

# Fiat Lingua

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Author: Johnathan Richard Palmer

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## **Johnathan R. Palmer's Short Memoir on the Creation of the Télzrək Conlang and Dance**

### *Personal Reflections on Conlanging*

I remember one day in autumn I decided to take a pencil and notebook with me down to a special place I knew of. This place was outside in the hills situated among pine trees, hawthorn trees, birch trees, and dense brush. There was a particular hill that I walked up to. This was my special place. As I sat there on the hill, I closed my eyes and took a deep breath. When I exhaled, I decided to sit still and listen to the sounds of nature. I readily had my pencil and notebook available so I could document any sounds I could detect. It was such a beautiful fall day. I was sitting amid colorful leaves of gold and brown when I heard a stick snap. It was probably a deer walking up around me, so I remained silent. Then I heard so many kinds of birds singing as the wind blew over my face. I could also hear a creek nearby. At that very moment, I began to document all the sounds I heard up to that point.

### *Conlanger's process*

Some of these sounds I found in nature became the foundation of my first conlang project that I named the Tahljruhk language. I use sounds of my conlang to build words. I received mostly all of my inspiration for all my vowel sounds from the Choctaw language. While consonant sounds were inspired by Hebrew, Lakota, and English. I derived what I knew about Lakota grammar and incorporated that into my conlang as well. My writing system looks a lot like I got my inspiration from Chinese characters but was based on my own mapping of landscapes I saw in nature. That's why all my characters have lines because they are all pictures of places I have been, things I've seen, and things I've imagined.

### *Memories of creating a particular conlang*

While I was sitting silently there on that hill listening and documenting sounds, I started to remember things from my childhood. I remember traumatic experiences I endured as a little boy – things like sexual abuse, neglect, verbal abuse, divorced parents, and poverty. Even though I remembered all these things, over time I came to the realization that the conlang I was creating was for my own personal comfort and healing. This language that would become

known as the Tahljruhk language and dance was meant for the healing of my mind and body. I know this to be true since I would spend hours practicing the dance while I was working Night Shift at my job. So, the Tahljruhk language and dance is deeply personal to me.

### *Side notes*

I remember writing an English cipher when I was eight years old and giving it to my grandma to look at. She thought it was neat. She was very encouraging. I have come a long way since then. I mention this because it was my first attempt at trying to create my own language even though it wasn't a conlang but a cipher. When I look back on it now, I realize that I was born with an innate love for languages, as well as how languages work, and conlanging. It has never left me. There are three reasons for why I conlang: 1) Conlanging provides me comfort and healing for my mind and body. 2) Conlanging brings me pleasure and happiness. 3) I was born with an inherent desire to conlang.

My first physical conlang documentation; please see the documents below:

- Təlʒrək Language

-Johnathan Richard Palmer (Author). LCS Board Member.

# Télzrək Language



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Author: Johnathan Richard Palmer

## The Télzrək language mindset

The word ək means *Earth*. The concept of ək is the core feature of the Télzrək language because within ək (earth) everything is alive and breathes. ək is the first mystery that cannot be explained. The Télzrək people recognize that all things come from earth and so they must respect it always. Təl means *everything on earth*. zr means *breathes* and *spirits*. Therefore, the word Télzrək means “everything on earth lives and breathes.”

The Télzrək language is spoken by the noble, kind, stouthearted, and strong people of society. The Télzrək language contains the mysteries of life, truth, hidden things of existence, that one could only understand if they were truly noble, kind, stouthearted, and strong. Only these people can truly understand the secrets of the universe.

For example, according to Télzrək beliefs color is the ultimate form of wisdom because it is silent. Color makes no sound. The wind cannot make it speak. Nothing on earth can move it. Color can only speak to those who will listen in silence. Color exists in all things. One cannot describe colors. Colors can only be seen. Without color one can only see a shadow or nothing at all. Color is light and beauty. Without color there is no beauty on ək. Without color nothing would exist since everything is color. What we call “God” is color. Without the light colors cannot be seen.

Each color has its own personality. Colors are alive in and of themselves apart from what they give life to. Color is the greatest mystery. One cannot feel color. Color captures the eyes. Color flows through all things yet we cannot comprehend it. The absence of color is the absence of light and what we call day.

Shadows tell us what our ək would look like without color. The color of the darkness at night is black and shadowy. Nighttime is black and no colors can be seen. There are five types of black: darkness of night, closing one's eyes, the color black, shadows, and complete darkness. This complete darkness can be compared to sitting in a completely dark room. One must ponder these hidden things of ək.

### Təlʒrək Creation Myth

In the beginning, light and colors jumped into complete darkness. This confounded complete darkness as his swirling hole became mixed with colors and ək came into existence and everything in it. This was part of light and colors plan to overthrow complete darkness. To this day, complete darkness is still fighting back against light and colors to rid his body of beauty. This is the reason why good, and evil coexist on earth. There are two superpowers in the universe, light and beauty and complete darkness. Təlʒrək religion is to stay in contact with light and colors at all times of the day and by any means one chooses to overcome complete darkness.

Təlʒrək meditation is called TəlJi

Say words aloud one at a time that have personal meaning (positive words). Let these words form their own connections to thoughts and other related words. Say those words aloud too. TəlJi will help a person to gain power and control of thoughts.

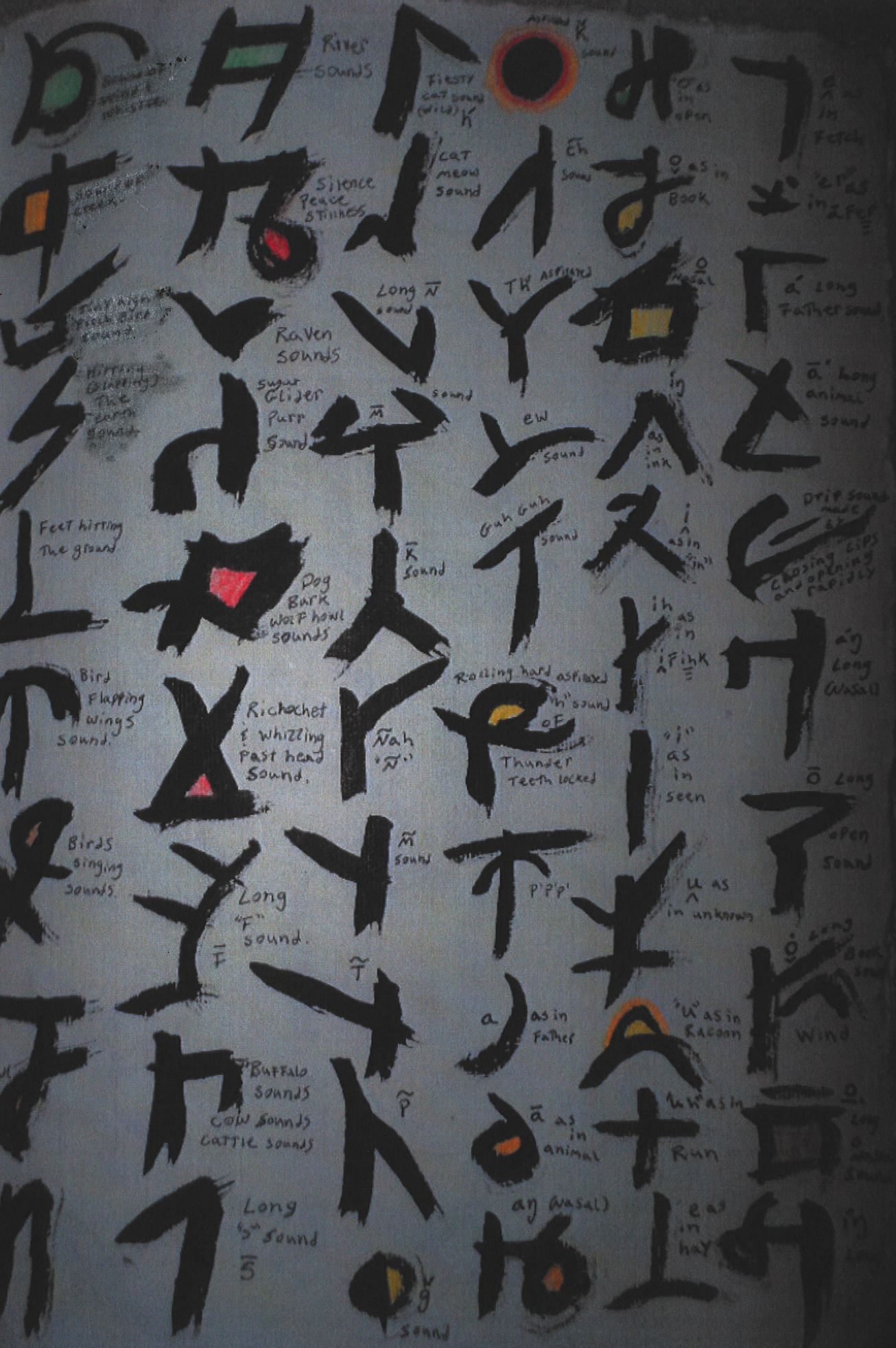
ʊ:jéM (body energy) and Pət jə't jə'ch jə (skeleton moves a.k.a dance).

Təlʒrək body movements create positive energies in the environment. These positive energies will benefit and bless the person using them. These movements effect every aspect of a person's mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual well-being. The sum of all these body movements put into motion is called Pət jə't jə'ch jə (dance or English translation is "the dance") because it

looks like a dance routine. Pət jə't jə'ch jə can also be practiced as a martial art. Pət jə't jə'ch jə is born out of the heart and reason not out of hate, anger, wrath, and vengeance. By practicing Pət jə't jə'ch jə the heart and mind will ascend to new levels of consciousness.

Pət jə't jə'ch jə can also be used as a self-defense tool as a last resort to conflict. However, learning how to defend oneself is NOT the goal of Pət jə't jə'ch jə it is merely a result of the dance. The study and practice of Pət jə't jə'ch jə develops confidence. Building one's confidence is another result of the dance. Pət jə't jə'ch jə primary focus is on the feet and hands. Overtime, the dance gradually evolves to using the whole body. There are twelve levels of the dance: black level, white level, pink level, yellow level, brown level, blue level, purple level, teal level, gray level, green level, red level, and orange level. Each level a person completes will receive the corresponding-colored bandana and will wear the bandana on the left ankle.

Ascending to the higher levels of the universe is the goal of Pət jə't jə'ch jə. The Pət jə't jə'ch jə script contains sounds I created for the Təlzrək language that is not written in the IPA. Do NOT pay attention to these sounds since I was still in the beginning stages of creating the Təlzrək phonetic alphabet. Since then, I have created an IPA phonetic alphabet for the Təlzrək language. The Təlzrək language also has its own script that took me a little over four years to create. You can see the phonetic alphabet and script further on down the pages. Let me explain this a little bit better; I have created 2 scripts; one is for the Pət jə't jə'ch jə dance and the other is for the Təlzrək language, they are not the same languages, they are 2 different languages -the language of the body and the language of the mouth. The language of the mouth is Təlzrək and the language of the body is Pət jə't jə'ch jə. Here is the choreographed Pət jə't jə'ch jə script. It reads from the left and down to the right in columns each level represents a level from black to orange:



Rites Sounds

FIRST CAT SOUND (WILD) K

AFFRICAL K SOUND

as in open

as in Fesck

Silence Peace STINKS

CAT meow sound

Eh sound

as in Book

as in a for

Long N sound

TH AFFRICAL

as long Father sound

Raven sounds

Sugar Glider Purr sound

as in ink

as in ink

as long animal sound

Feet hitting the ground

Dog BARK Wolf howl sounds

K sound

Guh Guh sound

ih as in ink

Drip sound made by CLOSING LIPS and opening and rapidly

Bird Flapping wings sound

Ricochet & whizzing past head sound

Nah N sound

Rolling hard affricated in sound of Thunder Teeth locked

as in seen

as in seen

Birds singing sounds

Long F sound

M sound

P pip

u as in unknown

open sound

Waterfall sounds

Buffalo sounds Cow sounds CATTLE sounds

a as in father

u as in racoon

Wind

Long S sound

a as in animal

u as in Run

as in hay

g sound

as in hay

as in hay



H  
 B  
 ch  
 T Long "seen" sound  
 ū Long "un Kwah" sound  
 ū  
 Long "Raccoon" sound  
 ūh  
 Long "uh" sound  
 ē Long  
 Long "ferah" sound  
 sh  
 Y  
 G  
 J  
 V  
 K  
 R  
 S  
 M  
 F  
 N  
 Z  
 P  
 Long "Joy Long" sound  
 Sharp whistle  
 Beat Beat  
 Kwaht' sound  
 Tongue on roof of mouth, slip the tongue on it twice slowly (click)  
 Long whistle  
 Strength  
 Righteous  
 Justice  
 Tē sound  
 Light & Beauty

Rolling  
 has  
 of the  
 Makes all the  
 Sound of F  
 without  
 sound  
 sound

Télzrək values.

Silence, peace, stillness, tranquility.

Strength, honor, righteousness, integrity.

Love

Light and beauty.

The mystery that makes all things grow.

Joy, gladness, happiness.

**Sounds found in nature.** Numbers and symbols represent each sound and also have another symbol on the choreography script sheet that is located above.

Sound of Wind. \*

Sound of a creek. ///

Tiny high pitched bird sounds. &\*...\*

Sound of hitting or slapping the earth. @

Sound of feet hitting the ground. 2

Bird flapping wings sound. 3

Sounds of birds singing. 6

Sounds of a waterfall. 4

Sound of a stick snapping. 7

Sounds of a river. >\

Sounds of a Raven. -<

Sound of a Sugar glider purring. ..-

Dog bark. ..}

Wolf howl sounds. }

Coyote yipping sounds. ]

Ricochet sound. ‘-\

Buffalo and Cow sounds. (.

Cat meow sound. .-.

Feisty cat sound. .-|

Bear roar. <.””

Tiger chuff. ^<;”

Lion roar. ^<;””””

Black panther scream. ^<”;”

Lynx screams. ^<’:’

## Télzrək Phonetics

Consonant sounds:

**f:** (long f sound).

**f** (short f as in the English word “foot”).

**s:** (long s sound).

**s** (short s as in the English word “sit”).

**ʃ** (as in the English word “short”).

**n:** (long n sound).

**n** (as in the English word “nap”).

**ɲ** (as in  $\eta_{je}$ . Absence of a break in sound).

**m:** (long m sound).

**m<sub>je</sub>** (absence of a break in sound).

**M** (short m sound as in the English word “mom”).

**ḳ** (breathy k sound).

**k<sup>h</sup>** (aspirated k sound).

**k** (as in the English word “kite”).

**t<sup>h</sup>** (aspirated t sound).

**t<sub>je</sub>** (absence of break in sound).

**t** (as in the English word “tiny”).

ɫ (no English equivalent sound. Refer to IPA).

**p**<sub>je</sub> (absence of break in sound).

**p** (as in the English word “pumpkin”).

**p’p’p’** (no English equivalent. Refer to IPA).

**ch**<sub>je</sub> (“ch” as in the English word chip. Absence of a break in sound).

**ch** (as in the English word “chip”).

ɥ (no English equivalent sound. Refer to IPA).

**g’g’** (no English equivalent sound. Refer to IPA).

**g** (as in the English word “game”).

**H** (teeth locked then rolling aspirated h sound).

**h** (regular English h sound as in “his”).

**r**<sub>~</sub> (as in “er” in the English word “after”).

**r**<sub>:</sub> (as in “er” in the English word “after” but held longer).

**ɹ** (as in the English word “run”).

**R** (rolling r sound like in Spanish word “tortilla”).

**+** (drip sound made by opening and closing the lips rapidly).

**b** (as in the English word “boy”).

**z** (as in the English word “zipper”).

**J** (as in the English word “jump”).

ʒ (refer to IPA).

j (y sound as in the first letter of the English word “yell”)

x (silent letter).

kw (Almost like the English word “quick” but an ə sound after the letter u and no ick at the end).

# (Tongue on the roof of the mouth in the back. Snap down twice).

! (Tongue on the roof of the mouth in the front. Snap down twice. It makes sort of a clicking sound.

l (as in the English word “lab”).

v (as in the English word “verbal”).

% (short whistle sound).

\$: (long whistle sound).

= (hard breath sound out of the nose).

## Vowels

ɛ (as in the English word “father”).

ɛ: (as in the English word “father” but the a in father is held longer).

é (accented a as in the English word “father” where the a is inflected).

ẽ (nasalized ẽ sound as in the a in father but nasalized).

ẽ: (long nasalized ẽ as in the a in father but nasalized and held longer).

æ (as in the English word “animal”).

æ: (as in the English word “animal” but the first a in animal is held longer).

o (as in the English word “open”).

o: (as in the English word “open” but the o is held longer).

õ (nasalized õ sound as in the English word “open” where the first o in the word open is nasalized).

õ: (as in the English word “open” but the o in “open” is nasalized and held longer).

ɔ (as in the English word “book”).

ɔ: (as in the English word “book” but the two o’s in book are held longer).

ĩ (nasalized i sound like the English word “ink”).

ĩ: (as in the English word “ink” nasalized and the i in the word “ink” is held longer).

ɪ (as in the English word “in”).

ɪ: (as in the English word “in” but the i in “in” is held longer).

ɪ̣ (as in the English word “in” but i in “in” is voiced more).

ɪ̣: (as in the English word “in” but the i in “in” is voiced more and held longer).

i (as in the English word “seen”).

i: (as in the English word “seen” but the two e’s in “seen” are held longer).

ə (as in the English word “unknown” but the u in “unknown” is voiced more).

ɜ: (as in the English word “unknown” but the u in “unknown” is voiced more and held longer).

ə (as in the English word “run”).

ɜ: (as in the English word “run” and the u in the word “run” is held longer).

u (as in the English word “raccoon”).

u: (as in the English word “raccoon” and the two o’s in “raccoon” are held longer).

e (as in the English word “hay”).

e: (as in the English word “hay” and the ay sound in the word “hay” is held longer).

ɛ (as in the English word “fetch”).

ɛ: (as in the English word “fetch” and the e in the word “fetch” is held longer).

w (w sound as in the first letter of the English word “want”).



逆	-f:	法	-m-jɛ	法	-p-jɛ
逆	-f	上	-M	法	-p
逆	-s:	尖	-K	法	-p'p'
逆	-s	立	-K <sup>h</sup>	法	-ch-jɛ
逆	-ʃ	尖	-K	法	-ch
逆	-n:	尖	-th	法	-ɣ
逆	-n	尖	-t-jɛ	法	-g'g'
逆	-ŋ	尖	-t	法	-H
逆	-m:	尖	-ɣ	法	-h
		尖		法	an

p

j

r

t

b

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km

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#						
e:						
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Mystery that makes all things grow.

## Télzrək Grammar

As a general guideline the Télzrək language is a subject object verb word order but doesn't always follow in that order. For example, the ʒr in Télzrək is a verb meaning "breathes" and appears in the middle of the word. Exclamations and questions always occur in the front of the sentence, not at the end of the sentence. The word əɹ makes things plural and goes at the front of a word or stands alone at the front.

There are no such things as the pronouns; he/she/it/her/him/ his/hers/ them/they. Everything must be named individually. Animals and all other living things in nature must be named by what they are individually or by their group. Everything is part of ək so this means it must be named out of respect.

No such things as the words "the/an/is." There are no such things as ambiguity in the Télzrək language. Everything must be named specifically. If a person doesn't know the name of a person - then that person cannot talk about them. However, you/I and we/us do exist in the Télzrək language. These personal pronouns always come at the end of whatever is being said and can stand alone. Personal pronouns appear within verbs as well. Past, present, and future tenses are indicated by last sounds (letters) of the verb. For example,

Verbs: past tense – t present tense- ε future tense – o:

Personal pronouns: I - ɪ you - ε:

Verb (to go) – ju

I went (past tense) – juɪt (the pronoun I "ɪ" appears within the verb before the past tense letter "t").

I am going (present tense) - juɛ

I will be going (in the future) - juo:

You went (past tense) - juɛ:t

You are going (present tense) - juɛ:'ɛ (glottal stop and then present tense).

You are going to go (in the future) - juɛ:ɔ:

Verb (to be) - chentɪs

I am (present tense) - chentɪslɛ

I was (past tense) - chentɪslt

I am going to be (in the future) - chentɪslɔ:

You are (present tense) - chentɪsɛ:'ɛ

You were (past tense) - chentɪsɛ:t

You are going to be (in the future) - chentɪsɛ:ɔ:

I and you can have different positions within the verb depending on what verb it is.

English translation from the movie Kung Fu Panda 2

“But their son, lord Shen saw darker power in the fireworks what had brought color and joy could also bring darkness and destruction” (Kung Fu Panda 2, 2011).

Telzɹək translation of the above:

utæktəs əɹ kæpf tɛn lord Shen əɹ sɪblɪs ɪfkɪhɪkɪk Shen ænɪjət.

əɹ sɪblɪ tənɪ ɪfənu ʃokət melɪ ɪfkɪhɪkɪk kɛʃ kɪmniɪk ʃokəɔ:

But Peacocks son lord Shen fireworks within them evil blackness Shen found. Fireworks great joy color brought could also evil blackness together with destruction bring.

utæktəs (but. Is also used as a negation word).

əɹ kæpʃ (peacocks).

tɛn (son).

Shen (name of the son).

əɹ sɪblɪs (fireworks. The “s” on the end means “within them” speaking of within the fireworks. This “s” on the end is a unique feature since it is attached to the noun.

ɪfkiɪkɪk (evil blackness).

Shen (name of the son).

æɪjət (found. Past tense).

əɹ sɪbli (fireworks).

tənu (great joy).

ɪfənu (color).

ʃokət (brought).

mɛli (could also).

ɪfkiɪkɪk (evil blackness) kiɪk -evil is within ɪfɪk – blackness.

kɛʃ (together with).

kɪmniɪk (tornado or destruction).

ʃokəo: (bring. Future tense).

When using adjectives and nouns insert the noun after the first syllable of the adjective. For example, æfr~(king) – noun kiznik (wiley) – adjective. kizæfr~nik (wiley king). Another example is saying “black king.” ifik (black) – description. æfr~ (king) - noun. ifæfr~ik (black king). Always insert the noun after the first syllable of the adjective in a sentence.

Télzræk Vocabulary:

æfr~ - king

æfik – judge

æfr~ik – almighty supreme ruler of the universe. “God.”

kiznik – Wiley

kunik – Wreaking havoc

kimnik - tornado or destruction

kirik – rainstorm.

ifkirk~ - snow storm.

kiliwik – hurricane.

kirikirik – thunder.

kĩ:3 - calculating.

kĩ:f - always watching.

kienik – mean.

kihik – evil.

kisrik – rude.

ker- - sound.

kepr- - noise.

kef - together with/with/together/and

\*Télzrək script is written from the right and down to the left. \*

Animals:

lɪsrətə - bear

ləlo: - monkey

ɛnoɐtə - squirrel

ɛʃko:çtə - racoon

təkətəm - deer

kɪsr-ɪk'kɪk - any dog

kɪzr-ɪnɪk - wolf

kɪznɪ.ɪk - coyote

ute - caribou

ɛʃtə'bə'ɛʃ - horse

ɛbəgo: - elk

kiko:ʃəM - mountain lion

kiko: - cat

kə.ɪtəM - beaver



### Animals

kətr-n – woodpecker  
kɛ:Mi – mountain blue bird  
kɛtɛk – owl  
ks:ɛ:pjɔ – eagle  
kzɛ:f – raven  
kMɛ:tr-s – duck  
kətəbu – kingfisher  
kzɛ:MəM – red winged black bird  
kzɛ: crow  
kəzɔs – sand hill crane

### Colors

ɪf – color ɪfənu – color  
kɛnɪf – red  
ɪfɪk/ɪfɪk – black  
ɪfr – white  
ɪfɪb – purple  
ɪfɪl – yellow  
ɪfMɛ – blue  
ɪfɛt – orange  
ɪfɔɪ – green  
ɪfɔɪə – brown  
ɪfɪɛ – gray  
kɛnɪfr – red and white mixture.

### Other

kʰɛp – star. ʃg – sky. ɣi:u: – night. kos – day. kosints – light and beauty. ɛənə – tree.

Commented [bd1]:

The third mystery is the thing in the universe that makes all things grow. This mystery can only be observed not explained. For example, we observe how a flower and tree grow but we cannot explain how it happens. We can observe a baby growing inside of a mother's womb, but we cannot explain it. This mystery that makes all things grow also falls under the categories of miracles and the unexplained. These types of miracles leave people in wonder.

ti:kʰe - family love

ti:k - term of endearment to a family member or close friend.

chjɛʃ - term of endearment among spouses. Romantic love.

kenti:kr - funny

kenti:vr - smile

kenti:pr - laugh

kenti:sr - happy

kenti:əkr - celebration

kenti:kir - wine

kenti:chi - a dance/ any dance

nɪr - to be silly; act silly. To say silly things. To do silly things.

kɪtɪgl - dream

sɪpsɔjɔ - any flower. Can also mean "flowers" because plurality is already implied in the word.

chukɛnɛn - huckleberries

chukɛt - blueberries

chukʃɪwɪʃ - raspberries

chukibi - Hawthorne berries

chukɛli - low bush cranberries

chukɛti high bush cranberries.

O:Jɪsɛ - before

tkɛl - down

Ososo - if

tɛlgɛt - forces

Mɛts - nearby

ənəMə - big. This word also refers to being small but powerful.

kɪto - because

lɛlɛtɛ - pocket

bɪsɛn - to

nɔbli:s - outside