG differ from that in English?
3. What is one factor determining the word ending for adjectives?
4. What is the effect of the case of a noun on the preceding article?
5. What is one important rule for word order in MLG sentences?
6. Give the six tenses of verbs used in MLG.

Exercise 1.2

Answer briefly in English or MLG.

1. Summarize Dialog 1a.
2. Summarize Dialog 1b.
3. Who is in the picture mentioned in Dialog 1c?
4. Find excerpts in the Dialogs that illustrate a rule of grammar given in this chapter.

2. THE MLG ALPHABET (Alfabeet)

The twenty-six letters of the alphabet are pronounced in MLG as: a, bee, cee, dee, ee, ef, gee, ha, ie, jott, ka, el, em, en, oo, pee, q(ku), er, es, tee, u, vau, wee, ix, y(ipsilon), zett. Of these the q, x and y are sparingly used, and c is used mostly in the form ch, ck, and sch.

A. Vowels (Selfstlud, Vokale) – letters, diphthongs, triphthong

In MLG, there are six basic vowels including the umlaut **ä**. The first two **a, ä** are always long, while the next two **e, i** are always short. The last two **o, u** have both long and short forms. Double vowels appear in eleven major forms, two of which, **ea** and **ia**, mostly appear at the end of the word.

The basic vowels, as well as double and triple vowels of MLG are given in the table below. In this table, the second column gives the **approximate** English pronunciation, while the third gives sample MLG words.

	like English	sample MLG words	
a	<u>m</u> ama	am, Ama, Anka, Tala, lachen	Golt n gold
ä	br <u>a</u> ke	däm, Läwe, Bläda, bäden	Gott m God
äa	<u>a</u> ir	Äarport, Mäa, Bäaren, Väajel, äajden	groot large
au	l <u>a</u> undry	aum, auf, aus, Aupel, aunsiedlen, kaun	grunsen complain
e	se <u>t</u>	es, met, betta, setten, sellen	Hallo Hello
ea	se <u>ance</u>	ea, mea, vea, sea	halpen help
ee	h <u>ei</u> ght	hee, reet, eena, Feet, meent	Har m Lord
ei	Rh <u>i</u> ne	rein, fein, Reif, deit, Eifst	haustich suddenly
			Häw f yeast
i	h <u>i</u> t	dit, witt, nich, kjikj, drinkjen	Heel f cave
ia	h <u>ear</u>	hia, dia, Lia, wia, Miagropen	Henj f hands
ie	se <u>e</u>	die, mie, Miel, Tiet, Iemäl, hieren	henjen hang
iee	pie <u>r</u> ce	Pieet, Pieed, sieekjen, plieejen	hia here
			hieren hear
o	(long) <u>no</u> te	Dol, Rot, fot, wont, schlopen	Hoat n heart
o	(short) <u>ho</u> t	opp, doll, Holt, Gott, mott, komm	Holt n wood
oa	<u>oa</u> r	poa, Oabeit, Hoat, Woagen, moak, kloagen	hool hold
oo	<u>oo</u> t	root, woo, Broot, Foot, oolt, hool	Hunga m hunger
u	(long) br <u>u</u> te	ut, ful, buten, Rum, Ru, schuwen	ieescht first
u	(short) <u>pu</u> sh	Punt, Frucht, kunn, rutschen	Iemäl n E-mail
ua	<u>ua</u> l	sua, wua, kluak, Uasoak, Duak, Uagen, Ua	irjent any
			Jefaulen favor
			jeff give
			jeit goes
			Jelt n money
			Jesank n song
			jreessen greet
			jun your
			junt you
			Kaun f can
			kaust can
			kjanen know
			Kjast f wedding
			kjeepen buy
			Kjees m cheese
			kjikj look
			Kjrich m war
			kloagen complain
			kloppen knock
			kluak intelligent
			Kluck f hen
			Koffe m coffe
			komm come
			Komputa m computer
			krank sick
			kunn could

B. Consonants (Metlud, Konsonante)

The MLG consonants **b, d, f, h, k, l, m, n, p, r, t** are pronounced the same as in English. The table below provides approximate pronunciations and gives some sample words.

	like English	sample MLG words	
b	=	biem, Botta, Boom, Brut, boden	kussen kiss
ch		acht, nich, noch, Kjrich, lachen	kuzhlen snuggle
ck	kk	drock, Kluck, bruck, ducken	lachen laugh
d	=	daut, dort, Darpa, denkjen	lank long
f	=	faust, Fäla, Frint, Breef, finjen	läsen read
g	gl ad	groot, glaut, Golt, grunsen	Läwen n life
gj	ridg e	trigj, Rigjen, Brigj, äwarigj	leet sorry
h	=	haustich, Hus, Heel, halpen	Leppen f lips
j	y ellow	eewje, junt, jo, Jelt, sajen	Lia f teaching
jch	aiy ayay	ajcht, rajcht, Boajch, sajcht	Licht n light
k	=	krank, Komputa, kaun, kloppen	lieren learn
kj	ch astise	Kjast, malkjen, pieekjen, Kjoakj	looss wrong
l	=	lud, lot, Leppen, Licht, sull	orrajcht wrong
m	=	met, Maschien, Mutta, komm	Lost f desire
n	=	en, nä, Noba, Numma, sent	lot allow
ng	long	lang, Hunga, sungen, fangen	lot late
nj		Enj, Finja, Henj, Stalinj, henjen	lud loud
nk	plank	lank, Aunfank, Jesank, funk	Mää n sea
p	=	Papia, Piano, Popp, plonen	malkjen milk
r	=	rechtich, Rot, Har, raden, ranen	Maschien f machine
s	with voice: z ero	sea, säwen, Sinja, Kjees, läsen	mea more
s	w/o voice: s ack	Lost, Wasten, Rausp, jreest, waust	meent means
ss	w/o voice: g asoline	Gaussen, kussen, jreessen	Miagropen m pot
sch	sh arp	schmaul, ieescht, duschen, Varsch	mie me
sp	= schp -	Spos, Sparjel, spatren, speelen	Miel f mile
st	= scht -	stell, Stool, Stiern, Stap, stälen	moak make
t	=	Tracht, Tiet, trafen, setten	Mon f moon
v	f orward	vää, ver, von, vebrukt	motst must
w	v an	wada, wajch, Häw, wenschen	nääkjste next
z	t sunami	zäwentich, Zelt, Zadel, zanken	ne/eene a, one
tz	p izza	Spetz, spretzen, blitzen, trotzen	Noba m neighbour
zh	pleas ure	uzhent, Varzh, Plezhia, kuzhlen	noch still
			Numma n number
			Oabeit f work
			oolt old
			opp on top of
			Papia n paper
			Piano f piano
			pieekjen speed
			Pieet n horse
			Plezhia f pleasure
			plieejen plow
			plonen plan
			poa pair
			Popp f doll
			Proow f test

Note 1: **q, x, y, ph, th** may be used in foreign words, but otherwise are used sparingly, if at all.

Note 2: Examples of consonants with voice in English are: **b, d, g, z**.
 Examples of voiceless consonants are: **p, t, k, s**.

C. Pronunciation Support

A precise pronunciation may be learned from a teacher, or with the help of on-line readings such as are given for the Plautdietsch Bible on the Bible Gateway website, and for the J. Driedger book "En Bloomenheim Oppjewossen" on the Opening Doors website. Current (2018) addresses for these two sites are found in the Reference section of this book (page 90).

Dialog 2a

Peeta	Wää es doa?	Who is there?	Punt n	pound
Hein	Daut sie ekj, Hein. Leni es uk hia.	It's me, Hein. Leni is here too.	raden	save
Peeta	Komt doch ennen. Lot mie junt miene Sesta Ana väastalen.	Please come in. Let me introduce you to my sister Anna.	rajcht	right
Leni	Woo jeit et die, Ana? Daut freit mie die kjanen to lieren.	How do you do, Anna? Pleased to meet you.	ranen	run
Ana	Mie freit daut uk.	Pleased to meet you, too.	Rausp f	rasp
Leni	Jun Hus es sea groot un schmock.	Your home is very big and beautiful.	rechtich	right, correct
Peeta	Werkjlich? Sat junt bitte dol.	Really? Sit down, please.	reet	rode
Hein	Ana, wua schaufst du?	Anna, where do you work?	Reif f	tire
Ana	Ekj sie Lierasche. Waut well jie drinkjen? Wie haben Tee, Koffe, un Bea.	I am a teacher. What would you like to drink? We have tea, coffee and beer.	rein	clean
Hein	Ekj woa ne Kaun Bea drinkjen.	I'll have a beer.	Rigjen m	back
Leni	Ekj drinkj nich. Ekj well ne Pepsi, kaun ekj?	I don't drink. I'll have Pepsi, can I?	root	red
Ana	Daut deit mie leet. Wie haben kjeene Pepsi.	I'm sorry. We don't have Pepsi.	Rot m	advice
Leni	Dan bitte jeff mie een Glauss Wota.	Then please give me a glass of water.	Ru f	rest
			Rum m	space
			rutschen	slide
			sajcht	says
			sajen	say
			sat	sit
			säwen	seven
			schauft	works
			schlopen	to sleep
			schmaul	narrow
			schmock	nice
			schuwen	push
			sea	a lot, very
			sechalich	certainly
			sellen	should
			sent	are
			setten	sit
			sieekjen	seek
			Sinja m	singer
			Sparjel m	asparagus
			spatren	splatter
			speelen	rinse
			Spetz f	point
			Spos n	joke
			spretzen	splash
			stälen	steal
			Stalinj f	barns
			Stap f	fields
			stell	quiet
			Stiern n	star
			Stool m	chair
			sua	sour
			sull	should
			sungen	sang

Dialog 2b

Leni	Hallo, es daut Hein?	Hello, is Hein there?	Tala m plate
Hein	Jo, daut sie ekj. Es dit Leni? Wauts looss?	This is he. Is this Leni? What's up?	Tee f tea
Leni	Kaust du mie een Jefaulen doonen?	I'd like to ask you for a favor.	Tiet f time
Hein	Sechalich. Waut kaun ekj fa die doonen?	Sure no problem. What is it?	Tracht f outfit
Leni	Näakjste Wäakj hab ekj ne Dietsche Proow. Kaust du mie halpen Dietsch to eewen?	Next week I have a German exam. Could you help me practice speaking German?	trafen meet
Hein	Jo, oba du motst mie een Koffe kjeepen.	Sure, but you must buy me a coffee.	trigj back
Leni	Die een Koffe kjeepen? Sechalich. Best du zeowes frie?	Buy you a coffee? No problem. Are you free this evening?	trotzen tease
Hein	Zeowes haft mie wäa toom äten enjekroacht. Ekj weet nich wan ekj trigj sie. Ekj kaun die aunroopen wan ekj kom.	This evening someone is taking me to dinner. I don't know when I'll be back. Why don't I call you after I get back.	Ua f clock
Leni	Na jo. Ekj woa fa dienen Aunroop wachten.	O.K. I'll wait for your call.	Uag n eye

Exercise 2.1

Answer briefly in English.

1. Which are the long and short vowels in MLG?
2. Which are the main diphthongs and triphthong in MLG and give one sample word for each.
3. Which consonants present in English are largely absent in MLG?
4. Which are the various **s** sounds in MLG, and cite examples?
5. How is the use of **h** in MLG different from that in HG?
6. Which consonants are pronounced the same in MLG and English?

Exercise 2.2

Answer briefly in English or MLG.

1. Summarize the conversation of Dialog IIa.
2. Summarize the conversation of Dialog IIb.
3. What drinks do the two visitors request in Dialog IIa?
4. Find excerpts in the Dialogs that contain sounds not found in English.

Uasoak f reason
ut from
uzhent urgent
väa/ver before
Väajel n birds
väastalen present
Varsch m verse
vea four
vebrukt used
Wäakj f week
wachten wait
wada again
wajch away
wan/wanea when
Wasten n west
waussen grow
waust grows
waut what
wauts what is
weeten know
welst/west want
wenschen wish
wia was
witt white
Woagen m wagon
wont resides
Wota n water
wua where
Zadel m note
zanken quarrel
zäwentich seventy
Zelt f tent
zeowes evening

3. NOUNS (Hauptwheed, Substantiewe)

A. Overview

Nouns are the names given to real and abstract objects. A list of common nouns is presented in Appendix A. In MLG, nouns are inflected into two numbers: singular (**sing**) and plural (**plu**); two cases, nominative (**nom**) and oblique (**obl**), and three genders: masculine (**masc**), feminine (**fem**), and neuter (**neut**).

MLG uses the **grammatical gender system** rather than the biological system of English. Nouns which in English are neuter may be any of the three MLG genders, e.g., moon (neut) - de Mon, (fem); tree (neut) - de Boom (masc). The dative and accusative cases for nouns used in High German (HG) are merged into a single one in MLG, referred to herein as the **oblique case**.

The oblique case is distinct from the nominative only in 1) personal pronouns, 2) articles and demonstrative and possessive adjectives in the singular masculine gender, and in 3) proper names. It must be mentioned that some MLG authors use a three case system, with a division of the oblique case into a dative (**däm**) part and an accusative (**dän**) part, resembling the HG. The genitive (possessive) in MLG is expressed using the **'his genitive'** structure, e.g., siene Koa, his car, as is discussed further below.

As in HG, ordinary nouns as well as proper nouns are **capitalized** in MLG, regardless of their position in the sentence.

B. Articles (Jeschlajchtsweeed, Artikjels)

In English, the definite article 'the' is used for all genders, numbers, and cases. In MLG, the definite article is inflected, i.e. has different endings. For both the masculine and feminine genders, singular and plural, for the nominative and oblique cases, the definite article **de** is used, with one exception. That exception is the masculine singular oblique case, where **dän** is used. For neuter singular nouns **daut** is used, while for the plural nouns **de** is used. In the table below, the nouns **Maun** (masc), **Fru** (fem), **Kjint** (neut), etc. are inserted to assist with the association of the article with the correct gender.

	sing			plu		
	masc	fem	neut	masc	fem	neut
	(Maun)	(Fru)	(Kjint)	(Mana)	(Frues)	(Kjinja)
nom	de	de	daut	de	de	de
obl	dän	de	daut	de	de	de

Vocabulary 3

Äten n food
 Beem m trees
 Been n leg
 Beesa m evil one
 Bejäajnk f meeting
 Bejäwenheit f event

Bilda n pictures
 Boaj m hills
 brinj t brings
 dän the
 dee that
 Dinja n things

Dinkj n thing
 dis this
 drift operates

eenem a
 eenen a
 Eltesta m elder

Erfoarungen f / experiences
 Erfoarunk f experience
 Famielje f family

Feia f feast
 fief five
 Foaren n driving

Foarm f farm
 Foarms f farms
 Frind m friends

Fru f woman
 Frues f women
 gauf gave

Goaden m garden
 Goades m gardens
 Gow gift

De Maun gauf de Fru eene Gow. (The man gave the woman a gift.)
 De Maun (nom), de Fru (obl/dative), eene Gow (obl/accusative).
 De Mutta brinjt de Kjinja Äten. (The mom brings food to the kids.)
 De Mutta (nom), de Kjinja (obl/dative), Äten (obl/accusative).

Heed m hats
 Hoot m hat
 Hopninj f hope

Indefinite articles are distinct for the two cases in the masculine gender. For the article one, **een** is used in the nominative case, and **eenen (eenem)** in the oblique. In the other two genders the article is the same for the two cases: **eene** for the feminine gender, and **een** for the neuter. The form of this and other indefinite articles is given as:

article	masc nom	masc obl	fem	neut	plu (all)
one	een	eenen	eene	een	
this	dis	disen	dise	dit	dise
that (near)	dee	dän	dee	daut	dee
that (far)	jan	janen	jane	jan	jane
which	woon	woonen	woone	woon	woone
such a	soon	soonen	soone	soon	soone
my	mien	mienen	miene	mien	miene

jan that
 Jelenkj n joint
 Jesazen n laws
 Junkjes n little boys
 Kaulf n calf
 Kaut f cat

Kautje n little cat
 Kjala m cellar
 Kjalasch m cellars
 Kjalwa n calves
 Kjeisa m emperor
 Kjensla m artist

Een Liera gauf eenen Jung eene Oppgow.
 (A teacher gave a boy an assignment.)
 Liera (nom), eenen Jung (obl/dative), eene Oppgow (obl/accus.).

Kjinja n children
 Kjint n child
 Kjintje n little child

Dee Poliezmaun brinjt daut Kjint no jane Fru.
 (That policeman brings that child to that woman.)
 Dee Poliezmaun (nom), daut Kjint (obl/accus), jane Fru (obl/dat).

Kjoakj f church
 Kjoakjskje n /
 little church
 Koa f car

C. Possession (Ieejendom)

The possessive is expressed using the **'his genitive'** structure, i. e. naming the possessor in the oblique case followed by the possessive adjective and the possessed object. With proper nouns, and when the possessor is determined by a possessive adjective, the possessor is in the nominative case. For inanimate or generalized constructions, the preposition **von** or a composition are used instead:

dän Jung sien Hoot (the boy's hat);
 Karl siene Koa (Karl's car);
 mien Voda siene Piep (my father's pipe);
 de Lichta von de Staut/ de Stautslichta (the lights of the city).

Korf m basket
 Korfkje n little basket
 Krankensesta f nurse

Läpel m spoon
 Läpels m spoons
 Lied m people

Lierasche f /
 female teacher
 Mana m men
 Mariee f to Marie

Maschienarie f/
 machinery
 Massa n knife

D. Plurals (Meazol)

The pluralization of nouns in MLG has been discussed by J. Thiessen and others, and the summary below closely follows their work.

In English, the plural of nouns is often formed by adding to the singular form the suffix –s. The forming of plurals in MLG can be established by:

- adding no ending at all, or adding the endings –a, –en, –s, –sch;
- voice change, e.g.: replacing **t** with **d**, replacing **k** with **g**, palatalization (adding **j** sound);
- or vowel change (e.g. **oo** to **ee**).

No ending

- No voice nor vowel change: de Feia, de Feia (feast/s); daut Schop, de Schop (sheep, sheep); daut Been, de Been (leg/s);
- Voice change, no vowel change: Frint, Frind (friend/s); Boajch, Boaj (mountain/s);
- No voice change, vowel change: Boom, Beem (tree/s);
- Voice change and vowel change: Hoot, Heed (hat/s).

–a ending:

- **a** only: Licht, Lichta (light/s);
- with voice change: Bilt, Bilda (picture/s);
- with vowel change: Maun, Mana (man, men);
- voice and vowel change, palatalization: Kaulf, Kjalwa (calf, calves).

–en ending (the –en ending has no vowel change);

- **en** only: Plot, Ploten (plate/s);
- **en** and voice change: de Tiet, de Tieden (time/s); de Erfoarunk, de Erfoarungen (experience/s).

–s ending (the –s ending has no vowel change);

This class consists mainly of

- a) short masculine and neuter nouns: Park, Parks (park/s); Foarm, Foarms (farm/s);
- b) words related with family members: Sän, Säns (son/s); Fru, Frues (woman, women);
- c) masculine and neuter nouns ending in –el and –e: Läpel, Läpels (spoon/s); Goaden, Goades (garden/s).

Massasch n knives

Meckanika m mechanic

Mejalkjes n little girls

Nobaschoft f/

neighborhood

Oppgow f assignment

Park m park

Parks m parks

Peetre m to Peter

Piep f pipe

Plot f plate

Ploten f plates

Poliezmaun m /

policeman

Sän m son

sas six

Stekjskje n little piece

soon such

Späldinkj n toy

Staut f city

Stazion f station

Steela m chairs

Steelakjes n/

little chairs

Stekj n piece

Stoolkje n little chair

Stua n store

Tiede f times

Werkjlichkjeit f reality

woon which

wooväl how many

–**sch ending** (the –**sch** ending has no vowel change);

This class consists of masculine and neuter longer nouns ending with –**a**: de Kjala, de Kjalasch (basement/s); daut Massa, de Massasch (knife, knives).

With some not-so-common words, there is no certainty about the correct plural. Different forms are created by different speakers: the plural of **Jesaz** (law) could be **Jesaza** or **Jesazen** (laws).

E. Diminutives (Vekjlandrungsform)

To form the diminutive form of nouns the suffix –**kje** is added: Hos, Hoskje (rabbit/little rabbit); Korf, Korfkje (basket/little basket).

If a noun ends in –**kj** then an **s** is inserted prior to the –**kje** suffix: Kjoakj, Kjoakjskje (church/little church).

If a noun ends in **t**, then a suffix –**je** is added: Kaut, Kautje (cat/kitten); Kjint; Kjintje (child/little child).

Diminutives in MLG are mostly neuter. The plurals of diminutives are often formed with an –**s** suffix; Junkjes, Mejalkjes. The diminutive process generally follows the pluralization: Stool, Steela (chair, chairs), Stoolkje, Steelakjes (little chair/little chairs.)

F. Proper names (Nomes)

To refer to a married woman in MLG, one may use the surname of the husband and add the suffix –**sche**. Thus Mrs. Koop is referred to as **de Koopsche**, while Mr. Koop simply as **Koop**. The same structure applies to the feminine for professions: Liera, **Lierasche**.

For proper names, the oblique case is derived from the nominative: Peeta frajcht Mariee, Marie auntwuat Peetre (Peter asks Mary, Mary answers Peter).

G. Guide to gender specification in MLG

In MLG, most nouns with a clear inclination to a particular gender belong to that gender. The feminine gender contains the largest number of nouns while the neuter gender the fewest. The gender of a noun in MLG is most often the same as in HG, but exceptions do exist, e.g., MLG Pei is masculine, HG Torte is feminine.

Nouns with suffix **-ie**, **-unk**, **-inj**, **-heit**, **-ion**, **-kjeit**, **-schoft** are often feminine: Maschienarie, Bejäajnunk, Hopninj, Bejäwenheit, Stazion, Werkjlichkjeit, Nobaschoft. Nouns dealing with instruments or with the suffix **-a**, are often masculine: Komputa, Meckanieka, Eltesta, Kjeisa, Kjensla, Beesa. Those nouns formed from infinitives or having suffix **-kj** are often neuter: Stekj, Jelenkj, Späldinkj.

Dialog 3

Leni	Jasch, wooväl Lied jeft et en diene Famielje?	Jasch, how many people are there in your family?
Jasch	Doa sent sas, mien Voda un miene Mutta, mien Brooda un miene twee Sestren. Un du?	There are six, my mom and dad, my brother and two sisters. What about you?
Leni	Doa sent fief, miene Elren, miene twee Sestren un ekj. Waut schaufen diene Elren?	There are five, my parents, my two sisters and I. What do your parents do?
Jasch	Miene Mutta es Lierasche un mien Voda haft ne Foarm.	My mother is a teacher, and my dad has a farm.
Leni	Miene Mutta es Kranken- sesta un mien Voda drift een Stua.	My mother is a nurse, and my father runs a store.

Exercise 3.1

Answer briefly in English.

1. Distinguish between the grammatical and biological gender systems.
2. What is special about the treatment of the accusative and dative in MLG?
3. What are the definite articles used in MLG?
4. Give the various forms of any one of the indefinite articles.
5. Describe the **'his genitive'** system for indicating possession.
6. Cite three means of forming the plural for MLG nouns and give examples of each.
7. What are the main means of expressing diminutives in MLG?
8. What are some noun endings that are common for the feminine gender?

Exercise 3.2

Answer briefly in MLG.

1. In Dialog 3, who are the people in the family of Jasch?
2. Who are the members of the family of Leni?
3. What do the parents of Jasch and Leni do?

4. PRONOUNS (Fawieed, Pronomen)

Pronouns are words that serve as substitutes for nouns, often for a person or inanimate object. A list of common pronouns is presented in Appendix A. Pronouns provide short cuts in writing, serving often to replace long words or even entire phrases. Their use in MLG is similar to that in English.

Miene Saumlunk von Jeltstekja es fuat. **Dee** es sea kostboa.
(My coin collection is missing. It is priceless.)

A. Personal and possessive pronouns

Personal pronouns in MLG are capitalized only when they appear at the beginning of a sentence and when they are used in a formal sense. The formal for 'you' in the singular and plural in the nominative case is **See**. In the oblique it is **Junt** in the singular and **An** in the plural.

The third person neuter pronoun **daut** is used at the beginning of a sentence, and may be replaced by **et** in other positions.

The table below presents the personal pronouns in the nominative and oblique cases. The English possessive pronouns and the corresponding pronouns for the plural in MLG are also given.

B. Personal pronouns and possessive pronouns (poss pro)

Eng	MLG	Eng	MLG	poss pro	
nom	nom	obl	obl	Eng	MLG (plu)
I	ekj	me	mie	mine	miene
you	du	you	die	yours	diene
	Jie/See		Junt		June
he	hee	him	am	his	siene
she	see	her	äa/ar	hers	äare
it	daut/et	it	am/et	its	siene
we	wie	us	ons	ours	onse
you	jie	you	junt	yours	june
	Jie/See		An		June
they	see	them	an	theirs	äare

Possessive pronouns are declined in MLG in number, gender and case, as indicated in the following table. A distinction between nominative and oblique forms appears in MLG only for the masculine gender. In the table below, the nouns **Hunt** (masc), **Kaut** (fem), **Hus** (neut), and **Hiesa** (plu) have been inserted to assist with the association of specific pronouns with their gender.

Vocabulary 4

äa/ar her
äara her/their
äaren hers/theirs

an them
An them (form)
aul already

aule all
aulahaunt all kinds
aundre others

aunjeejeja member
aunkomen arrive
aunfangen begin

Aupelsien m orange
bat until
Baunt m ribbon

billewää, irjentwää /
anyone
binjen bind
Bloomen f flowers

Boot n boat
brinjen bring
dämselwjen same one

deejanja whoever
diena yours
diensjlikjen like you

disa this one
dree three
eenje some

Eisskriem ice cream
emma always
emol once

eena one
entlich finally
enwoaren realize

Possessive pronouns (Ieejendom aunwiesende Fawieed)

Eng	MLG		fem (Kaut)	neut (Hus)	plu (Hiesa)
	masc (Hunt)	obl			
mine	miena	mienen	miene	mient	miene
yours	diena	dienen	diene	dient	diene
his/its	siena	sienen	siene	sient	siene
hers	äära	äären	ääre	ääret	ääre
ours	onsa	onsen	onse	onst	onse
yours	juna	junen	june	junt	june
theirs	äära	äären	ääre	ääret	ääre

et it, that
fält lacks
fuat gone

gauns completely
Goltkjäd f gold chain
goodet good

goot good
Hamd n shirt
Hoa f hair

Hus n house
Ieednät f peanuts
Ieejendeema m owner

For clarity, the corresponding table for possessive adjectives is also presented. Distinctions between pronouns and adjectives appear in the masculine nominative and in the neuter instances.

ieremol many times
Insel f island
irjenteena anyone

Possessive adjectives (Ieejenschoftswieed)

Eng	MLG		fem (Kaut)	neut (Hus)	plu (Hiesa)
	masc (Hunt)	obl			
my	mien	mienen	miene	mien	miene
your	dien	dienen	diene	dien	diene
his/its	sien	sienen	siene	sien	siene
her	ää	äären	ääre	ää	ääre
our	ons	onsen	onse	ons	onse
your	jun	junen	june	jun	june
their	äära	äären	ääre	äat	ääre

irjentwää someone
irjentwanea anytime
irjentwaut something

jana that one
jratste largest
jäw give

jeduldich patiently
jehaut had
jehieet belongs

jejankat desired
jekjamt combed
jekoft bought

Jeltstekja n coins
jeluat waited
Jemeent f congregation

jenuach enough
jeseenen seen
jestolen stolen

jewessa certain one

Mien Hunt es miena un diene Kaut es diene.
(My dog belongs to me, and your cat belongs to you.)
De dree Schnäden Pizza sent miene, diene, un siene.
(The three slices of pizza are mine, yours, and his.)
Daut Boot es onst, junt, un äaret.
(The boat is ours, yours, and theirs.)
Daut es ons Boot, jun Boot, un äa Boot.
(That is our boat, your boat, and her boat.)
Von de Hunj, haben see mienen nich jestolen.
(Of the dogs, they have not stolen mine.)

C. Demonstrative pronouns (Hanwiesende Fawieed)

Demonstrative pronouns are used where emphasis is warranted. For the pronoun 'this one (those)', distinct oblique forms are observed, except for the neuter singular case. For other pronouns, a distinct oblique form appears only in the masculine singular case.

	masc (Maun)		fem (Fru)		neut (Kjint)	plu (Hiesa)	
	nom	obl	nom	obl		nom	obl
that one!	dee	dän	dee	dää	daut	dee	dän
this one	disa	disem	dise	dise	dit	dise	dise
that one	jana	janem	jane	jane	jant	jane	jane

jie you (plu)
jieda everyone

Jlekj n luck
Jliet m member
jun your

Jun your (form)
juna yours
Junt you (form)

Kaut f cat
Kende f candy
kjeem came

Mank de Frues, haft dee dän schmoksten Hoot, un jane de jratste Goltkjäd.

(Among the women, that one has the nicest hat, and that other one the largest gold chain.)

kjeena no one
kjrieejen receive
Klock f clock

Disa haft emma goodet Jlekj; jana velist emma.
(This one always has good luck; that one always loses.)
Brinjt däa mea Broot; dee vehungat aul meist.
(Bring that one more bread; she's almost starving.)

kolt cold
kostboa expensive
Kuak f cookie

D. Interrogative Pronouns (Froagstalende Fawieed)

These are not declined in MLG with the following exception:

	masc (Hunt)		fem (Kaut)	neut (Hus)	plu (Hiesa)
	nom	obl			
which one(s)	woona	woonen	woone	woont	woone

latste last
luda louder
Lusch f bag

mank among
meist almost
Metz f cap

A single form appears for the other common interrogative pronouns.

mieselfst myself
miena mine
miere several
mol once

who	wää	Wää well ieescht gonen? (Who wants to go first?)
whose	wäm (sien, siene, sien)	Wäm sien Jelt es daut? (Whose money is that?)
to whom	wäm	Wäm jehieet dit? (To whom does this belong?)
what	waut	Waut es daut? (What is that?)
which	woon	Woon Hoot es miena? (Which hat is mine?)
whoever	wääemma	Wääemma kolt es, komm ennen. (Whoever is cold, enter.)

nemm take
nieet new
niemols never

nohus home
oam poor
ons us, our

onsa ours
Prinz m prince

whatever	wautemma	Wautemma du deist, es goot. (Whatever you do, is good.)	Prograum n program
what kind	waut fa ne	Waut fa ne Sort Koa es daut? (What kind of car is that?)	rieden ride rikj rich Saumlunk f collection

E. Indefinite pronouns (Onbestemde Fawieed)

The table provides inflected forms for indefinite pronouns. Only for the masculine form does the oblique case differ: **-na** becomes **-nem**.

	masc nom	masc obl	fem	neut
one	eena	eenem	eene	eent
no one	kjeena	kjeenem	kjeene	kjeent
such	soona	soonem	soone	soont

Other common indefinite words which may serve as pronouns are:

anyone	irjentwää	Well irjentwää de latste Kuak? (Does anyone want the last cookie?)	Scheens m goodies Schlätel m key Schlips m tie Schlott n lock schmoksten prettiest Schnäden f slices Schoo f shoes See you (form) sien his
anytime	irjentwanea	Tol mie daut Jelt irjentwanea trigj. (Pay me the money back anytime.)	siena his sonda instead soogoa even
each	jieda, jiedra	Een jieda nemm een Eiskriem. (Each one take an ice cream.)	soona such one
everyone	jieda eena	Jieda eena jäw waut von Hoaten! (Everybody give from the heart.)	Sort f kind steit stands
someone	irjentwää	Doa steit (irjent) wää vere Dää. (Someone is standing at the door.)	Stoltheit f pride stunt stood trigjehoolen / held back
something	irjentwaut	Es doa noch irjentwaut ? (Is there something else?)	
some, many	eenje, väle	Eenje sent rikj; väle sent oam. (Some are rich; many are poor.)	
all, a pair	aule, een poa	Aule haben Schoo; een poa haft Heed. (All have shoes; a few have hats.)	trigjtolen repay tru loyal
many, other	miere, aundre	Miere sent vebiestat; aundre nich. (Several are lost; others are not.)	väle many vebiestat lost vehungat starves veleicht maybe

F. Additional Pronouns

MLG contains a rich collection of pronouns as is indicated in the comprehensive lists given in MLG dictionaries. Some of the more colorful ones are presented below.

aunjehieeje (members)	Aule aunjehieeje rieden vondoag opp witte Pieed. (All members today are riding on white horses.)	velist looses vää/ ea /ver before vewalkjen wilt vondoag today wääemma whoever wäm whom
--------------------------	--	--

irjentwää (anyone)	Jeft daut nich irjentwäm , sonda to äa. (Don't give it just to anyone, but to her.)	waut what, something wautemma whatever weess showed
dämselwjén (same one)	Jeff dämselwjén dän Schlätel fa daut Schlott. (Give the same one the key for the lock.)	wellen want weltliche wordly wie we
deejanja (special one)	Deejanja dee mien Hoot naum, jeff däm trigj. (Whoever took my hat, give it back.)	wist knew witte white woon which
diensjlikja (one like you)	Niemols hab ekj een diensjlikja jeseenen. (Never have I seen one like you.)	woona which one wort became wudden would
jewessa (certain one)	Een jewessa haft äa Hoat jestolen. (A certain one has stolen her heart.)	
mieselfst (I myself)	Mieselfst es de Ieejendeema von dise Insel. (I myself own this island.)	
wua (where)	Hee kaum aun wua de Bloomen nich vewalkjen. (He arrived at a place where flowers don't wilt.)	

Text 4 - Wienachtsprogram⁴

De Kjinja hauden sikj aula schmock de Hoa jekjamt. Eensje Mejales hauden soogoa een schmocken Baunt enne Hoa. Eensje Junges hauden een gauns nieet Hamd toom ieeschten mol aun. Wan ekj ne Sesta haud jehaut, wudd Mutta daut jejankat haben, äa een schmocken Baunt enne Hoa to binjen. Oba aus een truet, ooltkolonieschet Jemeenten Jliet wudd see sikj von soone weltliche Stolt trigjehoolen haben. Ons Liera haud eenen schmocken jekoftén Schlips aun.

Entlich wees de Klock daut et Tiet wia, daut Prograum auntofangen. De Liera stunt nu jeduldich oppem Plautform bat de Lied daut emol enworden, daut hee reed wia, met daut Prograum auntofangen. Aus dan aules stell wort, wist wie, daut wie nu daut ieeschte Stekj hieren wudden. De Liera must ons ieremol denkjen halpen, daut wie luda räden musten, soo daut de Lied ons hieren kunnen.

To gooden latst kjeem daut, wua wie aula no jeluat hauden. Wie kjriejen aula ne Lusch met aulahaunt Scheens toom äten: Ieednät, Kende, ne Aupelsien un veleicht soogoa ne jekofte Kuak. Un dan wia daut Tiet, de kjliene Kjinja auntotrakjen un ons oppem Wajch nohus to brinjen.

⁴En *Bloomenheim Oppjewossen* - www.plautdietsch-copre.ca

Exercise 4.1

Answer briefly in English.

1. What is the rule for capitalization of pronouns in MLG?
2. When can the neuter pronoun **daut** be replaced by **et**?
3. What are the suffixes used for the possessive pronoun **dien-**?
4. What are the suffixes used for the possessive adjective **jun-**?
5. Give the three singular oblique forms for the demonstrative pronoun **dee**.
6. A pronoun beginning an interrogative sentence is in what case?
7. What are the suffixes used for the indefinite pronoun **soon-**?
8. Distinguish between the pronouns **irjentwää** and **deejanja**.

Exercise 4.2

Answer the following questions about Text 4 briefly in MLG.

1. What was special about the dress of some boys and girls?
2. If the writer had had a sister, why would his mother not have placed a ribbon in her daughter's hair?
3. About what did the teacher often have to remind his students?
4. During the program, what were all the children waiting for?

5. SPELLING (Rajchtschriewen)

This chapter indicates systematically how to form correctly spelled words from the letters given in Chapter 2. The spelling rules cited herein follow closely those formulated by the committee for the translation of the Bible into Low German chaired by E. H. Zacharias.

A. Vowels

As much as possible, the vowels are spelled as they are pronounced in vernacular speech. The clear shifts in vowel sound, word endings, etc. of the oral language is incorporated in the spelling. E.g.: bliewen, blift; Breef, Breew; Frint, Frind; ekj droag, ekj druach; ekj sinj, ekj sunk; ekj fang aun, ekj funk aun.

B. Use of ‘ch’ un ‘jch’

a. The **ch** can be soft (palatal): daut **Licht**, or hard (guttural): daut **Loch**).

b. Following **e**, **i** and **äa**, the **ch** is always soft: nich, rechtich, läach, Läächt, seelich.

c. Following **o** and **u**, the **ch** is always hard: doch, Loch, Wucht.

d. Following **a**, the **ch** may be either soft or hard. To distinguish the sounds, for the soft **ch** a **jch** spelling is used (lajcht, trajcht, Boajch, sajcht) and for the hard **ch**, a **ch** spelling is used (lachen, wachten, sacht).

C. Rule for word endings

a. The ending **-ich** is always written as **-ch**, and never as **-ig**: heilich, eewich, frintlich.

b. The ending **-unk** is always written with **k**, and never with **g**: Rechtunk, Bieejunk.

c. The ending **-inkj** is written as **kj**, not as **gj**: hinkj, jinkj.

d. At the end of a word a **-d** or **-t** is written according to the sound that is heard. Many nouns that end in the singular with **t**, have a **d** in the plural: Frint, Frind; Pieet, Pieed.

e. Verbs which in conjugation in the present tense end with a **-t** are written for the past tense with a **-d** when the sound before is voiced,

Vocabulary 5

Aka m acre, field

Ätwoa n groceries

äwafoaren drive over

baken bake

balen bark

bestemda specified

Bibel f Bible

Bieejunk f bend

Biel n hatchet

Binj f bandage

binjen binding

blift stays

Blitz m lightning

Bon f track

boolt soon

bosen hurry

bromt hums

brucken need

Buck m stomach

Dach m day

Darpa m villager

Deel n deal

deepen baptise

Dien f drift

doarom because

doafäa for that

dobbelt double

doch still

dolste hardest

don/donn then

droag carry

druach carried

eemol once

eewich eternal

Ehe f matrimony

em in the

enlajen can (fruit)

eenmol once

enoajren enrage

Enwona m inhabitant

and with a –t when the sound before is voiceless: du spälst, du spälst; hee staupst, hee staupst; du rätst, du rätst.

D. ‘Un’ and ‘en’

a. **un**, the conjunction ‘and’ is a connecting word: Peeta un Marie; Koffe un Malkj.

b. **en** means inside somewhere: Peeta un Maria en jan Hus; de Malkj en daut Glauss.

E. Rules for the writing of double consonants

a) Double consonants are written after the **short** vowels **e, i, o, u**, when another vowel follows, and at the end of a word: sennen, setten, wellen, ekj well, Blitz, schlemmen, erren, Himmel, witzich, rollen, voll, mott, Komm, wudd, Kuss, brucken.

Exceptions are words with a voiced **s**, which are written with a single **s**: Kos, Kosen, Schosel, tos, tosen.

b) After a short vowel, the consonant does not need to be doubled when another consonant follows immediately: Himmel, but himlisch; vekjillen, hee vekjilt sikj, du vekjilst die; schellen, but hee schelt; rolt, bromt, Solt, Schult. Compound words are exceptions: Blitzstrol, Buckweedoag, Mellklompe, Koppbinj.

c) After double vowels and following long vowels, the consonants are not doubled.

d) The **a** is always considered as long and does not require a double consonant: baken, balen, Aka, waka. Exception: Massa.

F. Rules for the writing of ‘s’ and ‘ss’

Instances exist for both a voiced and voiceless **s**.

a. An **s** at the beginning of a word is always voiced: Seel, sellen, sient.

b. The voiced **s** is always written with a single **s**: bosen, läsen, lausen, Hos, Reis, Kos.

c. A **double s (ss)** is always voiceless: Russen, Oss.

d. The voiceless **s** is written as a double **s (i.e. ss)** when it stands

erren err
fäich capable
fälen lack
Foatich n vehicle
Foss m fox
frintlich friendly
Fuamaun m driver
funk aun began

Gruss f greeting
Heilant m savior
heilich holy
himlisch heavenly
Himmel m heaven
hinkjen limp
hoade hard
holen fetch

Hos m rabbit
huach high
Ieejendom n property
Jefenkjnis n jail
jehuarsom obedient
Jelieeda m learned
Jennerazion f generation
jeweulich usually

jewess certain
jinkj went
jlikje sea equally
jreesen greet
Kalia f color
Kanol m canal
Kapitel n chapter
Kilogram n kilo

Kilomeeta m kilometer
Kjennichs m kings
Kjneen f knees
Klumpen m pile
Kolen f coals
Komm f container
Kopp m head
Kos f goat

between two vowels and following a short vowel at the end of a word: jreessen, waussen, paussen, Massa, Oss, Foss, Gruss, jewess.

Exception: where the **s** makes a plural: Nome, Nomes; Fru, Frues.

e. The voiceless **s** preceding another consonant is always written with a single **s**: Lost, jreest, waust, masten, Rausp, Weisheit.

f. Where at the beginning of a word it sounds more like a **ts-** or like a voiceless **s**, a **z** is written: Zocka, Zippel, Zoagel, Zelt.

G. Capitalization

All nouns are capitalized. When verbs, adjectives, pronouns and adverbs serve as nouns, they are nevertheless written **without capitalization**.

H. Compound words (Toopjesade un Toopjerande Wieed)

a. Words **placed together**: several short nouns may be written together as one word: Tempelplauz, Schreftjelieeda. They can also be written separately, especially if rather long, and then both are capitalized: Stauts Kaussenfiera, Kjennichs Paulaut.

b. Words **run together**: these arise when several words are run together, and letter(s) are lost in the process: **met däm** gives **metem**, **opp de** gives **oppe**, **bie däm** gives **biem**. Running together verbs and articles is to be avoided: **lat daut**, not **latet**.

I. Exceptions to the rules

a. Short frequently used words do not have double consonants: **met**, **uk**, **un**, **en**, **em**, **es**, **don**, **von**, **vom**, **om**, **doarom**, **dit**, **disa**, **dise**.

b. The prefixes **en-**, **nen-**, **met-**, **om-**, **rom-** do not take the double consonant: enlajen, enoajren, nengonen, metkomen, omtrakjen, omendren, romlajen, romoakren.

c. Words with the prefix **on-** are usually pronounced with the **n** and often also without the **n**, and are written accordingly: onierlich, Onkosten, onneedich, onsennich, ontofräd, onveninflich; ommaklich, orruich, orrajcht, ojjerajcht, ojjewant.

d. The prefixes **opp-** and **nopp-** are written with double **p** (**pp**) even when another consonant follows, in order to distinguish from **op**:

Kuarn n seed

kunnen could

Kuss m kiss

lääch low

Läächt f hollow

lajcht lies

langsom slow

leichta easier

Lekzion f lesson

Loch n hole

Mäl f flour

Malkj f milk

masten fatten

meed tired

meenen mean

Mell n garbage

metem with the

metkomen accompany

mulwren muddle on

musten had to

nengonen enter

niece new

nodste nearest

ojjewant not used to

om because

omendren change

ommaklich/

uncomfortable

omtrakjen move

onierlich dishonorable

Onkosten m expenses

onneedich needless

onsennich gedankenlos

ontofräd unhappy

onveninflich rude

op open

opgonen open up

oppaussen watch out

oppe on top of

oppgonen go up

opmoaken open

oppgonen, daut Kuarn jeit opp; opgonen, de Dää jeit op. However, when three p come together as in **oppaussen**, then just two p's are written: oppaussen, ekj paus opp.

e. Words with the voiceless **-dom**, **-som**, **-el**, **-en** don't have a double consonant at the end, nor in an extension: Ieejendom, Rikjdom; langsom, langsome; jehuarsom, jehuarsome; Schosel, Väajel; sellen; stoawen.

f. Some words are said with an **ie**, but are writtten with an **i**: Bibel, Kapitel, Kilomeeta, Kilogram.

J. Use of special words

a. The pronoun **junt** (you) is used, not ju.

b. **Heilant** (saviour) is used not Heilaunt.

c. **Ehe** (wedlock) is used not Eehe.

d. Acceptable combinations involving **mol** (once) are; **emol**, **eemol**, **een mol** (not eenmol).

e. The adjectives **fäich** (capable), **ruich** (peaceful) are used, not fähich nor ruhich (no silent h as in HG).

f. Triple vowels appear in some words; Kjneeen (knees), Teeen (toes), not Kjneen or Teen.

g. Titles for wives and female professionals are indicated using the appendix **-sche**; Lierasche and Kjennische (from Liera and Kjennich). Lierarin and Kjennijin are also used.

h. The English **-tion** becomes **-zion**; Stazion, Lekzion, Jennerazion.

i. Consonants following **a** are not doubled: Kanol, Kalia.

orrajcht unjust
 orruich restless
 Oss m oxen
 Paulaust m palace
 paussen fit
 Plauz m square
 Post m mail
 rädsd spoke

rätst speak
 Rechtunk f direction
 reed wieren were ready
 Reis f journey
 Rieej f row
 riewen rub
 Rikjdom m kingdom
 rollen roll

rolt rolls
 rom around
 romligjen lie around
 romoakren agitate
 ruich quiet
 Russ m Russian
 sacht soft
 schellen scold

Schläden m sled
 schlemmen complain
 Schnee m snow
 Schosel m idiot
 Schreft f script
 Schult f guilt
 secha certain
 Seel f soul

seelich holy
 sellen should
 sient his
 sinjen sing
 Solt n salt
 spälsd played
 spälst play
 spaund harnessed

Spaunsel n team

Text 5 - Vestient⁵

Wan daut een mol em Winta een poa Doag stiemd, wieren aule Schlädbonen vestient. Opp Städen wia de Bon unja deepe, hoade Schneedienen. De notste Staut wia sas Miel auf. Ons wudd boolt de Post, Ätwoa, Zocka, Koffe, Mäl, un Kole fälen. Woo wudd wie dan no de Staut komen?

De Darpa hauden gooden Rot doafäa. Wan de bestemda Dach doa wia, spaund jieda Enwona een poa Pieed aum Dobbeltschläden. Jeweenlich wieren doa soo tien Foatieja. Soo boolt aus see aula reed wieren, jinkj et looss. See fuaren aula oppe Gauss en eene Rieej. Daut väaschte Spaunsel must aum dolste schaufen, derch de huage Dienen mulwren om de Schlädbon optomoaken. Ea de Pieed von dit Spaunsel too meed worden, fua de Fuamaun tosied, soo daut de aundre am aula vebiefoaren kunnen. Nu hauden siene Pieed daut een

Deel leichta, un daut niee väaschte Spaunsel must dolla schaufen. Soo deed jieda Fuamaun daut om secha to sennen, daut aule Pieed jlikjen sea schaufen musten. Wan see dan ieescht entlich aula wada vonne Staut Tus wieren, wia doa ne goode, hoade Bon, wiels dee twintich mol äwajefoaren wia.

⁵*En Bloomenheim Oppjewossen* – www.plautdietsch-copre.ca

Exercise 5.1

Answer briefly in English.

1. Why may the vowel **a** be followed by either **jch** or **ch**?
2. Cite four spelling rules for word endings.
3. Distinguish between **en** and **un**.
4. What are the rules for doubling of consonants?
5. Under what conditions is a double **s** used within a word?
6. At the end of words, when are single and double **s** used?
7. When are non-verbs, which serve as nouns, capitalized?
8. What is the capitalization rule for separated compound nouns?
9. Distinguish between the prefixes **op-** and **opp-**.
10. What are the acceptable forms of **mol**?
11. Which tripling of letters is permitted, vowels or consonants?

Exercise 5.2

Answer the following questions about Text 5 briefly in MLG.

1. What problem arose in winter in the author's home town?
2. Why was it urgent to solve this problem?
3. How did the village solve this problem?
4. What type of day would best suit the solution?

Städ f place
 staup step, stamp
 stiemd blew
 stoawen die
 Strol f bolt
 sunk sang
 Teen f toes

Tempel m temple
 teen ten
 tos drag
 tosen drag
 tosied aside
 twintich twenty
 unja under
 väaschte foremost

vebiefoaren /
 drive past
 vebulen squash
 vekjillen /
 catch a cold
 vestiemt snowed in
 voll full
 vom from the
 wachten wait
 waka awake

Weedoag m ache
 Weisheit f wisdom
 wieren were
 witzich witty
 Wucht f power
 wudd would
 Zippel f onion
 Zoagel m tail
 Zocka m sugar

6. VERBS – 1 (Tietwheed)

A. Overview

Verbs are words in sentences which describe an action, an occurrence, or a state of being. Two lists of common MLG verbs are presented in Appendix B. Verbs often appear as the second entity in a sentence following a noun. Verbs are conjugated through a series of suffixes to indicate who is doing the action and when. The conjugation also indicates plurality of the causer of the action, and the mood, as is explained in the following.

B. Tenses

Verbs, in MLG, have three primary tenses: present, past, and future. The present (**pres**, Jäajenwuat) refers to what is going on now, the **past** (Vegonenheit) to what went on before, and the future (**fut**, Tookunft) to what will occur later. There are three perfect tenses, one corresponding to each of the primary ones: the present perfect (**pres perf**, Foadje Jäajenwuat), the past perfect (**past perf**, Foadje Vegonenheit), and the future perfect (**fut perf**, Foadje Tookunft). The actions that are described in a perfect tense occur prior to those of the corresponding primary tense.

In MLG, the present and past primary tenses are conjugated, while the other four are formed using the auxiliary verbs **haben** (to have), **sennen** (to be), or **woaren** (to become). These three verbs are cited here in the infinitive form, a form that defines a given verb. In recognition of the fact that some MLG users omit the ‘**terminal n**’ of verbs, it is herein enclosed in brackets.

C. Principal parts and conjugation of verbs

Conjugation refers to the modification of verb forms to indicate the person causing the action and the tense. The separate parts of the conjugated verb are obtained from the principal parts of the verb. In MLG, there are **four principal parts**, the infinitive form and three additional ones; the **3rd person singular present tense**, the **3rd person singular past tense**, and the **past participle**. The three additional parts are derived from a **verb stem** which is obtained by dropping the **en** ending from the infinitive. In subsequent full descriptions of a verb, the four principal parts are cited, in the order indicated.

The **principal parts** of the verb **haben** (have) are given as:

infinitive	3 rd pers sing pres	3 rd pers sing past	past part
haben	haft	haud	jehaut
to have	has	had	had

MLG verbs are conjugated in three persons, both in the singular and plural. General conjugation rules allow for the writing of other verb parts from the four principal parts. It is an unfortunate fact that these rules have numerous special instances and exceptions.

The conjugation in the **present tense** of the verb **haben** (have) are given as:

sing			plu		
ekj hab	du hast	hee/see/daut haft	wie haben	jie haben	see haben
I have	you have	he/she/it has	we have	you have	they have

The formal **See** forms for the singular and plural coincide with those of the third person plural.

D. Weak and strong verbs

The verbs of MLG consist of two classes, **weak** and **strong**. Verbs for which the **stem vowel** is the same in the present and the past tenses are labelled as weak. Other verbs, having stem vowels that differ in the two tenses are labelled as strong. The **past participle** of a strong verb normally ends in **en**; if it ends in **t**, the strong verb is classified as **strong irregular**.

Weak: ranen, rant, rand, jerant. (to run, runs, ran, ran).

Strong: nämen, nemt, naum, jenomen. (to take, takes, took, taken).

Strong irregular: brinjen, brinjt, brocht, jebrocht. (to bring, brings, brought, brought).

The principal parts of many common weak and strong verbs are listed in Appendix B.

E. Voices in verbs

The voice of a verb may be active or passive. For an **active verb** the subject performs the action, whereas for a **passive verb** the action is performed on the subject.

Active: Daut Kjint es goastrich. (The child is unruly.)

Passive: Daut Kjint woat jestroft. (The child is being disciplined.)

F. Mood of verbs

The mood may be indicative, imperative or conditional. A verb is in the **indicative** mood if the sentence is used to present facts and in the **imperative** mood if requests or commands are given. The **conditional** mood is used to express conditions of permission, obligation, ability to undertake an action, or to address a hypothetical situation. In MLG, the main verbs expressing mood (modal verbs) are: **derwen, kjennen, mäajen, motten, sellen, and wellen**; (permitted to, can, like, must, should, want to).

Indicative: Hee jinkj toom Stua om Äten to kjeepen. (He went to the store to buy groceries.)

Imperative: Go toom Stua un kjeep Äten! (Go to the store and buy groceries!)

Conditional: Wan ekj gonen wudd, wudd ekj Kende brinjen. (If I would go, I'd bring candy.)

G. Word building

Standard verbs are often combined with prepositional prefixes such as **auf-, aun-, be-, derch-, en-, ut-, ve-**, etc. to shade their meanings: aufkjeepen, aundreien, bekjanen, derchfoaren, enkjeepen, utvekoft (buy off, turn on, confess, drive through, shop, sold out).

In the current chapter, the emphasis is on the indicative form of weak verbs in the present and past tenses. In subsequent chapters, strong verbs and other aspects about verbs are considered.

H. Stem, participles, and imperative of verbs

To obtain the **stem** of a verb, drop the **-en** ending in the infinitive: spälen, **späl** (play).

The **present participle** is formed of the full **infinitive** to which is added a **-t** suffix. It appears occasionally in the form of an adjective, which must be declined for number, gender and case. A **-t** may be voiced into a **-d**. E.g., **koakendet Wota** (boiling water), from koaken. The **t** added to the infinitive has been voiced into **d**, and the **-et** suffix added during the declension.

The **past participle (past part)** of a weak verb is formed from the **stem** of the verb by adding a **je-** prefix, and a **-t** suffix, e.g. spälen, späl, **jespält**. There are exceptions as noted below.

To form the **singular imperative** use the **stem** of the verb. Ex: (du): spälen, **späl!** (play!).

To form the **plural imperative** use the **stem+t**, e.g. (jie): spälen, **spält!** (play!).

I. Conjugation of present and past tenses of weak verbs

The conjugations in the present and past tenses of weak verbs have the form:

present	pattern	ranen	spälen	meenen	schaufen	holen
ekj	stem	ran	späl	meen	schauf	hol
du	stem+st	ranst	spälst	meenst	schaufst	holst
hee,see,daut	stem+t	rant	spält	meent	schauft	holt
wie, jie, see	stem+en	ranen	spälen	meenen	schaufen	holen
past						
ekj	stem+d	rand	späld	meend	schaufd	hold
du	stem+sd	rands	spälsd	meensd	schaufsd	holstd
hee,see,daut	stem+d	rand	späld	meend	schaufd	hold
wie, jie, see	stem+den	randen	spälden	meenden	schaufden	holden
past part	je+stem+t	jerant	jespält	jemeent	jeschauft	jeholt
English		to run	to play	to mean	to work	to fetch

Twee Junges ranen enne Wad. (Two boys are racing.)

See meend emma goot un hee jleichd daut. (She always meant well, and he liked that.)

Wan et too heet es, schauf wie nich. (When its too hot we don't work.)

De Voda jinkj de Schrootflint holen. (The father went to get the shotgun.)

If the **inverted word order** is used (fourth example above), the **-en** ending of the plural **wie, jie** (but not **See**) form is dropped, and a root-only form, identical to the 1st per. singular, is used.

Wie loamen met weinich Uasoak. **Loam** wie too väl?

(We complain with little reason. Do we complain too much?)

Wellen See mea Koffe drinkjen? (Would you care for some more coffee?)

J. Modifications to the conjugation of weak verbs

A difficulty in pronunciation arises with the above pattern for first and third person verbs which end in **d** and **t**; e.g., **raden** (save) and **satén** (plant). In the table below the conjugation of these two verbs following the standard pattern appears in the column marked 'unmodified'. Clearly a difficulty arises in distinguishing the **dt**, **td**, **dd**, and **tt** sounds. The difficulty can be avoided by adopting changes as indicated in the 'modified' columns. The difficulty is mainly one of pronunciation, but spelling rules (e.g. involving the long **a** vowel) are also a factor.

		unmodified	modified	unmodified	modified
present	pattern	raden	raden	satén	satén
ekj	stem	rad	rat	sat	sat
du	stem+st	radst	ratst	satst	satst
hee,see,daut	stem+t	radt	rat	satt	sat
wie,jie, see	stem+en	raden	raden	satén	satén
past					
ekj	stem+d	radd	rad	satd	sad
du	stem+sd	radsd	radsd	satsd	satsd
hee,see,daut	stem+d	radd	rad	satd	sad
wie,jie,see	stem+den	radden	raden	satden	saden
past part	je+stem+t	jeradt	jerat	jesatt	jesat
English		to save	to save	to plant	to plant

Two additional modified forms driven by difficulties in pronunciation are presented below.

a) Stem ending with a voiced consonant

If the stem ends with **d**, **g**, **j**, soft **s**, **w**, **zh** (voiced consonants), that consonant is voiceless in the **2nd and 3rd persons** of the **present tense**, and the **past participle** (as the voiceless **t** and **st** determine the preceding consonant). A change in consonant(s) may occur for these forms. E.g.: räden, kloagen, berujen, haujen, veboajen, vetiljen, keiwen, läwen, ruzhen.

present	pattern	räden	kloagen	berujen	läwen	ruzhen
ekj	stem	räd	kloag	beruj	läw	ruzh
du	stem+st	rätst	kloachst	beruichst	läfst	ruschst
hee,see,daut	stem+t	rät	kloacht	beruicht	läft	ruscht
wie,jie,see	stem+en	räden	kloagen	berujen	läwen	ruzhen
past						
ekj	stem+d	räd	kloagd	beruijd	läwd	ruzhd
du	stem+sd	rädsd	kloagsd	beruijsd	läwsd	ruzhsd
hee,see,daut	stem+d	räd	kloagd	beruijd	läwd	ruzhd
wie,jie,see	stem+den	räden	kloagden	beruijden	läwden	ruzhden
past part	je+stem+t	jerät	jekloacht	beruicht	jeläft	jeruscht
English		to speak	to complain	to comfort	to live	to roar

De Mutta rät stell un beruicht daut Kjint. (The mom speaks softly and comforts the child.)

De Eelefaunten ruzhden biem Riefa. (The elephants roared by the river.)

b. Stem ending with a voiceless consonant

If the stem ends with **ch, f, jch, k, kj, p, hard s, sch, t** (voiceless consonants), that consonant modifies the **-d, -sd, -d, -den** endings of the **past tense** into **-t, -st, -t, -ten** for the reason cited in section a above. E.g.: horchen, baken, danken, hoakjen, tekjen, roopen, schempen, staupen, fiksen, jripsen, berauschen, endietschen, forschen, schajchten, seften, skäten, wenschen.

present	pattern	horchen	baken	staupen	fiksen	wenschen
ekj	stem	horch	bak	staup	fiks	wensch
du	stem+st	horchst	bakst	staupst	fikst	wenschst
hee,see,daut	stem+t	horcht	bakt	staupt	fikst	wenschst
wie, jie, see	stem+en	horchen	baken	staupen	fiksen	wenschen
past						
ekj	stem+d	horcht	bakt	staupt	fikst	wenschst
du	stem+sd	horchst	bakst	staupst	fikst	wenschst
hee,see,daut	stem+d	horcht	bakt	staupt	fikst	wenschst
wie, jie, see	stem+den	horchten	bakten	staupen	fiksten	wenschten
past part	je+stem+t	jehorcht	jebakt	jestaupst	jefikst	jewenschst
English		to listen	to bake	to step	to fix	to wish

Hee horcht, un see staupt to de Musik. (He listened, and she stepped to the music.)

De Lied wenschen fa goodet Wada. (The people wish for good weather.)

c) Stem ends with two consonants

If the stem ends with two consonants, the second one being a nasal or lateral (**l, m, n**), a short **e** is inserted to ease pronunciation. E.g.: odmen, likjnen, ordnen, rääkjnen, ieejnen, jublen, formen, kjamlen.

present	pattern	odmen	ordnen	ieejnen	jublen	kjamlen
ekj	stem	odem	orden	ieeen	jubel	kjamel
du	stem+st	odemst	ordenst	ieeenst	jubelst	kjamelst
hee,see,daut	stem+t	odemt	ordent	ieejent	jubelt	kjamelt
wie,jie,see	infinitive	odmen	ordnen	ieejnen	jublen	kjamlen
past						
ekj	stem+d	odemd	ordend	ieejend	jubeld	kjameld
du	stem+sd	odemsd	ordensd	ieejensd	jubelsd	kjamelsd
hee,see,daut	stem+d	odemd	ordend	ieejend	jubeld	kjameld
wie,jie,see	stem+den	odemden	ordenden	ieejenden	jubelden	kjamelden
past part	je+stem+t	jeodemt	ordent	jeieejent	jejubelt	jekjamelt
English		to breathe	to order	to own	to exhalt	to process

See odemden de soltje See Loft. (They breathed the salty sea air.)

Ekj hab miene Koa aul lang jeieejent. (I have owned my car for a long time.)

Hee kjameld de Woll om Dakjen to moaken. (He processed the wool to make blankets.)

d) Stem with a diphthong and/or ending in ‘-ren’

Verbs in which the stem ends in a diphthong and **r**, or simply ends in **r**, are given special treatment. The **-ren** of the infinitive is dropped and is replaced by **a** to form the stem (unless the **-ren** is preceded by **a**). The **-st** suffix of the second person **present** is replaced by **-scht**, while the **-sd** suffix of the second person **past** by **-zhd**. The past participle of these verbs ends with **t**, e.g.: prachren, roaren, beduaren, bekjemren, näaren, beschäären, endren, fieren, ieren, lieren, knoaren, schmuaren, vesuaren, schedren.

present	pattern	prachren	späären	endren	hieren	buaren
ekj	stem	pracha	spää	enda	hia	bua
du	stem+scht	prachascht	spääscht	endascht	hieescht	buascht
hee,see,daut	stem+t	prachat	späät	endat	hieet	buat
wie, jie, see	infinitive	prachren	späären	endren	hieren	buaren
past						
ekj	stem+d	prachad	spääd	endad	hieed	buad
du	stem+zhd/dsd	prachazhd	spääzhd	endazhd	hieezhd	buazhd
hee,see,daut	stem+d	prachad	spääd	endad	hieed	buad
wie, jie, see	stem+den	prachaden	spääden	endaden	hieeden	buaden
past part	je+stem+t	jeprachat	jespäät	jeendat	jehieet	jebuat
English		to beg	to feel	to change	to hear	to farm

Spääscht du dän kolden Wint? (Do you feel the cold wind?)

Daut Hus sitt sea jeendat. (The house looks very different.)

Hieezhd du mie nich, aus ekj lud roopt? (Didn't you hear me, when I called loudly?)

K. Formal See

In MLG, the formal **See** (2nd person formal, singular and plural) is used less frequently than in HG. The conjugation corresponding to **See** are the 3rd person plural entries.

Wan See huach buaren, brucken See nich rakren.

(When you're well off, you needn't work so hard.)

Wudden **See** de Gardienen jieren opjemoakt haben?

(Would you like to have the curtains drawn?)

Vocabulary 6

Akj f corner	gonen go	kunnen could	selfst self
aunfangen begin	halpen help	lajen lay	späären feel
berolen cover	Hauls m throat	loten allow	tonicht damaged
besondasch special	hetten heat	Mäl n flour	toom to the
Brost f breast	holen fetch	meist almost	toopriieren mix

Donst m steam	Hoost m cough	Menschen people	trajcht correct
dree three	ieeschten first	mieeschte most	Twiewel m doubt
eenem to one	jäwen give	Moaka m maker	Uag n eye
emma always	jeholpen helped	nääkjusten next	väl much
emol once	jelieet learned	neemen took	vea four
enschmäären /	jeschonken given	nuscht nothing	wää whoever
apply grease	Jesuntheitsmeddel /	oajch serious	wan when
erut out	health remedy	onen without	waut what
fa for	jeweenlich usually	oppwoamen heat up	wautemma whatever
Fäichkjeit f ability	jeewen believe	Owen m stove	wellen want
faulen fall	kjeen none	ranen run	weschen wipe
Flauss m flax	Kjieena n kernels	Samp m mustard	Wien m wine
fodren request	koaken cook	Saulw f ointment	Winta m winter
friewellich voluntary	Kodda n cloth	schlemmen complain	woamen warm
goanich not at all	komen come	schlophen sleep	Wota n water

Text 6 - Jesuntheitsmeddel⁶

Vekjilt wia meist emma wää, besondasch em Winta. Fa een schlemmen Hauls wia emma Rot. Eena schmäd dän Hauls von buten met Kaumfatsaulw en un berold dän met een oppjeweamd det Kodda. Wie woamden uk selfstjemoakta Wien opp. Dan leet wie däm langsam em Hauls ranen. Fa däm Hoost koakt wie een bät Kaumfatsaulw met Wota un holden dän Donst en. Wan daut oajch wia schmäd wie Samp un Mäl met Wota toopjerieet oppen Kodda un woamden daut biem Owen. Dan läd wie ons daut oppe Brost bat ons daut aunfunk to hetten.

Wan eena waut em Uag haud waut nich erut komen wull, leet wie dree ooda vea Flausskjieena em Uag faulen toom schlophen gonen. Eena späad daut goanich emol, wan de Flausskjieena em Uag follen. Dän nääkjusten Morjen kunn eena de Flausskjieena ute Uagenakj erutweschen.

Wan eenem waut tonicht wia, jinkj eena nom Trajchtmoaka. De mieeschte Trajchtmoakasch kunnen eenem halpen onen daut see daut jelieet hauden. Doa es kjeen Twiewel daut dee väl Menschen jeholpen haben. Wiels see jeewden daut Gott an de Fäichkjeit jeschonken haud, foddaden de mieeschte kjeen Jelt. Oba jeweenlich neemen see daut, wan eena an waut friewellich jeef.

⁶*En Blumenheim Oppjewossen* – www.plautdietsch-copre.ca

Exercise 6.1

Answer briefly in English.

1. Contrast the representation of infinitives in English and MLG.
2. Name the four principal parts of MLG verbs.
3. Give the principal parts of the verb **haben**.
4. Conjugate the verb **haben** in the singular and plural present.

5. Give a distinction between weak and strong verbs in MLG.
6. What is meant by 'with voice' and 'voiceless' with regard to verbs?
7. Describe the forming of the present and past participles in MLG.
8. Conjugate a weak MLG verb of your choice in the present and past tenses.
9. How is the conjugation changed if the stem ends with a voiced consonant?
10. How is the conjugation changed if the stem ends with a voiceless consonant?
11. What change may be required when the stem ends with two consonants?

Exercise 6.2

Answer the following questions about Text 6 briefly in MLG.

1. What remedy was used for a sore throat?
2. What ailment did home made wine treat?
3. What method was used to remove a speck in the eye?
4. Why were the **Trajchmoakasch** popular with their patients?

7. ADJECTIVES (Ieejenschoftswieed, Adjektiëws)

A. Classification

An adjective is a word that modifies a noun or noun equivalent. A list of common adjectives is given in Appendix A. When an adjective precedes the word it modifies, it is referred to as an **attributive adjective**. E.g.: een **groota** Maun (a large man), eene **kluake** Fru (a clever woman), een **stellet** Kjint (a quiet child).

When an adjective follows the word it modifies, it is known as a **predicate adjective**. De Maun es **groot**. (The man is large.)

In some of the following tables, the nouns **Maun** (masc), **Fru** (fem), **Kjint** (neut), and **Menschen** (plu) are inserted to assist with the association of specific adjective forms with their gender.

B. Declension

Adjectives in MLG appear customarily in a strong form. For the neuter gender, a ‘strong’ and ‘weak’ form exists, differing only in the word ending. The weak form is used for neuter adjectives that follow the definite article **daut** or the demonstratives **daut** and **dit** (neuter form of that, this). The strong neuter is applied in all other situations.

Adjectives are declined in gender, number, and case in the form:

case	masc (Maun)	fem (Fru)	neut (Kjint) ‘strong’	neut (Kjint) ‘weak’	plu (Menschenn)
nom	groota	groote	grootet	groote	groote
obl	grooten	groote	grootet	groote	groote

In the singular, a suffix **-a** is added to the predicate for the masculine nominative; **-en** for the masculine oblique; **-e**, for the feminine; and **-et** for the strong neuter. All three plural forms (masc, fem, neut) and the weak neuter take the form of the feminine singular.

Changes for the **oblique case** occur only for the **masculine singular**. However, if a preposition-article contraction is used with a neuter noun, then the oblique is also used. E.g.: em **grooten** Hus, en **daut groote** Hus, en een **grootet** Hus.

Vocabulary 7

aufkjeelen cool off

aule all

aulemaun everyone

Bekauntmoakunk f ad

bennen inside

Bonkoa f streetcar

Broot n bread

buten outside

dartich thirty

doaropp upon

Dola m dollar

dolste most

eenmol once

eensjemol sometimes

elste oldest

fastlich festive

Flint f gun

frintlich friendly

gaufst gave

groot big

Han f hen

haulf half

Haandel m trade

heet hot

hilt held

hinjaraun behind

hoajen haired

Hon m rooster

hoolen hold

Hos m rabbit

Hunt m dog

intressaunt interesting

Jebied n building

C. Comparative and superlative

The positive (**pos**) form appears when a property of a single item is stated, and no comparison is made. The comparative (**comp**) form appears for situations when two items are compared, and the superlative (**super**) form in comparing more than two. In MLG, inflection takes place for both predicate and attributive adjectives.

Jedäwa n racket
jekoakt cooked
jemolda painted
Jeschaft n business
jeschoten shot
jestolna stolen

The possible inflection is for the three genders, in the singular and plural, and for the number in the comparison. For the attributive adjectives, a further inflection occurs to account for the part of speech.

jeweenlich usually
jieda each
jinja younger

D. Comparison of predicate adjectives

In MLG, the positive form for predicate adjectives is the same for all genders and numbers. To form the comparative in each, a suffix **-a** is added to the positive, whereas for the superlative a suffix of **-ste**.

jinjste youngest
jlekjlich happy
Joa n year

comparison	masc (Maun)	fem (Fru)	neut (Kjint)	plu (Menschen)
pos	stell	stell	stell	stell
comp	stella	stella	stella	stella
super	stelste	stelste	stelste	stelste

junk young
kjeenem no one
Kjleeda n clothes

De Maun es stell. (The man is quiet.)
Daut groote Kjint es stella. (The large child is quieter.)
Root-hoaje Menschen sent stella. (Redheaded people are quieter.)
De elste es de stelste. (The oldest is the most quiet.)

kolt cold
Kommarod m comrade
läsen read

E. Comparison of attributive adjectives

The comparative form for an attributive adjective is formed by adding the suffix **-r-**, while the superlative by adding the suffix **-st-**. For the nominative case, the ending of the suffix for the masculine gender is **a**, while for the feminine, it is **e**. For the neuter gender the ending is **et** in the positive, and **e** for the comparative and superlative. For the oblique case, the ending of the suffix for the masculine is changed to **-en**, but no change is made in the ending for the feminine and neuter.

lud loud
mauncha many a
Menschen m people

nom

	masc (Maun)	fem (Fru)	neut (Kjint)	plu (Menschen)
pos	de stella	de stelle	daut stelle(t)	de stelle
comp	de stelra	de stelre	daut stelre	de stelre
super	de stelsta	de stelste	daut stelste	de stelste

Nokoma m descendant
Nomes names
ranent running
rein clean
root red
Sindach m Sunday

sindachsche Sunday
Somma m summer
soorajcht really
stell quiet
stella quieter

obl

	masc (Maun)	fem (Fru)	neut (Kjint)	plu (Menschen)
pos	dän stellen	de stelle	daut stelle	de stelle
comp	dän stelren	de stelre	daut stelre	de stelre
super	dän stelsten	de stelste	daut stelste	de stelste

stellet quiet

stelsta most quiet

strelra quieter

Stund f hour

The plural for all genders follows the feminine singular.

Toobehia n accessories

toopjespoat saved

Trubbel m trouble

F. Adjectives from present participles

Adjectives may be formed from present participles of verbs. In English, the suffix *-ing* is added to the infinitive to form the present participle. In MLG, the suffix *-d-* is added. The participle ending is changed according to the gender, number, and case, following the general pattern for adjectives.

de **ranenda** Hunt (the running dog);

de **ranende** Han (the running chicken);

daut **ranende** Wota (running water).

vebie past

vebrukt spent

veloten depend

weinich little

weinje few

woon which

wutscht raced

G. Adjectives from past participles

Adjectives may be formed from past participles of verbs. In MLG, the stem for forming adjectives is the past participle to which is added an ending appropriate to the gender, number and case.

For adjectives formed from particles ending in *-t*, a change in voicing may occur at the end, i.e. the *t* is replaced with a *d*). For adjectives formed from participles ending in *en*, the *e* may be dropped if the preceding consonant is voiced.

koaken, koakt, koakd, jekoakt:

masc - een **jekoakta** Hon (cooked rooster);

fem - eene **jekoakte** Han (cooked hen);

neut - **jekoaktet** Wota (cooked water).

molen, molt, mold, jemolt:

masc - een **jemolda** Boom (a painted tree);

fem - eene **jemolde** Dää (a painted door);

neut - een **jemoldet** Bilt (a painted picture).

stälen, stält, stool, jestolen:

masc - een **jestolna** Hunt (a stolen dog);

fem - eene **jestolne** Koa (a stolen car);

neut - een **jestolnet** Kjleet (a stolen dress).

H. Irregular adjectives

The **stem** in the comparison of adjectives may be irregular as indicated in the following examples for predicate adjectives.

	pos	comp	super
young	junk	jinja	aum jinjsten
old	oolt	elra	aum elsten
large	groot	jrata	aum jratsten
small	kjlien	kjlandra	aum kjlansten
cold	kolt	kolda	aum koltsten
happy	jlekjlich	jlekjelja	aum jlekjlichsten

De Grootvoda es junk, de Voda es jinja, un de Sän es aum jinjsten.
(The grandfather is young, the father is younger, and the son is the youngest.)

I. Demonstrative adjectives

These adjectives point out the noun referred to. They are declined in gender, number, and case as:

	masc (Maun)	obl	fem (Fru)	neut (Kjint)	plu (Menschen)
this	dis	disen	dise	dit	dise
that	jan	janen	jane	jant	jane
such	soon	soonen	soone	soont	soone
every	jieda	jieden	jiede	jiedet	
which	woon	woonen	woone	woont	woone

Only for the masculine gender does the oblique differ from the nominative. The plural has the same form as the feminine singular.

Woon Maun haft de Flint jeschoten? (Which man shot the gun?)

Du gaufst daut to woonen Maun? (You gave that to which man?)

J. Possessive adjectives

The table presented in Chapter 4 (for possessive pronouns) is repeated here for completeness:

Eng	MLG				
	masc		fem	neut	plu
	(Hunt)		(Kaut)	(Hus)	(Hiesa)
	nom	obl			
my	mien	mienen	miene	mien	miene
your	dien	dienen	diene	dien	diene
his/its	sien	sienen	siene	sien	siene
her	ää	äären	ääre	ää	ääre
our	ons	onsen	onse	ons	onse
your	jun	junen	june	jun	june
their	ää	äären	ääre	ää	ääre

In the form **ää** an **r** is inserted before adding endings; **ääre**, **äären**.

K. Indefinite Adjectives

Indefinite pronouns may also be used as indefinite adjectives:

aule Kommaroden (all comrades)	eenje fule Menschen (some lazy people)	weinje Goltstekja! (few pieces of gold)
aundre Frind (other friends)	miere Niekomasch (several new arrivals)	een poa Jans (a pair of geese)
een bätje Spinnat (a bit of spinach)	väle Nokomasch (many descendants)	weinich Wien (little wine)

Text 7 - No de Staut Foaren⁷

Ekj kunn mie jeeenlich doaropp veloten, daut ekj eenmol daut Joa met miene Elren opp dön Model T met no de Staut kunn. Wan wie opp dön Wajch kjeen Trubbel hauden, dieed daut ne Stund un ne Haulf, de dartich Miel foaren. Daut wia oba intressaunt waut eena aules to seenen kjrieech oppem Wajch no de Staut. Eensjemol hupst doa een Hos opp un wutscht auf, aus wan am een Hunt hinjaraun wia.

En de Staut wia aules oba soo schmock rein, un de Lied brukten aula sindachsche Kjleeda, wan et uk nich Sindach wia. Doa wia soo väl to läsen, Jeschaftsnomes, Gaussenomes, Haundelsbekauntmoakungen, un soo wieda. Daut Stua, waut mie daut dolste intressieed, wia daut Dola Stua, wua aules een Dola ooda weinja kost. Jeeenlich vebrukt ekj aul mien Jelt, waut ekj mie toopjespoat haud von daut latste mol en de Staut.

Daut wia en de Staut oba lud. Too de Tiet hauden see nich daut Toobehia de Jebieda auftokjeelen. Wan daut de Somma dan soorajcht heet wia, haud aulemaun de Dääre op. Daut hilt sikj dan jlikj auf eena buten ooda bennen wia. Wan doa eene Gaussebonkoa vebie fua, kunn eena sikj met kjeenem vetalen bat daut Jedäwa äwa wia.

Exercise 7.1

Answer briefly in English.

1. Give examples of attributive and predicate adjectives.
2. What suffixes are used to decline an adjective in the nominative singular case?
3. How does the declination in the oblique case differ from the nominative?
4. Distinguish between the ‘strong’ and ‘weak’ neuter forms.
5. How is the comparative and superlative formed for predicate adjectives?
6. How is the comparative and superlative formed for attributive adjectives for neuter singular nouns in the nominative case?
7. How is the comparative and superlative formed for attributive adjectives for masculine singular nouns in the oblique case?
8. How are adjectives formed from present participles?
9. How are adjectives formed from past participles?
10. Give the comparative and superlative forms for the adjectives **groot** and **junk**.
11. Give the neuter singular form in MLG for the following three adjectives - this, many, which.

Exercise 7.2

Answer the following questions about Text 7 briefly in MLG.

1. How often did the author usually go to town each year?
2. How long did the drive to town take?
3. What impressed the author about the town?
4. How much money did the author usually spend in town?
5. Why did store doors usually stand open during the author’s visits?
6. What was inconvenient about the passage of streetcars?

8. ADVERBS (Omstauntswheed)

An adverb is a word that modifies a verb, an adjective, a participle or another adverb. A list of common adverbs is given in Appendix A.

Hee foat **stoakj**. (He drives fast.)

De Mejal es **sea** krakjt. (The girl is very neat.)

Nodäm see eene Stund **schwind** jerant haud, wia see meed.
(After she had run quickly for an hour, she was tired.)

De Väajel fluagen **sea** huach. (The birds flew very high.)

A. Positive degree

The positive (**pos**) degree of many adjectives serves also as an adverb.

direkjt (direct, directly)

schwind (quick, quickly)

schmock (fine, well)

betta (bitter, bitterly)

B. Comparison of adverbs

To form the comparative (**comp**) of adverbs, a suffix **-a** is added, and to form the superlative (**super**) a suffix **-ste**. Some adverbs that require comparative or superlative forms are given in the table below.

MLG			English		
pos	comp	super	pos	comp	super
leicht	leichta	leichtste	light	lighter	lightest
schlajcht	schlajchta	schlajchste	bad	worse	worst
schmock	schmocka	schmokste	nice	nicer	nicest
goot	bäta	baste	good	better	best
ruich	ruja	ruichste	quiet	quieter	quietest

Adverb: Hee schrift schmock, see schrift schmocka, un Marie schrift daut schmokste). (He writes nice, she writes nicer, and Marie writes the nicest.)

Adjective: De Mejal haft eenen schmocken Hoot, de Mutta eenen schmokren Hoot, oba de Oma haft dän schmoksten Hoot. (The girl has a nice hat, the mother has a nicer hat, but the grandma has the nicest hat.)

C. Exclusive adverbs

Most adverbs double as adjectives but the following adverbs have no adjective counterparts: **doa**, **hia**, **dort**, **nu**, **han**, **aul**, **noch**, **dan**.

Vocabulary 8

Angst f fear
aufnämen take away
aul already

aules all
aufangen begin
äwakjriez crossed

baste best
bäta better
beduselt fooled

betta bitter
blooss only
breet wide

dan then
dedwää cross-wise
dichtbie nearby

direkjt directly
doa there
dort over there

drinkjen drink
Druck m pressure
Eelefaunt m elephant

entlich finally
Farjoa m spring
Fiawurks n fireworks

Flicht f obligation
fluagen flew
framd strange

froo happy
glupen look furtively
Grosen n grazing

grosen graze
Haunschkje f glove
heeden to herd

there	Doa gonen de Eelefaunten stoawen. (There elephants go to die.)	hia here
here	Hia wonen blooss hoatliche. (Here live only hardy people.)	hinjaraun behind
there	Dort es de Jrens. (Over there is the border.)	Hoad m shepherd
now	Nu es aules ut. (Now everything is finished.)	hoat hard
there	Ekj jinkj doa vejäfs han . (I went there for nothing.)	hoatlich hardy
already	Jistren wist ekj daut aul . (I knew it yesterday already.)	huach high
still	Noch blooss twee Doag! (Only two days more!)	
then	Dan jeft et Krach. (Then there will be trouble.)	hungren be hungry

D. Special adverbs

nich soo?	Daut es kolt, nich soo? (It's cold, isn't it?)	ieejnen own
sea schod!	Kjeen Rääjen, sea schod! (No rain, too bad!)	jaumalich pitiful
		jeft gives

E. Uses of 'too'

a. As an adverb modifying an adjective:		Jemekja n bleating
too kjlien	De Hautschkje es too kjlien . (The glove is too small.)	jenuach enough
		jeschoaren shorn
b. As a prefix:		jeseenen seen
toolote	Lot die daut nich too . (Don't put up with that.)	jieren gladly
toosaje	To daut wudd ekj toosaje . (I would agree with that.)	Jrens f border
c. As a compound adjective:		kjanen recognize
tooväl	Du jefst ons tooväl Oabeit. (You give us too much work.)	kjeemen came
		kjeen no
d. As a compound noun:		Kjjeedel m guy
Tookjikja	De Tookjikja wia tofräd. (The spectator was satisfied.)	kjlien small
		knaup scarce
e. As a prefix in a past participle:		korten shortly
toojekjikjt	Wää haft doa toojekjikjt? (Who watched that?)	kosten cost
toojemoakt	See haft de Dää toojemoakt . (She closed the door.)	Krach m trouble

F. Uses of 'to'

a. As a preposition and to form an infinitive:		krakjt neat
to de Kaut	See gauwen Äten to de Kaut . (They fed the cat.)	ladjen empty
to halpen	See kaum om an to halpen . (She came to help them.)	Lama n lambs
b. In forming compound verbs or adverbs:		leet appeared
tootomoaken	Hee vegaut de Dää tootomoaken . (He forgot to close the door.)	leicht light
		lot late
tofoot	Dee kaumen aule tofoot . (They all came walking.)	
tolatst	Tolatst gauf et Fiawoaksj. (At the end came fireworks.)	Malkj f milk
		meed tired

c. As an adjective:
to Tiet Wie kaumen jrod **to Tiet** aun. (We arrived just in time.)

mekjaden bleated

G. Interrogative adverbs

Muttaschop f /
mother sheep
natkjes softly
nich soo isn't it

Interrogative adverbs stand at the beginning of a sentence and are used to form questions.

how	Woo jeit et?	How is it going?
where	Wua es de Kjieedel?	Where is that guy?
from where	Wuavon stemst du?	Where are you from?
wherever	Wuaemma daut es!	Wherever that may be!
where to	Wuahan jeit de Wajch?	Where does the road go?
why	Wuarom best du lot?	Why are you late?
about what	Wuaraun twiewelst du?	What's your concern?
when	Wanea kjrie wie Koffe?	When do we get coffee?
how much	Wooväl kost daut?	How much does it cost?

noch still
noch nich not yet
nodäm after

nohus homeward
Norecht f news
nu now

nuscht nothing
Oabeit f work
oam poor

H. Common adverbial phrases

now and then	Auf un too see ekj een Rolls Royce. (Now and then I see a Rolls Royce.)
criss-cross	Doa wieren de Gaussen äwakjriez . (There the streets were a maze.)
in the near future	Em korten kjrichst du goode Norecht. (Shortly you will receive good news.)
back and forth	Wie fuaren han un häa , oba fungen nuscht. (We drove back and forth but found nothing.)
now and then	Han un wada see wie de Sonn em Winta. (Now and then we see the sun in winter.)
back and forth	No väl han un trigj haud ekj mien Wisa. (After much back and forth, I had my Visa.)
come again	Daut wia väl Spos, komt mol wada! (That was fun, come again!)
according to him	No däm no es de Ieed plaut. (According to him the earth is flat.)
far and wide	Ons Launt es wiet un breet , oba sea hoat. (Our land is far and wide but very hard.)

opphieren stop
opptoo towards
Papieren n documents

plaut flat
proowen try
Räajen m rain

reed ready
roopen call
ruich quiet

sachelkjes carefully
sagen saw
schäären shear

scheene fine
schlajcht bad
Schop n sheep

Text 8 - De Schophoad⁸

schwind quickly
sea shod too bad
Sonn f sun

Een Dach wia daut miene Flicht de Schop to heeden. Opp Bilda haud ekj jeseenen, daut Schop dän Hoad hinjaraun jinjen. Toom nohus gonen wull ekj daut emol met onse Schop proowen. Aus et Tiet wia roopt ekj de Schop natkjes, "Mats, mats, mats," un funk aun nohus

Spos n fun
stemmen originate
stoakj fast, strong

opptoo to gonen. Ieescht gluften de Schop no mie oba grosden wieda, aus wan see noch nich reed wieren. Ekj jinkj sachelkjes wieda nohus opptoo un roopt an wada. Entlich hieeden see opp met Grosen, un kjeemen mie schmock hinjaraun.

Schop schäären em Farjoa wia sea intressaunt. Wan de Muttaschop jeschoaren wieren, leet et dän soo framd, daut äare ieejne Lama an nich kjanden. De oame Muttaschop kunnen daut nich vestonen, wuarom äare Lama fa an Angst hauden. Doa wia vël jaumalichet Jemekja. De Lama mekjaden wiels an no Malkj hungad un see beduselt wieren. De Muttaschop wullen soo jieren haben, de Lama sullen komen äare volle Iedasch ladjen. Entlich kjeemen de Lama dichtbie jenuach, daut see dee volle Iedasch sagen. Oba dan wieren de Muttaschop un de Lama froo, de Muttaschop daut äare Iedasch dän Druck entlich aufjenomen wort, un de Lama, daut see nu scheene, woame Malkj drinkjen kunnen.

⁸*En Blumenheim Oppjewossen* – www.plautdietsch-copre.ca

Exercise 8.1

Answer briefly in English.

1. How are adjectives and adverbs similar and different?
2. Name some MLG adjectives that can also serve as adverbs.
3. How is the comparative and the superlative formed for regular adverbs?
4. Give the comparative and superlative forms for the irregular adverbs **goot** and **ruich**.
5. Name some words that serve as adverbs but not as adjectives.
6. Distinguish between the uses of **too** and **to** in both English and MLG.

Exercise 8.2

Answer the following questions about Text 8 briefly in MLG.

1. What experiment did the author attempt while herding sheep?
2. What was the reaction of the sheep to the experiment?
3. Why was sheep shearing especially interesting?
4. Suggest answers in MLG to the questions posed in section G.

tofräd satisfied
tolatst at the end
Tookjikja m spectator

tookjikjen observe
tooloten tolerate
toomoaken close

toosajen agree
tooväl too much
twee two

twiewlen doubt
vejäfs in vain
vestonen understand

volle full
wada again
wieda further

wieren were
wiet far
wist knew

wonen live
woo how
wooväl how much

wua where
wuaemma wherever
wuahan where to

wuaraun about what
wuarom why
wuavon from where

9. VERBS – 2

A. Conjugation of auxiliary and modal verbs

For the forming of the four compound tenses, other than the simple present and past, the auxiliary verbs **haben**, **sennen**, and **woaren** are used. To express mood, modal verbs such as **derwen**, **kjennen**, **määjen**, **motten**, **sellen**, and **wellen** are used. The conjugation in the present and past of the auxiliary verbs and of three modal verbs is given in the table below.

present	haben	sennen	woaren	kjennen	määjen	sellen
ekj	hab	sie/senn	woa	kaun	mach	saul
du	hast	best	woascht	kaust	machst	saust
hee, see, daut	haft	es	woat	kaun	mach	saul
wie, jie, see	haben	sent	woaren	kjennen	määjen	sellen
past						
ekj	haud	wia	wort	kunn	mucht	sull
du	hautst	wiescht	wurscht	kunst	muchst	sust
hee, see, daut	haud	wia	wort	kunn	mucht	sull
wie, jie, see	hauden	wieren	worden	kunnen	muchten	sullen
past part	jehaut	jewast	jeworden	(je)kunt	jemucht	sult
English	to have	to be	to become	to be able	to want	to must

Bie diene Oabeit hast du een gooden Loon. (At your work you have a good salary.)

Ekj sie foaken en de Staut. (I am often in the city.)

Daut Voagel woat em Farjoa trigjkomen. (The bird will return in spring.)

Jie kjennen junt doaropp veloten. (You can depend on that.)

Jie sullen june Heed aufnåmen. (You should take off your hats.)

B. Compound tenses

The four compound tenses used in MLG are: the future (**fut**), the present perfect (**pres perf**), the past perfect (**past perf**), and the future perfect (**fut perf**). These tenses are created using auxiliary verbs, as discussed in detail in Chapter 12. For the verb **spålen** (to play) the tenses are:

	fut	pres perf	past perf	fut perf
ekj	woa spålen	hab jespålt	haud jespålt	woa jespålt haben
du	woascht spålen	hast jespålt	hautst jespålt	woascht jespålt haben
hee,see,daut	woat spålen	haft jespålt	haud jespålt	woat jespålt haben
wie, jie, see	woaren spålen	haben jespålt	hauden jespålt	woaren jespålt haben
Eng (I)	will play	have played	had played	will have played

Ekj **woa** morjen Daumbrat **spålen**. (I will play checkers tomorrow.)

Du **hast** met dām Noba vål Tennis **jespålt**. (You have played tennis often with the neighbor.)

See **haud** aul twee Joa Piano **jespålt** ea see no School jinkj.

(She had already played piano for two years before she started school.)

Wan wie nääjentlich sennen woaren, **woa** wie aul väl mol Beethoven **jespält haben**.
(When we will be ninety, we will have played Beethoven many times.)

Some intransitive verbs (needing no object) use **senen** instead of **haben** as the auxiliary if:

- they indicate motion from one place to another,
- they indicate a change of condition,
- or they involve the verbs **senen** and **bliewen**.

Ekj **sie** väl rom jereist, un **sie** ella jeworden, oba **sie** emma tru jebläwen.
(I have traveled a lot, and have aged, but have always remained loyal.)

C. Strong verbs

For weak verbs in MLG the stem vowel does not change in conjugation, while for strong verbs it does. The principal parts for many common strong verbs are given in Appendix B. In the conjugation of strong verbs, the same suffixes are used as for weak verbs.

Characteristics of strong verbs are:

- The stem vowel of the infinitive changes to form the past tense of the indicative mood: **drinkjen**, **drunk** (drink); **aunfangen**, **funk** aun (begin); **halpen**, **holp** (help). It is helpful to consider that separate stems are used for the present and past tenses.

In some strong verbs, the stem vowel of the infinitive also changes in the 2nd and 3rd persons of the present tense of the indicative mood, and consonants may also change.

- The past participle of many **strong** verbs ends in **en**: jedrunken, aunjefongen, jeholpen (drank, started, helped). When the past participle of a strong verb ends in **-t** the verb is termed as **strong irregular**.

- The changes in the stem vowel are to some extent predictable. Some examples of the main types of changes are provided in this chapter, and others in Appendix B.

D. Conjugation of strong verbs: vowel changes in the past tense

present	drinkjen	aunfangen	halpen	plekjen	jellen	waussen
ekj	drinkj	fang aun	halp	plekj	jell	wauss
du	drinkjst	fangst aun	halpst	plekjst	jelst	waust
hee,see,daut	drinkjt	fangt aun	halpt	plekjt	jelt	waust
wie, jie, see	drinkjen	fangen aun	halpen	plekjen	jellen	waussen

past

ekj	drunk	funk aun	holp	plock	golt	woss
du	drunkst	funkst aun	holpst	plokst	golst	wost
hee,see,daut	drunk	funk aun	holp	plock	golt	woss
wie, jie, see	drunken	fungen aun	holpen	plocken	gollen	wossen
past part	jedrunken	aunjefongen	jeholpen	jeplocken	jegollen	jewossen
English	to drink	to begin	to help	to pick	to count	to grow

Wie drunken Terere. (Wie drank terere.)

Zemorjes funk et aun stoakj to räajnen. (In the morning, it began to rain heavily.)

Du holpst ons dan Apel plekjen. (You helped us then to pick apples.)

Dien Wuat jelt krakjt soo vâl aus mient. (Your word counts as much as mine.)

Ekj wauss nu twee Zoll jieda Joa. (I'm growing two inches every year.)

E. Conjugation of strong verbs: vowel changes in both present and past tense

present	bejriepen	doonen	gonen	schlopen	nâmen	schriewen
ekj	bejriep	doo	go	schlop	nâm	schriew
du	bejripst	deist	jeist	schlapst	nemst	schrifst
hee,see,daut	bejript	deit	jeit	schlapt	nemt	schrift
wie, jie,see	bejriepen	doonen	gonen	schlopen	nâmen	schriewen
past						
ekj	bejreep	deed	jinkj	schleep	naum(neem)	schreef
du	bejreepst	deedst	jinjst	schleepst	naumst	schreefst
hee,see,daut	bejreep	deed	jinkj	schleep	naum	schreef
wie, jie, see	bejreepen	deeden	jinjen	schleepen	naumen	schreewen
past part	bejrâpen	jedonen	jegonen	jeschlopen	jenomen	jeschrâwen
English	to grasp	to do	to go	to sleep	to take	to write

Jie bejriepen aules sea schwind. (You understand everything very quickly.)

Waut deist du vondoag? (What are you doing today?)

Wua best du jistren han jegonen? (Where did you go yesterday?)

De Boare schleepen dän gaunsen Winta. (The bears slept all winter.)

De Mutta naum daut Kjint bie de Haunt. (The mother took the child's hand.)

De Liera schreef vâl Wieed oppe Tofel. (The teacher wrote many words on the board.)

F. Strong irregular verbs

Examples of strong irregular verbs, in which the past particle ends in **-t**, include: weeten, jewist; motten, jemust; sajen, jesajcht. They follow the conjugation of other strong verbs.

a. Conjugation of strong irregular verbs: no vowel change in the present tense

present	weeten	motten	moaken	wellen	foten	sajen
ekj	weet	mott	moak	well	fot	saj
du	weetst	motst	moakst	welst	fotst	sajchst
hee, see, daut	weet	mott	moakt	well	fot	sajcht
wie, jie, see	weeten	motten	moaken	wellen	foten	sajen
past						
ekj	wist	must	muak	wull	foot	säd
du	wist	must	muakst	wulst	footst	sädst
hee, see, daut	wist	must	muak	wull	foot	säd
wie, jie, see	wisten	musten	muaken	wullen	footen	säden
past part	jewist	jemust	jemoakt	jewult	jefot	jesajcht
English	to know	to must	to make	to want	to grasp	to say

Du weetst daut wie derche Bloom räden motten. (You know that we must speak politely.)

Daut Kjint moakt Pause wan et well. (The child takes a rest when it wants.)

Ekj kaun goanich foten waut du sajchst. (I can't understand what you are saying.)

b. Conjugation of strong irregular verbs: with change in the present and past tenses (note: begrowen, has two alternate forms for the stem vowel in the present; begrow, bejraf)

present	jäwen	kjeepen	läsen	begrowen	derwen	droagen
ekj	jäw	kjeep	läs	begrow	doaf	droag
du	jefst	kjafst	last	bejrafst	doafst	drajchst
hee, see, daut	jeft	kjaft	last	bejraft	doaft	drajcht
wie, jie, see	jäwen	kjeepen	läsen	begrowen	derwen	droagen
past						
ekj	jeef	kofst	laus	begroof	durf	druach
du	jeefst	kofst	laust	begroofst	durfst	druachst
hee, see, daut	jeef	kofst	laus	begroof	durf	druach
wie, jie, see	jeewen	kofsten	lausen	begroowen	durwen	druagen
past part	jejäft	jekoft	jeläst	begroft	(je)durft	jedroacht
English	to give	to buy	to read	to bury	be allowed	to carry

Wie jeewen trigj aules waut wie jekoft hauden. (We returned all that we had bought.)

Hee laus, daut Golt opp sien Hoff begroft es. (He read that gold is buried in his yard.)

See durf nich mea aus tien dusent droagen.

(She couldn't carry more than ten thousand.)

G. Compound tenses of strong verbs

Forming of the future, present perfect, past perfect, and future perfect in MLG for strong and strong irregular verbs follows the pattern for weak verbs, i.e., these are also constructed with the

auxiliary words **haben**, **sennen**, and **woaren** with the past participle and infinitive. The table below shows these four tenses for the verb **doonen**.

	fut	pres perf	past perf	fut perf
ekj	woa doonen	hab jedonen	haud jedonen	woa jedonen haben
du	woascht doonen	hast jedonen	hautst jedonen	woascht jedonen haben
hee,see,daut	woat doonen	haft jedonen	haud jedonen	woat jedonen haben
wie, jie, see	woaren doonen	haben jedonen	hauden jedonen	woare jedonen haben
Eng (I)	will do	have done	had done	will have done

See woat morjen aul äare Oppgowe doonen. (She will do all her work tomorrow.)

Du hast vondoag Nomeddach vâl jedonen. (You have done a lot this afternoon.)

Vocabulary 9

Äten f meal	fekjs quickly	Kjätel m boiler	oppwauschen /
aula all	fief five	Kjiej f cows	wash the dishes
aundre others	foodren feed	kjlandre smaller	plekjen pick
auten ate	Frulied f women folk	kjlanste smallest	schlophen sleep
Bad n bed	gauns completely	koaken cook	Spikja m granery
Bän m upstairs	Goaden m garden	Kopp m head	Stäakja m stoker
bliewen stay	goanich not at all	lota later	Stap f field
dollajen lie down	halpen help	malkjen milk	Staul m barn
draschen thresh	haulwe half	Meddach n lunch	stell quiet
drenkjen water	Hei n hay	meed tired	Teetich n dishes
drock busy	jejäten eaten	moaken make	toonacht for the night
eendoont all right	Jemies vegetables	nohus to home	utnämen gather
Eia n eggs	jeneiw precise	Oabeida m worker	Veautwuatlichkjeit f /
enkaunen can	jenomen taken	Oabeit f work	responsibility
enschlophen sleep	jiedamaun everyone	oppausen watch	Vee n cattle
Faspa n vesper	Kausten m box	Owentkost n supper	ziemlich considerable

Text 9 - Draschtiet⁹

De Draschtiet wia ne drocke Tiet. Wan de Kjätel un Draschkauste met aul de Oabeida kjeem, dan bleewen de Kjinja Tus vonne School. De Kjinja holpen met aul de aundre Oabeit dee emma jedonen must: Äten moaken un no Stap brinjen, Kjiej malkjen, Vee drenkjen un foodren, Eia utnämen, Goadenjemies plekjen un enkaunen, un soo wieda. De kjlandre Kjinja musten no de kijlanste Kjinja oppausen. Jiedamaun haud et drock.

De Stäakja bleewen aula bie de Lied wua see draschten toonacht. Jeweenlich schleepen see opp Hei em Spikja ooda oppem Staulebän. Daut see nich em Bad schlophen kunnen, wia de Stäakja gauns eendoont. See wieren goanich jeneiw. Dee wieren soo meed daut wan see sikj dolläden, schleepen see en ea de Kopp oppem Hei lach.

Daut wia ne ziemliche Veantwuatlichkkeit, aul de Mana fief mol em Dach foodren. Soo fekjs aus de Mana jejäten hauden, musten de Frulied aul daut Teetich oppwauschen, un wada Äten koaken. Too Meddach stunt de Draschkauste fa ne haulwe Stund stell aus de Mana auten. Dan musten de Frulied wada nohus, fekjs oppwauschen un Faspa to Klock dree oppe Stap reed haben. Lota must aul daut Oppwauschtich wada nohus jenomen un Owentkost reed jemoakt.

⁹*En Blumenheim Oppjewossen* – www.plautdietsch-copre.ca

Exercise 9.1

Answer briefly in English.

1. Give the conjugations of the three auxiliary verbs in the present tense.
2. Conjugate the three modal verbs **kjennen**, **määjen**, and **sellen** in the past tense.
3. What are the four ‘compound tenses’ in MLG?
4. Which compound tenses are formed using **haben** and which using **woaren**?
5. When is **sennen** used as the auxiliary word instead of **haben**?
6. What are some characteristics of strong verbs?
7. Give some examples of strong verbs that have a vowel change in the past tense only.
8. Name some strong verbs which have a vowel change in the present and past tenses.
9. What is the distinguishing characteristic of a strong irregular verb?
10. Name some strong irregular verbs that have a vowel change just in the past, and some which have a change in both the past and present.

Exercise 9.2

Answer the following questions about Text 9 briefly in MLG.

1. Why was threshing time popular with children?
2. During threshing time, what work were children asked to do?
3. When a threshing crew came to harvest a farmer’s fields, where did the men sleep?
4. How many meals were the men of the threshing crew served daily?
5. What was unusual about the meal at midday?

10. PREPOSITIONS AND CONTRACTIONS (Veheltniss un Toopjerande Wieed)

A. Prepositions

Prepositions give the relationship between different words of a sentence. A list of common prepositions is given in Appendix A. Particularly, prepositions serve to connect nouns and pronouns to the rest of a sentence. Often data about **time**, **position**, and **direction** is given.

Whereas prepositions may take different cases in HG, this does not occur in MLG. In MLG, nouns following prepositions always take the oblique case. This requires the use in the singular of **dän** (or **däm**) for the masculine nouns, **de** for the feminine, and **daut** for the neuter, and in the plural of **de** for all genders.

A list of the main prepositions in MLG is available in the dictionary of E.H. Zacharias. The use of these prepositions is illustrated in the following short sentences.

auf - off	De Beisikjel fua auf däm Wajch.	The bicycle drove off the road.
aun - on	Klopt wää aun de Dää?	Is someone knocking on the door?
äwa - 1-above, 2-about	De Himmel es äwa de Ieed. Äwa daut, weet ekj nuscht.	Heaven is above the earth. About that, I know nothing.
bat - until	Na dan bat morje!	Well then until tomorrow!
benna - within	Wie kome benna eene Stund aun.	We'll arrive within an hour.
bie - by, with	Siene Fru es emma bie am.	His wife is always with him.
biesied - beside	Een Ree stunt biesied däm Wajch.	A deer stood beside the road.
delenjd - along	See fuaren delenjd de Gauss.	They drove along the street.
derch - through	Hee fua derch daut deepe Wota.	He drove through the deep water.
en - in	Dan wia de Raut en de Faul.	Then the rat was in the trap.
fa - for	Ekj deed daut fa miene Flag.	I did it for my flag.
hinja - behind	Hinja däm Fiera kaum ne Menj.	Behind the leader came a crowd.
jääjen - 1-against, 2-opposed	Hee länd sikj jääjen däm Post. See es jääjen schmieekjen.	He leaned against the post. She is opposed to smoking.
mank - among	Een Volkj mank väle.	One people among many.
met - with	Met de Tiet kjemst du han.	With enough time, you'll arrive.
no - toward, after	Jie kjennen no de School spälen.	You can play after school.
om - at	Nemm de Pell om dree Ua en.	Take the pill at three o'clock.
one - without	Wie worden one am foadich.	We managed without him.
opp - upon	See reet opp een brunet Pieet.	She rode on a brown horse.
rom - around	De Kjinja randen rom de School.	The kids ran around the school.
runtom - all around	Runtom de Staut sent dree Miel.	All around the town is three miles.
to - to	Wie foaren to däm Zoo.	We're driving to the zoo.
trotz - despite	Trotz sienem Oaja, lacht hee.	Despite his rage, he laughed.
twschen- between	Hee stunt twschen twee Mejales.	He stood between two girls.

unja - under	Daut Voagel fluach unja de Brigj.	The bird flew under the bridge.
ut - out	Een Deef rand ut de Bank.	A thief ran out of the bank.
velenjd - along	See jinkj velenjd däm Gank.	She walked along the hallway.
vää (ver) - before	Ver äa stunden tieen aundre.	Before her stood ten others.
von - from	Von hia bat doa sent twee Miel.	From here till there are two miles.
wäms - whose	Wäms Jeltbiedel es dit?	Whose wallet is this?

B. Contractions

Contractions are used widely in MLG to shorten expressions consisting of prepositions and articles. As brevity is the intention, some contractions contravene spelling rules requiring double consonants. A list of common contractions is provided in the Zacharias dictionary. The following sentences illustrate the use of some of these. (m – masc, f – fem, n – neut)

aum - aun däm - m - on the	Aum Kopp wia kjeene Wund to seenen. (No wound could be seen on the head.)
aune - aun de - f - on the	Hee rand aune Kaunt vom Ozean. (He ran on the seashore.)
aunt - aun daut - n - at the	Aus de Baul aunt Fensta troff, blood de Maun. (As the ball hit the window, the man shouted.)
äwrem - äwa däm - m - over the	Hee schmeet een Schneeaul äwrem Boom. (He threw a snowball over the tree.)
äwaret - äwa daut - n - over the	Äwaret Stiernemäa licht een scheenet Launt. (Over the sea of stars lies a beautiful land.)
batet - bat daut; n - to the	Batet Eewa es et noch 100 Meeta. (It's still a hundred metres to shore.)
bennare - benna de - f - inside the	Bennare Reif wia een Noagel. (Inside the tire there was a nail.)
bennarem - benna däm - m - inside the	Bennarem Park sent väl Ieekjekotasch. (Inside the park there are many squirrels.)
bennaret - benna daut - n - inside the	Bennaret Wotaloch sent kjeene Fesch. (Inside the waterhole there are no fish.)
biem - bie däm - m - by the	Hee kjaft Rintfleesch biem Schlachta. (He buys beef at the butcher.)
butaret - buta daut – n - outside the	De Menj wacht butaret Puat. (The crowd is waiting outside the gate.)
derchet - derch daut - n - through the	De Skäta foll derchet Iess. (The skater fell through the ice.)
em - en däm - m - in the; in; into	Em Wasten kjeen Nies. (No news in the west.)
ent - en daut - n - in the	Daut Fat es ent Fia. (The fat is in the fire.)

hinjaret - hinja daut - n - behind the	Hee well an hinjaret Licht fieren. (He wants to fool them.)
jääjenem - jääjen däm - m - against the	De Koa kaum jääjenem Boom stonen. (The car came to a stop against the tree.)
manke - mank de - f - among the	Manke Ope spält kjeena Klawia. (Among the apes no one plays the piano.)
mete - met de - f - with the	Mete Tiet kjemt uk de Schildkjrät aun. (With enough time even the turtle will get there.)
nom - no däm - m - to the	De Äarplän fluach jrod nom Sieden. (The airplane was then flying to the south.)
omet - om daut - n - around the	De Siedlasch musten omet deepe Wota gonon. (The settlers had to go around the deep water.)
oppe - opp de - f - on the	Oppe Stap jeftet nu väle Heischrakjen. (On the field there now are many grasshoppers.)
oppet - opp daut - n - on the	Wonen Biebasch em Wota ooda oppet Launt? (Do beavers live in the water or on land?)
romet - rom daut - n - around the	De Grupp saut romet Fia un sunk Leeda. (The group sat around the fire singing songs.)
toom - to däm; fa däm - m - to the; at the	Fua de Famielje toom Piknick? (Did the family drive to the picnic?)
unjre - unja de - f - under the	De Jiezhaults vestuak sien Jelt unjre Madrauz. (The miser hid his money under the mattress.)
ute - ut de - f - out of the	Ute Millione komen blooss weinje jreenuagje. (Out of millions come a few with green eyes.)
veret - ver daut - n - before the	De Spälasch wieren narwees veret Spell. (The players were nervous before the game.)
verhää - before that	Verhää wieren see foaken hungrich jewäsen. (Before they had often been hungry.)
vere - ver de - f - before the	Kjeen Rana saul vere Tiet looss saten! (No runner leaves before time!)
vom - von däm, von daut - m, n - from the	Vom Holthus toom Paulauust en een Joa! (From a log cabin to a palace in one year!)
vonne - von de - f - from the	Vonne Beatles hieet maun nich mea. (One no longer hears of the Beatles.)

Vocabulary 10

aunranen / come running	ennen into enwoaren realize	Metz f cap musten had to	switschen switch trigj back
Aupel m apple	finjen find	nerkjen tease	trigjjäwen return
äwa over	froagen ask	one without	ver before
Äwarauschunk f / surprise	hinja behind	ontofräd unhappy	wajchfoaren leave
bedanken thank	holen hold	schaftich friendly	waussen grow
	Huarn f horn	schemma twilight	weiflen wave

biesied beside	kaum came	schmieten throw	weschen wipe
bieten bite	kjliene small	schmustren smile	wiesen point
Bietsels n pieces	kjrieen receive	sieekjen seek	woascht will
blosen honk	krakjt neat	Sonn f sun	Wutt anger
boaft uncovered	krupen creep	Stia n steering wheel	Zerremonie f /
drooen threaten	loten allow	Stich m sun stroke	ceremony
Enjin n engine	Meiw f sleeve	strikjen caress	

Text 10 - Koop siene Metz¹⁰

Bua siene Wutt woss jrata aus Wiens un Toews schmustaden, un hee wees nu no Koop sienem boaften Kopp. Woascht du nich Sonnestich kjrieen one diene Metz? fruach hee. Koop strikjt sien Kopp un wort en daut siene Metz wajch wia. De Maun haud dee nich trigj jejäft! Koop wia sea ontofräd, un säd daut hee one Metz nich foaren wudd.

Bua säd daut see nich Tiet hauden de Metz to sieekjen; see musten en de Nordkolonie verem Schemma sennen. Hee säd Koop daut dän Maun hauden see woll jenerkjt äwa de Metz, un hee haud dee wajchjeschmäten. Bua wees no de Koa, oba Koop wull nich ennen. Bua kroop nu hinjrem Stia un switscht dän Enjin aun, un drood Koop hia to loten.

Krakjt nu kaum eene kjliene Mejal aunjerant un hilt ver de Koa stell. Bua switscht dän Enjin auf un blodd de Huarn. De Mejal rand no Koop un gauf am siene Metz. Koop bedankt sikj un kroop nu biesied Bua enne Koa. De Mejal weifeld schaftich aus de Koa wajchfua. To siene Äwarauschunk funk Koop een Aupel en siene Metz. Met groote Zerremonie wescht hee däm Aupel met siene Meiw auf, un dan beet groote Bietsels auf.

¹⁰Mysteries in Cuauhtémoc – www.plautdietsch-copre.ca

Exercise 10.1

Answer briefly in English.

1. Why is the use of prepositions in MLG simpler than in HG?
2. Which articles are used for the masculine, feminine, and neuter nouns in prepositional phrases?
3. What case of the masculine and feminine pronouns appears in prepositional phrases?
4. Which of the following words are not MLG contractions; beam, aunt, mette, utah, batet, benares?
5. Which noun would take **dän** after a preposition; Aupel, Bietsels, Enjin, Huarn, Kopp, Meiw, Mejal, Metz?

Exercise 10.2

Answer the following questions about Text 10 briefly in MLG.

1. What is a likely prerequisite for getting sunstroke, according to Bua?
2. Why did Bua want to drive away, and why did Koop refuse to get in the car?
3. What did the little girl bring to Koop?
4. What did Koop do before starting to eat?

11. CONJUNCTIONS AND EXCLAMATIONS (Binjwheed un Utdrikj)

A. Conjunctions

Words that connect together other words are referred to as **conjunctions**. There are three types: coordinating subordinations, subordinating subordinations, and conjunctive adverbs. A list of common conjunctions is given in Appendix A. A conjunction, in particular, serves to connect together a sentence, which contains more than one clause. In English the linking words most often used are ‘and’, ‘but’, ‘or’, ‘because’ and ‘that’. The corresponding MLG words are **un**, **oba**, **ooda**, **wiels**, and **daut**. Examples for sentences with two clauses are:

clause 1	conjunction	clause 2
Ana jeit no School, (Anna goes to school,	un and	Peeta schauft Tus. Peter works at home.)
See sent aul fief Joa befriet, (They are already married five years,	oba but	(see) haben blooss een Kjint. (they) have only one child.)
Kaust du nu noch lenja bliewen, (Can you stay longer	ooda or	motst du no Hus gonen? must you go home?)
Hee es nich jekomen, (He hasn't come	wiels because	hee oppsorjen must. he had to do the chores.)
De Elren velangden, (The parents required	daut that	de Kjinja tiedich Tus wieren. the children be home early.)

B. Types of conjunctions

In the above sentences, the linked clauses are of different types. One sort of clause is the **main** clause that can exist independently in a sentence. Another sort is the **subordinate** clause, which depends on the main clause. Because the linked clauses are of different types, the conjunction types are also different.

Co-ordinating conjunctions connect two main clauses, in which a change is not required in the normal word order, e.g. sentences 1-4 above. Examples of co-ordinating conjunctions in MLG are: **un**, **oba**, **ooda**, **wiels**, **sonda** (and, but, or, because, but (following a negative)).

Subordinating conjunctions join a main clause with a subordinate clause and send the verb to the end of the subordinate clause, e.g., sentences 4-5 above. Examples of subordinating conjunctions in MLG are: **daut**, **oppwool**, **obzwoasch**, **wiels**, **wääjens**, **aus**, **wan**, **opp**, **nodäm**, **wäärent** (that, although, although, because, because, as, when, if, after, during.)

C. Co-ordinating conjunctions

un - and. This is used if the second clause adds information to the first one.

Ana jeit no School **un** Peeta schauft Tus. (Anna goes to school, and Peter works at home.)

If the subject is the same in the two clauses, it need not be repeated.

Ana jeit no School un (see) kjaft lota en. (Anna goes to school and (she) later goes shopping.)

oba - but. This is used if the second clause has contrasting information relative to the first.

Ekj wudd jieren twee Schaklitz äten, **oba** daut es nich jesunt.

(I would gladly eat two chocolates, but that isn't good for my health.)

ooda - or. This is used if the second clause expresses an alternative.

Du kaust twee Doag ensetten, **ooda** (du kaust) eene Strof von twintich Dola tolen.

(You can sit two days in jail, or (you can) pay a fine of twenty dollars.)

wiels - because. This is used to explain the reason for the first clause.

De Kjinja durwen vël Eisskriem äten, **wiels** daut wia sea heet.

(The children were allowed to feast on ice cream, because it was very hot.)

sonda - instead. This is used under the conditions of **ooda**, but after a negative main clause.

Jeff mie kjeene Kjoaschen, **sonda** lot mie eene Arbus utläsen.

(Don't give me cherries, instead let me pick out a watermelon.)

D. Subordinating conjunctions

In the clause following these conjunctions, the verb in MLG is always at the end.

daut - that. This is used after verbs such as jleewen, meenen, denkjen, sajen, berechten (believe, consider, think, say, report).

Jleewst du **daut** et näakjste Wäakj schnieen woat? (Do you think it will snow next week?)

De Bootschofta säd **daut** Fräd ommäajlich wia. (The Ambassador said that peace was impossible.)

oppwool, obzwoasch - although. This is used to qualify the statement of the main clause.

Wie haben vël beseenen, **oppwool** daut goanich billich wia.

(We did a lot of sightseeing, although it was by no means inexpensive.)

wiels, wäajens - because, as. This is used to explain the first clause.

Wie kaumen lot aun, **wiels** wie ut Gasolien jerant wieren. (We came late, as we ran out of gas.)

Ekj fua nich nom Tänendokta, wäajens ekj Schis haud. (I didn't go to the dentist, as I was afraid.)

aus - when, as. This refers to another event occurring at the same time.

Ekj schleep jrod, **aus** the Ieedbäben kaum. (I was sleeping when the earthquake struck.)

wan - if, when.

Wan die daut goot es, dan foa wie morjen auf. (If you agree, then we'll leave tomorrow.)
Hee es lostich, **wan** de Sonn schient. (He is happy when the sun shines.)

opp - whether.

Hee twieweld sea **opp** see jo sajen wudd. (He was in great doubt whether she would say yes.)

nodäm - following, after.

Aules jinkj goot **nodäm** hee sikj entschulcht haud. (All went well after he had apologized.)

wäarent - during, while.

De Hunt juld **wäarent** de Mon schiend. (The dog howled while the moon shone.)

E. Two-verb predicate in a subordinate clause

If a subordinate clause contains two verbs, in MLG the finite verb (which is conjugated) moves to the end. The finite verb is usually a modal or auxiliary verb.

De Kjinja sent auleen Tus, wiels de Elren vereist **sent**.

(The children are home alone because the parents are vacationing.)

F. Reversed order of clauses

If the subordinate clause in MLG begins the sentence, then the finite verb of the subordinate clause goes to the end of its clause, and the finite verb of the main clause goes to the front of its clause. This is in contrast with the verb order when the main clause is first.

Wiels hee stoakj es, fercht am aulemaun. (Because he is strong, he is feared by everybody.)

Aulemaun fercht am, **wiels** hee stoakj es. (Everybody fears him, because he is strong.)

G. Use of conjunctions in phrases

Some conjunctions may also be used in phrases. Some examples follow:

aus - 1- as,	Hee es groot aus een Boa.	He is big as a bear.
2- except	Ekj kjeep aule aus dän jreenen.	I'll buy all except the green one.
ei wan - what if	Ei wan hee nich kjemt?	What if he doesn't show up?
ooda - or	Kjeep de Chev ooda dän Ford.	Buy the Chev or the Ford.
un - and	See koft Apel un Aupelsienen.	She bought apples and oranges.
wäajens - because	Hee foat nich wäajens de Jefoa.	He doesn't drive because of the danger.

H. Exclamations

ach - oh	Ach , jeff mie noch eene Schnäd! (Oh, give me another slice!)
audee - goodbye	Audee , opp wadaseenen, bliew jesunt! (Good bye, so long, stay well!)
bitscheen - you're welcome	Dankscheen! Bitscheen ! (Thank-you! You're welcome!)
entwäda ... ooda - either ... or	Entwäda dien Jelt, ooda dien Läwen! (Either your money, or your life!)
fuaz oppe Städ - right away	Roop de Fiawäa, fuaz oppe Städ ! (Call the fire department, right away!)
fujj - phooey!	Fujj , schmiet daut Dinkj wajch! (Phooey, get rid of that thing!)
goondach - hello; good day	Goondach , woo jeit et junt? (Good day, how are you doing?)
Hach hieet - listen to that	Hach hieet , Santa es aul en Winnipeg! (Listen to that, Santa is already in Winnipeg!)
halemass - Holy Moses	Halemass , de Noba haft sien Grauss jeschnäden! (Holy Moses, the neighbor mowed his lawn!)
haregoms - darn, wow	Haregoms , daut Kaulf haft twee Kjap! (Wow, the calf has two heads!)
Heea - dear	Heea du, vondoag mucht ekj Wrenikje äten! (Dear, today I would like to eat dumplings!)
hotsbädel - golly	Hotsbädel , ekj hab zemorjes aule Arbuse vekoft! (Golly, I sold all the watermelons in the morning.)
hotsdrot - golly	Hotsdrot , doa kjemt de Noba met onse Koo. (Golly, there comes the neighbor with our cow.)
leewentiet - for gosh sakes	Leewentiet , trakj de Steewle bie de Däa ut! (For gosh sakes, take your boots off at the door!)
meijeen - dear me, Oh my God	Meijeen , ekj hab däm Owen nich aufjedreit! (Dear me, I forgot to turn off the oven!)
mol hankome - come vist	Wie sent Sindachs Tus, mol hankomen ! (We are home Sundays, come and visit some time!)
na hieet - would you believe	Na hieet , vondoag saul de Kjennijin hia vebie komen! (Would you believe, the Queen will pass here today!)
na ja - oh well	Na ja , nu mott wie Strof betolen. (Oh well, now we must pay a fine.)
na nu - how come	Na nu , wuarom ritt de Maun, un de Fru jeit tofoot? (How come, the man is riding and the woman walking?)
na oba - oh dear	Na oba , du hast aul wada veschiedne Stremp aun! (Oh dear, you're wearing different socks again!)

schisjat - schucks	Schisjat , ekj wull Schaklitz Eisskriem, nich Vanilla. (Shucks, I wanted chocolate ice cream, not vanilla.)
schoons - really!; already?	Haben see schoons aule Kjieej jemolkjen? (Have they milked all the cows already?)
stuckats – let me be!	Stuckats , ekj well kjeen Tuxedo kjeepen! (Let me be, I don't want to buy a tuxedo!)
wäaweet - who knows	Wäaweet , jeft et nu Kjrigh ooda Fräd? (Who knows, will there be war or peace?)

Vocabulary 11

aundasch other	droagen carry	Nomeddach m /	soowaut similar
äwrich to spare	ersaz substitute	afternoon	Strämel n band
bejriepen understand	funzen aun began	Noot f need	stritzen gush out
beskje a little	Gorjel m throat	nuscht nothing	Toarauss m bog
bespretzt splattered	heemlich secretly	Opfa n sacrifice	Uasoak f reason
beuagen inspect	heet hot	oppjäwen surrender	utem out of
biem by the	jebläwen remained	Plak f stain	väären in front
Blott n mud	jesäajent blessed	Puddel m puddle	Vedakj n hood
buten outside	Joaren n years	Reemen m belt	verieescht at first
Daump steam	Kjeelunk f cooling	rut out	vesieekjen try
derchrosen /	Kjleet n dress	Schea f scissors	weeteloten inform
force through	kloaren experiment	Schlips m tie	wiels because
diesta dark	Moota m motor	schneiw sharply	Zeich n cloth
doarut from that	needich necessary	schnieden cut	Zopp f pigtail
dreien turn	nie new	schoowen pushed	

Text 11 - Winta sien Schlips¹¹

Homez vesocht derch dän Puddel to rosen, oba hee bleef fuaz em Toarauss stääkjen. Wiels an nuscht aundasch äwrich bleef, schoowen Winta un Emily. Aus see entlich utem Blott buten wieren, wia Emily äa Kjleet gauns met Blottplaken bespretzt.

De Nomeddachsonn wia noch emma heet un väären biem Moota stritst de Daump rut. Homez un Winta muaken väären de Vedakj op un funzen aun met däm Moota to kloaren. See funzen uk fuaz de Uasoak; de Kjeelungsreemen wia wajch! See brukten een nieen Reemen, oba wua wia dee hia to finjen?

Homez säd, daut see een langet Strämel Zeich ooda soowaut brukten aus Nootersaz un funk een bät heemlich schneiw aun Winta sien Schlips to beuagen. Winta druach emma een Schlips, un hee kijkt aul een beskje diesta, aus hee bejreep, daut een Schlipsopfa needich sennen wudd. Winta leet weeten, daut hee äwa de Joare väl jesäajent worden wia, oba daut hee mau dän eenen Schlips haud, un daut wia dee om sien Gorjel. Oba hee gauf dän nu opp. Emily haud uk aul eene Schea to Haunt un sneet dän Schlips en lange Strämels. Dan wort doarut eene Zopp jedreit, un opp verieescht jinkj daut met däm Schlipsreemen.

¹¹*Mysteries in the Chaco* – www.plautdietsch-copre.ca

Exercise 11.1

Answer briefly in English.

1. What is the function of a conjunction in a sentence?
2. What are the most common linking words connecting clauses together?
3. Distinguish between co-ordinating and subordinating conjunctions.
4. Describe the position of the verbs in an English sentence containing a main and a subordinate clause.
5. Answer question 4 for an MLG sentence.
6. Give some examples of co-ordinating and subordinating conjunctions.
7. Describe the word order in English and MLG interrogative sentences.
8. What is the case of a noun which is part of a phrase started by a conjunction?
9. Explain why in the BAM version of example 3 of section A the verb is at the end of clause 2.
10. What would be the proper reply to the statement “Dankscheen, audee”?

Exercise 11.2

Answer the following questions about Text 11 briefly in MLG.

1. What did Emily and Winta not like about getting stuck in the mud?
2. What happened to the car after they had cleared the muddy stretch?
3. What car accessory was needed to allow for normal driving?
4. How did the threesome fabricate a temporary substitute for the missing item?

12. VERBS - 3

A. Impersonal verbs

In MLG, impersonal verbs take **et** or **daut** as the subject. They exist only in the 3rd person singular form.

Daut schniet. (It's snowing).

Enne Boaj räajent et. (It's raining in the mountains).

Daut passieet foaken. (That happens often).

B. Reflexive verbs

If the subject is acting on itself, then the verb of the sentence is called a **reflexive verb**. In MLG, a reflexive pronoun is customarily used as the object of the sentence. If an auxiliary verb is required, **haben** is used.

Wie saten ons dol. (We sit down.)

See koakten sikj eene scheene Moltiet. (They cooked themselves a nice meal.)

De Maun haft sikj em Foot jeschoten. (The man shot himself in the foot.)

C. Moods of verbs

The **indicative mood** is a grammatical mood in which a statement is made or a question is asked. This mood is commonly used to state facts.

De Kjiej weiden en daut jreene Graus. (The cows are grazing on the green grass.)

De Sonn jeit zemorjes opp. (The sun rises in the morning.)

Daut schnied fa vieetich Doag. (It snowed for forty days.)

The **imperative mood** is a grammatical mood in which a command or request is made. It is addressed to **du** (informal singular), **jie** (informal plural) or **See** (formal, singular or plural). The imperative for the informal singular is usually formed from the **stem** of the verb, the informal plural from the **stem+t** or stem+et, and the formal from the **stem +en**.

	gonen	komen	stonen	setten
du	Go fuaz!	Komm nu!	Sto stell!	Sat die han!
jie	Got fuaz!	Komt nu!	Stot stell!	Sat junt han!
See	Gonen See fuaz!	Komen See nu!	Stonen See stell!	Setten See sikj han!
you	Go at once!	Come now!	Stand still!	Please be seated!

The **conditional mood** is a grammatical mood dealing with an uncertain event. The mood may be invoked in MLG through use of the word **wan** (if). If a wish, suggestion or desire is expressed it may be invoked through use of the verb **wudden**, the conditional form of **woaren**; (ekj wudd, du wurscht, hee / see / daut wudd, wie / jie / see wudden). Alternatively, other verbs such as **hopen**, **wenschen**, **wellen** may be used, or the **word order** of the sentence may be **inverted**.

Wan et räajent, well wie nich Tennis spälen. (If it rains, we don't want to play tennis.)
 Wia de Himmel to Nacht witt, kunn wie kjeene Stierns seenen.
 (If the sky were white at night, we could see no stars.)
 Ekj hop, daut et boolt opphieet to stiemen, un daut wie no Hus finjen kjennen.
 (I hope that the blizzard ends soon, and that we can find our way home.)
 Wan du daut fa weinja vekjeepen wurscht, wudd wie daut veleicht kjeepen.
 (If you were to sell it for less, we might buy it.)

D. Interrogative sentences

To form an interrogative sentence in MLG, an **interrogative** is placed first, followed by a **predicate**, and then the **subject**. The interrogative may be a word or phrase, a pronoun, adjective, or adverb, etc.

Wan jeist du no School? (When will you go to school?)
 Wäa es daut? (Who is that?) Woone sent fa mie? (Which ones are for me?)
 Waut fa Jegrusels komen nu noch? (What kind of ghastly things are still to come?)

E. Passive voice

When the subject in a sentence performs an action then the verb is said to be in the **active voice**. This form is used in most sentences.

De Polizist jript dän Deef. (The cop catches the thief.)
 Daut Pieet rant stoakja aus de Maun. (The horse runs faster than the man.)

When the action is performed on the subject of the sentence, then the verb is in the **passive voice**. To form the passive voice in MLG, use is made of the auxiliary verb **woaren** (to become) and the **past participle**. The tense of the auxiliary verb indicates the time of the action, whereas the past participle describes the action.

In the **indicative** mood, the passive voice has the same **tenses** as the active voice.

pres	De Eia woaren jekoakt.	The eggs are being cooked.
past	De Eia worden jekoakt.	The eggs were being cooked.
fut	De Eia woaren jekoakt woaren.	The eggs will be cooked.
pres perf	De Eia sent jekoakt worden.	The eggs have been cooked.
past perf	De Eia wieren jekoakt worden.	The eggs had been cooked.
fut perf	De Eia woaren jekoakt worden sennen.	The eggs will have been cooked.

In the **conditional mood**, the passive voice arises only in the present and past tenses.

pres	Wudden de Eia jekoakt woaren, ...	Should the eggs be cooked, ...
past	Wudden de Eia jekoakt woaren sennen, ...	Should the eggs have been cooked, ...

F. Transitive and intransitive verbs

These verbs were introduced in Chapter 9. A verb in a sentence containing one or more objects is called a **transitive verb**.

De Benjel bruak daut Fensta. (The urchin broke the window.)

A verb in a sentence that contains no object is an **intransitive verb**.

Hee **jeit** auleen. (He walks alone.)

G. Tenses of verbs - Form of six tenses

In MLG, there are three primary tenses and three perfect tenses. The present (**pres**) and **past** tenses were covered in Chapter 9. The four other tenses, the future and three perfect tenses, are studied further in this chapter. The future tense covers events which have not yet taken place, while the three past tenses relate to events which occurred prior to the time of observation.

The future (**fut**) tense is formed by taking the conjugated form in the present tense of **woaren** + the **infinitive**.

The present perfect (**pres perf**) and past perfect (**past perf**) tenses are formed by taking the conjugated form of an **auxiliary verb** in the present or past tense + the **past participle**. The auxiliary **haben** is used mostly with **transitive** verbs, but also with intransitive verbs for which a second auxiliary verb, **sennen**, does not apply. The second auxiliary **sennen** is used with **intransitive** verbs when there is motion, change, or when **sennen** or **bliewen** are involved.

The future perfect (**fut perf**) tense is formed by taking the conjugated form in the present tense of **woaren** + the **past participle** + the **infinitive** of one of the two auxiliary verbs.

In the table below, the six tenses are given in English and MLG for the intransitive verb (with motion) **gonen** (go) in the 1st person singular, for the transitive verb **jäwen** (give) in the 3rd person singular, and in MLG for the transitive verb **jleewen** (believe) in the 1st person plural.

	to go	gonen	to give	jäwen	jleewen
	(I)	(ekj)	(he, she)	(hee, see)	(wie)
pres	go	go	gives	jeft	jleewen
past	went	jinkj	gave	jeef (gauf)	jleewden
fut	will go	woa gonen	will give	woat jäwen	woaren jleewen
pres perf	have gone	sie jegonen	has given	haft jejäft	haben jejeleeft
past perf	had gone	wia jegonen	had given	haud jejäft	hauden jejeleeft
fut perf	will have	woa jegonen	will have	woat jejäft	woaren jejeleeft
	gone	sennen	given	haben	haben

Ekj **go** vondoag nom Stua, **jinkj** jistren no School, un **woa** lota no miene Taunte **gonen**. (I am going to the store today, went to school yesterday, and will go to my aunt later.)

See **haft** de Kjinja de latste Wäakj Kende **jejäft**, **haud** de latste Moonat Schaklitz **jejäft**, un **woat** dee aum enj Joa, aule mäajliche Scheens **jejäft haben**.

(She has given (gave) the children candy last week, had given them chocolates last month, and by the end of the year, will have given them all possible sweets.)

The conjugation in the future and perfect tenses for the **intransitive** verb **gonen** (sennen) is:

	fut	pres perf	past perf	fut perf
ekj	woa gonen	sie jegonen	wia jegonen	woa jegonen sennen
du	woascht gonen	best jegonen	wieescht jegonen	woascht jegonen sennen
hee, see, daut	woat gonen	es jegonen	wia jegonen	woat jegonen sennen
wie, jie, see	woaren gonen	sent jegonen	wieren jegonen	woaren jegonen sennen

The conjugation in the future and perfect tenses for the **transitive** verb **jäwen** (haben) is:

	fut	pres perf	past perf	fut perf
ekj	woa jäwen	hab jejäft	haud jejäft	woa jejäft haben
du	woascht jäwen	hast jejäft	hautst jejäft	woascht jejäft haben
hee, see, daut	woat jäwen	haft jejäft	haud jejäft	woat jejäft haben
wie, jie, see	woaren jäwen	haben jejäft	hauden jejäft	woaren jejäft haben

Ana **woat** äare Sesta een Poa Uarinj **jäwen**. (Anna will give her sister a pair of earrings.)

Äare Sesta **haft** Ana foaken Kjeleeda **jejäft**. (Her sister has often given Anna clothes.)

Latstet Joa **haud** Ana äa een Foon **jejäft**. (Last year Anna had given her a phone.)

Wää **woat** daut mieeschte **jejäft haben**? (Who will have given the most?)

H. Combinations of prefix - verb

The meaning of a verb can be altered by combining it with a prefix. Shades of meaning can thus be obtained, that are not possible with the stem verb alone. Common prefixes used for this purpose include: **auf-**, **aun-**, **äwa-**, **be-**, **en-**, **je-**, **met-**, **om-**, **rut-**, **ve-**, **wajch-**, etc.

The combination of prefix and stem verb may be **inseparable** or **separable**. In MLG, in the instance of separable combinations, the prefix and verb are interchanged in the **infinitive** and **past participle** of the verb. The conjugation of the combination follows that of the stem in both the separable and inseparable instances.

I. Inseparable prefix

The prefix-verb combination is kept intact as a single word in all possible forms. The **inseparable prefixes** in MLG are **be-**, **er-**, and **ve-**.

E.g., **vejeeten**, **vejitt**, **vegoot**, **vegoten**; from **ve-** + **jeeten**.

See well aul daut Wien **vejeeten**. (infinitive form - combined)

(She wants to pour out all the wine.)

See **vejitt** de Malkj. (She is spilling the milk.) (indicative form - combined)

J. Separable prefix

The prefix may be detached from the verb in some forms of the verb.

E.g., äwafoaren, foat äwa, fua äwa, äwajefoaren; from **äwa-** + **foaren**.

Hee es däm Riefa bie de niee Brigj **äwajefoaren**. (past participle - combined)
(He drove over the river by the new bridge.)

Hee **foat** de Schlang **äwa**. (He drives over the snake.) (separated)

K. Additional examples of prefix - verb combinations

auf- + tolen: Aum enj Moonat, mott ekj miene Schulden **auftolen**.
(At the end of the month, I must pay my bills.)

aun- + trakjen: Daut Mäakje **trakjt** sikj een nieet Poltoo **aun**.
(The girl is putting on a new coat.)

be- + haundlen: See haft am schljacht **behandelt**.
(She treated him badly.)

en- + setten: Hee must dree Moonaten **ensetten**.
(He was jailed for three months.)

om- + wakjslen: Aule Kjleeda muste **omjewakjselt** woaren.
(All clothes had to be exchanged.)

rut- + loten: Dee **loten** dän Hunt zemorjes **rut**.
(In the morning, they let the dog out.)

Text 12 - Kutsch no Rotterdam¹²

Homez haud de Kutsch no Rotterdam en Ijsselmonde bestääjen. Daut wia em loten Hoafst, met kolden Rääjen un een stormja Wint, un doawääjen freid hee sikj, daut hee enne Kutsch bennen setten wudd. Hee haud Meddsomma 1538 een eenjoaschet Oppdrach en Rotterdam aunjenomen. Dise Strakj haud hee verhäa trigijeljacht, un hee wia reed, met de Schwierickjeiten von de Foat foadich to woaren.

Vondoag wia hee äwarauscht, twee Frulied enne Kutsch to seenen, dee am jääjenäwa sauten. Daut see Odeldaumen wieren, wia an lenjdhan autoseenen, un Homez wundad sikj, wuarom see dise Transportoat jewält hauden. De Kutsch wia mau afens hinjawääjes aus dee stuckad, un Homez sikj met een aundren Passazhia doabie nauntroff. Aus dee aundra am strenj vemond, sach Homez daut dis groffa Kjjeedel eene jäle Noaw aum Stiern haud. Homez bekjijkt nu de jinjre Fru ver am, dee de Uagen too haud, un eene erjriependen Melodie somd.

Aus de Kutsch en Rotterdam nom Reiseziel aunkaum, hoof de junge Fru een Korf opp un naum eene Zeichdakj rauf. Däm Homez to de Äwarauschunk sach hee een Kjint em Korf, daut de gaunse Reis lang stell jeschloopen haud. Homez spood sikj, un wia uk boolt en sien Kwatia enne Staut aunjekomen.

¹²*Mysteries of the Dutch Anabaptists* – www.plautdietsch-copre.ca

Vocabulary 12

afens barely	Foat f ride	Meddsomma m /	sommen hum
aunkomen arrive	freien rejoice	mid summer	Stiern m tempel
aunnämen accept	gaunse entire	Mellodie f melody	stormja stormy
aunseenen look at	groffa rough	nauntrafen jolt	Strakj f stretch
bekjikjen inspect	häwen lift	Noaw f scar	strenj stern
bestieen board	hinjawäajes /	Oat f sort	stukren bounce
boolt soon	underway	Odel m aristocrat	Transport m transport
Daumen f ladies	Hoafst m autumn	Oppdrach m /	trigjlajen put back
doabie thereby	jäajenäwa across	assignment	vemonen scold
doawäajen because	jäl yellow	Passazhia m passenger	verhää before
eenjoasch one-year	Kjieedel m fellow	Reis f trip	vondoag today
erjriepende /	Kutsch f coach	schloopen sleep	wälen select
arresting	Kwatia n quarters	Schwierichkjeit f /	wundren wonder
foadich woaren /	lenjdhan along	difficulty	Ziel m destination
manage	mau only	sikj spooden hurry	

Exercise 12.1

Answer briefly in English.

1. What is a major characteristic of impersonal verbs?
2. Which auxiliary verb is used in MLG in forming a sentence containing a reflexive verb?
3. What are characteristic MLG words launching the conditional mood?
4. What are the rules for forming the imperative for the informal singular and plural, and for the formal?
5. In MLG, what is the word order in a typical interrogative sentence?
6. Under what condition is a sentence in the passive voice?
7. Explain how the six tenses for a typical verb are formed in the indicative in the passive voice.
8. In which two tenses will the passive voice arise in the conditional mood in MLG?
9. Distinguish between transitive and intransitive verbs.
10. Describe how the present perfect, past perfect, and future perfect tenses are formed in MLG.
11. Which are the inseparable verb prefixes in MLG?
12. For separable verbs, what is the rule for the placement of the component parts?

Exercise 12.2

Answer the following questions about Text 12 briefly in MLG.

1. Why was Homez happy to find a seat inside the stagecoach?
2. Had Homez traveled on the route from Ijsselmonde to Rotterdam before?
3. What surprised Homez on entering the coach?
4. What unpleasantness occurred just after the coach set out?
5. Describe the actions in the coach of the younger woman facing Homez.
6. What surprised Homez on leaving the coach?

13. SENTENCE STRUCTURE (Sauz Ordunuk)

The study of word order in MLG sentences is a difficult exercise for English speaking students. In MLG, the word order is the same as in English only for the most basic of sentences. For sentences of everyday use in adult speech and writing, the word order is often different. To enable authentic conversation or writing in MLG, this word order must be learned. Some details of grammar are presented first to facilitate understanding of the conventions that are in use.

A. Composition of a multi-clause sentence

The simplest sentence consists of a noun and verb (subject and predicate): Tom went. The term predicate herein will be considered to include the verb and its modifiers. A longer sentence may contain also an indirect and direct object: Tom brought Mary chocolates. Subject, predicate, indirect object, direct object.

A more detailed sentence will contain additional words within such four main parts : (The boys) (gladly brought) (three girls) (hot chocolate). (Subject), (predicate), (indirect object), (direct object); or in greater detail: (Article, noun), (adverb, verb), (adjective, noun), (adjective, noun).

The above example is a single clause sentence. Two or multi-clause sentences require additional consideration:

The boys gladly brought three girls hot chocolate, **after** they had finished dinner.

The structure of this two-clause sentence is: Clause 1(main clause), conjunction, clause 2 (dependent clause), in which **after** is the conjunction. Clause 1 contains [(subject), (predicate), (indirect object), (direct object)], and clause 2 [(subject), (predicate), (object)].

The word order in the translation of the examples above to MLG will now be considered.

Tom jinkj. (Tom went.)

Tom brocht Mariechen Schaklitz. (Tom brought Mary chocolates.)

De Junges brochten dree Mäakjes wellich heetet Schaklitz.

(The boys gladly brought three girls hot chocolate.)

De Junges brochten dree Mäakjes wellich heetet Schaklitz, **nodäm** see Owentkost jejäten hauden.

(The boys gladly brought three girls hot chocolate, after they had eaten dinner.)

A major difference in word order in the last sentence of the MLG arises in the second clause. The verbs are shifted to the end of the clause, with the auxiliary word at the very end. A further consideration of grammar is needed to explain this difference.

B. Positioning of articles, adjectives, adverbs and prepositions in simple English clauses

English sentences or clauses of even moderate complexity contain articles, adjectives, prepositions and adverbs. The articles modify nouns and generally precede them. Adjectives also modify nouns and also generally precede them. Adverbs modify verbs and may often precede them. In more complex sentences, adverbs may also modify adjectives or other adverbs. Prepositions generally precede nouns or pronouns and are used to indicate the relation to other parts of the sentence.

C. Two and multi-word verb forms

The term “verb forms” is used here to refer to the combination of verbs without modifiers. In the indicative in English and MLG, the verb forms may consist of one, two or three words:

one word	- Ekj kjeep Koffe. (I buy coffee.)	pres
	- Ekj koft Koffe. (I bought coffee.)	past
two words	- Ekj woa Koffe kjeepen . (I will buy coffee.)	fut
	- Ekj hab Koffe jekoft . (I have bought coffee.)	pres perf
	- Ekj haud Koffe jekoft . (I had bought coffee.)	past perf
three words	- Ekj woa Koffe jekoft haben . (I will have bought coffee.)	fut perf

The word order is seen to be the same in the two languages for a one-word verb form. This occurs in the present and past tenses.

For the **future**, **present perfect** and **past perfect** tenses, an auxiliary verb is used with the infinitive or past participle, requiring a two-word verb form. In MLG, the two words are split up with the auxiliary verb in the usual second position of the sentence and the infinitive or participle at the end of the clause/sentence. In English, the two verb parts remain together in the usual position after the subject, with the auxiliary preceding the infinitive or participle. For the **future perfect** in MLG, the auxiliary verb indicating the future appears first, while the auxiliary indicating the past and the past participle appear at the end of the clause/sentence, in inverted order.

D. The effect of the use of modal verbs

With the use of auxiliary verbs (jankren, kjennen, mäajen, motten, schienen, sellen, etc.), as well as haben, sennen, and woaren, two, three and four-word verb forms arise.

two	- Ekj kaun Koffe kjeepen . (I am able to buy coffee.)	pres
	- Ekj kunn Koffe kjeepen . (I was able to buy coffee.)	past
three	- Ekj woa Koffe kjeepen kjennen . (I will be able to buy coffee.)	fut
	- Ekj hab Koffe kjeepen jekunt . (I have been able to buy coffee.)	pres perf
	- Ekj haud Koffe kjeepen jekunt . (I had been able to buy coffee.)	past perf
four	- Ekj woa Koffe kjeepen jekunt haben . (I will have been able to buy coffee.)	fut perf

Further examples of the word order for multi-word verb forms are given in Appendix B.

E. Shift of verb location

The normal location of a verb in a MLG sentence is in the second position. For **interrogative** sentences, the word order in MLG generally follows the pattern used in English. Without the use of an interrogative pronoun, the verb is shifted to the beginning of the sentence. When an interrogative pronoun is used, the verb does not shift, as the pronoun is in the first position.

Hast du kjeen Beisikjel? (Don't you have a bicycle?) Verb, noun/pronoun, object.
Wää **es** de jratsta? (Who is the greatest?) Interrogative pronoun, verb, object.

For **imperative sentences**, MLG follows the English with the verb at the beginning.

Go fuaz nohus! (Go home at once!)
Befrie die morjen zemorjes! (Get married tomorrow in the morning!)

For **negative sentences**, MLG follows the English, with the negative usually preceding the word it modifies, but exceptions do arise.

Wan Hein **nich** aun siene Oabeit denkt, dan sent siene Jedanken met siene Brut.
(When Henry isn't thinking of his work, then his thoughts are with his bride.)
Ekj mach ruchloose Films **nich**. (I don't care for violent movies.)

If the **inverted word order** is used, with the verb preceding the subject in the clause, the **-en** ending of the verb for the plural **wie**, **jie** form is dropped, and a root-only form is used.

Wan et räajent, bliew wie Tus. (If it rains, we'll stay home.)

F. Sentences with main and dependent clauses

Ekj wist, **daut** see de jratste wia. (I knew that she was the greatest.)

[Ekj wist] is the main clause, **daut** is the conjunction, while [see de jratste wia] is the dependent clause. In the dependent clause, the conditional is used, and the verb is placed at the end in MLG.

Daut see de jratste wia, haud ekj aul ea jewist. (That she was the greatest, I had known before.)

[see dee jratste wia] is the dependent clause, while [haud ekj aul ea jewist] is the main clause. Although the dependent clause is at the beginning of the sentence, the word order is inverted. For the main clause, which is placed second in the sentence, the conjugated verb is in the first position and the past participle at the end, where it would normally be).

Daut see de jratste wia, wist aulemaun. (That she was the greatest was common knowledge.)

[Daut see dee jratste wia] is a **noun clause**, which acts as the subject in the sentence, and thus the verb is second, i.e. is not placed at the end of the sentence.

Noun clauses begin with such words as **woo, daut, waut, wautemma, wan, wua, woon, billewaut, wää, wäemma, wäm, billewäm, wuarom** (how, that, what, whatever, when, where, which, whichever, who, whoever, whom, whomever, why.)

G. Examples of three-word verb forms extracted from the literature*

Wudd hee de Mana von dise twee Frulied **jekjant haben?**
(Would he have known the husbands of these two women?)

Aum näakjsten Dach **sullen** see **friejeloten woaren.**
(The next day, they were to be freed.)

Winta sien iernstet Bemieejen **schierend** siene oppjerääjde Seel **jettoffen** to **haben.**
(Winter's earnest plea appeared to have penetrated his troubled soul.)

In the third sentence [Winta sien iernstet Bemieeje] is a noun clause, the subject of the sentence.

H. Examples of sentences with two clauses (conjunctions in bold)*

Hee freid sikj, **daut** hee enne Kutsch bennen setten kunn.
(He was relieved that he could sit inside the coach.)

Ekj fercht, **daut** see faustjenomen worden sent.
(I fear that they have been arrested.)

Marikje haben see faustjenome, **wiels** see vebaunde Leeda jesungen haud.
(Maritje has been arrested for having sung revolutionary songs.)

Homez erwänd, **daut** de Sach met Anneken jerääjelt woaren must.
(Homez mentioned that the matter of Anneken needed to be settled.)

Alberto un ekj worden benorecht, **daut** jrod een Vebrääkje begonen wort.
(Alberto and I were notified that a theft was just in progress.)

* Stories on website www.plautdietsch-copre.ca

I. General remark

A complex sentence structure is not uncommon in MLG literature, and the above treatment is not exhaustive. The complexities in MLG sentences are discussed in the manuscript of W. Cuff.

Vocabulary 13

aunholen speed up	holen fetch	Läwenskjal f /	schwammen swim
äwakjriezen cross	Holt n wood	source of income	sprinjen jump
bekjikjen observe	huaget high	ligjen lie	steeten jolt
bennen inside	hubren shiver	Lomm f boat	straum attractive
buen build	Jefoa f danger	meenen mean	Streemunk f stream
Dakjssel n cover	jenjlen rock	noloten diminisch	tiedich early
enwekjlen wrap	Jennerationen f /	omstelpen tip over	voll full
Famielje f family	generations	opprechten set upright	Werder m /
faust tight	jinjste youngest	opptoo towards	river island
Flaum f flame	kaum came	oppwoamen warm up	wonhauft resident
Flucht f flight	Kausten m box	raden save	wort became
hecha higher	Kjleeda n clothes	ragendich very	Wunda n wonder
hechret higher	Kjrebb f crib	rikje rich	
hielen cry	Kopjen m mound	Schoot f lap	

Text 13 - Huaget Wota¹³

Aus daut Wota emma hecha wort, kaum daut Läwen von de Foarma Lied en Jefoa. Eene Famielje, Jennerationen em Werder wonhauft, wia oppe Flucht von äa Heim. De Voda wia von tiedich wajch, daut Vee, äare Läwenskjal, opp hechret Launt to brinjen. Biem Tweediesta kaum hee met eene Lomm trigj om de Famielje to holen. Wan de Elren un de vea Kjinja bennen wieren, wia de Lomm ragendich voll. Aus see dan eene Streemunk äwakjriezten, stelpt de Lomm om. De Voda schwomm un recht de Lomm opp, oba kunn blooss de Mutta raden, dee de jinjste faust aunjilt.

Aus de Lomm opp een kjlienen Kopjen stad, sprungen de Elren rut. Met de kjliene Dochta oppe Schoot hubbad de Mutta wiel de Voda een Fia bud. Aus see sikj aune Flaumen oppwoamden, sagen see een kjlienen Holtkausten em Wota opp an tojejenjelt komen. Mutta meend, daut wia eene Kjrebb. Dis Kauste schwomm direkjt no an opptoo. Aus de Wint noleet, hieeden see een Kjint hielen. De Voda naum daut Kaustedakjssel auf, un doa em Kauste lach een Kjint. De Mutta bekjikjt sikj daut Kjint en straume, rikje Kjleeda enjewekjelt, un kunn äa Wunda nich loten.

¹³*Mysteries in Danzig* – www.plautdietsch-copre.ca

Exercise 13.1

Answer briefly in English.

1. Which word type presents the greatest difficulty in determining MLG word order?
2. What major difference in word order occurs in MLG sentences having a dependent clause?
3. What are the three main auxiliary verbs in MLG?

4. What is the general rule for word order in the perfect tenses for two-word verb forms?
6. In what tense(s) do the three-word verb forms appear and what is the rule for word order?
7. Which MLG tense is probably least used in association with modal verbs?
8. What is the rule for word order for interrogative and imperative sentences? (review)
9. What is the position of **nich** in negative MLG sentences?
10. What change is made in verb ending in the inverted word order involving the plural **wie/jie**?
11. Cite examples of sentences with a main and dependent clause in the Text 13.

Exercise 13.2

Answer the following questions about Text 13 briefly in MLG.

1. What was the reaction of the family to the rising water in the Werder?
2. What happened to the family as they were fleeing in the boat?
3. What attracted the parent's attention as they were warming up beside the fire?
4. What caused the mother's great wonder?

14. NUMBERS AND TIME (Nummasch un Tiet)

The everyday routine of life requires the use of numbers and convenient measures of time. This chapter presents the appropriate numerology and time terminology to navigate life in MLG.

A. Numerals (Nummasch)

	Kardinalzol		Ordinalzol		Kardinalzol
1	eent	1.	ieeshta	21	eenuntwintich
2	twee	2.	tweeda	22	tweeuntwintich
3	dree	3.	dredda	30	dartich
4	vea	4.	vieeda	40	vieetich
5	fief	5.	fefta	50	feftich
6	sas	6.	sasta	60	zastich
7	säwen	7.	säwenda	70	zäwentich
8	acht	8.	achta	80	tachtich
9	näajen	9.	näajenda	90	näajentich
10	tien	10.	tieenda	100	hundat
11	alf (alw)	11.	alfta	101	hundatuneent
12	twalf	12.	twalfta	110	hundatuntien
13	drettien	13.	drettieenda	200	twee hundat
14	vieetien	14.	vieetieenda	431	veahundateenundartich
15	feftien	15.	feftieenda	1000	dusent
16	sastien	16.	sastieenda	1001	dusent un eent
17	säwentien	17.	säwentieenda	2000	twee dusent
18	achtien	18.	achtieenda	10,000	tien dusent
19	näajentien	19.	näajentieenda	100,000	hundat dusent
20	twintich	20.	twintichsta	1,000,000	eene million

B. Fractions and decimals (Bruchdeele un Dezimol)

1/4	een vieedel	0.1	Punkt 0,1	3"	dree Zoll
1/3	een dreddel	0.12	Punkt 0,12	3°	dree Grod
1/2	een haulf	1.1	Punkt 1,1	1.5%	1 Punkt 5 Prozent
3/4	dree vieedel				

C. Daily Life (Dachdächlichet Läwen)

MorjenDe Sonn jeit opp. Wie äten Freestikj un gonen schaufen.

Meddach Wie äten Meddach wua wie schaufen, wie gonen nich nohus.

Nomeddach Wie sent wada aune Oabeit. Daut es een langa Dach.

Owentkost Wie gonen no Hus, ons hungat, un wie äten jieren Owentkost.

Owent De Sonn jeit unja un daut woat dunkel. Wie vereiwen ons.

Nacht Daut Monkje kjemt rut, oba daut es diesta un wie gonen schlophen.

Klock Tien zemorjes haud wie Koffe jedrunken. Doatoo haud wie blooss tien Minuten.

Fa daut Meddachsäten, soo rom klock Twalf, haud wie ne haulwe Stund frie.

D. Clock Time (Klockentiet)

8:30 AM	Haulf Näajen zemorjes.
9:45, 10:15	Vieedel ver Tien, vieedel no Tien.
12:00, 12 PM	Klock Twalf, Klock Twalf de Nacht.
1:30 PM	Klock Eent met 30 Minnuten nomeddach.
18:18	Klock Sas met achteen Minnuten zeowes.
19:30	Klock 7 met 30 Minnuten zeowes.
1 ½ hours	Aundathaulf Stund.

E. Days of the week (Doag vonne Wääkj)

Sindach	Sindach schauf wie nich. Zemorjes go wie to Kjoakj un Nomeddach spazia wie.
Mondach	Wie gonen trigj no de Oabeit; aules fangt wada langsam aun.
Dinjsdach	Vondoag jinkj et aul een bät bosja. Wie haben dise Wääkj noch väl to doonen.
Medwääkj	Wie sent aul enne Medd Wääkj. Wie haben et drock un sent goot em Schwunk.
Donnadach	Vondoag lot wie nuscht dral dreien. Wie bliewen ruich un schaufen bosich.
Friedach	Dankscheen leewa Gott. Vondoag es Friedach. Zeowes go wie froo no Hus.
Sinnowent	Vondoag lot mie lot schlophen! Nomeddach un owent vereiw wie ons goot.

F. Seasons (Joarestieden)

Winta	De Doag sent kort. Daut schniet foaken, un woat manchmol sea kolt.
Farjoa	Daut woat langsam woama. De Väajel sent trigj un de Bloomen blieejen.
Somma	Nu es et scheen woam, aules es jreen, un wie freien ons fa de lange Owenden.
Hoafst	De Ferien sent äwa, de Bläda faulen vonne Beem, un daut woat kjeela.

G. Months (Moonate)

Winta	Farjoa	Somma	Hoafst
Jaunewoa	Aprill	Juli	Oktooba
Feebawoa	Mei	August	Nowamba
Moaz	Juni	Septamba	Dezamba

H. Religious Holidays (Relijeese Heljedoag)

Niejoa	Daut Niejoa es jekomen. Vondoag sent de Lied Tus.
Heilje Dree Kjennichs	De 6. Jaunewoa es de latsta von de Heljedoag von Wienachten.
Paulmsindach	De Lied denkjen aune Paulmen oppe Ieed un de Enfoat en Jerusalem.
Stelle Friedach	De heilichsta Dach vom Kjoakjenjoa es vondoag un aules es stell.
Oostren	Väle Lied stonen tiedich opp, un gonen no de Aundacht biem Riefa.
Pinjsten	Dartich Doag no Oostren.
Heljeowent	Dit es de Kjinja äa froosta Dach, un see gonen tiedich schlophen.
Wienachten	Wienachten trafen sikj de Elren, Kjinja un aundre Vewaunten.
Silvesta Owent	Meddanacht sinjen de Lied een Leet un vesprääkjen fa nääkjetet Joa.

APPENDIX A - BASIC VOCABULARY

Most common words*

Verbs	Nouns	Others	Others
brinjen bring denkjen think derwen allow doonen do fieren lead	Biespel n example Dach m day Deel n deal Enj n end Faul m case	am him an them aul already aule all aulsoo therefore	kjeena no one mea more met with mie me mien my
finjen find foaren drive froagen ask gonen go haben have	Froag f question Fru f woman Grunt f reason Haunt f hand Hus n house	aun on aundra other aus as äwa over bat until	miena my one nich not nie new no to noch still
heeten be called jäwen give jleewen believe jleichen like kjennen be able to	Joa n year Jelt n money Kjint n child Launt n land Läwe n life	bie with, by blooss just, only dan then daut that de the	nu now oba but ooda or om about ons our
komen come läwen live ligjen lie loten allow, appear meenen mean	Lied m people Maun m man Mensch m person Million f million Mol f time	denn thin derch through dit this doa there doch though, still	opp upon sea a lot see she sikj self soo so
moaken make motten have to nämen take nanen name opphoolen stop	Mutta f mother Oabeit f work Oomkje m man, sir Probleem n problem Prozent m percent	du you een a ekj I emma always en in	to to twee two uk also un and unja below
räden speak sajen say seenen see sellen should sennen be	Rajcht n right School f school Sied f side Staut f city, country Tiet f time	fa for gauns totally goot good groot great hee he	ut from, out väl many ver before von from wada again
stonen stand weeten know wellen want wiesen show woaren become	Uag n eye Voda m father Wäakj f week Welt f world Wuat n word	hia here ieescht first jieda each jo yes junt your	wan when, if wie we wiels because woo how wua where

*35 verbs, 35 nouns, 70 other parts of speech.

Common nouns and pronouns*

Nouns		Nouns		Pronouns	
Biespel Biespels n	example	Moonat Moonaten f	month	ää (obl)	her
Bilt Bilda n	picture	Morjen Morjes m	morning	ääje	their
Buak Bieekja n	book	Mutta Muttasch f	mother	am (obl)	him
Dää Däären f	door	Nacht Nachten f	night	an (obl)	them
Dach Doag m	day	Nomen Nomes m	name	aulemaan	everyone
Deel (sng) n	part	Oabeit Oabeiten f	work	aunjehieeja	member
Dinkj Dinja n	thing	Oomkje Oomkjes m	man, mister	billewää	anyone
Elren (pl)	parents	Oppgow Oppgowen f	assignment	dämselwjen	same one
Famielje Famieljes f	family	Owent Owenden m	evening	dautselwje	same thing
Faul Fal m	case	Persoon Persoonen f	person	dee	that
Form Formen f	form	Plauz Plaza m	place	die (obl)	you
Frint Frind m	friend	Poa Poaren n	pair	diena	your
Froag Froagen f	question	Probleem -bleemen n	problem	disa	this one
Fru Frues f	woman	Prozent Prozenten m	percent	dit	this
Gauss Gausen f	street	Rajcht Rajchten n	right	du (nom)	you
Grunt Jrind f	reason	Rum Rums m	room, space	eena	one
Grupp Gruppen f	group	Sach Sachen f	matter	eenatlei	one thing
Haunt Henj f	hand	School Schoolen f	school	ekj (nom)	I
Hus Hiesa n	house	Senn Sennen m	meaning	et	it
Jebiet Jebieten n	region	Sied Sieden f	side	hee (nom)	he
Jelt Jelda n	money	Sort Sorten f	sort	irjentwää	anyone
Jesalschoft -schoften f	society	Sproak Sproaken f	language	irjentwaut	anything
Jeschicht Jeschichten f	story	Städ Städa f	place	jana	that one
Jesecht Jesechta n	face	Staut Städen f	city	jeemaunt	someone
Joa Joaren n	year	Stund Stunden f	hour	jewessa	a certain one
Kjint Kjinja n	child	Tiet Tieden f	time	jie (nom)	you (pl)
Kopp Kjap m	head	Uag Uagen n	eye	jun (obl)	your (pl)
Launt Lenda n	land	Unjanämen (sng) n	undertaking	kjeena	no one
Läwen Läwes n	life	Voda Vodasch m	father	mie (obl)	me
Lied (pl)	people	Wäakj Wäakjen f	week	mien	mine
Määjlichkjeit -kjeiten f	possibility	Wada (sng) n	weather	ons (obl)	our
Maun Mana m	man	Welt Welten f	world	see (nom)	she, they
Mensch Menschen m	people	Wota (sng) n	water	sien	his
Millionäa -näaren f	millionaire	Wuat Wieed n	word	sikj	self
Minnut Minnuten f	minute	Ziel Ziels m	destination	wie (nom)	we

*Nouns given in singular, plural, gender - English meaning.

Gender abbreviations; m - masculine, f - feminine, n - neuter.

Nouns or pronouns used only in plural - (pl), only in singular - (sng).

Pronouns - nominative case (nom), oblique (dative or accusative cases) (obl).

Common adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, and conjunctions

Adjectives	Adverbs	Prepositions	Conjunctions
billich cheap breet broad dia expensive dietsch German eenfach simple	aule all aulsoo therefore blooss only boolt soon dan then	auf whether aun at, on äwa over bat until benna within	aus as beid both dan then, next dannooh yet trotdäm despite
entwei broken gauns all, complete goot good groot large heet hot	doa there doch still emma always foaken often hia here	bie by, near biesied beside delenjd along derch through en in	daut that doaderch consequently ei wan what if endäm in that entwäda either ...
huach high ieejen own ieescht first jeneiw exact junk young	ieejentlich actually ieescht first jrod just now langsom slowly leicht lightly	fa for hinja behind jäajen against jäajenäwa versus mank among	fauls in case of no däm no according to oba but, though ooda or oppwool although
kjlien small kolt cold kort short läach low lank long	lostich merry lot late lud loud mea more natieedlich naturally	met along, with no toward om at, around one without opp upon	oppzwoasch although sentemol since sonda instead sooboolt as soon as soolang so long as
latsta last leicht light/not heavy mäajlich possible nie new oolt old	noch still nu now pinkjlich punctual saunft softly schwind swift	rom around runtom all around seit since (time) to to trotdäm despite	soo daut so that soo aus so as un and ver before wäajens because
rajcht right schlajcht bad schmaul narrow schmock lovely schwowa heavy	sea very selden seldom soo thus tiedich early truarich sad	tweschen between unja under ut out, of velenjd along ver before	wan, wanea when, if wiels because
stoakj strong veschieden various wichtich important wiedre additional witt white	uk also veleicht perhaps wiel while wiet far woll probably	von from wäarent during	Articles daut that de the däm (to) him dän (to) him

APPENDIX B - VERBS

Principal parts of weak verbs

The four principal parts given are: infinitive, 3rd person singular present, 3rd person singular past, and past participle. The dash represents the prefix of the word. The most common English meaning is provided. These comments apply also to the table of strong verbs, which follows.

Principal parts

aunsiedlen siedelt - siedeld - -jesiedelt
 auntwuaden –wuat –wuad jeauntwuat
 baken bakd bakt jebakt
 beachten beacht beachd beacht
 bedakjen bedakjd bedakjt bedakjt

bedieden bediet bedied bediet
 beduaren beduat beduad beduat
 befrieen befriet befried befriet
 bejreessen bejreest bejreesd bejreest
 betolen betolt betold betolt

betoonen betoont betoond betoont
 bilden bilt bild jebilt
 blieejen blieecht blieejd jeblieecht
 brucken brukt brukd jebrukt
 buaren buat buad jebuat

buen but bud jebut
 daunzen daunzt daunzd jedaunzt
 deelen deelt deeld jedeelt
 doastalen stalt – stald – –jestalt
 enstemmen stemt – stemd – –jestemt

entwekjlen –wekjelt –wekjeld –wekjelt
 erkjanen erkjant erkjand erkjant
 erkjläären erkjläat erkjläad erkjläat
 erlangen erlangt erlangd erlangt
 erlauben erlaubt erlaubd erlaubt

erren ert erd jeert
 erwänen erwänt erwänd erwänt
 fälen fält fäld jefält
 feelen feelt feeld jefeelt
 fieren fieet fieed jefieet

flieekjen flieekjt flieekjd jeflieekjt
 folgen folcht foljd jefolcht
 foodren foodat foodad jefoodat
 freien freit freid jefreit
 grulen grult gruld jegrult

settle
 answer
 bake
 observe
 cover

mean
 worry
 marry
 greet, listen
 pay

emphasize
 educate
 bloom
 need
 farm

build
 dance
 deal, part
 establish
 agree

develop
 recognize
 explain
 achieve
 allow

err
 mention
 need, lack
 feel
 lead,celebrate

curse
 follow
 feed
 be happy
 scare

Principal parts

hanstalen stalt – stald – –jestalt
 haundlen –delt –deld jehaundelt
 heeten heet heet jeheet
 hieren hieet hieed jehieet
 hollen holt hold jeholt

hopen hopt hopd jehopt
 horchen horcht horchd jehorcht
 jehieren jehieet jehieed jehieet
 jleewen jleeft jleewd jejleeft
 jleichen jleicht jleichd jejleicht

jreblen jrebbelt jrebbeld jejrebbelt
 jreessen jreest jreesd jejreest
 kjanen kjant kjand jekjant
 kloagen kloacht kloagd jekloacht
 knaken knakt knakd jeknakt

koaken koakt koakd jekoakt
 lachen lacht lachd jelacht
 lakjen lakjt lakjd jelakjt
 läwen läwt läwd jeläwt
 leewen leeft leewd jeleeft

lieren liet lied jeliет
 meenen meent meend jemeent
 mischen mischt mischd jemischt
 molen molt mold jemolt
 mostren mostat mostad jemostat

nanen nant nand jenant
 oabeiden oabeit oabeid jeoabeit
 oppducken dukt – dukd – –jedukt
 passieren passieet passieed passieet
 plauzen plauzt plauzd jeplauzt

prachren prachat prachad jeprachat
 proowen prooft proowd jeprooft
 raden rat rad jerat
 räden rät räd jerät
 ranen rant rand jerant

place
 handle
 be called
 hear
 fetch

hope
 listen
 belong
 believe
 like

ponder
 greet
 know
 tattle
 split seed

cook
 laugh
 drip
 live
 love

teach, learn
 mean
 mix
 grind
 criticize

name
 work
 materialize
 take place
 split

beg
 experiment
 save
 speak
 run

Principal parts of weak verbs (cont.)

Principal parts

reselwieren –wheet –wheed –wheet
rikjen rikt rikd jerikt
ruen rut rud jerut
rutschen rutscht rutschd jerutscht
saten sat sad jesat

schaufen schauft schauftd jeschauft
shedden schett schedd jeschett
shedren scheddat scheddad jescheddat
schekjen schekjt schekjd jeschekjt
schienen schient schiend jeschient

schlenkjren –nkjat –kjad jeschlenkjat
schmakjen –kjt –kjd jeschmakjt
schmunslen –selt –seld jeschmunselst
schmustren –stat –stad jeschmustat
schocklen –ckelt –ckeld jeschockelt

resolve
smell
rest
slide
plant

work
pour, spread
shake
send
seem

amble, walk
taste
smile
smile
swing

Principal parts

späaren späat späad jespäat
spälen spält späld jespält
stalen stalt stald jestalt
studieren studieet studieed studieet
tosen tost tosd jetost

uthaken hakt – hakt – –jehakt
väästalen stalt – stald – –jestalt
vedeenen vedeent vedeend vedeent
vefieren vefieet vefieed vefieed
vejlikjen vejlikjt vejlikjd vejlikjt

vepusten vepust vepusd vepust
vetalen vetalt vetald vetalt
wachten wacht wachd jewacht
wenschen wenscht wenshd jewenscht
wonen wont wond jewont

feel
play
place
study
drag

dig out
present
earn
scare
compare

rest
tell
wait
wish
live

Principal parts of strong and strong irregular verbs

Principal parts

äten at aut jejäten
aunbeeden bitt – boot – –jeboden
aunfangen fangt – funk – –jefongen
aunjriepen jript – jreep – –jejräpen
aunseenen sitt – sach – –jeseenen

auntrakjen trakjt – trock – –jetrocken
bedden bedd boot jeboden
beeden bitt boot jeboden
befälen befält befool befohlen
behoolen behelt behilt behoolen

bejäwen bejeft begauf bejäwen
bejriepen bejript bejreep bejräpen
besennen –sent –sonn besonnen
besieekjen besieekjt besocht besocht
bestonen besteit bestunt bestonen

betrafen betrafft betroff betroffen
bieejen bicht buach jeboagen
bieten bitt beet jebäten
bliewen blift bleef jebläwen
brinjen brinjht brocht jebrocht

eat
volunteer
begin
attack
inspect

dress
request
bid
command
remember

experience
understand
think
visit
exist

meet
bend
bite
stay
bring

Principal parts

bräakjen brakjt bruak jebroaken
denkjen denkjt docht jedocht
derwen doaf durf (je)durft
doonen deit deed jedonen
drinkjen drinkjt drunk jedrunken

dreiwen dreift dreef jedräwen
droagen drajcht druach jedroacht
enloden lat – loot – enjeloden
ensprinjen sprinjht – sprunk – –jesprungen
entstonen ensteit enstunt entstonen

erfoaren erfoat erfua erfoaren
fangen fangt funk jefongen
flajchten flajcht flocht jeflochten
foten fot foot jefot
faulen felt foll jefollen

finjen finjt funk jefungen
flieejen flicht fluach jefloagen
foaren foat fua jefoaren
frieren frist frua jefruaren
froagen frajcht fruach jefroacht

break
think
allowed
do
drink

threaten
carry
load
jump in
establish

experience
catch
braid
grasp
fall

find
fly
drive
freeze
ask

Principal parts of strong and strong irregular verbs (cont.)

Principal parts

gonen jeit jinkj jegonen
growen groft groof jegroft
haben hast haud jehaut
halpen halpt help jeholpen
häwen häft hoof jehowen

henjen henjt honk jehongen
hinjaloten lat – leet – –jeloten
hoolen helt hilt jehoolen
jäwen jeft gauf jejäft
jeeten jitt goot jegoten

jefaulen jefelt jefoll jefollen
jellen jelt golt jegollen
jennen jent gonn jegonnen
jewennen jewent jewonn jewonnen
joagen jajcht juach jejoacht

kjeepen kjaft koft jekoft
kjennen kaun kunn jekunt
kjrieen kjricht kjrieech jekjrääjen
komen kjemt kaum jekomen
lajen lajcht läd jelajcht

läsen läst laus jeläsen
lijen licht lach jelääjen
loten lat leet jeloten
määjn mach mucht jemucht
moaken moakt muak jemoakt

motten mott must (je)must
nämen nemt naum jenomen
oawen oaft orf jeorwen
opphäwen häft – hoof – –jehowen
opphoolen helt – hilt – –jehoolen

oppstonen steit – stunt – –jestonen
plekjen plekjt plock jeplocken
rieten ritt reet jeräten
roden rot root jerot
sajen sajcht säd jesajcht

schäären schäat schääd jeschoaren
schellen schelt schull jeschullen
schenkjen schenkjt schonk jeschonken
schliepen schliept schliept jeschläpen
schlonen schleit schluach jeschlonen

Principal parts

go, walk
dig
have
help
heave, lift

hang
abandon
hold
give
pour

please
be valid
concede
win
chase

buy
can, may
receive
come
lay

read
lie
allow
like
make

must
take
inherit
pick up
uphold

rise
pick
ache
guess
say

shear
scold
give
sharpen
hit

schlophen schlapt schleep jeschlophen
schmieten schmitt schmeet jeschmäten
schriewen schrift schreef jeschräwen
schwamen –amt –omp jeschwommen
schuwen schift schoof jeschowen

seenen sitt sach jeseenen
sellen saul sull (je)sult
sennen es wia jewast/jewäsen
setten sett saut jesäten
sieekjen sieekjt socht jesocht

sinjen sinjt sunk jesungen
stäakjen stakjt stuak jestoaken
stälēn stält stool jestolen
stoawen stoawt storf jestorwen
steeten stat stad jestat

stieen sticht stieech jestääjen
stonen steit stunt jestonen
suen sucht suach jesoagen
supen sipt soop jesopen
tooschluten schlitt – schloot – –jeschluten

trafen traft troff jetroffen
trakjen trakjt trock jetrocken
utseenen sitt – sach – utjeseenen
vääfaulen felt – foll – vääjefollen
vääkomen kjemt – kaum – –jekomen

vebinjen vebinjt vebunk vebungen
vegonen vejeit vejinkj vegonen
vekjeepen vekjaft vekoft vekoft
vejäten vejat vegaut vejäten
vestonen vesteit vestunt vestonen

wääjen wajcht wuach jewoagen
wakjen wakjt wuak jewakjt
waussen waust woss jewossen
weeten weet wist jewist
wellen well wull (je)wult

wenjen wenjt wonk jewongen
wiesen wiest weess jewiest
woaken woakt wuak jewoakt
woaren woat wort jeworden
wrinjen wrinjt wrunk jewurgen

sleep
throw
write
swim
push

see
should
be
sit
seek

sing
poke
steal
die
bump

climb
stand
suck
drink a lot
lock

meet
pull
appear
occur
advance

tie together
pass away
sell
forget
understand

weigh
wake
grow
know
want

turn
show
stand guard
become
wring

Conjugation of strong and strong irregular verbs

Examples of the conjugation in the present and past tenses of strong, and strong irregular verbs (past participle ends in **-en**) with different stem vowels are presented. Special examples of haben, sennen, kjennen, motten, sellen, gonen, doonen were given in Chapter 9.

a. Strong verbs with 'a' and 'ä' in stem

present	benämen ¹	bejäwen	häwen ³	vejäten ⁴	äten ⁵	stälen
ekj	benäm	bejäw	häw	vejät	ät	stäl
du	benemst	bejefst	häfst	vejatst	atst	stälst
hee,see,daut	benemt	bejefst	häft	vejat	at	stält
wie, jie, see	benämen	bejäwen	häwen	vejäten	äten	stälen
past						
ekj	beneem(benaum)	begauf(jeef)	hoof	vegaut	aut(eet)	stool
du	beneemst	begaufst	hoofst	vegautst	autst	stoolst
hee,see,daut	beneem	begauf	hoof	vegaut	aut	stool
wie, jie, see	beneemen	begauwen	hoowen	vegauten	auten	stoolen
past part	benomen	bejäft	jehowen	vejäten	jejäten	jestolen
English	to behave	to occur	to lift	to forget	to eat	to steal

Verbs with similar conjugations:

¹nämen - (take); ³befälen, jäwen, stälen - (command, give, steal);

⁴läsen, mäten - (read, measure); ⁵fräten - (devour).

b. Strong verbs with 'a', 'au' and 'äa' in stem

present	trafen ¹	lajen ²	wakjen	faulen	wauschen ⁵	bräakjen ⁶
ekj	traf	laj	wakj	faul	wausch	bräakj
du	trafst	lajchst	wakjst	felst	wauschst	brakjst
hee,see,daut	traft	lajcht	wakjt	felt	wauscht	brakjt
wie, jie, see	trafen	lajen	wakjen	faulen	wauschen	bräakjen
past						
ekj	troff	läd	wuak	foll	wosch	bruak
du	trofst	lädst	wuakst	folst	woschst	bruakst
hee,see,daut	troff	läd	wuak	foll	wosch	bruak
wie, jie, see	troffen	läden	wuaken	follen	woschen	bruaken
past part	jetroffen	jelajcht	jewakjt	jefollen	jewoschen	jebroaken
English	to meet	to lay	to wake	to fall	to wash	to break

¹flajchten, halpen, kjwalen, malkjen, schrakjen, schwalen, schwamen - (braid, help, gush, milk, scare, swell, swim);

²sajen - (say); ⁵waussen - (grow);

⁶spräakjen, stääkjen - (speak, spear).

c. Strong verbs with 'e' in stem

present	jennen	denkjen ²	bedden	schellen ⁴	besennen	setten
ekj	jenn	denkj	bedd	schell	besenn	sett
du	jenst	denkjst	betst	schelst	besenst	setst
hee,see,daut	jent	denkjt	bedd	schelt	besent	sett
wie, jie, see	jennen	denkjen	bedden	schellen	besennen	setten
past						
ekj	gonn	docht	boot	schull	besonn	saut
du	gonst	dochst	bootst	schulst	besonst	sautst
hee,see,daut	gonn	docht	boot	schull	besonn	saut
wie, jie, see	gonnen	dochten	booden	schullen	besonnen	sauten
past part	jegonnen	jedocht	jeboden	jeschullen	besonnen	jesäten
English	to permit	to think	to request	to scold	to remember	to sit

²henjen, jewennen, schenkjen, spennen, wenjen;
(hang, win, give, spin, turn);

⁴derwen, wellen - (are permitted, wish).

d. Strong verbs with 'ee' or 'ei' in stem

present	seenen	vekjeepen	jeeten ³	steeten ⁴	beeden	dreiwēn
ekj	see	vekjeep	jeet	steet	beed	dreiw
du	sitst	vekjafst	jitst	statst	bitst	dreifst
hee,see,daut	sitt	vekjaft	jitt	stat	bitt	dreift
wie, jie, see	seenen	vekjeepen	jeeten	steeten	beeden	dreiwēn
past						
ekj	sach	vekoft	goot	stad	boot	dreef
du	sachst	vekofst	gootst	statst	bootst	dreefst
hee,see,daut	sach	vekoft	goot	stad	boot	dreef
wie, jie, see	sagen	vekoften	gooten	staden	booden	dreewen
past part	jeseenen	vekoft	jegoten	jestat	jeboden	jedräwen
English	to see	to sell	to pour	to bump	to bid	to threaten

³scheeten, steewen -
(shoot, blow dust);

⁴bleeden - (bleed).

e. Strong verbs with 'i' and 'ie' in stem

present	ligjen	brinjen	finjen ³	stieen ⁴	wiesen ⁵	schliepen
ekj	ligj	brinj	finj	stie	wies	schliep
du	lichst	brinjst	finjst	stichst	wiest	schliepst
hee,see,daut	licht	brinjst	finjt	sticht	wiest	schliept
wie, jie, see	ligjen	brinjen	finjen	stieen	wiesen	schliepen
past						
ekj	lach	brocht	funk	stieech	weess	schliept
du	lachst	brochst	fungst	stieechst	weest	schliepst
hee,see,daut	lach	brocht	funk	stieech	weess	schliept
wie, jie, see	lääjjen	brochten	funjen	stieejjen	weesen	schliepten
past part	jelääjjen	jebrocht	jefunjen	jestääjjen	jewiest	jeschläpen
English	to repose	to bring	to find	to climb	to show	to sharpen

³binjen, drinkjen, dwinjen, jelinjen, kjinjen, rinjen, schrinjen, sinjen, sinkjen, sprinjen, stinkjen, veschwinjen, wrinjen - (bind, drink, compell, succeed, toll, ring, burn, sing, sink, leap, stink, disappear, wring);

⁴kjrieen, schrieen, spieen - (receive, roar, spit);

⁵kjrieschen, schienen - (schriek, seem).

f. Strong verbs with 'ie', 'ia', 'o (long)' in stem

present	bieten ¹	velieren ²	bliewen ³	roden ⁴	loten ⁵
ekj	biet	velia	bliew	rod	lot
du	bitst	velist	blifst	rotst	latst
hee,see,daut	bitt	velist	blift	rot	lat
wie, jie, see	bieten	velieren	bliewen	roden	loten
past					
ekj	beet	velua	bleef	root	leet
du	beetst	veluazhd	bleefst	rootst	leetst
hee,see,daut	beet	velua	bleef	root	leet
wie, jie, see	beeten	veluaren	bleewen	rooten	leeten
past part	jebäten	veloaren	jebläwen	jerot	jeloten
English	to bite	to lose	to remain	to guess	to permit

¹driewen, jriepen, kniepen, lieden, rieden, rieten, riewen, schmietten, schnieden, strieden - (drive, catch, pinch, suffer, ride, ache, rub, throw, cut, dispute);

²bieejjen, frieren, flieejjen, lieejjen, schwieren, velieejjen - (bend, freeze, fly, lie, swear, deny);

³schriewen - (write);

⁴begrowen, growen, loden - (bury, dig, load);

⁵schloopen - (sleep).

g. Strong verbs with 'o (long)', 'oo' and 'oa' in stem

present	komen	schlonen	stonen	hoolen	joagen
ekj	kom	schlo	sto	hool	joag
du	kjemst	schleist	steist	helst	jajchst
hee,see,daut	kjemt	schleit	steit	helt	jajcht
wie, jie, see	komen	schlonen	stonen	hoolen	joagen
past					
ekj	kaum	schluach	stunt	hilt	juach
du	kaumst	schluachst	stunst	hilst	juachst
hee,see,daut	kaum	schluach	stunt	hilt	juach
wie, jie, see	kaumen	schluagen	stunden	hilden	juagen
past part	jekomen	jeschloagen	jestonen	jehoolen	jejoacht
English	to come	to hit	to stand	to hold	to hunt, chase

h. Strong verbs with 'oa' and 'u (long)' in stem

present	foaren ¹	oawen ²	froagen	schuwen ⁴	suen	supen ⁶
ekj	foa	oaf	froag	schuw	su	sup
du	foascht	oafst	frajchst	schifst	suchst	sipst
hee,see,daut	foat	oaft	frajcht	schift	sucht	sipt
wie, jie, see	foaren	oawen	froagen	schuwen	suen	supen
past						
ekj	fua	orf	fruach	schoof	suach	soop
du	fuascht	orfst	fruachst	schoofst	suachst	soopst
hee,see,daut	fua	orf	fruach	schoof	suach	soop
wie, jie, see	fuaren	orwen	fruagen	schoowen	suagen	soopen
past part	jefoaren	jeorwen	jefroacht	jeschowen	jesoagen	jesopen
English	to drive	to inherit	to ask	to push	so suck	to drink a lot

¹droagen, moaken - (carry, make);

²foawen, stoawen, vedoawen -
(paint, die, ruin);

⁴schluwen, schruwen - (peel, screw);

⁶krupen - (crawl).

The six* tenses – examples using also modal verbs**

Ekj kjeep Koffe. (I buy coffee.)
Ekj koft Koffe.
Ekj woa Koffe kjeepen.
Ekj hab Koffe jekoft.
Ekj haud Koffe jekoft.
Ekj woa Koffe jekoft haben.

Ekj kaun Koffe kjeepen.
Ekj kunn Koffe kjeepen.
Ekj woa Koffe kjeepen kjennen.
Ekj hab Koffe kjeepen jekunt.
Ekj haud Koffe kjeepen jekunt.

Du beakast daut Launt. (You cultivate the land.)
Du beakazhd daut Launt.
Du woascht daut Launt beakren.
Du hast daut Launt beakat.
Du hautst daut Launt beakat.
Du woascht daut Launt beakat haben.

Du west daut Launt beakren.
Du wust daut Launt beakren.
Du woascht daut Launt beakren wellen.
Du hast daut Launt beakren jewult.
Du hautst daut Launt beakren jewult.

Hee betolt de Strof. (He pays the fine.)
Hee betold de Strof.
Hee woat de Strof betolen.
Hee haft de Strof betolt.
Hee haud de Strof betolt.
Hee woat de Strof betolt haben.

Hee mott de Strof betolen.
Hee must de Strof betolen.
Hee woat de Strof betolen motten.
Hee haft de Strof betolen must.
Hee haud de Strof betolen must.

Wie läsen Bieekja. (We read books.)
Wie lausen Bieekja.
Wie woaren Bieekja läsen.
Wie haben Bieekja jeläst.
Wie hauden Bieekja jeläst.
Wie woaren Bieekja jeläst haben.

Wie jleichen Bieekja läsen.
Wie jleichten Bieekja läsen.
Wie woaren Bieekja läsen jleichen.
Wie haben Bieekja läsen jeleicht.
Wie hauden Bieekja läsen jeleicht.

Ekj woa frintlicha. (I become friendlier.)
Ekj wort frintlicha.
Ekj woa frintlicha woaren.
Ekj sie frintlicha jeworden.
Ekj wia frintlicha jeworden.
Ekj woa frintlicha jeworden sennen.

Ekj saul frintlicha woaren.
Ekj sull frintlicha woaren.
Ekj woa frintlicha woaren sellen.
Ekj hab frintlicha woaren sult.
Ekj haud frintlicha woaren sult.

Wie komen fuaz. (We come right away.)
Wie kaumen fuaz.
Wie woaren fuaz komen.
Wie sent fuaz jekomen.
Wie wieren fuaz jekomen.
Wie woaren fuaz jekomen sennen.

Wie mäajen fuaz komen.
Wie muchten fuaz komen.
Wie woaren fuaz komen mäajen.
Wie haben fuaz komen jemucht.
Wie hauden fuaz komen jemucht.

*Present, past, future, present perfect, past perfect, future perfect.

**kjennen, motten, wellen, jleichen, sellen, mäajen – (can, must, want, like, should, prefer)

Some expressions may have alternate forms.

APPENDIX C - GRAMMAR TERMINOLOGY AND ABBREVIATIONS

MLG Adjectives:

'Strong' form: adjectives which follow the definite article **daut** or demonstratives **daut** or **dit**.

'Weak' form: adjectives which do not follow **daut** or **dit**.

Case: indicates function for nouns. In MLG, there are three cases: nominative case, genitive, and oblique. The oblique case includes both direct and indirect objects.

'His genitive' Structure: to indicate possession, the possessor is named in the oblique case followed by the possessive adjective and the possessed object. With proper nouns, and when the possessor is determined by a possessive adjective, the possessor is in the nominative case.

Predicate: considered herein to consist of a verb and its complements or modifiers, or alternatively the complement of verb forms.

Mood: a change in the inflection of a verb which indicates how the speaker conceives the action or state of the verb. The indicative mood states or questions a fact. The imperative mood gives a command or request. The conditional mood considers the actions as possible, doubtful, desired, supposed or unreal.

Participle: in MLG, present and past participles are defined respectively from the infinite and verb stem. Participles are used to form compound tenses, or may serve as adjectives.

Pronunciation guide:

Consonants with voice: e.g. **b, d, g, z**.

Voiceless consonants: e.g. **p, t, k, s**.

'Soft': palatal (tongue placed against the hard palate), e.g., **Licht** in MLG; "yes" in English.

'Hard': guttural (sound from the back of oral cavity), e.g. **Loch** in MLG.

Verb tense: the form of a verb, indicating the time of action of a verb. Six tenses are defined in MLG: present, past, future, present perfect, past perfect, future perfect.

Verb types in MLG:

Weak – do not change the stem vowel in conjugation.

Strong – the stem vowel changes in the conjugation – the past participle ends with **-en**. If the stem vowel changes in the conjugation but the past participle ends with **-t** the verb is termed **strong irregular**.

Voice in verbs: verbal construction that indicates whether the subject acts (**active voice**) or is acted upon (**passive voice**).

English abbreviations

Mennonite Low German –
MLG

High German – HG

English – Eng

person - pers
masculine, feminine, neuter –
masc, fem, neut (m, f, n)

singular – sing (sgl)
plural – plu (pl)
nominative – nom
oblique – obl
possessive pronoun – poss pro

present – pres
simple past – past

future – fut
present perfect – pres perf

past perfect – past perf

future perfect – fut perf
past participle – past part

positive – pos
comparative – comp
superlative – super

formal – form

Abreviaturas españolas

Bajo Alemán Menonita –
BAM

Alemán – HG

español – esp

persona – pers
masculino, femenino, neutro –
masc, fem, neut (m, f, n)

singular – sing – (sgl)
plural – plu (pl)
nominativo – nom
oblicuo – obl
pronomen posesivo – pro pos

presente simple – pres
pretérito indefinido (pasado) –
pas

futuro simple – fut
pretérito perfecto compuesto –
pret perf

pretérito pluscuamperfecto –
pluscuam

futuro compuesto – fut comp
participio pasado – part pas

positivo – pos
comparativo – comp
superlativo – super

formal – form

Deutsche Abkürzungen

Mennonitisches Plattdeutsch –
MPD

Hochdeutsch – HD

Englisch – Eng

Person - pers
Maskulin, Feminin, Neutrum –
mask, fem, neut (m, f, n)

Singular – sing – (sgl)
Plural – plu (pl)
Nominativ – nom
Oblikus – obl
Possessivpronomen – poss pro

Präsens – präS
Präteritum – präT

Futur I – fut
Perfekt – perf

Plusquamperfekt – plus

Futur II – fut II
Partizip Perfekt – part perf

Positiv – pos
Komparativ – komp
Superlativ – super

formell – form

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