Progāza

A full reference grammar for Progāza, made by Þēros with the Tavȳza company.
Made for most people to understand.
For questions/suggestions, email theros@tavyza.org, message @.theros or @tavyza on discord, or message @theros on aþase.

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Pronunciation

a [a] a in father*
b [b] same as English
č [ʧ] ch in chair (alt: ch)
d [d] same as English
ð [ð] th in this (alt: dh)
e [e] e in bed
f [f] same in English
g [g] g in game
h [h] same in English (never silent)
i [i] i in pizza
y [ɪ] i in him
j [j] y in yes
k [k] same in English
l [l] same in English
m [m] same in English
o [o] o in cold
p [p] same in English
r [r] tap/trill r, no English equivalent
s [s] same in English
š [ʃ] sh in shoeshine (alt: sh)
t [t] same in English
þ [þ] th in thing (alt: th)
u [u] oo in boot
v [v] same in English
z [z] same in English
ž [ʒ] si in vision (alt: zh)

DIPHTHONGS

ai [ai] i in fire
au [au] ou in house
ei [ei] a in late
oi [oi] oy in boy
ou [ou] o in home

p, b, t, d, k, g cannot end a syllable, if you are transliterating something into progāza with one of those letters at the end, add a vowel to the end. Emphasis is marked with a macron accent (ā)/(◌̄) and typically comes in the 1st or 2nd syllable of a word, depending on how long the word is.
*Approximate pronunciation. Please watch the video on sounds in Progāza to hear them.

Script

The script that Progāza uses is Kēša, an alpha-syllabary or impure abugida.
You might have seen it on some other pages of the book.

Warning – If you are viewing this digitally, and you have not downloaded the Yriga font, then the text will not show up correctly. Please, go to https://tavyza.org/resources and download the font.

a - 𐴀𐴢 (above letter)

b - 𐴁

č - 𐴂

d - 𐴃

ð - 𐴄

e – 𐴅𐴢 (below letter)

f - 𐴆

g - 𐴇

h - 𐴈

i – 𐴉𐴢 (above letter)

j - 𐴊

k - 𐴋

l - 𐴌

m - 𐴍

n - 𐴎

o – 𐴏𐴢 (above letter)

p - 𐴐

r - 𐴑

s - 𐴒

š - 𐴓

t - 𐴔

þ - 𐴕

u – 𐴖𐴢 (above letter)

v - 𐴗

y – 𐴘𐴢 (below letter)

z – 𐴙

ai – 𐴚𐴢 (above letter)

au – 𐴛𐴢 (above letter)

ei – 𐴜𐴢 (above/below letter)

oi – 𐴝𐴢 (above letter)

ou – 𐴞𐴢 (above letter)

Grammar

Syntax

basic word order

Progāza uses the word order SOV, which means that instead of writing “I have a rock”, you would write “I a rock have”.
This might need some getting used to for most people, but I believe in you!

verbs

Auxiliary verbs go before the main verb.
example: Sa *omen* þūše **ðutaū**

Or, i need to eat. (literally “i need eat”). Auxiliary verbs can be used independently and will be explained more in the verbs section. I will also explain the ðu- prefix.

Adverbs go before the main verb.
(Insert example)

nouns

Possession is handled in a similar way to English.
“My rock” is Sāju om
’-ju’ is used to mark that the speaker possesses the rock, otherwise, it would be “I rock” and that isn’t grammatically correct. The possessor always goes before the possessee.
The subject always goes before the object of the sentence.
Example: Sa om ānoð (I have a rock)

(literally “I rock have)
in this case, “om” (rock) is the object, and “sa” (i) is the subject. ānoð is the verb but that was already explained I think
Adjectives are placed before nouns, just like in English.
Example: good apple is sāna čānki

other

recipient before the direct object
All dependent clauses go before the main clause.
Example: *āviþi* sa **ōmen** tau

I am eating **rocks** *while walking.*
or, more literally, *while walking*, i am eating **rocks.**
Oh, but what is that -þi suffix? That is a converb (meaning “while” in this case), and it will be explained in the section after noun cases.
the relative clause goes before the modified noun

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Essential Sentence Structures

A is B	A B (ra)
A is not B	A B i ra
A and B	A za B za
A or B	A za B þu
A, but B	taš B, A
Not A, but B	taš B, A i ra
If A, (then) B	A-(y)kai B
If not A, (then) B	i B-(y)kai, A
Because A, B	A-(y)sol B
A of B	B-ju A
Although A, B	A-me B

Noun Cases

Progāza has 8 (?) noun cases. What does that mean?
Well, noun cases are modifiers for a noun. I am going to list all of the ones that are in progāza.

Plurality

no affix for 1 of something
add –(a)š –ᨿᩣᨶ to the end of the word for a few of something

add –(e)n –ᨿᩣᨷ to the end of the word for many of something

add –na -ᨷᩣ to the end of the word for all of something

Animacy-Based split ergativity

Wow, that's a lot of big words! This is a common trait of Ijeða-based languages, along with the syntax. I don't know how to explain it, i can only provide an example, so here.
"i am eating a rock" is "sa om tau" ᨿᩣ ᨿᩣᩮ ᨿᩣᩮ

but "a rock is eating me" would be "ōmri saja tau" ᨿᩣᩮᩬ ᨿᩣᩮᩬ ᨿᩣᩮ

That's basically how it works. Inanimate nouns get a -ri -ᩬ marker if it is the subject, and animate nouns get a -ja -ᩮᩬ marker if it is the object.

oh, shit i gotta explain animacy now

Animacy

Progāza splits nouns into 2 classes, like Spanish, but instead of Masculine/Feminine, we have Animate/Inanimate. The definition for this in Progāza is quite loose, just "does it look alive?", so it's very much up to you to decide if a new word is animate or not. These only influence ergativity (see the last section) and what definite article (or what flavor of "the" you use). (Va for inanimate, Ve for animate)

Dative

Have any of you learned German? cool
The dative case marks the indirect object of a verb.
Example: sa džākobiðo **ēsun** *ðūkazka* 𐑕 𐑥𐑵𐑚𐑰𐑞 𐑓𐑵𐑩𐑯 𐑖𐑵𐑟

"sa" meaning "i" is the subject, džākobi is the indirect object (transliteration of "Jacob"), and ēsun is the object. the -ðo suffix marks Jacob as the recipient of the thing being given in the verb, and the actual object here (water) would get marked with the nominative -ja suffix (if it was animate).
the sentence means "I *gave* Jacob **water**" (oh also -ka is another suffix I'll explain it in the verb conjugation section)
is that all for dative? i think so.

Instrumental

i break the rock with an axe – sa nōkeþ va om ðumālne 𐑕 𐑯𐑵𐑒 𐑝 𐑪𐑮 𐑞𐑵𐑤𐑯 (i with axe the rock break).

the suffix –(u)þ -(𐑵)𐑔 marks the tool that is being used for the action.

nōke is axe, if we add the suffix –(u)þ it means „with an axe".

Locative

How the hell do you say you are at a place?
well, we have a suffix for that
sa reīkjavika**ði** 𐑕 𐑮𐑵𐑡𐑗𐑕 (i am in/at/on Reykjavík)

simple enough

Allative

ok but how do you say you are going somewhere?
well, we have a suffix for that too!
sa Lōndončau čāze 𐑕 𐑤𐑵𐑯𐑛𐑪𐑗𐑷 𐑗𐑱𐑟 (i am going to London)

Ablative

ok but what if i'm leaving London (i don't want to be stabbed)
we also have a suffix for that! (this is getting a tad repetitive you get the idea)
sa Lōndonuki čāze 𐑕 𐑤𐑵𐑯𐑛𐑵𐑯𐑦𐑒 𐑗𐑱𐑟 (I am going from london/ I am leaving london)

for the last 2, if you didn't figure out what the suffix is, they are -čau and –(u)ki respectively.

Genitive (possession)

Wait, didn't we already do this?
yes we did the next section
wait that's all the suffixes

Verb Conjugation

how the fuck do i change verbs to fit my situation?
There are 4 verb tenses and imperfect imperfect verbs. This means that verbs can have eight different forms, and this applies to every verb.
no affix: tau (eating)
-ka suffix: taūka (was eating)
-žu suffix: taūžu (was eating a long time ago)
-šo suffix: taūšo (will be eating)
ð(u)- prefix: ðūtau (eat)
ð(u)-#-ka affixes: ðutaūka (ate)
ð(u)-#-žu affixes: ðutaūžu (ate a long time ago)
ð(u)-#-šo affixes: ðutaūšo (will eat)
To negate a verb, you use the "i" particle before the verb.
sa tau / 𐑕 𐑑 – I'm eating

sa i tau / 𐑕 𐑦 𐑑 – I'm not eating

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Conjunctions

Hi, so English has and, but, and if, right?
we have all of those.

and

A za, B za,
let me explain this.
A is sentence/thing 1, B is sentence/thing 2.
Well, why is "and" repeated twice?
That's right, "and" is repeated twice for a reason that i do not know. All i know is we also have something else that i will explain in the next section. Just remember, "za" goes before *and* after the thing/sentence you are using it for.

or

A za B þu
Yes, instead of "za" after, there's "þu". Other than that, it works the same as "And"

but

A, taš B
pretty simple, it just works how it would in English.
Sa om ānoð, **taš** seð grātaz: 𐌰𐌿 𐌾𐌰𐌿𐌺𐌰𐌽 𐌸𐌿 𐌹𐌽 𐌾𐌿𐌸𐌿𐌽 (i have a rock, **but** it's gone.)

Converbs

Progāza has 9 converbs.
Here's a list of them and how to use them:
suffix | example word | meaning | example sentence | sentence in English
-(y)þi | taūþi | while/when | sa taūþi āvi | i am walking while eating
-(y)sir | taūsir | after/having done | sa taūsir āvi | i am walking after eating
-(y)sol | taūsol | because | sa taūsol āvi | i am walking because i am eating
-(y)šav | taūšav | before | sa taūšav āvi | i am walking before eating
-(y)mir | taūmir | after | sa taūmir avi | i am walking immediately after eating
-(a)žo | taūžo | again | sa taūžo | i am eating again
-(e)kai | āvikai | if/then | sa āvikai sa nīsun i ra | if i walk, i won't be here
-(e)me | īrame | despite | saja īrame sa saraī | despite me sleeping, i am tired
-(y)šai | āvišai | in order to | sa āvišai ðutaū | in order to walk, i eat

Auxiliary Verbs

Auxiliary verbs are somewhat simple. You put them before the main verb in a sentence, or treat them as a main verb. Auxiliary verbs are words like “want”, “need”, and “can”. Let's use an example sentence:

Romānkeša | [illegible] | English

Sa ja þūšy ðūham | [illegible] | I need to help you

sa – I
ja – you
þūšy – need (aux verb)
ham – help
ð(u)- - perfect verb prefix

If you look on the spreadsheet for the language, or the dictionary a few pages further (or a separate dictionary book), all auxiliary verbs will be marked with “AUX”, so you don’t need to figure out whether or not it’s an auxiliary verb.

according to Google, an auxiliary verb is:

"a verb used in forming the tenses, moods, and voices of other verbs."

a tense (in grammar) is a set of forms taken by a verb to indicate the time and sometimes completeness of a verb

and mood is a category or form which indicates whether a verb expresses fact, command, question, wish, or conditionality.

oh wait i gotta explain some of that too

Commands

You can tell people to do stuff with the -vo suffix

example romānkeša | [illegible] | English

ni om ðutaūvo | [illegible] | eat this rock

Questions

You can ask people to do stuff with the -ža suffix

example romānkeša | [illegible] | English

ni om ðutaūkaža; | [illegible] | do you want to eat this rock?

Adjectives

What is an adjective?

An adjective is a part of speech that is used to describe a noun. In progāza, they can be used as a standalone adjective, or as a nounal adjective (note: noun-like adjective)

Nounal adjective

a nounal adjective is an adjective that works like a noun. Example:

va om sēro (ra): | [illegible] | the rock is blue.

the rock blue (is)

How adjectives work in progāza

as just "adjectives":
va sēro om: | 𐓂𐓏 𐓄𐓍𐓆 𐓃𐓍 | the blue rock

as nounal adjectives
va om sēro (ra): | 𐓂𐓏 𐓃𐓍 𐓄𐓍𐓆 (𐓆𐓍) | the rock is blue

if you want to say something like "I want to eat the bread that's on the table." it would translate something like "sa ve jēnaði mikēra šai ðūtau:" **"𐓏𐓍 𐓂𐓏 𐓅𐓏𐓈 𐓇𐓄𐓍𐓆 𐓅𐓍𐓆 𐓅𐓍 𐓈𐓍𐓍𐓃"**

Here is the sentence broken down:
Sa – I (the Subject)
Ve jēnaði mikēra - The bread that is on the table. Ve is a definite particle, like the word “the” in English. Mikēra is the word for bread. Jēnaði is from the word “jēna,” which means “table/desk”, and the locative suffix “-ði”, meaning “at/on/in”. When this is placed in front of the noun Mikēra, it behaves like an adjective, meaning “(that is) on the table”.

Most, more, less, least

In Progāza, these are handled with prefixes.
prefix | English equivalent | example sentence | 𐓄𐓅 | example sentence in English

čeþ- | most | sa čēþsana | 𐓏 𐓅𐓏𐓂𐓏 | i am the best

paþ- | more | sa pāþsana | 𐓏 𐓂𐓂𐓏 | i am better

jaþ- | less | sa jāþsana | 𐓏 𐓅𐓂𐓏 | i am worse (i am less good)

ič- | least | sa īčsana | 𐓏 𐓄𐓅𐓏 | I am the worst (I am the least good)

Other affixes and grammatical particles

affix/particle | example sentence | kēša | example translation

čēþi | sa čēþi saraī | 𐓏 𐓅𐓍 𐓏𐓈 | i am very tired || note: "very"

yþ- | yþkoīðo sa om kaz | 𐓄𐓂𐓋 𐓏 𐓂𐓍 𐓏𐓐 | i am giving a rock to a lot of people || note: a lot of

to- | tokoīðo sa om kaz | 𐓃𐓋 𐓏 𐓂𐓍 𐓏𐓐 | i am giving a rock to each person || note: each

suþ- | suþkoīðo sa om kaz | 𐓆𐓂𐓋 𐓏 𐓂𐓍 𐓏𐓐 | i am giving a rock to any person || note: any

če- | čekoīðo sa om kaz | 𐓅𐓋 𐓏 𐓂𐓍 𐓏𐓐 | i am giving a rock to some people || note: some

Affix page stuff

These are all affixes from the Progāza spreadsheet.

PROGĀZA	𐬀𐬞𐬹𐬹 𐬉𐬌	EXPLANATION
ry-	𐬌-	-er suffix in english, as in "baker"
þy-	𐬟-	-ed suffix in english, as in "baked"
ky-	𐬋-	noun to adjective, "that is __"
kyr-	𐬋𐬌-	verb to adjective (through agent / subject noun), "that ___s"
kyþ-	𐬋𐬟-	verb to adjective (through patient noun), "that is ___ed"
-(j)uþ	-𐬉𐬀𐬵𐬟	next, after
-(j)oz	-𐬉𐬀𐬵𐬎	previous, before
-sonu	-𐬯𐬴𐬐	land of (-ia, -land)
-zon	-𐬴𐬐	place of
-na	-𐬈	collective plural suffix
-čun	-𐬍𐬚	group of noun (inanimate)
-mu	-𐬨	noun -> verb
-(r)o	-𐬌𐬀𐬵	infinitive (he wants me **to delete** the file)
-vo	-𐬰	imperative (see "commands" section)
au(þ)-	𐬀𐬵𐬉-	to make ___ turn to ___
ða(r)-	𐬛𐬀𐬌-	passive voice (they were killed (passive) vs he killed them (active)
-(a)žo	-𐬉𐬀𐬵𐬴	to do (verb) again
_ e	_ 𐬎	I walked myself to the store
-run	-𐬍𐬚	verb->noun the process of (čāzy [to go] -> čāzyrun [journey])
-lo	-𐬊	the action of (defenestration)
-nel	-𐬚𐬊	instrumental verb->noun (nāran [to write] -> nāranel [writing tool])
-(a)tukulo	-𐬉𐬀𐬵𐬇𐬊	power/rule of (-cracy, -archy)
-(i)þoko	-𐬉𐬀𐬴𐬵	study of
-kal	-𐬋𐬊	automatic
-(a)kra	-𐬉𐬀𐬋𐬌	belief of
esu(n)-	𐬎𐬇𐬌-	related to water
-kaþmon	-𐬋𐬌𐬴𐬚	language of (can also just use -i)

-(a)hai	-	adjective -> noun
-(a)psa	-	adjective -> verb
ič-		light (color) / small
maþ-		dark (color) / large
-ukoi	-	person of
-mau	-	too much of
dai-		opposite of

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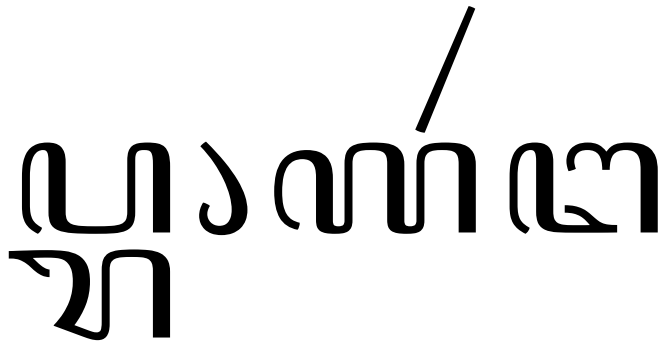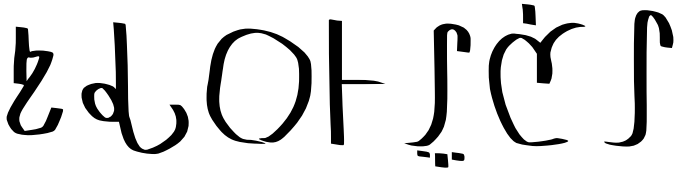
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