
Les elf: I want, you should

Posted by Salim - 2007/06/03 06:35

A difficult and boring lesson, I fear, lots of grammar.

We will learn 'this/that/these' words.

We will handle the Dutch verbs for 'to must', 'to want' and 'to will/shall'

Conjunctions will pass.

More exercises! You can try them on paper and then check the answers immediately.

Pronunciation

Some more diphthongs:

* IEU as in "nieuw" a bit like /sEAI/, always before a 'w'

Grammar

The words for {this}, {that}, {these} and {those} depend partly on the article of the noun and partly whether they are used as a pronoun before a noun, or on their own as the object or on their own as the subject (with or without the noun they refer to).

As a pronoun before a noun, or on their own as the subject, or on their own as an object without the noun they refer to:

For the neutral article 'het' they are:

this - dit

that - dat

For the male and female article 'de' they are:

this - deze

that - die

The plural forms are the same for all articles:

these - deze

those - die

On their own as an object when the noun they refer to is in the same sentence:

this, these - dit

that, those - dat

So, some examples:

These books lie on this table - Deze boeken liggen op deze tafel.

That man writes with those pencils - Die man schrijft met die pennen.

This woman sleeps in that bed - Deze vrouw slaapt in dat bed.

Or on their own as an object (without referred noun):

This is mine - Dit is van mij.

These are yours - Deze zijn van jou.

Or on their own as a subject:

Ik give these to you - Ik geef deze aan jou.

We ate this - We aten dit.

Or on their own as an object (with referred noun):

Is this your book? - Is dit jouw boek?

Are those your books? - Zijn dat jouw boeken?

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We use the same Dutch verb for {will/shall} (they've basically the same meaning in English too). The Dutch verb is: "zullen", it's very irregular, almost like the verb "kunnen". It's like:

ik zal, jij/u zal (or jij/u zult) (zal jij), hij/zij/het zal, wij zullen, ik zou, wij zouden

There is no past perfect form. It's an auxiliary verb, so always used with the full form of another verb (although it's also used in another meaning as a normal verb, more about that later).

Examples:

I shall work tomorrow - Ik zal morgen werken.

Will you do it tonight? - Zal je het vanavond doen?

We would do it this morning - We zouden het vanmorgen doen.

When used as {should} it is used in conjunction with the {must} verb: "moeten":

ik moet, jij/u/hij/zij/het moet, wij moeten, ik moest, wij moesten, wij hebben ontmoet

Always the full verb is used in constructions like this:

We should do this - We zouden dit moeten doen.

But: We shall do this - We zullen dit doen.
Should I eat at the table? - Zou ik aan de tafel moeten eten?
But: Shall I eat at the table? - Zal ik aan de tafel eten?
These sentences can also be constructed with only the "moeten" verb:
We must do this - We moeten dit doen.
Must I eat at the table? - Moet ik aan de tafel eten?

Without the "moeten" verb it has more a meaning of {were supposed to}, as in:
We were supposed to do this - We zouden dit doen.
We were supposed to eat tonight - We zouden vanavond eten.
All in all a very complicated verb.

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The Dutch verb for {want} is: "willen", it's not irregular (surprise!), but the past present tense is often used in a gramatically bad form (no surprise).

It's like:
ik wil, jij/u wilt, hij/zij/het wil, wij willen, ik wilde, wij wilden, gewild

The bad past present form is (looking like the past perfect for "zullen" ("zouden")):
ik wou, wij wouden, gewild

Examples:

I want that dog - Ik wil die hond.
Did you want the red book? - Wilde (wou) u het rode boek?
We didn't want to do this - We wilden (wouden) dit niet doen.

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Conjunctions are used like in English. See the vocabulary for a list.

Examples:

If you will write it, I'll read it - Als jij het zal schrijven, zal ik het lezen.
I'll read it if you'll write it - Ik zal het lezen als jij het zal schrijven.
We do it because we must - Wij doen het omdat we (het) moeten.

Vocabulary

als if (also some other usages)
bah bah, pooh, pah
beloven to promise
da's that is (short for "dat is")
dat that, or: that, which
deze these
die those/that
dit this
doordat because, on account of
indien if, in case ("als" is used more often, "indien" is more used in official documents)
jaar year
jong young, or: young one, litter
jongen boy, lad, or: "jongen, jongen!" dear, dear!, oh dear!, or: to bring forth young animals
koken to boil, or: to cook food
lekker nice, delicious, good, fine, nicely
leuk amusing, funny or: jolly, pleasant
meid maid, girl (girl on its own is usually "meisje")
meisje girl, missy
moeten to must/have to
nadat after (we had seen it)
nieuw new
omdat because, as
opdat that, in order that
oud old
sjonge same as "tjonge", even more slang
terwijl while, whilst, as, or: meanwhile
tja well!
tjonge well!, have you ever! (slang for "jongen, jongen")
toen when, as, or: then, at that time
vijand enemy, foe
voordat before (we had seen it)
vriend friend, boy friend
vriendin friend, girl friend, lady friend

wanneer when
want for (we must do so) (conjugation)
willen to want
worden to become, going to be, to grow (old)
zo so, like that, such, or: thus, like this, in this way, or: presently, and: many other usages
zullen to shall/will

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