

ISU LANGUAGE CHEAT SHEET

The Isu language is described as the ancestor to the Indo-European languages and, as such, it shares with them rules and sentence constructions.

PERSONAL PRONOUNS

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1st singular - I: 𐌆𐌵 | 1st plural - WE: 𐌆𐌶𐌵 |
| 2nd singular - YOU: ? | 2nd plural - YOU: 𐌵𐌶 |
| 3rd singular - HE/SHE/IT: ? | 3rd plural - THEY: 𐌆𐌵𐌶 |

VERBS

The verb **to be** is always placed as a suffix at the end of its predicative complement which can be a noun or an adjective.

Present tense: 𐌆𐌵

Past tense: 𐌆𐌶

. Example: They are suspicious = 𐌆𐌵𐌶 𐌆𐌶𐌵𐌶𐌵𐌶𐌵 𐌆𐌵

We don't have any example of the verb **to have**.

For the other verbs, they can be recognized in a sentence because of their suffixes. These suffixes change according to the verbal tense and person.

- **Infinitive Form:** the infinitive form is built by using the verb with no suffixes followed by the particle 𐌆

. Example: To fight /for fighting: 𐌆𐌶𐌵 𐌆

- **Past Participle Form:** the suffix for this tense is 𐌆𐌶 and it never changes. These verbs, as it happens in a lot of languages, can be also used as adjectives.

. Example: Hidden: 𐌆𐌶𐌵𐌶

- **Present Tense:** the verbs show a proper conjugation in this verbal tense. They probably do in other tenses too but the provided text files show several examples of this.

| | | | | | |
|-----------|----|--|------------|-----|--|
| 1st sing. | ዐር | | 1st plural | ዐርሃ | |
| 2nd sing. | ? | | 2nd plural | ዐዝ | |
| 3rd sing. | ዐዝ | | 3rd plural | ዐዝ | |

- **Present Continuous Tense:** The present perfect tense is built by using the verb in its present tense and adding the particle ዞ right after it.

. Example: The flare is reaching: ወላዕሃ የገደቀዐዝ ዞ

- **Past Tense:** There is no possibility of extrapolating the whole conjugation from the given files. If the present tense is indicated by the suffix |, the past tense is highlighted by the suffix ባ

. Example: The sun shone: ካዐየታል ወላዕዮዐዝ

- **Passive Form:** The passive form in its present tense is built by adding the suffix | ገደቀ at the end of the verb. In the same way, its past tense works by adding the suffix ባ ገደቀ

. Example: It is undone: የቀረበዐዝ ገደቀ

It was done: የቀረበዐዝ ባ ገደቀ

As a rule, conjugated verbs contain all the information needed to understand the person they are referring to and the verb tense they are conjugated in. For example, the verb "it is done" (የቀረበዐዝ ገደቀ) shows the third person characters - ዐዝ - present tense conjugation - | - passive form - ገደቀ.

Another noteworthy passive verb construction is the one for "must" which corresponds to ወላዕዮዐዝ ገደቀ. To be more specific, this word translates to "It is required" and it shows the third person singular character, the present tense conjugation and passive form. For example, the sentence "They must see" is rephrased to "It is required that they see" and as such, it corresponds to:

"ዐዝ + |" (verb in its present tense, third person plural).

. Example: They must see: ዞወላዕዮዐዝ ወላዕዮዐዝ ገደቀ

NEGATION

In the Isu language the negation can be expressed by using this particle: ን

The negation can be used both as an independent word and as a prefix to signify the contrary of the subsequent word.

. Example: War, not rebellion: ዞወላዕዮዐዝ ን የገደቀዐዝ

True and Untrue: የቀረበዐዝ ን የቀረበዐዝ

GRAMMATICAL CASES

Grammatical cases can be considered as a way to categorize nouns, pronouns, adjectives and numerals according to their traditionally corresponding grammatical functions within a given phrase, clause, or sentence.

In Latin, for example, there are 6 cases: nominative, genitive, dative, accusative, vocative and ablative. The Isu language cases featured in the provided files are the following:

- **Genitive case:** used to indicate an attributive relationship of a noun to another one, to specify the meaning of the word it refers to or to show possession. In the Isu language it can be written by using the suffix **aw**.
It is usually placed right before the term it refers to.
. Example: Lake of tears: **ʔaʔʌgʌaw ʔoʔg**
- **Ablative case:** used to express various complements like the locative, instrumental or temporal ones. In particular, in the Isu language the ablative case can be recognized by the presence of the suffix **w** or **oh** and it can be supported by prepositions.
. Example: In the lake: **ʔoʔgʌw**
- **Accusative case:** used to mark the direct object of a transitive verb. In the Isu language it can be identified by two suffixes: **o** and **ʔ**.
. Example: They see patterns: **How ʔaʔʌgʌwʌo ʔaʔʌgʌʔ**
We require animals: **ʔyʌ ʔyʌʔʌgʌʔ awʔoʔy**
- **Dative case:** it usually shows the indirect object of a verb, meaning the recipient of the direct object. In the Isu documents, it is featured in its dative of purpose form, which is used to denote the purpose or end of an action.
The suffix for this case is **oʔ**.
. Example: They work for us: **How ʔyʌoʔ ʔaʔʌgʌʔ**
- Nominative case:** used to indicate the subject of a verb. The suffix for this case is currently uncertain even if subjects frequently ended with **y**.

OTHER RULES

- 1). Adjectives are to be placed before the word they are referring to and with the same conjugation. The only exception is represented by the verbs in their past participle form used as adjectives: in this case their declension does not follow that of the word they refer to but it keeps to the past participle suffix **Ho**.

. Example: For a better future: **ʔaʔʌgʌw ʔyʌw**
Hidden truth: **ʔaʔʌgʌw ʔaʔʌgʌw**

2) Prepositions and some adverbs are always placed after the word they are referring to. The following tables contain some examples:

| | |
|-----------------|------|
| From | ᐱᐅᐅ |
| Before/in front | ᐱᐅ |
| When | ᐱᐅᐱᐅ |
| Against | ᐱᐅᐱᐅ |

| | |
|---------------|------|
| Over | ᐱᐅᐅ |
| In matters of | ᐱᐅᐅ |
| Where | ᐱᐅᐅ |
| As | ᐱᐅᐅᐅ |

. Example: From inside: ᐱᐅᐅᐅ ᐱᐅᐅ

3) The conjunction "And" can appear in a sentence with the form ᐱᐅ or as the suffix ᐱᐅᐅ affixed to the word it annexes, working like in Latin.

. Example: And the flare is reaching: ᐱᐅ ᐱᐅᐅᐅ ᐱᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅ ᐱᐅ
 In war and in love: ᐱᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅ ᐱᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅ

3) The plural of a word can be built by adding the character ᐱ at the end of the word, right before the suffix of the case.

. Example: The calculator of futures: ᐱᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅ ᐱᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅ

4) Adverbs deriving from adjectives are often recognizable from their ending with the letter ᐱ.

. Example: Warmly: ᐱᐅᐅᐅᐅ

NUMBERS

Numbers are always introduced by a small dot. This is very important because some of the characters used for the numbers can be found in standard words too, so the dot indicates the presence of a number.

In the Isu language there are 16 characters used as numbers and they bear a correspondence with the hexadecimal numeral system.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ᐅ | ᐅ | ᐅ | ᐅ | ᐅ | ᐅ | ᐅ | ᐅ | ᐅ | ᐅ | ᐅ | ᐅ | ᐅ | ᐅ | ᐅ | ᐅ |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | A | B | C | D | E | F |

For example the Isu number ·ᐅᐅᐅ corresponds with the hexadecimal number AFD.

By using an online converter it is easy to transform hexadecimal AFD into the decimal numeral system and as such to obtain the decimal number 2800.

Another example: ·ᐅᐅᐅ = hex370 = dec880