3. Words and their Forms

3.1. The Parts of Speech

3.1.1. Words are divided into eight Parts of Speech: Nouns, Adjectives (including Participles), Pronouns, Verbs, Adverbs, Prepositions, Conjunctions, and Interjections.

3.1.2. A Noun is the name of a person, place, thing or idea: as, **Anglendh**, *England*; **werdhom**, *verb*; **wlqos**, *wolf*.

Names of particular persons and places are called Proper Nouns; other nouns are called Common.

NOTE. An Abstract Noun is the name of a quality or idea. A Collective Noun is the name of a group, class or the like.

3.1.3. An Adjective is a word that attributes a quality; as, **patrios**, *parental*; **Angliskos**, *English*.

NOTE 1. A Participle is a word that attributes quality like an adjective, but, being derived from a verb, retains in some degree the power of the verb to assert.

NOTE 2. Etymologically there is no difference between a noun and an adjective both being formed alike. So, too, all names originally attribute quality, and any common name can still be so used. Thus, **Ceni Elizabeth II** distinguishes this Elizabeth from other *Elizabeths*, by the attribute expressed in the name *queen*.

3.1.4. A Pronoun is a word used to distinguish a person, place, thing or idea without either naming or describing it: as, **eg**, *I*; **twos**, *my* (sth. m.); **we**, *we*.

Nouns and pronouns are often called Substantives.

3.1.5. A Verb is a word which is capable of asserting something: as, **bher**, *carry, bear*; **bha̲**, *shine*.

NOTE. In English the verb is usually the only word that asserts anything, and a verb is therefore supposed to be necessary to complete an assertion. Strictly, however, any adjective or noun

may, by attributing a quality or giving a name, make a complete assertion. In the infancy of language there could have been no other means of asserting, as the verb is of comparatively late development.

3.1.6. An Adverb is a word used to express the time, place, or manner of an assertion or attribute: as, **per**, *in front;* **anti**, *opposite*

NOTE. These same functions are often performed by cases of nouns, pronouns and adjectives, and by phrases or sentences.

3.1.7. A Preposition is a word which shows the relation between a noun or pronoun and some other word or words in the same sentence; as, **ad**, *at, to;* **al**, *beyond*.

3.1.8. A Conjunction is a word which connects words, or groups of words, without affecting their grammatical relations: as, **qe**, *and;* **we**, *or*.

3.1.9. Interjections are mere exclamations and are not strictly to be classed as parts of speech; as, **hej, haj, ahoj** (greeting), **holla**, **hallo**, (on the telephone); **o** (vocative); **oh** (surprise); etc.

NOTE. Interjections sometimes express an emotion which affects a person or thing mentioned, and so have a grammatical connection like other words.

3.2. Inflection

3.2.1. Europaio is an inflected language. Inflection is a change made in the form of a word to show its grammatical relations.

3.2.2. Inflectional changes sometimes take place in the body of a word, or at the beginning, but oftener in its termination:

owis, *the*, *a sheep*; **owios**, *of the sheep*; **bher<u>o</u>**, I carry; **bhreti**, you carried.

3.2.3. Terminations of inflection had possibly originally independent meanings which are now obscured. They probably corresponded nearly to the use of prepositions, auxiliaries and personal pronouns in English.

Thus, in **wlqos**, the termination is equivalent to *this* or *the*; in **bhret** (Indicative) and **bhr<u>et</u>** (Subjunctive), the change of vowel grade signifies a change in the mood.

3.2.4. Inflectional changes in the body of a verb usually denote relations of tense or mood, and often correspond to the use of auxiliary verbs in English:

bheresi *you (thou) carry* or *are carrying*; **bhresi** *you (thou) carried* or *have carried*, etc.

3.2.5. The inflection of Nouns, Adjectives, Pronouns and Participles to denote gender, number and case is called Declension, and these parts of speech are said to be *declined*.

The inflection of Verbs to denote voice, mood, tense, number and person is called Conjugation, and the verb is said to be conjugated.

NOTE. Adjectives are often said to have inflections of comparison. These are, however, properly stem-formations made by derivations.

3.2.6. Adverbs, Prepositions, Conjunctions and Interjections are not inflected and are usually called Particles.

3.3. Root, Stem and Base

3.3.1. The body of a word, to which the terminations are attached, is called the Stem. The Stem contains the idea of the word without relations; but, except in the first part of a compound (like **Ndher-lendhoms**, the *Low Lands or Netherlands*), it cannot ordinarily be used without some termination to express them.

Thus the stem **owi**- denotes sheep; adding an-**s** it becomes **owis**, *a sheep* or *the sheep*, as the subject or agent of an action; with -*os* it becomes **owios**, and signifies *of a sheep* or *of the sheep*.

NOTE. The word *Europaio* is used in English, but in Europaio itself the language name is **Europaiom**, *the Europaio* (n.). Europaio is only the Stem, not declined.

3.3.2. A Root is the simplest form attainable by analysis of a word into its component parts. Such a form contains the main idea of the word in a very general sense, and is common also to other words either in the same language or in kindred languages.

Thus the root of the stem **bhanio**, *show*, is **bha̲**, which does not necessary mean *to show*, or *I show*, or *showing*, but merely expresses vaguely the idea of showing, and possibly cannot be used as a part of speech without terminations. With -**ti** it becomes **bherti**, *he/she/it carries*.

NOTE 1. The Europaio is a very old language, and this has an obvious consequence on the general assertion that roots don't mean anything. In fact, many Europaio roots mean something, even without adding a single ending. So, for example, the English word *special* has a root **spec* (also root of words like *speculate* or *species*) which expresses vaguely the idea of *looking*. In Europaio, the word *spekialis*, *special*, coexists with its root **spek**, *to observe*. The lack of roots' meaning is due to language evolution, which blurs the original meanings. Many roots had probably ceased to be recognized as such before IE III - although less as in the derived, modern languages. Consequently, many of the forms which are logical Europaio roots never really existed independently in IE III, but represent forms used earlier.

NOTE 2. In inflected languages as Europaio, words are built up from Roots, which at a very early time were possibly used alone to express ideas (for some this happened already in PIE, for others in an older ancestor). Roots are then modified into Stems, which, by inflection, become fully formed words. The process by which roots are modified, in the various forms of derivatives

and compounds, is called stem-building. The whole of this process is originally one of composition, by which significant endings are added one after another to forms capable of pronunciation and conveying a meaning.

3.3.3. The Stem may be the same as the root; as, **wlqo!**, *wolf!* (vocative), **bher**, *to carry* (infinitive); but it is more frequently formed from the root.

1. By changing or lengthening its vowel: **bhr-e-t**, *he carried*.

2. By the addition of a simple suffix: **dem-s-pot** *despot.*

3. By two or more of this methods: **wr-dho-m**, *word*.

4. By derivation and composition, following the laws of development peculiar to the language, which we will see in the corresponding chapters.

3.3.4. The Base is that part of a word which is unchanged in inflection: as, **wlq**- in **wlqos**; **wrdh**- in **wrdhom**, etc.

a. The Base and the Stem are often identical, as in many consonant stems of nouns (as **ag**- in **ag-o**). If, however, the stem ends in a vowel, the latter does not appear in the base, but is variously combined with the inflectional termination. Thus the stem of **wlqos** is **wlqo**-; that of **wrdhos**, **wrdho**-;

3.3.5. Inflectional terminations are modified differently by combination with the final vowel or consonant of the Stem, and the various forms of Declension and Conjugation are so developed.

3.4. Gender

3.4.1. The Genders distinguished in Europaio are three: Masculine, Feminine (both are referred to as Animate) and Neuter or Inanimate.

3.4.2. The gender of Europaio nouns is either *natural* or *grammatical*.

a. Natural Gender is distinction as to the sex of the object denoted: **pat_er** (m.), *father* ; **cen_a** (f.), *woman* ; **wlqos** (m.), *wolf* ; **swesor** (f.), *sister*.

NOTE 1. Many nouns have both a masculine and a feminine form to distinguish sex: as, **ekwos**, **ekw_a**, *horse*;

NOTE 2. Names of classes or collections of persons may be of any gender: as, **armat_a** (f.), army;

b. Grammatical Gender is a formal distinction as to sex where no actual sex exists in the object. It is shown in the form of the adjective joined with the noun: as **magnos wlqos** (m.), *a great wolf*; **m_a dngh_u** (f.), *my language* (*tongue*). The gender of the adjective is thus simply a gender of concordance: it indicates to which noun of a concrete gender the adjective refers to.

3.4.3. The neuter or inanimate gender differs from the other two in inflection, not in the theme vowel. The gender of the animates, on the contrary, is usually marked by the theme vowel, and sometimes by the declension, vocalism and accents.

3.4.4. The neuter does not refer to the lack of sex, but to the lack of liveliness or life. Sometimes, however, animates can be sometimes designated as inanimates.

While the distinction between masculine and feminine is usually straightforward, sometimes the attribution of sex is arbitrary: thus, **n_aus**, *ship*, *nave,* is feminine, while **p_ods**, *foot*, is masculine.

NOTE. The masculine functions as the negative term in the opposition. This is a purely grammatical utility, one that is only relevant for concordance, and which has to do with the evolution of the IE and its inflection system.

3.4.5. The animate nouns can have:

a. An oppositive gender, marked:

I. by the lexicon, as in *pat<u>e</u>r-m<u>ate</u>r*, *bhr<u>a</u>ter-sw<u>es</u>or*;

II. by the theme vowel, as in **ekwos-ekw<u>a</u>**, *wlqos-wlqia*;

III. by both at the same time, as in *w<u>i</u>ros-cn<u>a</u>* [G'**n**a:].

b. An autonomous gender, that does not oppose itself to others, as in the aforementioned **n<u>au</u>s** and **p<u>o</u>ds**.

c. A common gender, in nouns that are masculine or feminine depending on the context.

d. An epicene gender, which, although being masculine or feminine, designates both sexes: as the feminine **s<u>u</u>s** (cf. *swine*), *pig*.

3.4.6. The gender of a noun can thus be marked by the theme vowel (or sometimes by the inflection), or has to be learnt: it is a feature of a word like any other. In its context, concordance is a new gender mark: a masculine noun has a masculine adjective, and a feminine noun a feminine adjective. However, not all adjectives differentiate between masculine and feminine, a lot of them (those in -*i-s*, -*u-s*, -*<u>e</u>s*, -*<u>o</u>n*, and many thematic in -*os*) are masculine-feminine: only the context, i.e. the noun with which they agree, helps to disambiguate them. This happens also in nouns of the c-type.

3.4.7. So, most of the endings do not indicate gender, as in **pater** and **m<u>ate</u>r**. Only by knowing the roots in many cases, or by the context in others is it possible to determine it. Some of the suffixes determine, though, totally or partially if they are masculine or feminine. These are the following:

1. -**os** marks masculine when it is opposed to a feminine in -*<u>a</u>* or -*ia*, as in **ekwos**, **wlqos**. This happens also in adjectives in the same situation, as in **newos**-**new<u>a</u>**. In isolated nouns, -**os** is generally masculine, but some traces of the old indistinctness of gender still remains in this third stage of the language; as in the names of trees (among others). In adjective endings -**os** which are not opposed to feminine, only concordance decides.

2. -**a** marks the feminine in oppositions of nouns and adjectives. It is usually also feminine in isolated nouns, in the third declension. But there are also traces of masculines in -**a**, as, lat. *auriga*, *charioteer*, *driver*; or *nauta*, *sailor*, and osl. *sluga*, *server*.

3. -**ia**, is systematically feminine. It is used in nouns, and often in adjectives.

4. Finally, the theme vowels -**i** and -**u** are feminines.

3.5. General Rules of Gender

3.5.1. Names of Male beings, and of Rivers, Winds, Months, and Mountains are masculine:

pater, *father*; **Karlos**, *Charles*; **Rhein**, *the Rhine*; **Auster**, *south wind*; **Magjos**, *May*; **Urales**, *the Urals*.

NOTE. Names of Months are properly adjectives, the masculine noun **mens**, *month*, being understood: as, *Januarios*, January.

a. A few names of Rivers ending in -**a** (as, *Volga*), and many Greek names ending in -*e* (which usually corresponds to Europaio -**a**), are feminine; others are variable or uncertain.

b. Some names of Mountains are feminines or neuter: as, **Alpes** (f.), *the Alps*

3.5.2. Names of Female beings, of Cities, Countries, Plants, Trees and Gems, of many Animals (especially Birds), and of most abstract Qualities, are feminine:

mater, *mother*; **Julia**, *Julia*; **Roma**, *Rome*; **pinu**, *pine*; **sapphiros**, *sapphire*; **weraos**, *true* (cf. *very*);

a. Some names of Towns and Countries are masculine: as, **Swereghe**, Sweden; or neuter, as, **Anglendhom**, *England*; **Illyrikom**, *Illyria*.

b A few names of Plants and Gems follow the gender of their termination; as, **kentaureom** (n.), *centaury*; **akanthos** (m.), *bearsfot*; **opalos** (m.), *opal*.

NOTE. The gender of most of the above may also be recognized by the terminations, according to the rules given under the different declensions.

3.5.3. Indeclinable nouns, infinitives, terms or phrases used as nouns, and words quoted merely for their form, are neuter:

wrdh, *right*; **nehilum**, *nothing* ; **gummi**, *gum*;

3.5.4. Many nouns may be either masculine or feminine, according to the sex of the object. These are said to be of Common Gender: as, **eksaliom**, *exile*; **cous**, *ox* or *cow*; **parent**, *parent*.

NOTE. Several names of animals have a grammatical gender, independent of sex. These are called epicene. Thus, **wlqos**, *wolf*, is always masculine, and **wlpes**, *fox*, is always feminine.

3.5.5. Nouns, Pronouns, Adjectives and Participles are declined in two Numbers, singular and plural; and in five Cases, nominative, vocative, accusative, genitive and oblique - which is in some dialects was further subdivided into combinations of dative, locative, instrumental and ablative.

NOTE 1. The Northern dialects usually had five cases, while the southern ones had eight, although the situation has evolved differently due to migrations and linguistic contacts. The traditional theories maintain that the Oblique case is a relic of the original, more complex system of eight noun cases from the common PIE language. On the contrary, the five-case system is for other, more modern scholars, the older situation, later changed by some languages (especially the southern) by way of merging or splitting the five original cases. It would have been, then, an innovation of the individual dialects (hence the difficulty in reconstructing four unitary oblique cases), just as the phonetic satemization. Both trends influenced then the Baltoslavic dialects, possibly in close contact with the Indo-Iranian dialects before (and even after) the great migrations. It is thus a general opinion that in IE III both dialectal trends related to inflection coexisted. In this Grammar we follow the general Northern trend, i.e. the five-case inflection, and disregard the other four cases altogether.

NOTE 2. In the number we use singular and plural, and not dual, not only because of its doubtful existence in IE III times and the difficulties with its reconstruction, but because it is also more practical in terms of modern European languages.

I. The Nominative is the case of the Subject of a sentence.

II. The Vocative is the case of Direct Address.

III. The Accusative is the case of the Direct Object of a verb. It is used also with many of the prepositions.

IV. The Genitive may generally be translated by the English Possessive, or by the Objective with the preposition *of*.

V. The Oblique may be translated as:

a. The case of the Indirect Object. It may usually be translated by the Objective with the preposition *to* or *for*.

b. The place *where*.

c. The thing *with*.

d. The Objective with *from*, *by*, *with*, *in* or *at*. It is often given with prepositions.

NOTE . The oblique case appears in the English pronoun set; these pronouns are often called objective pronouns; as in *she loves* **me** (accusative), *give it to* **me** (dative) or *that dirt wasn't wiped with* **me** (instrumental), where **me** is not inflected differently in any of these uses; it is used for all grammatical relationships except the genitive case of possession and a non-disjunctive nominative case as the subject.

3.6. Vowel Grade

1. The vowel grade or Ablaut is normally the alternation between full, zero or lengthened grade vocalism. The different vowel grades are an important feature of the Europaio verbal system, and they usually alternate in nouns depending on the endings.

NOTE. Ablaut comes from German *Abstufung der Laute*, *vowel alternation*.

2. Some examples of vowel grades possible in Europaio are the following:

	Full (F)	Zero (ø)	Lengthened (L)
e/o - ø - e/o	ped, dem	pd, dm	pe̱d, de̱m
ie/o - i - ie̱/o̱	djeus	diw-/dju-	dje̱-
ue/o - u - ue/o	kwon	kun-	kwo̱n
e/oi - u/i - e̱/o̱i	bheid	bhid	bhe̱id
e/ou - u/i - e̱/o̱u	bheud, ous	bhud, us	bhe̱ud, o̱us
e̱/a̱/o̱ - a - e̱/a̱/o̱	bhle̱, bha̱, o̱ku	bhla, bha, aku	bhle̱, bha̱, o̱ku
au/ai - u/i - a̱u/a̱i	bhau, aik	bhu̱ (bhəu), i̱k (əik)	bha̱u, a̱ik
e̱/o̱i - u̱/i̱ - e̱/o̱i	po(i)	pi	poi
etc.			

3. There are also some other possible vowel grade changes, as:

a. o-grade and e-grade: **dem**/**dom**, **ped**/**pod**, etc.

b. Other lesser used possibilities include *a-grade*, *i-grade* and *u-grade*, which usually come from old root endings, rather than from systematized phonetic changes.

NOTE. The alternation **e**/**ø** was apparently in the old stages of IE dependent on the accent. Compare kl**e**uos/klut**o**s, **e**imi/im**e**s, p**a**term/patr**o**s, etc. An unaccented morpheme thus lost its vowel. This happens only in old formations, though, as IE III lost this (possibly) older pattern and froze the old alternations.