

8. PARTICLES

8.1. PARTICLES

8.1.1. Adverbs, Prepositions, Conjunctions and Interjections are called Particles. They cannot always be distinctly classified, for many adverbs are used also as prepositions and many as conjunctions.

8.1.2. Strictly speaking, Particles are usually defined as autonomous elements, usually clitics, which make modifications in the verb or sentence, but which don't have a precise meaning, and which are neither adverbs nor preverbs nor conjunctions.

8.1.3. Indo-European has some particles (in the strictest sense) which mark certain syntax categories:

a. Emphatics or Generalizers: they may affect the whole sentence or a single word, usually a pronoun, but also a noun or verb. The particle **ge/gi, ghe/ghi**, usually strengthens the negation, and emphasizes different pronouns.

NOTE 1. The origin of this particle is probably to be found in PIE **-qe**, acquiring its coordinate value from an older use as word-connector, from which this Intensive/Emphatic use was derived. Compare O.Ind. *gha, ha, hí*, Av. *zi*, Gk. *ge, -gí, -χί*, Lith. *gu, gi*, O.Sla. *-go, že, ži*. Also, compare, e.g. for intensive negative **neghi**, O.E. *nek*, O.Ind. *nahí*, Balt. *negi*.

NOTE 2. Also, if compared with Gk. *dé*, O.Ind. *ha*, O.Sla. *že*, a common PIE particle **che** may be reconstructed.

b. Verb Modifiers:

I. The old **-ti** had a Middle value, i.e. Reflexive.

NOTE. This is a very old value, attested in Anatolian, cf. Hitt. *za*, Pal. *-ti*, Luw. *-ti*, Lyd. *-(i)t*, Lyc. *-t/di*.

II. The modal **-man**, associated with the Indicative, expresses Potentiality (when used in Present) and Irreality (in the Past).

NOTE. It is probably the same as the conjunction **man, if**, and closely related to **-ma, but**.

III. The negative particle **mē**, associated with the Indicative or forms indifferent to the Moods.

c. Sentence categorizers: they indicate the Class of Sentence, whether negative or interrogative.

I. Absolute Interrogatives were introduced in European dialects by special particles, generally **(a)n**.

NOTE. The origin could be the “Non-Declarative Sense” of the sentence, so that it could have been derived originally from the negative **ne/n**.

II. Negation has usually two particles, etymologically related:

- Simple negation is made by the particle **ne**, lengthened in some dialects with **-i, -n, -d**, etc.

- Mood negation or prohibitive is the particle **mē** (also **nē**).

NOTE. For PIE **mē**, compare Gk. μή, O.Ind.,Av.,O.Pers. *mā*, Toch. *mar/mā*, Arm. *mi*, Alb. *mos*, and probably from Indo-European into Altaic (cf. Turkic *-ma-*, Tungus *-me*, Korean *mō-t*, Japanese *-ma-*), and compare also Arabic *ma*. In other IE dialects, it was substituted by **nē**, cf. Goth. *ne*, Lat. *nē*, Ira. *ni*. It is not clear whether Hitt. *lē* is ultimately derived from **mē** or **nē**.

d. **Sentence Connectives**: they introduce independent sentences or connect different sentences, or even mark the principal sentence among subordinates.

I. **so** and **to**, which are in the origin of the anaphoric pronoun we studied in § 6.5.

II. **nu**, which has an adverbial, temporal-consecutive meaning.

III. An introductory or connective **r**, which is possibly the origin of some coordinate conjunctions.

8.2. ADVERBS

8.2.1. There is a class of invariable words, able to modify nouns and verbs, adding a specific meaning, whether semantical or deictic. They can be independent words (Adverbs), prefixes of verbal stems (Preverbs) – originally independent but usually united with it – and also a nexus between a noun and a verb (Appositions), expressing a non-grammatical relationship, normally put behind, but sometimes coming before the word.

NOTE. In the oldest PIE the three categories were probably only different uses of the same word class, being eventually classified and assigned to only one function and meaning. In fact, Adverbs are generally distinguished from the other two categories in the history of Indo-European languages, so that they change due to innovation, while Preverbs and Appositions remain the same and normally freeze in their oldest positions.

8.2.2. Adverbs come usually from old particles which have obtained a specific deictic meaning. Traditionally, Adverbs are deemed to be the result of oblique cases of old nouns or verbal roots which have frozen in IE dialects, thus losing inflection.

8.3. DERIVATION OF ADVERBS

8.3.1. Adverbs were regularly formed in PIE from Nouns, Pronouns and Adjectives as follows:

A. From Pronouns:

I. With a nasal lengthening, added systematically to zero-grade forms, which gives adverbs in **-am**; as, **tam**, **qam** (from Latin), or **peram** (as Gk. *peran*)

NOTE. They are usually interpreted as being originally Acc. Sg. fem. of independent forms.

II. An **-s** lengthening, added to the adverb and not to the basic form, giving sometimes alternating adverbs; as, **ap/aps**, **ek/eks**, **ambhi/ambhis**, etc.

III. An **-r** lengthening; as, **qor**, **tor**, **kir**, etc. which is added also to other derived adverbs. It is less usual than the other two.

NOTE. Compare for such lengthenings Goth. *hwar, her*, (O.E. *where, hier*), Lat. *cur*, O.Ind. *kár-hi, tár-hi*, Lith. *kur*, Hitt. *kuwari*. Also, IE **qor-i, tor-i, cîr-i**, etc. may show a final circumstantial **-i**, probably the same which appears in the Oblique cases and in the Primary Verbal Endings, and which originally meant ‘*here and now*’.

Some older adverbs, derived as the above, were in turn specialized as suffixes for adverb derivation, helping to create compound adverbs from two pronoun stems:

- i. From the pronoun **de**, the nasalized **de-m** gives adverbs in **-dem, -dam**; as, **ídem, qídam**, etc.
- ii. From root **dhē**, *put, place*, there are two adverbs which give suffixes with local meaning, from stems of Pronouns, Nouns, Adverbs and Prepositions:
 - a. an Adverb in **-m, dhem/dhm**; as, **endhem, prosdhm**, etc.
 - b. an Adverb in **-i, dhi**, as in **podhi, autodhi**, etc.

NOTE. Compare from IE **de**, Lat. *idem, quidam*, O.Ind. *idān-im*; from **dh(e)m, dhi**, Gk. *-then, -tha, -thi*.

- iii. From PIE root **te**, there are some adverbial suffixes with mood sense – some with temporal sense, derived from the older modal. So **ta**; as, **ita** or **itadem, ut(a), prota, auta**, etc; and **t(e)m, utm, item, eitm**, etc.

NOTE. Compare from IE **ta** (PIE **th₂*), Lat. *iti-dem, ut(i), ita*, Gk. *protí, au-ti*, O.Ind. *iti, práti*; from **t(e)m**, Lat. *i-tem*, Gk. *ei-ta, epei-ta*, O.Ind. *u-tá*.

B. From Nouns and Adjectives (usually Neuter Accusatives), frozen as adverbs already in Late PIE. The older endings to form Adverbs are the same as those above, i.e. generally **-i, -u** and **-(e)m**, which are in turn originally Adverbs. Such Adverbs have normally precise, Local meanings, not merely Abstract or Deictic, and evolve then usually as Temporals. Endings **-r**, nasal **-n** and also **-s**, as in the formation of Pronouns, are also found.

NOTE 1. It is not uncommon to find adverbs derived from nominal stems which never had inflection, thus (probably) early frozen as adverbs in its pure stem.

NOTE 2. From those adverbs were derived Conjunctions, either with Temporal-Consecutive meaning (cf. Eng. *then, so*) or Contrastive (cf. Eng. *on the contrary, instead*).

Adverbs may also end:

In **-d**: cf. Lat. *probee*, Osc. *prufēd*; O.Ind. *pascāt, adharāt, purastāt*.

In **-nim**: cf. Osc. *enim* ‘*and*’, O.Ind. *tūsnim* ‘*silently*’, maybe also *idānim* is **idā-nim*, not **idān-im*.

In **-tos**: cf. Lat. *funditus, diuinitus, publicitus, penitus*; O.Ind. *vistarataḥ* ‘*in detail*’, *samkṣepataḥ, prasangataḥ* ‘*occasionally*’, *nāmattaḥ* ‘*namely*’, *vastutaḥ* ‘*actually*’, *mata* ‘*by/for me*’

In **-ks**: cf. Lat. *uix*, Gk. *περιξ*, O.Ind. *samyak* ‘*well*’, *prthak* ‘*separately*’, Hitt. *hudak* ‘*directly*’.

8.4. PREPOSITIONS

8.4.1. Prepositions were not originally distinguished from Adverbs in form or meaning, but have become specialized in use.

They developed comparatively late in the history of language. In the early stages of the Proto-Indo-European language the cases alone were probably sufficient to indicate the sense, but, as the force of the case-endings weakened, adverbs were used for greater precision. These adverbs, from their common association with particular cases, became Prepositions; but many retained also their independent function as adverbs.

8.4.2. Most prepositions are true case-forms: as the comparatives **ekstrós** (cf. *external*), **ndhrós** (cf. *inferior*), **suprós**, and the accusatives **kikrom**, **koram**, etc.

8.4.3. Prepositions are regularly used either with the Accusative or with the Obliques.

8.4.4. Some examples of common PIE adverbs/prepositions are:

ám̥bhi, **ím̥bhi**, *on both sides, around*; cf. O.H.G. *umbi* (as Eng. *by*, Ger. *bei*), Lat. *am*, *amb-*, Gk. *amphi*, *amphis*, O.Ind. *abhí*.

ána, *on, over, above*; cf. Goth. *ana*, Gk. *ánō*, *aná*, O.Ind. *ána*, O.C.S. *na*.

ánti, *opposite, in front*; cf. Goth. *and*, Lat. *ante*, Gk. *antí*, O.Ind. *ánti*, *átha*, Lith. *añt*; Hitt. *ḫanti*.

ápo, **po**, *out, from*; cf. Goth. *af*, Lat. *ab*, *abs*, Gk. *apo*, *aps*, *apothēn*, O.Ind. *ápa*.

au/we, *out, far*; cf. Lat. *au-*, *uē-*, Gk. *au*, *authi*, *autár*, O.Ind. *áva*, *vi-*, Toc. *-/ot-*, O.C.S. *u*.

ébhi, **óbhi**, **bhi**, *around, from, to, etc.*; cf. Lat. *ob*, “*towards, to*”, O.Ind. *abhi*, Av. *aiwi*, Goth. *bi*,

én(i)/n, *in*; cf. Goth. *in*, Lat. *in*, Gk. *en*, *ení*, O.Ind. *ni*, *nis*, Lith. *in*, O.C.S. *on*, *vŭ*.

épi, **ópi**, **pi**, *towards here, around, circa*; cf. Gmc. *ap-*, *ep-*, Lat. *ob*, *op-*, *-pe*, Osc. *úp-*, Gk. *ἐπί*, *ἔπι*, *ὄπι*, *πι*, O.Ind. *ápi*, Av. *áipi*, Arm. *ev*, Lith. *ap-*, O.Ir. *iar*, *ía-*, *ei-*, Alb. *épërë*, etc.

ét(i), **óti**, *also, even*; **áti**, *beyond, past; over, on the other side*; cf. Goth. *iþ*, Lat. *et*, Gk. *eti*, O.Ind. *áti*, *átaḥ*, *at*, O.C.S. *otu*.

ndhí, *more, over*, **ndher(i)**, *down*; cf. Gmc. *under-*, Lat. *infra*, Gk. *éntha*, O.Ind. *ádhi*, *ádhaḥ*.

per, **pr**, *in front, opposite, around*; cf. Goth. *fra*, *faúr*, *faúra*, Lat. *pro*, *prae*, *per*, Gk. *perí*, *pará*, *pros*, O.Ind. *pári*, *práti*, *pra*, Lith. *per*, Ltv. *prett'*, O.C.S. *prě*.

qu, from interrogative-indefinites **qi/qo**;

ter, **tr**, *through*, cf. Gmc. *thurkh* (cf. Goth. *þairh*, O.S. *thuru*, O.E. *þurh*, O.Fris. *thruch*, O.H.G. *thuruh*, M.Du. *dore*, Ger. *durch*), Lat. *trans*, O.Ind. *tiraḥ*, Av. *taro*, O.Ir. *tre*, Welsh *tra*.

upo, *under, down*; **uper(i)**, *up*; cf. Goth. *uf*, *ufar* (as Eng. *up*, *over*, Ger. *auf*, *über*), Lat. *sub*, *super*, Gk. *upó*, *upér*, O.Ind. *úpa*, *upári*.

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|--------------------------------|--|
| ad <i>to, near,</i> | perti <i>through, otherwise</i> |
| aneu <i>without</i> | pos/posti/pósteri <i>behind</i> |
| apóteri <i>behind</i> | poti <i>toward</i> |
| dē/dō <i>to</i> | pósteri/postrōd <i>behind</i> |
| ek/eksí <i>out</i> | prāi <i>in front, ahead</i> |
| ektós <i>except</i> | práiteri <i>along(side)</i> |
| entós <i>even, also</i> | prō(d) <i>ahead</i> |
| kamta <i>downward</i> | próteri <i>in front of</i> |
| kom <i>near</i> | prota <i>against</i> |
| nī <i>down</i> | rādí <i>because (of)</i> |
| obhi <i>on, over</i> | ani/santeri <i>separately</i> |
| ólteri <i>beyond</i> | úperi/upsí <i>on, over</i> |
| para <i>next to</i> | ut/utsí <i>up, out</i> |
| paros <i>ahead</i> | wī <i>separately</i> |

8.5. CONJUNCTIONS

8.5.1. Conjunctions, like prepositions, are closely related to adverbs, and are either petrified cases of nouns, pronouns and adjectives, or obscured phrases: as, **qod**, an old accusative. Most conjunctions are connected with pronominal adverbs, which cannot always be referred to their original case-forms.

8.5.2. Conjunctions connect words, phrases or sentences. They are divided in two main classes, Coordinate and Subordinate:

a. Coordinates are the oldest ones, which connect coordinated or similar constructions. Most of them were usually put behind and were normally used as independent words. They are:

I. Copulative or disjunctive, implying a connection or separation of thought as well as of words: as, **qe**, *and*; **we**, *or*; **neqe**, *nor*.

NOTE. For PIE **neqe**, compare Lat. *ne-que*, Gk. οὔτε, Arm. *oc*, O.Ir. *nó, nú*, Welsh *ne-u*, O.Bret. *no-u*, Alb. *a-s*, Lyc. *ne-u*, Luw. *napa-wa*, and for PIE **mēqe**, in Greek and Indo-Iranian, but also in Toch. *ma-k* and Alb. *mo-s*. The parallel **newē** is found in Anatolian, Indo-Iranian, Italic and Celtic dialects.

II. Adversative, implying a connection of words, but a contrast in thought: as, **ma**, *but*.

NOTE. Adversative conjunctions of certain antiquity are **at(i)** (cf. Goth. *adh-*, Lat. *at*, Gk. *atár*), **(s)ma/(s)me** (cf. Hitt., Pal. *ma*, Lyd. *-m*, Lyc. *me*, Gk. *má, mé*, Messap. *min*), **auti** (cf. Lat. *autem, aut*, Gk. *aute, authis, autis, autár*), **ōd**, “*and, but*” (cf. O.Ind. *ād*, Av. (*ā*)*at*, Lith. *o*, Sla. *a*), etc. In general, the oldest IE languages attested use the same Copulative postpositive conjunctions as Adversatives, their semantic value ascertained by the context.

III. Causal, introducing a cause or reason: as, **nam**, *for*.

IV. Illative, denoting an inference: as, **igitur**, *therefore*.

NOTE. Newer particles usually are usually put before, and some of them are general, as the Copulative **eti**, *and* (as Lat. *et*, Gk. *eti*, nasalized **nti** in Germanic, as Goth. *and*), and Illative **ōd**, *certainly* (cf. O.Ind. *ád*, Lith. *o*, O.Sla. *a*), or **ōdqe** in Latin. Others were not generalized before the first PIE split, but could nevertheless be used in Modern Indo-European.

b. Subordinates connect a subordinate or independent clause with that on which it depends. They are:

I. **jo**, which has general subordinate value, usually Relative, Final or Conditional.

NOTE. For common derivatives of PIE **jo**, probably related to the relative pronoun, compare Hitt. *-a/-ya*, Toch. *-/yo*, and possibly Goth. *-ei*, Gk. *ei*, Gaul. *-io*. It was probably replaced by **-qe**.

II. Conditional, denoting a condition or hypothesis; as, **man**, *if*; **neman**, *unless*.

III. Comparative, implying comparison as well as condition; as, **man**, *as if*.

IV. Concessive, denoting a concession or admission; as, **qamqam**, *although* (Lit. *however much it may be true that*, etc.).

V. Temporal: as, **postqam**, *after*.

VI. Consecutive, expressing result; as, **ut(ei)**, *so that*.

VII. Final, expressing purpose; as, **ut(ei)**, *in order that*; **ne**, *that not*.

VIII. Causal, expressing cause; as, **qja**, *because*.

Conjunctions are more numerous and more accurately distinguished in MIE than in English.