

## Preface

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~~Asked by M. Tuckner to write a Basque  
Grammar in English for his series of  
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1  
Basque Grammar  
Chapter I

The Basque language.

The Basque language, spoken in our days  
~~on both~~ slopes of the Pyrenean moun-  
tains, stands ~~in~~ <sup>as yet</sup> absolutely  
isolated, and belongs to the ~~flexible~~  
agglutinative languages. There are  
six principal dialects differing little  
the one from the other, from a philologi-  
cal point of view; but differing enough  
~~to~~ in their extreme varieties, to make  
the one <sup>with</sup> difficulty intelligible to the  
other. These dialects are: the Biscayan,  
the Guipurcoan, the Labourdian, the Soule-  
tin, the Navarrain, the Bas-Navarais. —

Chapter II  
The Alphabet

The original Basque Alphabet is unknown,  
but it may possibly be found one day in  
the so called Keltiberian inscriptions. The  
Latin alphabet has been adopted with  
some slight differences.

The five vowels are pronounced as in Ita-  
lian; the Souletin dialect <sup>alone</sup> pronounces  
u as french u or german ü.

The consonants are also pronounced as in  
Italian with the exception of g, which is

is always pronounced hard as in 'go', even before e and i; 2° of z which has the sound of f in English; 3° of ch which is pronounced like sh in 'shall' preceded by t. The French-Basque dialects mixte tch; 4° of j which the Spanish-Basque dialects pronounce like Spanish gota (jj), and the French-Basque dialects like y ('year'); -- Palatal n is pronounced like Spanish ñ or gn in French agnneau.

### Chapter III The phonetic system.

7. Original k when final and followed by a suffix, is converted into t or is eliminated; ak 'they' followed by n 'of' gives aen 'of them'; etcheak 'the house's' fol-

(<sup>1</sup> Most of the dialects) followed by ra 'towards' gives etcheatra; the do not like etcheatas and introduce (after a) preceding in this case ra is only to avoid the dropping of k,) the pronunciation.<sup>(+)</sup> The Biscayan dialect aen they say ayen; sometimes keeps the k: gironakar 'by the duyala for duk-la men' for gironetar.

'that thou hast'. When k is not primitive, but when it proceeds from h, then medial k is allowed: arkume 'lamb' stands for ari-hume sheep-child.

8. The aspirated h has been preserved in the French-Basque dialects; the others have dropped it; hi 'thou' is z in Biscayan and grizmu z coan.

2)

Final h becomes k: dakark 'thou bearest it' from d-ekar-h; final h stands for hi 'thou'. Initial h, <sup>coming</sup> placed in consequence of agglutination or composition in the middle of the word is hardened to k or eliminated: zora-heria becomes zorakeria 'madness'. When h is thrown out the same case pre-  
sents follows itself as with k, that is to say a  
 hiatus is produced, and then prevented by  
 putting an g in its place; daroa-h-o-t  
 becomes first daroakot (see initial h); and  
<sup>P</sup> then darooyot (see initial h). Some dialects  
 keep the k and say nindukan 'thou  
 hast me'; others drop it and replace it by  
g: ninduyan. from n-indu-h-n.

I is dropped before k; bat and kid make  
bakid 'common'.

N becomes m before b, p; non and bait  
 make nombait; and before k, l, z, t the  
n is dropped: nora from non-za; gironau  
kin 'with the man' from gironaren-kin;  
citritik 'on the contrary' from citrin-tik.

Z before z becomes t: etzen from ez-zen  
 'he was not'.

R No word begins with z. There are two  
 kinds of z, one hard, the other soft; the  
 hard one is doubled when at the end of a  
 word and when a suffix follows; lure 'earth'  
lurre 'the earth'. Soft z is never doubled;

it is found in some few words: ure 'water'  
ord 'dog' urd, 'mud', ure 'the water'; ore 'the  
dog'; uru 'the wood': The pronunciation  
of this z is very soft, ~~and~~ it is nearly a  
d.

V is seldom used and has been replaced by  
b.

F is considered as not being a Basque  
letter; there is only one word with f and  
which looks really like Basque: fanca,  
laugh (substantive).

In consequence of the agglutination  
the phonetic laws are continually in  
action and have to decide which letters  
may follow each other.

Thus when two consonants meet in  
two different syllables one has to observe  
the following rules are to be observed:  
The hard explosives after a sibilant, an z or the  
vowels.

The soft explosives <sup>come</sup> after l, m, n.

In consequence of these rules:

The hard explosives k, t, p are changed ~~for~~ <sup>to</sup> their  
corresponding soft ones g, d, b after l, m, n:  
eldu and not eltu 'carried'; ongi and  
not ontzi 'well'; emendik and not  
ementik 'from here'.

3)

The soft ~~affricates~~ explosives g. d. b. are changed to the corresponding hard ones k. t. p. after z, the sibilants and the vowels.  
Burgosko of Burgos; Ortherarra <sup>inhabitant</sup> ~~of~~ of Orther; (but Olandara <sup>to</sup> inhabit of Oloron)  
Lekisun 'that they were to us' for lehiogun

Examples of transposition of letters  
 (metathesis, hyperthesis) are very common in Basque: gabe and bage; izuri and iduri; igaro and irago etc.

==

Table of the mutation of consonants  
 in Basque words of different dialects.

R <sup>(s, z, ch.)</sup>  
 L t      Gutturals

## Chapitel IV The <sup>definite</sup> Article a 'the'.

The article is the demonstrative pronoun, formerly ~~has or~~ now a, "the". The Biscayan dialect is the only one which has kept both; all the other dialects have lost a as a demonstrative <sup>pronoun</sup> and have it only as as the article, in the shape of a, which is put behind the noun like all other modifying words: eche 'house'; eche 'the house'; eche 'house'; eche a 'the house', which is written in consequence of the agglutinative nature of the language ~~and appears~~.

As ~~also when~~ as a is followed by a suffix, generally the a reappears: a + n becomes aren 'of the'.

As the suffix for the plural is k, the plural article is arek 'the'; French 'les'. but this is not the form of the article, & arek is only used as the demonstrative pronoun; the article being always agglutinated to the noun, (~~for~~ e.g. giron 'man'; girona 'the man') the plural of the article does not exist independently, ~~for~~ itself; and giron-a in the plural form is giron-ak; a being the ~~exempted~~ ~~not adopted~~ forms, the plural is simply expressed by adding k; gironak.

Chapter <sup>IV</sup>  
Agglutination.

Agglutination consists in putting one word behind another so as to form a more or less homogeneous compound: giron 'man' girona 'the man'; girona-  
gandik 'for the man'; dakust 'I-see-him'  
for d-ikus-t;

The agglutinated word or syllable or letter, is preceded sometimes by a, sometimes by e, or by i, or by o.

When a precedes, this a is always the article; ~~ekh chini ekes~~ the house gi-  
rona etoni de 'the man has come'.

When e precedes, this letter is merely a binding letter; <sup>thus</sup> bat 'one' with the article makes bata 'the one'; and as agent  
of a transitive verb (<sup>e.g.</sup> the ~~one~~ speaks) batak; but bat without the article and  
represented as acting, would be battk, which  
cannot be pronounced, and thus e is  
interpolated: balek. This e is thus at  
the same time the characteristic of the  
indefinite form i.e. the noun without  
article. Consequently ~~any~~ words which do  
not admit of being receiving a definite form,  
like pronouns and numerals, have all of  
them an e before the suffix, if any inter-

polation be necessary; v. b. the pronoun  
a 'that' (formerly ai) followed by the  
~~plural~~<sup>of action</sup> suffix k becomes ark; but 'that'  
 and ark 'those'; e serves here only to  
 distinguish two identical forms; the k  
 in the first example is the suffix of the  
 agent, in the second one the suffix of  
 plural. Norbait 'some one', with the  
 suffix of action k, becomes norbaitek;  
 not to distinguish it from another form,  
 but because t and k are not allowed to  
 follow each other. E is thus a neutral  
 vowel, to employed when a could not be  
 made use of, or for pronunciation sake.  
 When o precedes the suffix, exclusion is  
 expressed: gironok joango gera 'we  
 men we shall go'. In French one would  
 translate this by: Nous autres hommes.  
O + k <sup>(most probably)</sup> ~~it apparently~~ <sup>the</sup> contraction of the  
 demonstrative pronoun oyek; o  
~~the~~ <sup>?</sup> will be discussed in the chapter  
 on suffixes, see ik.

# Chapter VI

## The Suffixes.

The grammatical relations expressed in other languages by cases or by prepositions, are expressed in Basque by suffixes.  
fe:gi nigabe for ni-gabe 'without-me';  
ha gatik for ha-gatik exactly English therefore; ha is the demonstrative, for gatik is 'for'.

### List of suffixes

<u>k</u> , mark of agent	<u>dik</u> , <u>tik</u> , of
<u>k</u> , mark of plural	<u>baithan</u> , in
<u>n</u> , 'in'	<u>beithan</u> , in
<u>l</u> , 'to'	<u>pean</u> , under
<u>z</u> , 'by'	<u>gan</u> , in
<u>ik</u> , 'some'	<u>gana</u> to, at
<u>ko</u> , <u>go</u> 'of'	<u>gandik</u> from
<u>kotzat</u> 'for'	<u>gatik</u> for
<u>ku</u> , with	<u>za</u> towards
<u>kiko</u> , for	<u>yako</u> towards
<u>trat</u> , for	<u>zano</u> until
<u>trako</u> , for	<u>zon</u> towards
<u>kar</u> , <u>gar</u> with	<u>ka</u> on
<u>no</u> , until	

Some of these suffixes are joined to  
 1° definite and indefinite <sup>i.e. nouns without the article</sup> nouns,  
 2° indefinite nouns, i.e. without the article  
 3° definite nouns. i.e. with the article

7)

## Suffices N° 1

k agent-subject; n 'of'; t 'to'; z 'by'; kin 'with'; teh 'for'.

<u>Giron-k</u>	makes	<u>gironek</u>	<sup>+ man</sup> man
<u>Girona-k</u>	"	<u>gironak</u>	"th man"
<u>Giron-z</u>	:	<u>girones</u>	"by man"
<u>Girona-z</u>	:	<u>gironaz</u>	"by th man"
<u>Giron-<u>k</u>n</u>	:	<u>gironen</u>	"of man"
<u>Girona-n</u>	:	<u>gironaren</u>	"of the man"
<u>Bilbao-n</u>		<u>Bilbaon</u>	in Bilbao
<u>Echea - n</u>		<u>Echean</u>	in the house

## Suffices N° 2

ra 'towards', ron 'towards'; rako 'towards';  
rauo 'until'; ko 'of' dik or ti-k from <sup>out</sup>~~out~~  
ek ik no denoting 'some'; ka on, by.

Echera towards (th) house; never echeara

Echeraz towards (th) house;

Echeko of (th) house;

Gironik of some men'

Zaldika on horse back

Echetik from out of (th) house

Such compounds are translated thus because in English we cannot say towards house or from house; but it is clear that as no article is expressed the literal translation should be: towards house, etc. .

## Suffixes No 3.

K, mark of the plural; gan, gana, gandik,  
baithan or leithan at, n (our location).  
except with ~~base~~ names of places which are  
always indefinite: Bilbao.

Echean echea-n, and never eche-n 'in the  
house'; Tainkoagan 'in God'.

When words have no definite form, like  
pronouns, numerals, proper names, etc. one  
is obliged to put these suffixes to the  
indefinite form nigan 'in me'; Bilbao  
'in Bilbao.'

### The suffixes with the plural noun.

When the suffixes are agglutinated to  
plural nouns, the k, mark of the plural,  
is scarcely ever maintained; generally it  
is converted into t <sup>or</sup> it is dropped and often  
y is put in its place to prevent the hiatus.

Hauk 'those' followed by k (agent) makes hayek for hauk  
gironak 'the men' . . . by n makes gironen for gironaken  
Echeak 'the houses' . . . ko . . . echeatko for echeak-ko  
Orieck 'those' . . . ra . . . oreetara for orieck-ra

## The suffix k

P.  
i.e. the subject of  
a transitive verb

k is the characteristic letter of the agent-subject. Mi is 'I'; but 'I know it' is rendered by nik badakit; the patient-subject remains unaltered: mi elori nail 'I have come <sup>in</sup> ~~go~~ ~~out~~ ~~come~~' In Basque like in French 'to come' is conjugated with 'to be', being an intransitive verb.

The Spanish-Basque dialects observe this difference between agent and patient subject only in the singular; but the French-Basque dialects observe it in both numbers: Egileko doktorek beretako hartz zituzten... 'The doctors of Pam took for themselves': Haurak joan dira 'the children have gone'. Haurak subject of an intransitive verb, remains unaltered haurak+k; but doktor, subject of an transitive verb has, besides the k of the plural, the k of the agent, thus doktorak+k or doktorakek; the medial k has been dropped doktorak, according to the rule and as e <sup>is</sup> has the accent, e was also dropped, which gave the form doktorak.

## The suffix k (plural)

This suffix is subject to phonetic ~~other~~ rules. When followed by the suffixes z, ra, tik, ko con and n (locative), it becomes t: Etxeak 'the houses'

followed by n (locative) <sup>in the house</sup> does not make echeakan but echeekan; oneek 'these' does not make oneekan but oneekan 'in these'. Oyek + ra gives oyekera 'towards these' and not oyekera or oyekra.

It is but very seldom and then generally in the Biscayan dialect that medial k is maintained: gizmaker 'with the men' for gironetar.

The dropping of k is much more frequent than the mutation of k; thus the demonstrative pronoun a (formerly as) is in the plural areek which is for arekek 'they' agent-utepot, now distinction which is now forgotten: hek 'those' becomes, as a subject-agent, heyek for hekek. The dropping of k would here left heek and this hiatus is prevented by putting in y. Dieradaan 'that then had to me' is for dieradakan, and is also dieradayan (subj.).

# The suffix ik

The suffix ik corresponds to what in French grammar is called 'partitif' and what in English or Dutch is not rendered at all; ~~e.g. Burnik erai~~ 'he has no judgment.'

Baden ogirik 'you have bread'. In French one would say: il n'a pas de jugement; thus over de pain. It is quite clear that the 'de' called partitif, though rendered <sup>and sometimes</sup> in English by 'some' explains nothing at all. I think one must consider (as Basque like in any other language) bread, judgment, etc. as words <sup>of</sup> ~~in~~ <sup>having</sup> an indefinite form, ~~which~~ is rendered in English by 'some' and sometimes ~~as also in Dutch by the noun without either article or preposition or auxiliaries~~ which is expressed by the Basques by ik. ~~and ik~~ is nothing else but the ~~suffis~~ <sup>placed</sup> to preceded by i, which ~~for some reason or other~~ has been assigned an indefinite meaning. In fact when I say in English 'I have not seen any house like yours', it is quite clear that house, though a singular, conveys the idea of a plural; without plurality no comparison could have been established; ~~in Dutch we say~~ In French one would say Je n'ai pas de maison etc. and the Basques in this case put ik to the noun. It is thus the characteristic of the indefinite and is originally a plural form.

Two more examples: Ark biderik asko barnen. He had many motives; bide-ik; the z is for the sake of euphony. Ex dego gloriariak Jaungoikoaren agenduak gorde gake. 'There is no glory without the obedience of God's commands; or there is not any glory etc... To show how precise and concise the Basques may express themselves, let me quote one sentence more: Banca erdiko onenak jatea doerotz debekatu zim, But to eat some (fruit) of this (tree) in the middle, he forbade it them <sup>positively</sup> peremptorily. Onen is the genuine singular 'of this'; with the article a onenak 'he of this' and in the plural form onenak 'they (fruit) of this (tree)'. But, instead of the definite plural, the author writes onenak, the indefinite plural 'some (fruit) of this'. The primitive plural signification of ik is lost and the secondary one only maintained itself; i.e. that of the indefinite.

10) The suffix n

N corresponds to our:

1° Locative.

2° Genitive.

3° Relative pronoun.

4° Conjunction 'that'.

1.2. The origin of n is most probably the demonstrative ~~(there)~~ non with the specification of locality. Bilbao in Bilbao was originally Bilbao non. This Locative was later extended to express the genitive just as was the case in Latin.

3. The relative sentence was primarily ~~explicat~~ added to the principal one without any explanatory word, just as is still the case in the English sentence: This is the man I saw. Later, for clearness' sake, a demonstrative has been added, and this 'demonstrative' is non in Basque, just as in English 'that': That man; and: the subject that was discussed.

4. The demonstrative non is also used as the conjunction 'that'; just as in English 'that I may see' ekusci dezan. Dezan-n is pronounced dezan 'that I may' + and n is the contracted form of non. —

1. p. 222. 1<sup>st</sup> ed.)

## N as a locative 'in'

Except when n ~~follows~~ is agglutinated to the name of a place, it is always added to a definite noun; one cannot say echen 'in (~~the~~) house' from eche 'house'; one must say echean 'in the house'; but Madrid+n is Madriden; Bilbao+n Bilbaon.

To express ~~the~~ same grammatical relation in the plural form, one adds n to the plural noun and the mark of plural k is converted into t: eche + k+n becomes eche+t+k+n or echeekean 'in the houses'.

N is not added to ~~proper~~ names of persons see the suffix gan.

When nouns do not admit of a definite form, like numerals, n is agglutinated in the shape of tan: hiru three followed by n does not make hirutan but hiruretan 'in three'. The same happens with the pronouns; on+n is not onetan but onetan 'in this'; liburu onetan 'in this book'.

## N as a genitive.

N is agglutinated to definite and indefinite nouns. Seme 'son' followed by n makes Semeren 'of son'; the z is to prevent the hiatus. Semea 'the son'; Semearen 'of the son'; that is seme-a-en of the -son; the z, consequently is the z of the article. The Biscayan dialect likes the hiatus and drops very often this organic z: Semearen. In the plural form the k is eliminated according to the rule: gironaen for gironaken; the a has also been lost and one says gironen 'of the men'. Hauk 'there'; hauen for hauken 'of them'.

## N as a relative pronoun

The relative, as in many other languages, was first originally a demonstrative word, and most probably the sentence: eroti duen liburna 'The book that h has brought', was formerly eroti du non liburna. Du 'he has', followed by n, contracted form of non, becomes duen.

N as the conjunction 'that'

The conjunction was formerly in many languages, and so in Basque, a demonstrative word; and the sentence 'I think, that he will come,' was originally: I think ~~this~~ ~~so that~~ <sup>the</sup> he will come. The transposition of the ~~signified~~ <sup>comma</sup> in English explains clearly the difference.

The suffix z

I corresponds to 'to'; gizon 'man'; gizori 'to man'; gizuna 'the man'; gizunari 'to the man'; after a vowel z is interpolated; ezki 'hand', ezkeri buru 'head' bururi 'to head'. The z in gizunari belongs to the article az; the z in bururi is for the sake of euphony. In the plural forms the z is dropped; buruak for buruaki; the french-basque dialects change z in z and say buruci.

The suffix ek

This suffix is rendered by 'by' and in the Biscayan dialect it is employed also for 'with'. Buruz 'by heart'; makillaz 'with the stick'; ezker. Beto buruz, full with earth. If the noun terminates with a consonant, as is the case with bur, then it is necessary to interpolate an z: buruz.

With a plural noun there is first of all the regular way of converting k into z: gironakar <sup>by a with the men,</sup> for gironakaz, ~~but the~~  
and this last form is <sup>still</sup> in use in the Biscayan dialect. This dialect has also g for k; and even some dialects have z and tz: thus zar and tarz; they are phonetic corruptions of kar.

This termination gar, tar or ze is employed like tan (see n) with numerals, pronouns, etc.; hek 'those' followed by z does not make heker, but hetar or her for hektraz. The smelting has the very corrupted form uz.

### The suffix dik or lik.

This suffix corresponds to 'from' or 'since'.  
Kastetik kintzeka egiztu ... Resist from the beginning... Nondik zator Wherefrom do you come? Dik is not used for persons, in that case one employs gandik: Noran-dik? from whom?

The rule for the plural is always the same; eche + k + tik becomes ~~does not make~~ echetaktik 'from the houses'. Lik stands for Dik according to the phonetic rules.

## The suffix ko or go

This suffix is employed in different ways:  
1° to express comparison (see the degrees of  
comparison).

2° corresponding to 'from'. Buynosko 'from  
Buynos'; nongo 'from where'; luneko  
from (the) earth or terrestrial; goirko from  
(the) morning.

These last examples show us that the  
Basque language forms adjectives from  
what we ~~would~~ <sup>should</sup> call in our languages ge-  
neritives.

Ko is never added to the definite form of the  
noun; one could not say elcheako.

I have to give 3° go serves like Spanish 'di' to express  
the future: omango olat 'I shall give' <sup>to</sup>.  
The phonetic rules decide which of the  
two, Ko or go has to be used.

4° go expresses also the object of an action,  
which is rendered in french by 'par' in  
german by 'um zu': Eta ordena ziburu  
hamabi harekin izateko eta jasotakoren  
igortreko. Marc III, 14. And he ordained  
himself that they should be with him and  
that he might send them forth to preach.

## The suffix tzat

Tzat corresponds to 'for' and is added generally to the genitive of the noun; gizon 'man' gizontzat 'of the man'; gizontzatzat 'for the man'; gizontzatzat 'for the men'. When added to the noun in its unaltered form the significance still is somewhat different: erotzat olantzat 'I hold him for mad'. Laguntzat hartz du 'I have taken him for or as a companion.'

## The suffix kan or gan

This suffix is known only in the Biscayan dialect. Kan signifies 'in'. It is in fact an erroneous theory to quote kan or gan as a suffix, because the k belongs to the noun; and n (<sup>alone</sup>) is not the suffix; at to locality. ~~which was discussed above~~; Ela misericordia infinitagan. and in (his) ~~for~~ endless mercy. Gan (for kan is or more exactly k-n) is a plural which is in use for the singular; though not in all cases; only for the localization of persons; the location of places 'is in' as in all other dialects: Bilbaon 'in Bilbao'. -

The suffix gana, gandik, ganeko.

Gana corresponds in all dialects to : towards, unto, to : Jainko agana bihote gortitrea.  
to one's heart unto God.

Gandik signifies 'from': Nor gandik zator? from whom do you come.

Ganeko signifies 'towards': Nor girevaga nako jaungorkoaren amrio a eragutzen duen 'he who knows God's love towards men.'

The suffix gake.

Gake, bage, baga, gaber, bagar 'without'. This suffix is sometimes suffia sometimes termination (see Chapter ). Gake is agglutinated only to definite nouns: ogia gake and not ogigake 'without bread' but with numerals, pronouns, etc. which have no definite or must add gake to the indefinite form nigake 'without me'

The suffix no

No or ño or inno corresponds to 'until'. No is probably the original stem nw. The final w has been dropped. The conjugation that could express 'until'; wait that, I come in ~~at~~ wait until I come may render the same idea. The only objection is the palatal pronunciation ~~at least~~ of the w in ño

## The suffix ra

Ra is rendered by 'to, towards' or is not rendered at all in English: eche ra I go home; literally 'towards house I go'. Added to a plural form the k of the plural is converted into t: eche + k + ra <sup>makes at</sup> gives echeetra. Like the other suffixes, when added to numerals, pronouns etc. this plural termination ra is agglutinated to them: or 'that', orrebra 'towards that'. Sometimes the French-Basque dialects write rat for ra, and in some localities they ~~says~~ says la or lat.

As no word begins with z it is most likely that ra is a corrupted form of some noun, and this noun will be azan 'rule' (see my Dict.). Ra is much used for ~~making~~ verbs and to give them the signification of direction.

## The suffix kin.

Kin is rendered by 'with'. kin is always agglutinated to a noun followed by n, i.e. a genitive of one language, and this leads me to believe that kin is for kidet n 'in participation' 'in company'; and therefore the genitive: qironarekin 'with the man' was thus originally 'in company of' the man.

## The suffixes routx, baithan, ka.

Routx, or rute, bise. indicates the direction, somewhat like 'towards' (more exactly the German 'hin'). No rute jaunten garian 'towards where we may fall', or wherever etc.

Baithan, beithan is used for n 'in' when we speak of persons or spoken of: Eta ni baithan sinhesten duen and he who believes in me. Very often baithan is constructed with n, i.e. the genitive. Baithan is most probably itself a locative of a noun baith + n.

Ka corresponds with 'at' or with; Zaldika on horse (<sup>or by</sup> back); Soka with locks. Ka is sometimes te: makillata with a by blows of a stick

## Compound suffixes

There are compound suffixes in Basque just as there are compound prepositions in English, like towards, upon etc.

kotxat in order to, though. Eta hers erasue azautas erratu kotxat. Matth. XIII 30 And bind them in bundles to burn them. Ain aberats izalekote (for izalekotat) though he be rich ...

zko, is compound of z-ko and does not say more than z.

Lako 'because'.

Trako. 'towards' and some others which offer nothing interesting and which are to be found in the dictionary.

## Chapter VIII The pronouns.

### § 1

#### The demonstrative pronouns

There are now no more than four demonstrative pronouns: a, hura, han hori. Traces of other demonstratives have lost, formerly there were some more of which are found ~~in~~ in the subflections of the verb: al 'it' and l 'I'; dakust from ikusi signifies I-see-it I-thus-t.

### § 2

#### The pronoun a 'that'

Originally this pronoun was har, or ar in the Spanish-Basque dialects, which has lost all the initial ha: ar.

The Biscayan dialect is the only one which has <sup>the</sup> conserved a as a pronoun and at the same time as <sup>the</sup> article. In the first case it is written, like all other pronouns, separated from the noun; as <sup>an</sup> the article it is agglutinated to the noun.

when

As soon as the pronoun is followed by a suffix, the primitive e reappears; a + n makes aren 'of that'; harka (locative) makes harkan (see suffix \*) a + re becomes arare 'towards that'; a + k becomes ark 'these'; this is the plural form; an followed by k the suffix of the agent becomes ark 'that'. The plural form ark is biscayan, as well as æk; but the other dialects object to the hiatus and have interpolated y: ayek.

The Spanish-Basque dialects have <sup>only</sup> the plural form for the subject of an <sup>transition</sup> action and for the subject of an intensive verb. The French-Basque dialects have <sup>two</sup> separate forms.

	Patient	Agent
Lab.	<u>Hekiek</u>	<u>Hekiek</u>
	<u>Hek</u>	<u>Hekik</u>
	<u>Hek</u>	<u>Hek</u>
	<u>Hek</u>	<u>Hayek</u>

Soul. Huak Hek

But, though not <sup>longer</sup> in use, the biseccian <sup>Dialect</sup> possesses the two different forms, but the signification of ark has been lost.

Thus ark, patient plural form, to which k the suffix of action is agglutinated, becomes ark-k or arek, and after <sup>the</sup> dropping of medial k, according to the rule, areek, which is still in use.

In the same way har+k becomes hark, and by dropping ɛ:haek, which is contracted in the French Basque dialects to hek 'these', this hek followed by k, to form the agent-subject, becomes hekek, and after eliminating medial k: heek, and in order to avoid the hiatus: heyek or contracted to hek, ~~for~~<sup>as other dialects</sup> some varieties have done, prefer.

### § 3

The plural pronoun with suffixes  
 The suffixes are agglutinated to the plural pronouns, causing <sup>as usual</sup> the final k to be dropped or converted into t. This ~~last~~ When it is one of the following suffixes z, ko, ra, dik, ron, k becomes l: ayekan ~~+ n (location)~~ from ayek-n (locative) 'in these'; hetar from hek-z, etc. 'by these'. With the other suffixes the k is dropped, and in some dialects the hiatus is avoided by ~~putting~~<sup>inserting</sup> y. Aei (bis.) from aek+i, 'to these'; hey or hei<sup>(lab.)</sup> from hek-i.

The singular pronouns with the  
suffixes n., z., ko, dik., ea, rouk

We have seen that when a plural noun or pronoun is followed by one of the above named suffixes the k of the plural is converted into t; this gives to these nouns an ~~the~~ appearance as if they were followed by the suffixes tan, tar, ta~~ko~~ etc. This view has been until now adopted by all ~~those~~ who wrote on Basque, but I proved <sup>deut.</sup> I think that this view is evidently erroneous; and that t is originally the plural k. But what is not yet explained is that these terminations tan, tar etc. are found agglutinated to the singular pronouns; ~~f.i.~~ <sup>e.g.</sup> ~~has~~ the pronoun a, (formerly har or ar) followed by n (locative), ~~requires~~ ~~retakes~~ its original form when a suffix follows, and becomes hartan ('in that'; on 'this' followed by n gives onetan ('in this'); liburu onetan 'in this book'. We have seen that n is not agglutinated to indefinite ~~that~~ nouns, except when the noun does not admit of a definite <sup>form</sup> ~~form~~; as pronouns do not, n had to be agglutinated to the pronoun and it appears that hartan was judged not to express adequately the meaning

and as the indefinite form conveys, not only in Basque, but in any other language, an idea of plurality, it would seem that ~~the~~ the Pronoun, being indefinite, its modifications were expressed by a plural form, which in other cases, as we have seen with the suffix ik, rendered this service very well.

All pronouns (mitaz 'by me' and not niz) like all numerals have this form which reminds of the plural, without being so really, for the plural of arken or haizten ('in that') would be ayetzen, ~~this~~<sup>they</sup> ~~time~~ regularly formed as has been shown in § 3.

Some dialects have a special termination che for expressing what is rendered in French by 'même', ~~this~~<sup>the</sup> au che 'this', celui-ci même. Auchu and the like are then considered as new themes to which all the suffixes can be agglutinated.

The pronoun hau, han, an 'this'  
han is the primitive form; the dropping  
of final z is very frequent in Basque;  
shinu = him 'three'; (nua) = no (bisc.) 'who'  
etc.

~~(20)~~ This pronoun is only used as a subject-patient hau 'this', and for the plural hauk 'these'. For the subject-agent there is another one, from a theme on; ~~or~~ hun (according to <sup>the</sup> dialects): onek, hunek; this theme on replaces superseded hau whenever a suffix is agglutinated; the bascian dialect alone <sup>has</sup> ~~says~~ ank (subject-agent). ~~but even~~ The plural is formed in this dialect ~~also~~ from on: onerek 'these'; but in all the other dialects <sup>from</sup> ~~of~~ hau, of which the z is lost: hauk, f. bn. onuk Mar. and oyek or oek, quis. In this last dialect an is represented by o and y prevents ~~the~~ hiatus. The sestertia dialect has hork. When k is added to these plural forms, hauk + k for the subject-agent we find haukek or hayyek from hauk + k or haukk. This is only the case in the french-basque dialects, the <sup>other</sup> ~~factka~~ observations made on the pronoun a are all applicable to this one.

The pronoun on, or hun = 'this'

On or hun = 'this' is the theme of mek which is the agent-subject corresponding to an = 'this' (see the preceding paragraph). I suppose then oni, from the theme on, is the pronoun as subject-patient, i.e. ~~the~~<sup>in</sup> ~~form~~<sup>form</sup> simplest form. It is found in that ~~shape~~<sup>form</sup> in the pronoun neroni 'myself' for ne-re-oni. see the personal pronouns. It is not an anomaly that i is lost in mek; this is also the case with ori = 'that'. The plural of this pronoun, seems, as said in the preceding § 5, for the plural of ham.

## § 7

The pronoun hori, ori 'that'

In all the dialects the subject-patient is hori or ori, and the subject-agent horrek or orek; and for the plural horrik or orek, and horrik, from ~~this last (from~~ hori+k+k) or hoyek. The soultion has horik subj. pat. and horrik subj. ag.

There are here two themes, ori and or; the first with soft ȝ, the second with hard ȝ, ~~this~~ doubled when a suffix is agglutinated, and this last one is always in use when a suffix follows (except k): ~~if~~ <sup>e.g.</sup> it

ozen 'of that'; ori 'to that'; orgatikan 'for that, therefore'.

In the plural hori or ori is always the theme; except in Biscayan where or is employed; thus orick from ori-k, quip. horick, lab.; but oreek bise. ~~of those~~.

If ~~it~~ is one of the suffixes z. n. ko, dik, ra ron ~~that~~ follows, k is converted into t: horielan 'in those' from horick-n etc.

### § 8 The pronoun hura 'that'

This pronoun exists in all the dialects except in Biscayan where the corresponding pronoun is a. <sup>in the singular</sup>  
Hura is used for the subject-patient; the corresponding subject-agent is hark or ark from har. As soon as hura is ~~should be not~~ employed with a suffix, one takes har or ar: argatik 'therefore'; also in the plural form. The Souletin is the only dialect which has made a plural from hura; <sup>which is</sup> hurek.

=

### § 9.

### The personal pronouns.

	bise.	g. l. bn.
I	<u>neu</u> , <u>ni</u> bise.	<u>ni</u>
Thou	<u>eu</u> , <u>i</u>	<u>hi</u>
We	<u>geu</u> , <u>gu</u>	<u>gu</u>
You	<u>teus</u> , <u>tu</u>	<u>tu</u>

Judging from the verbal flexion there was another personal pronoun for 'I'; dakust 'I see' is formed of d-ikus-t. I 'I' ikus <sup>the</sup> verb, d <sup>the</sup> pronoun 'it'.

The third person is rendered by a demonstrative pronoun, but again in the verbal flexion we find a it sometimes as object sometimes as subject; as dakust 'I see it' as object; in doa 'he goes' it as subject.

In the verb the third person is rendered in different ways; in the present of the indicative <sup>of transitive verbs</sup> the third person is conspicuous by its absence;

dakar for d-ekar 'bears it', for 'he bears it'; this same thing is also the case in the imperfect, or 'he' is rendered by z which is the more frequent. ~~way~~

The 3 person of the present of the indicative of the intransitive verbs has it as its characteristic letter. This is perhaps the

same pronoun as subject, which stands as initial as object in the 3<sup>rd</sup> persons <sup>present of the</sup> of the indicative of the transitive verbs: dakust 'I see it'. ~~as initial~~ ~~present of the~~ ~~object~~ ~~3<sup>rd</sup> persons~~ ~~of the~~ ~~indicative~~ ~~transitive verbs~~ ~~absolute~~

The use of the pronoun hi is nearly lost; hi has been superseded by the more formal tu 'you'. When tu became a singular, some sign was wanted to distinguish tu singular from tu plural, and this sign was found in the suffis of plural k.

But as zuk might have been taken for the subject-agent, e was introduced <sup>both and</sup> zuk became the pronoun of the <sup>second person</sup> plural.  
In Soutchin zick.

The suffixes are added to these pronouns ~~just as~~ like to the others, so in the regularly ~~way~~ makes niki; ni- z makes nizak ni- ~~z~~ makes niri 'to me'; zuk + i zuei 'to you' see § 4.

### § 10

The emphatic personal pronouns are formed ~~with~~ by the addition of a demonstrative pronoun; ni 'I' and ham 'this' makes niham 'I myself'; some dialects add the demonstration to the genitive of ni which is neu: neran.

### § 11

#### The possessive pronouns.

These pronouns are the genitives of the personal pronouns, i.e. nitn, hi+n etc.

final n has <sup>been lost.</sup>  
neue, nire nre nips  
ene hie hire hipoo  
gire gire gire bit  
zeure zire zire your

Ner ecches 'the house of me', nere ekchak 'the house of me'. The Soutchin dialects has ene for nre.

The third person <sup>singular</sup> is expressed by bere,  
the genitive of a lost pronoun be;  
bere ecrea 'his house'; and in the plural  
form beren 'their', at least in the Spanish <sup>use</sup>  
barque dialects; the other dialects ~~say~~  
bere in both the numbers.

This third person can also be rendered  
by arem of him = his; and by ayen of  
them = their: —

The second person <sup>plural</sup> being in use for the  
singular <sup>they is</sup> ~~was used~~ a plural  
zuek (which, followed by n, gives  
zueken; and dropping k: zuen / you =  
you (plural)).

The possessive adjectives miu, mine  
etc. are neurea, nerea hirea, etc. more  
clearly translated <sup>by</sup> French 'le miu'  
than <sup>by</sup> English 'mine'.

§

### The reflexive pronoun

Their pronoun 'self' is rendered by burn  
'head' Bainak begira eyzne zuek  
zurun burnei Marc XIII, 9 But take  
head to yourselves. As 'yourselves' is a  
plural so burn has the plural form  
i.e. burnak+i <sup>and</sup> after <sup>the</sup> burnai  
dropping k (the  
§ . ai=ei see §

## The relative pronoun.

This pronoun is rendered by the suffix n (see § Ch. VII), agglutinated to the verbal flection; and if this flection ends with a con-  
sonant ~~this~~<sup>it</sup> consonant is liable to ~~the~~<sup>the</sup> ho-  
netic rules dut 'I have' followed by n  
becomes dudan: Ikuu dudan girona  
the man that I have seen. The oblique  
cases are not rendered by n, but by the  
interrogative pronoun zein: Elii an  
zein areen tu rera jabe 'that house of  
which you are the master.'

## The interrogative pronouns

They are nor 'who'; zen, zein <sup>which</sup> who, ter  
'what'. Zein da giron hain eukurna...  
which is the man as wise ... Nor da  
hor? Who is there. Ter da hau? What  
is this?

The suffixes are agglutinated regularly  
to these pronouns: nor+k noruk, subject-agency;  
nor-n 'nor-en' of whom' etc.

The indefinite pronouns.

Bat, 'some one'; batus 'some' (plural);  
elbat (soul.) 'some'; bako h., bakoik  
'each'; balbedea 'every one'; bedera  
one single. Dicakreak Diaden emarte  
bederaren sentar 1 Tim. III, 12. Let the  
deacons be ~~the~~<sup>+++</sup> husbands of one wife.

Bana 'each'                                    Bertie, beste 'other'.  
Manit, aunits 'much' 'many'. Inor, nikor  
'somebody'. Norbait 'some one'. Zerbait  
something. Zembait 'some', ~~to~~<sup>+\*</sup> 'one'. Ela han zinaden elazik zembeikek Mere XIV  
47 'And one of them that stood (kelmen)  
there'. Nor bere, nor ere 'every one'.  
Elkar the one <sup>cus</sup> the other. Edorein 'any  
one. Eren something.

Chapter  
The numerals  
§ 1

The Cardinal numerals

1	17
2	18
3	19
4	20
5	21
6	22
7	30
8	40
9	50
10	60
11	70
12	80
13	90
14	100
15	1000
16	

# Chapter

## The Verb.

The Basque Verb may be divided into three classes according to its nature, its significance and its conjugation.

1° Primitive and derived verbs.

2° Transitive and intransitive verbs.

3° Regular and periphrastic verbs.

A verb is primitive like ekarri 'to bear'; joan 'to go'.

A verb is derived like appaindu 'to atom' from appain 'ornament'. to bear

A verb is transitive like ekarri or intransitive like joan, goso.

A verb is regular like joan: noa, oñ etc.  
I go, then goes, etc.

A verb is periphrastic ikusten dut I have in sight = I see it.

All verbs are regular except izan 'to be'.

## § 2

### Conjugation of the regular verbs.

The transitive verb.

Few languages have a more simple way of conjugation than the Basque language; in the present of the indicative the root verbal theme, remains unchanged, and preceded or followed by the pronouns, constitutes the conjugation: olakart I bear it

from D-ekar-t.

### Moods and tenses § 3.

The Basque Verb has three moods: the Imperative, the Indicative and the Optative mood; and two tenses the present and the imperfect. The infinitive does not exist, and according to Basque custom the verbs are mentioned by the verbal adjective ~~which~~ <sup>with</sup> contains the theme followed <sup>by</sup> the characteristic of the verbal adjective. See §

### The imperative § 4

The <sup>second</sup> person contains the verbal theme ~~preceded~~ followed by the pronoun; ekarri 'to bear' makes ekark 'bear thou' from ekar-hi and ekarru 'bear you' from ekar-ru

See § Third

The <sup>3</sup> person has the pronoun preceding the theme bekar from b-ekar '(may) he bear'.

§ 5

### The indicative

The indicative has two tenses, the present and the imperfect.

The present is formed ~~of~~ <sup>by</sup> the verbal theme preceded by the object and followed by the pronoun-subject; the present is ~~not~~ never without its <sup>the</sup> object 'it'. Thus dakar, dakark, dakar, I bear, it bears

bearest, he bears, etc. for d-ekar-t, d-ekar-hi, d-ekar; the initial vowel becomes always a, with some few exceptions, as irudi, ireki irau.

The characteristic letters of the subject and object <sup>are</sup> derived from the pronouns; and are as follows: they are:

Subject	Object
t	1 person      n from <u>m</u>
h	2    "      h    "      hi
-	3    "      d    "      ?
gu	1    "      g    :      gu
zu	2    "      z    :      zu
-	3    "      d    .      ?

Thus ekar followed by t and preceded by d gives dakart, 'I bear it'; continuing with the same object we get dakark (k for h in §) 'then bears it'; dakar 'd bears' <sup>E</sup> it'; dakar-gu 'we bear it'; dakar-zu 'you bear it'; dakar-ti 'they bear it'.

The <sup>third</sup> 3 person plural is formed from the third person singular by adding te a suffix of plurality. The same thing with the

To the 2nd person plural which as was said in § is now in use for the singular, (see §); thus dakar-zu becomes dakar-zute 'you (plur.) bear it'

If the object were n = me then we get n-ekar-h or nakark 'then bears me'

X) nakar 'he bears me'; nakarra 'you bear me' etc. One cannot take two pronouns (object and subject) of the same person <sup>e.g.</sup> 'I bear me'; this would give a reflexive relation which is expressed in another way.

If the object ~~was~~ <sup>be</sup> mi <sup>the</sup> ~~was~~ the flexion will ~~be~~ <sup>would</sup> be: nakarr 'I bear thee'; nakar 'he bears thee' etc.

All the presents of the indicative of all the transitive verbs are <sup>inflected</sup> ~~conjugated~~ in this way.

The imperfect <sup>necessary</sup> The imperfect does <sup>never</sup> ~~not~~ take up in its flexion the object like the present; The subject precedes ~~instead~~ <sup>and</sup> the verbal them which is followed by the termination <sup>a constant</sup> n. A characteristic of this tense.

The personal subject is not t but n for mi 'I', which we find as <sup>the</sup> object 'me' in the present; the Basque language does not distinguish object from subject.

Thus n-ekar-n gives nekaren 'I bore'; the i is doubled being according to X rule see § share

If an object ~~was~~ to be expressed, it precedes the flexion and the subject is then aglutinated to the verb and followed by the terminations n: nekarrun n-ekar-n-n

'you bore me'. ~~will~~ ~~would~~ consequently ~~be~~ ~~been~~  
The imperfect is thus:

n-	<u>ekar-n</u>	or <u>nikaren</u>
h-	<u>ekar-n</u>	<u>hekaren</u>
-	<u>ekar-n</u>	<u>ekaren</u>
g	<u>ekar-n</u>	<u>gekaren</u>
z	<u>ekar-n</u>	<u>zekaren</u>
-	<u>ekar-n</u>	<u>ekaren</u>

This form of imperfect is the more primitive and is still found in the Biscayan dialect, but generally ~~and~~ <sup>always</sup> always in the other dialects it is found with the following variations.

neukaren  
ekaren  
zekaren  
genkaren  
zenkaren  
tekarren.

The principal difference here is the introduction of n after the initial vowel the origin of which is unknown. The initial z of the third person is ~~the~~ <sup>an</sup> other ~~two~~ deviation from the original form; it is very exceptional by found in the Biscayan dialect.

As the second person plural is ~~in use~~ <sup>has been added</sup> for a singular, ~~one~~ has added ~~the~~ <sup>to</sup> te zenkaren, and now "you bore" is expressed by zenkaren.

## The optative

The optative has two tenses formed like those of the indicative with this difference only that ke follows the verbal theme.

Thus dakart becomes dakarket 'I may or can bear'; and nekarren or nukarren, becomes nekarke or nukarke (<sup>might</sup> "could ~~can~~" <sup>can</sup>). The characteristic final z of the imperfect is dropped.

## Conjugation of the intransitive verb

### The imperative

The conjugation of the intransitive verbs is, in some respects, still <sup>more simple</sup> ~~plainer~~ than that of the transitive verbs; there is no object to be expressed.

The number of moods and tenses is the same.

The second person <sup>singular</sup> of the imperative contains the verbal theme preceded by the pronoun: hoa for hi oa, 'go there' from joan 'to go'. In the Spanish-Catalan dialects the initial h is lost (oa). The second person plural is zoaz 'go you'; the final z is a supplementary plural <sup>h</sup> characteristic.

The third person is b-joc which is written bijoa 'go' and in the plural bijoar 'go-they'. The n of joa and all the like, is the characteristic of the verbal adjectives and is always dropped in the conjugation.

The initial vowel, if not the semi-vowel i, is generally converted into a in the second person, e. g. ator or hator 'come thou' from etori; but the third person is always the pure theme preceded by b: betor 'may he or let him come'.

### § 8

#### The indicative

##### Present

The present of the indicative is the verbal theme preceded by the subject-pronoun; the initial vowel becomes a. Thus the present of joa 'to go' is.

Brs. Grup.	Soul.
No <u>a</u> I go	No <u>a</u>
Da Then goes	Da <u>a</u>
Do <u>a</u> he goes	Do <u>a</u>
Go <u>ar</u> We go	Go <u>at<u>ra</u></u>
Go <u>ar</u> You go	Go <u>at<u>ra</u></u>
Do <u>ar</u> They go	Do <u>at<u>ra</u></u>

When the initial vowel becomes, as a rule, in the present a, and remains as it was in the imperfect: etori 'to come'; nator (nator) 'I come'; neutsor 'I came'

The imperfect  
 The imperfect is ~~made~~<sup>formed from</sup> of the verbal theme  
 preceded by the subject-pronoun and fol-  
 lowed by the characteristic of the imperfect  
n; nioan from n-<sup>h</sup>ioa-n 'I went'  
netorren from n-<sup>h</sup>etor-n 'I came'

Quip.

<u>Nioan</u>	I went
( <u>h</u> ) <u>ioan</u>	then went
<u>ioan</u>	he went
<u>Ginoatren</u>	we went
<u>Zinoatren</u>	you went
<u>Zivaren</u>	they went

Soul.

<u>Nindoan</u>
<u>Windoan</u>
<u>Ioan</u>
<u>Ginduatren</u>
<u>Zinduan</u>
<u>Zoatren</u>

Like in the imperfect of the transitive verbs  
 we find here an n introduced sometimes  
 after the initial vowel; netorren is  
 in some dialects neatorren, etc.

The Biscayan dialect has not the initial  
n in the third person: etorren 'he. came';  
zatorren <sup>(quip.)</sup>. The supplementary plural  
 in the persons of the plural is z or tz  
ginoa-tz-n. The Souletin has <sup>introduced</sup> besides the  
n also t of the origin of which I could  
 it obscure; this dialect has much suf-  
 fered <sup>from</sup> phonetic decay, or euphonic influence,

? affix

## The optative mood

The optative has two tenses, the present and the imperfect, and which are formed exactly like those of the transitive verb:

noake 'I may go'; hoake 'They may go';  
etc. nioake, 'I might go'

These few, and I hope clear, rules are sufficient to ~~conjugate~~ <sup>inflect</sup> any Basque verb, either transitive or intransitive.

This way of ~~conjugating~~ <sup>inflecting</sup> however, came more and more into disuse and now generally all the verbal flexions are expressed by a periphrasis, and this ~~conjugation~~ <sup>system</sup> ~~is~~ ~~is~~ called the periphrastic conjugation; it consists in combining a verbal noun to with an auxiliary verb, and instead of saying dakur 'I see', ~~to~~ say ikurten dut 'I have in sight'.

Three verbal nouns are wanted for such a conjugation; 1° the verbal adjective, which is the <sup>known</sup> form given in the dictionary and corresponding to the past participle;

v.g. Musit; 2° the verbal substantive ikurten, which is nothing else than a locative 'in the sight' or 'in seeing'; 3° the verbal adverb

followed by the suffix ko in the Spanish-Basque, and by u in the French-Basque dialects: ikusiko or ikusiren; ikusiko ~~but~~ 'I shall see' or literally 'I have to see it'.

~~For this system~~  
~~require~~ ~~conjugation~~ ~~the forms of the~~  
~~want~~ to know all the auxiliaries  
which the Basque language employs,  
like English and many other languages,  
and in order to supplement what  
the verb could not express; ~~e.g.~~ 'may'  
for the subjunctive, 'can' for the potential  
mood etc.

In Basque, as in English, there are  
auxiliaries (of which some) are in use  
for the moods and others for the tenses.  
They are: eduki 'to hold' corresponding  
to 'to have'; like the Spanish auxiliary  
tener, which signifies also 'to hold';  
then izan 'to be'; edon 'to ~~be able~~ can'; ezan,  
employed to express what is called in  
other languages the subjunctive; ezan  
corresponds in this respect ~~to~~ 'may'; ezan  
'to move'; joan 'to go'; ibilli 'to move';  
The two last ~~verbs~~ are seldom used.  
As the auxiliaries are of very frequent  
use they must be given in extenso.

# The auxiliary eduki 'to hold'

Eduki is ~~conjugated~~<sup>inflected</sup> like all other transitive verbs: dadukat etc. 'I hold it from d-eduk-t' just like dakusat I see it from d-ikus-t. But as ~~the~~<sup>an</sup> auxiliary flexion dadukat has dwindled down to dant, I hold (or I have). Here d and t have been lost. The sound of an being nearly ə we find in the Biscayan dialect dot. This phonetic corruption affects of course only the verbal theme and the conjugation is effected as if the theme were eu: i<sup>ə</sup>d-en-t becomes dant see §:

## Imperative

Euk, ank have thou

Bix let him have

Eura, auru have you

Binta let them have

## Indicative

### Present

Bisc.

Dant, dot I have

Dank dok

Dan

Dangu Dogn

Dauru doan

Dante

Lab

Dut I have

Duk

Du

Dugu

Dauz

Ditte

# Imperfect

Prsc.		Lab
<u>Neban</u>	or <u>Nenduan</u>	<u>Nuen</u> I had
<u>Eban</u>	<u>Enduan</u>	<u>to uen</u>
<u>Eban</u>	<u>Euan</u>	<u>Tuen</u>
<u>Genduan</u>		<u>Gimuen</u>
<u>Zenduan</u>		<u>Zinuen</u>
<u>Ebeen</u>	<u>Euen</u>	<u>Tuten</u>

Risorian b in naban is the original n hardened to b before a vowel, thus newan n-e-u-n, a regular imperfect.

## Optative mood

### Present, Lab. Present Imperfect

<u>Duket</u>	I may have	<u>Nuke</u> I might
<u>Duket.</u>		<u>Ubuke</u> here
<u>Duke</u>		<u>Luke</u>
<u>Dukegn</u>		<u>Gimuke</u>
<u>Dukern</u>		<u>Zinduke</u>
<u>Dukete</u>		<u>Lukete</u>

The optative, as such, is no longer in use; nowadays the present is employed as the future 'I shall', and the imperfect as the conditional 'I should'.

The french-basque dialects employ both these tenses, but the spanish basque dialects have lost the use of the future.

The present and <sup>the</sup> imperfect of the indicative could not express all the different relations of time and so composed tenses were formed with the help of an auxiliary which ~~is~~ is izan 'to be', and thus izan dut had to express 'I have had' and izan nian 'I had had' the indefinite perfect and the pluperfect. This anomalous formation is not easily explained, as dut means 'I have' and izan 'been' izan dut should have signified 'I have been'.

The future is nowadays periphrastic; dutuket, etc. remained only in the French-Basque dialects, but generally izango dut or izanen dut is now employed.

The Souletin dialect has more regularly the verbal noun ukhen in these composed tenses; thus, ukhen dut, and ukhen nian, and ukhenen dut.

The Conditional is the imperfect of the optative and should have kept this name Nuke, Nukte, Luke etc. This may appell him as well in English as in Basque has been discussed in my 'Grammaire Comparée' p. 165. —

The optative (or potential) is formed with the optative of izan: izan deraket

'I can have it'; iran nezke, 'I could have it'.  
All the flections given, as yet, have 'it' as  
object; if hi 'then' be the object the flec-  
tion is of course no longer d-an-t (ordut)  
d-an-k (or duk) etc. but h-an-t or  
hant 'I have (seen & called) thee'; (the h is  
dropped nowadays); if the object is ni  
'me' then we get n-an-h thau or nauk  
(final h becomes k) 'thou hast me' etc.

See the verb e-kari, where it is shown  
<sup>for the</sup> how to formation of all these flections.

We can only point out here that the  
Barque language distinguishes in  
the verbal flection if the a man, a  
woman or a person whom commands/  
respect is spoken to; the two first  
forms are of a ~~rather~~ familiar. The  
third an is ~~the~~ generally employed. Thus  
thus dut <sup>'I have'</sup> ezumun tray; duk to a man  
duu to a woman; diat 'I have' (to  
a man) dirat 'I have' to a woman.

## The auxiliary ekan

This auxiliary is also wanted for the conjugation of the periphrastic verb; for itself it is no longer in use and its original meaning is as little known <sup>to ordinary people</sup> as that of the English 'shall'; but as an auxiliary it is employed to express the subjunctive of other languages and in that respect corresponds to Engl 'may'.

### Imperative

<u>Eruk</u>	<del>Eruk</del>
<u>Bera</u>	
<u>Erazu</u>	
<u>Beraze</u>	

### Indicative

#### Present

<u>Druk</u>
<u>Druk</u>
<u>Dru</u>
<u>Druagu</u>
<u>Druazu</u>
<u>Druate</u>

#### Imperfect

<u>Neran</u>
<u>Uneran</u>
<u>Zeran</u>
<u>Generan</u>
<u>Zeneran</u>
<u>Leraten</u>

#### Potential

<u>Present</u>
<u>Derakete</u>
<u>Derakete</u>
<u>Derake</u>
<u>Derakete</u>
<u>Derakete</u>
<u>Derakete</u>

#### Imperfect

<u>Nerakte</u>
<u>Unerakte</u>
<u>Zerakte</u>
<u>Generakte</u>
<u>Zenerakte</u>
<u>Lerakete</u>

With these two auxiliaries we are enabled to conjugate all the transitive verbs after the periphrastic method; n.b.  
ikuri 'seen'

Indicative

Present

Ikussten dut  
I see

Perfect

Ikusi dut  
I have seen

Present

Ikusirem dut  
I shall see

Future

Imperfect

Ikussten nuen  
I am seeing  
Pluperfect

Ikusi nuen  
I had seen

Past

Ikusi izannu dut  
I shall have seen

Conditional

Present

Ikusitrem nuen  
I should see

Past

Ikusi izana nuen  
I should have seen

Imperative

Ikusi erak; ikuni bera; ikuni eram.  
mayest thou see      may he see      may you see

Subjunctive

Present

Ikusi deradan  
'that I may see'

Imperfect

Ikusi neran  
that I might see

Potential

Present

Ikuni deraket  
I can see

Imperfect

Ikusi <sup>n</sup>berake  
I could see

Conditional

Ikuni nerakean  
I

The auxiliary Edin 'can'.

Edin is generally nowadays the auxiliary of the intransitive verbs (at least for some tenses); but it can be conjugated as ~~like~~<sup>a</sup> transitive as well as an intransitive verb: nadi 'I can' (like nog) and dadit 'I can it' (like dakart).

~~In our~~<sup>On</sup> days edin is the an auxiliary of the moods; it is in use for the subjunctive, the imperative and the potential moods of all intransitive verbs and also of izan 'to be'; it has lost its radical d and dadit is now daikt. The intransitive conjugation has kept the d: nadi etc. As its use is limited<sup>(1)</sup> to the subjunctive we find it the flections followed by h 'that': nadin; <sup>e.g.</sup> joan nadin 'that I may come' etc.; or<sup>(2)</sup> to the potential, we find naiteke (for nadike) 'I can come'; see the verb izan where all the flections are given.

The auxiliary is an <sup>s</sup>~~been~~ (to be.)

### Indicative

#### Present

Nai I am  
Ai  
Da  
Ga  
Za  
Tiade

#### Imperfect

Nintzen I was  
Intzen  
Zen  
Gin an  
Dinan  
Tiraden

### Optative

#### Present

Noizate I will  
Aizate  
Dzate  
Gizate  
Lizate  
Dirate

#### Imperfect

Nirzate I would  
Sitzate  
Lizate  
Ginate  
Zinate  
Lizate

### Imperative

Aizun, biz<sup>F</sup>, zaren, biter.

Izan is the only irregular verb; the first and second persons point to a root aiz, and are to be explained, but da and the three other persons have another <sup>and</sup> unknown origin. The imperfect is regular; so ~~the~~ are the other tenses. The termination <sup>optative</sup> te of the ~~past~~ is a dialect-variety for ke. The two tenses

stone

The two original tenses <sup>of the indicative</sup> & not being sufficient, to express izan has been conjugated by itself, ~~as~~ in Italian, and izan nai signifies 'I am been' (for I have been.) and izan naien 'I were been' (for I had been).

The present of the potential became the future 'I shall be'; and the imperfect, the wrongly-named (in Basque as in English) conditional. 'I would be'; and the potential now days is expressed in a periphrastic way with the auxiliary edui 'to be able' 'can': izan naike 'I can be'.

The imperative is also obsolete; it has now ~~the~~ periphrastic form, with edui as auxiliary: izan adi 'be thou' izan bedi; 'be he'; izan eadite (pa zadite) 'be you'; izan eduztuz 'be they'.

We know that the subjunctive does not exist, ~~but~~ that it is rendered by the indicative followed by n 'that'; thus nai + n or naien; but this form is no longer in use; the periphrastic form izan nadui has taken its place. that I may be!

Present	Imperfect
<u>izan nadui</u>	<u>izan nendui</u>
" <u>adui</u>	" <u>endui</u>
" <u>badui</u>	" <u>bedui</u>
" <u>gaiten</u>	" <u>gintzen</u>
" <u>taiten</u>	" <u>tintzen</u>
" <u>daiten</u>	" <u>litzzen</u>

The auxiliary ewan or eruan 'to move'.

This transitive verb is the auxiliary of the frequentative form; emor daroat 'I am going to give'. This special signification is only known in Biscayan; all the other dialects employ ewan in the more general sense of 'to have', like iduki, but with this difference, that ewan expresses when object and dative are expressed, and iduki when the object alone is expressed; e.g. ema-hen darotak 'then give it to me'.

D-aro-t-k = them-me-verb-it. This darotak is found as drantak or dauntak, or deitak or didak, all variations due to known euphonic influences.

way, and it is no wonder, fact, with the total ignorance of euphoniac rules and with  
~~that so many erroneous spelling have been made~~  
~~in the earliest in any case that does you did~~  
~~attend about this part of Bangla grammar,~~  
~~not having verbs, that the verb has been~~  
~~considered as something quite unknown~~  
~~of in any language in the world.~~

The conjugation with object and dative like is as regular as any other, but it must be ~~greatly~~ acknowledged that the violent euphoniac alliterations here sometimes render the flections difficult to analyse; but generally ~~they~~ it is easy to discern how the flection is formed. Thus darotak is 'then had it to me'; darokuk from d-aro-  
k (for g tumga 'us') k for h see §. Then here it is us'. Darotat 'I have it to thee' from d-aro-  
h-l; the <sup>monoun of the</sup> second person h (for hi) has <sup>been</sup> dropped.

Darotrat 'I have it to you'; the pronoun hi 'thee' is here in 'you' (written tan tara,  
<sup>by</sup> merely a variety of the dialect). Daroket from d-aro-kon-t 'I have it to him'. The pronoun 'him' is han, the demonstrative pronoun, always written with <sup>o</sup>/ in the verbal flection mit-ə; medial h becomes regularly k; this k is sometimes dropped and as usual to prevent hiatus it is <sup>inverted, & g</sup> y is put in its place; thus we find  
drankat=dakot=deyot=diot.

The roots and lenses of ewaa are  
if necessary completed by <sup>the aux.</sup> auxiliaries;  
this  
which is exan for the imperative, the subjunctives and  
the potential ~~are given by exan~~; thus  
izakadak <sup>may have this</sup> 'give ~~it~~ to me'; from era-t-  
h; final h becomes k, + 'm' era <sup>the</sup> verb;  
dieradakan 'that man may go to me' from  
d-era-t-h-n; n is 'that'. the other letters  
are known. It will <sup>not</sup> be good to  
repeat that this Subjunctive (like  
all other subjunctives), is really  
the indicative, here the present, fol-  
lowed by q 'that'; we know that  
the Present is dezaat dezak, etc.  
thus dezaat + n = dieradakan; and dezak  
+ n = dieraan or derryan. In the  
example given <sup>above</sup> there is a deitive  
added to the flection and thus  
dieradakan or dieradakan. In a  
short grammar it is not possible to give  
all these conjugations in full; but though  
the phonetic rules <sup>may</sup> not always be  
applied in the same regular way, the reader will  
be able to analyse many flections.

Knowing the method of Conjugation and  
the phonetic rules, let e.g. dronkot 'I

(deroakat bsc.) is also draukat, derau-  
kat and after the dropping of z dakot;  
 after the regular dropping of medial k  
deyot, and finally contracted in oliot  
 'I have it to him'. All these flections are  
 in use.

This way of expressing is one and the  
 subject the verb, the object and the relative  
 is ~~not~~ <sup>not</sup> ~~sufficing~~ a peculiarity of the auxiliaries.  
 Any flection of any verb may be found  
 compound in the same manner; but  
 it is only in the older books (Testa-  
 ment of Licaragua<sup>1571</sup>, Poems of Deche-  
 pase<sup>1545</sup>) that such forms are met with.  
 The periphrastic conjugation has entirely  
 superseded the old primitive conjugation; it  
 is ~~now~~ <sup>consequently</sup> in the auxiliaries only that  
 the primitive conjugation has been  
 preserved.

All verbs were formerly inflected in this way,  
 but the periphrastic conjugation having  
 nearly entirely superseded the more original  
 one, we only find ~~these~~ <sup>real</sup> such flections of  
 other verbs in older books existing <sup>as</sup> may  
 be seen in Licaragua's New Testament, and  
 Dechepase's Poetry.

## Chapter

### The Adverbs and Conjunctions.

There are primitive adverbs, as: han 'there' hor 'there', hemen 'here'; nun 'where'; but the greater part are what is called <sup>after</sup> on languages the location of a noun: astrinum 'before' from astrin 'in front'; goyan 'above' from goi- 'in the heights'. This is the reason why they are accompanied with a noun in z., i.e. a genitive; e.g. mendiacen ganean 'on the mountain'

The adverb of affirmation is ba 'yes'; Ba is also used to affirm the verbal flection perhaps like English 'do'. Badaka 'I know' or 'I do know'.

## Chapter

### The Conjunctions

Some rules about the conjunctions will be found in the Chapter on Syntax.

# Syntax Chapter

## § 1

### The Article and the Noun.

The use of the article is <sup>nearly</sup> the same as in our languages; the noun is without ~~an~~ article if there is another <sup>word</sup> that defines the nouns: gizon an 'the man'; zer liburu? 'What book?'

~~requires~~ Subject and object exist <sup>of course</sup> in Basque, logic wants it; but Basque grammar does not distinguish the one from the other, ni is only the subject, o when agent, has the characteristic letter k; e.g. gizonak ikusten da 'The man has seen it'; when the subject is <sup>verb.</sup> ~~passive~~ <sup>of an intransitive</sup> the noun remains as it is; gizona dator 'The man comes' — Ikusten dut gizona 'I see the man' (object).

The <sup>logical</sup> subject of a sentence passive verb is ~~taken~~ considered as acting, as agent, and has ~~got~~ K; e.g. the son is loved by his father Semeak aitak maitatua da. The French or English rendering by 'Da' 'by' is also employed but it not considered correct Basque: Semeak maitatua da aita gandik.

Grammatical relation is expressed as economically as possible; only by the last word of the sentence, in order <sup>so as</sup> not to express twice the relation; e.g. zer gizonek esan dio which

man said it'; and not zerk gizmek. Bere  
eche Sainduan 'in his holy house'; and  
not echean Sainduan; there are some few  
exceptions.

The predicate remains unchanged <sup>(as)</sup> like in English; in  
the French-Basque dialects; in the Basque Spanish  
dialects the predicate is made to accord like in  
French.

The qualifying noun, in its largest accap.  
tive, follows the noun which it qualifies,  
adjectives as well as suffixes, pronouns  
numerals. The principal exception is  
the genitive which always precedes:  
aireko e gartzia the birds of the air.

## Chapter The pronouns

The demonstrative pronouns follow the  
noun, except when it is employed as cor-  
responding to 'his'; e.g. ela oyer in  
seme erranak 'and his ~~the~~ (of this) three  
sons and daughters in law'.

When the demonstrative pronoun is follow-  
ed by the relative pronoun the demonstra-  
tive is <sup>invariably</sup> ~~always~~ <sup>for subject and object</sup> the same  
'he who has in sight = he who sees'; du-n-  
a 'he that has'.

The personal pronoun is always expressed  
in the flection.

The possessive pronoun always precedes the noun.

The relative pronoun <sup>n</sup> was <sup>originally</sup> most likely nu; and the sentence ikusken naun auna ('the Child that sees me'), was formerly ikusken naun nu auna. The noun to which <sup>n</sup> 'that' is related is generally placed after the verb as is seen by the example.

# Chapter The Verb

On some moods and tenses

The Basque ~~grammar~~ has no ~~moods~~  
nothing of a Subjunctive as little as En-  
glish, but ~~of course~~ the subordinate <sup>sentence</sup> proposition is  
~~of course~~ known and consequently the gover-  
ned verb; and this verb, if an auxiliary is  
~~wanted~~, is eden for the transitive verbs  
and edun for the intransitive verbs. When  
I say: Nen aitak nahi du joan nadun  
'My father wishes that I go' then nadun  
is not the subjunctive; nadun is nedun 1<sup>st</sup>  
pers. sing. of the indic. pres. <sup>of edun</sup> followed by  
n 'that'.

The infinitive is also unknown; its  
place is sometimes filled up by a verbal  
substantive, e.g. galdun is "lost" from a  
theme gal; this gal becomes a verbal  
substantive in the periphrastic conjugation  
galtzen dut 'I loose' literally 'I have a  
loss? This galtzen is a locative for  
galtzen (du g n); when used as the  
kind of infinitive, it loses its n: galtzea  
and is always found with the article a;  
Ber a ddiskideak galtzea erbea de 'it is  
a misfortune to lose one's friends.'

(35)

Sometimes the verbal substantive in  
n takes its place: 'ikali det iakan-  
zen I have learned to ~~speak~~<sup>read</sup>. Also after  
the interrogative pronoun 'Whatas lecyle  
'What to do?'

Sometimes it is the verbal adjective  
which corresponds to our infinitive;<sup>10</sup>  
when the governing verb is an invariable  
verbal noun; e.g. Nai nizan etori 'I  
wished to come', Albenais etori 'if  
I can come'. 2 When gab follows  
joan gabe 'without going'

## Chapter

### The adverbs

The adverb ba is very often found preceding the verbal flection <sup>and</sup> giving affirmative power to it; it is <sup>sometimes</sup> generally used to introduce a Subordinate Sentence, somewhat like German 'so'; and it comes always after teren 'because', zum - ere 'however'; re - re 'whoever' etc.

### The Conjunctions

The two conjunctions n and la 'that' should not be confused. n is used when the Subordinate sentence is conjunctive, and la when it is positive: Halakotz divit suel even edekiren zaimela janko even resuma... Matth XXI. 43 Therefore I say unto you that the kingdom of God... Ulla la bere sasvinean puktuak renda dictroy olen. Matth XXI, 41 and that they may shall render him the fruits in their season.

dictroy olen is the third person plural of the present of the indicative of ezan, with the third person singular as clative, followed by n I - ezan - ho - le - n. Derat = I-may-it, and ditrat I-may-them/. O in zo is phonetic corruption for g.