Sindarin Lessons

Full Sindarin course from

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Lesson 1 - Pronunciation

Before you can start learning any vocabulary or syntax, you need to be able to pronounce them, so here is a comprehensive guide!

Sindarin letter	Pronunciation
Vowels	
A / Á / Â	Always long, as in 'father'
E / É / Ê	Never long, always as in 'fed' or 'head'
I / Í / Î	Can be an English 'y' if at the beginning of a word or before a vowel, in all other cases it is a long 'ee' sound as in 'machine'.
O / Ó / Ô	Pronounce it like the 'o' in 'dog'.
U / Ú / Û	As in the 'u' in 'flute'.
Y / Ý / Ŷ	It should be pronounced like a Sindarin 'u' however you can pronounce it as the Sindarin 'i'.
Consonants	
C	C is always hard in Sindarin, as in 'kite', never soft like the English 'scent'.
F	Beginning of word: as in 'father', end of word becomes a 'v'.
G	Always hard, as in 'get', never like the word 'edge'.
I	As mentioned above, it becomes a 'y' as in 'yacht' if before a vowel.
L	L as in 'let', nothing odd with this one!
R	Pronounced properly, the Sindarin 'r' should roll.
CH	Never as in 'church' always as in 'loch' or 'bach', it is a gargled sound.
DH	Similar to a 'th' sound as in 'these', it should be harder than the 'TH'.
LH	This is a 'voiceless' 'l', so it should sound more like a 'th' than an 'l', but an 'l' sound is fine.
PH	An 'f' sound as in 'phonic' or 'phone'.
RH	A 'voiceless' 'r', it doesn't trill like a normal Sindarin R.
TH	A soft 'th' as in 'thing'.
HW	Pronounce this as mostly a 'w', so the h is barely audible.
NG	At the end of a word, as in the English 'ring' or 'sing', at the beginning of a word, the two letters should be sounded separately.
Vowel/consonant combinations	
ER	As in the word 'fair', but the 'r' is still rolled.
IR	As in 'dear' or 'ear' (again, remember to roll that 'r'.)
UR	As in the word 'fur', and again the r is rolled.
Diphthongs	
AI	As in the 'i' in 'fine' **not** like the word 'straight'.
AE	Same as for AI, the 'i' in 'fine' or 'bright'.
AU	Pronounce like the 'ou' in 'loud'.
AW	Pronounce it as if it were the 'ow' in 'now'.
EI	This is like the English 'ay' in 'bray' or 'say'.
OE	Say this like the 'oy' in 'boy'.
UI	This is a 'wee' sound, not like the English 'ruin'.

As you should have noticed, the vowels have variants with accents: A / Á / Â - these denote the length of the vowel, going from shortest to longest, left to right.

Lesson 2 - Greetings

Now that you are able to start pronouncing the Sindarin words properly, let's get started with your first lot of vocabulary; learning how to greet friends and strangers. Let's start with a short Sindarin text...
(The audio for this lesson can be found on the forum).

Text One

A: Galu!
B: Ae, mae l'ovannen.
A: Ci maer?
B: Ni maer.
A: Ma. Novaer mellon!
B: Galu!

Now, some of those words might already be familiar to you, or perhaps none of them are. Let's look at the text again, but this time in English.

A: Blessings!
B: Ah, well met.
A: Are you well?
B: I am well.
A: Good. Farewell friend!
B: A blessing!

Let's take a closer look at the vocabulary now. I'm not going to go into the syntax at this stage (word order, mutations etc), this is purely to teach you how to greet someone.

Vocabulary

Galu = literally, 'A blessing'. Used like 'ciao' or 'salut', for both hello, and goodbye.
Ae = an interjection, 'ah'.
mae l'ovannen = Well met (formal). For informal, use the more famous mae g'ovannen.
Le maer? = Are you well? (How are you?)
Ni maer = I am well.
Ma = Good
Novaer = Farewell (literally, 'be well')
Mellon = Friend

Text Two

Let's have a look at a second text now; learn how to ask someone their name, and two ways of telling them yours.

A: Le suilon.
B: Suilaid. Man i eneth lîn?
A: Im Amdiron eston. A le?
B: I eneth nîn Belegon.

And again, now the same text, in English:

A: I greet you.
B: Greetings. What is your name?
A: I am called Amdiron. And you are?
B: My name is Belegon.

<table>
<tr><td colspan="3" align="center">Vocabulary
Le suilon = I greet you (formal). Use Gi suilon for informal.
Suilaid = Greetings.
Man i eneth lîn? = What is your name? (use lîn at the end for formal, and gîn for informal).
Im _____ eston = I call myself _____ , I am called _____
A le? = And you are?
I eneth nîn _____. = My name is _____</td></tr>
</table>

Formal vs Informal

Until you have learnt about different pronouns, I will list the differences between the formal and informal.

Formal	Informal (someone you know well)	Meaning
Le suilon	Gi suilon	I greet you
Mae l'ovannen	Mae g'ovannen	Well met
Man i eneth lîn?	Man i eneth gîn?	What is your name?
A le?	A gi?	And you are?
Le maer?	Ci maer?	Are you well? How are you?

Lesson 3 - Origins

Being able to say from where you hail is an important part of the first greeting with a stranger. The text in this lesson is a very short one, but introduces a lot of new words and ideas.

Text

A: Mas dorthog?
B: Dorthon mi Lothlorien, dan onnen mi Imladris. A gi?
A: Telin o Lothlorien

And now in English:

A: Where do you live?
B: I live in Lothlorien, but I was born in Imladris. And you?
A: I come from Lothlorien.

Vocabulary

Mas = Where
Mas dorthog? = Where do you live?
Dorthon mi _____ = I live in _____
dan = but
onnen mi _____ = born in _____
A gin = the informal version of a len (which as we know from Lesson 2 means 'and you'
Telin o _____ = I come from (another way to say your origins).

To say 'we live in', use = Dortham mi _____ . Take note of the different ending, but that is all I will say on the matter now; verbs are a much later lesson. For now you should just notice the different endings.

Formal vs Informal

Formal	Informal	Meaning
Mas dorthol?	Mas dorthog?	Where do you live?
A len?	A gin?	And you? (Note the difference between A le = And you are, and A len = And you)

Lesson 4 - Questions

The basic question words (Who, What, Why etc.) are very useful in forming sentences, so let's take a look at them. I've split them into sections so it isn't just a massive wall of unfamiliar words, however there is some new vocabulary in this for you to learn.

Man? = What?

Man te? - What is it?
Man sa? - What is that?
Man i lû?- What (is) the time?
Man pen? - What (which) one?
Man sad? - What place? (alternative for 'Where?')
Man agoreg? - What did you do?

Mas? = Where?

Mas agoreg? - Where did you do that?
Mas i adab? - Where is the house?
Mas i ada lîn? - Where is your father?
Mas le? / Mas ci? - Where are you?
Obviously you've already seen this one before from Mas dorthog? so these are just some more examples.

Mar? = When?

Mar agoreg? - When did you do that?
Mar ci onnen? - When (were) you born?
Mar iavas? - When is autumn?

A man? = Who?

A man sa? = Who is that?
A man nad i fend? = Who is at the door?

Manen? = How?

Manen agoreg? - How did you do that?
Manen istog? - How do you know?

Amman? = Why? (For what?)

Amman agoreg? - Why did you do that?
Amman, naneth? - Why, mother?

Am man theled? = For what purpose? (Why?)

Personally I prefer to use this one for its literal meaning of 'For what purpose' rather than 'Why', as there is a shorter version, as above.

Am man theled agoreg? - Why did you do that? (For what purpose did you do that?)
Am man theled anírog istog? - Why do you want to know? (For what purpose do you want to know?)

Lesson 5 - Colours, and an introduction to soft mutation

Translating Sindarin invariably involves descriptions, and the Elves loved to have many words for their colours to describe things, from the colours of snow to falling leaves. Colours are also a good vocabulary to lead from onto an introduction to Soft Mutation; one of the most important concepts you need to grasp when learning Sindarin.
First of all, here is a list of the colours, in both Sindarin and English. The last two are my own constructions/usages, but they are useful for more modern translations.

Sindarin	English
Caran	Red
Luin	Blue
Elu	Pale blue
Malen	Yellow
Calen	Green
Morn	Black
Baran	Brown
Faen, Fain, Nimp	White
Glos	White as snow
Mith	Grey
Rustui	Copper
Celeb	Silver
Mallen	Gold(en)
Ling	Purple
Crinth	Pink

The most important thing to understand about Sindarin is that words must flow.
The point of soft mutation is to favour a harder sound over a softer one, and to enable a sentence to do just that.

(N.B - The Sindarin word for Soft Mutation is Prestanneth. Other sites will also call it Vocalic Mutation or Lenition.)
Here is the list of colours again, but this time with their mutated forms next to them, so you can start to see which letters change, and which don't (you will be very pleased to know that not every letter changes).

Sindarin	With soft mutation
Caran	Garan
Luin	Luin (l does not change)
Elu	Elu (vowels do not change)
Malen	Valen
Calen	Galen
Morn	Vorn
Baran	Varan
Faen, Fain, Nimp	Faen, Fain, Nimp (f and n do not change)
Glos	'los
Mith	Vith
Rustui	Rustui (r does not change)
Celeb	Geleb
Mallen	Vallen

| Ling | Ling |
| Crinth | Grinth |

For now I will teach you how to use mutation in the following ways:

1. When an adjective follows a noun (the rusty nail, the green door etc.)
2. When using the word 'the'
3. When using the word 'and'

The adjective always follows the noun.

<u>Sample sentences:</u>
i iaul vorn = the black cat
i loth veril = the pink flower
i higil luin = the blue necklace (or 'the blue dagger', sigil is a homophone).
but
sigil luin = blue necklace (without the i you do not need to mutate the word for necklace)
and
sigil garan = red necklace (but you still need to mutate the adjective, luin just doesn't mutate)
hû varan = brown dog
but
i chû fain = the white dog
i annabon vall a gelebren = the gold and silver elephant
but
i annabon vall ah i annabon gelebren = the gold elephant and the silver elephant

<u>Vocabulary Recap</u>
a/ah = and
If the word following 'and' begins with a consonant, you use a
If the word following 'and' begins with a vowel, you use ah or adh
i = the (singular)
annabon = elephant
iaul = cat
loth = flower
sigil = necklace (mutates to higil, I put this in to show you how an 's' mutates).
hû = dog (mutates to chû, put in to show you how an 'h' mutates).

I haven't covered all the letters that change here, as I thought this might be enough to start with, simply to get you thinking about the process of mutation.

Lesson 6 - Buying goods

Something that comes up a lot in table top roleplaying (and indeed real life) is buying items, and to do that, you need to be able to ask for what you would like, and respond to someone else.

Text

A: Man anírol?
B: Aníron aes a nen.
A: Hin?
B: ú, hain aníron. Len hannon!
A: De i 'ell nîn.

And now the text again in English

A: What do you want?
B: I want meat and water.
A: These?
B: No, I would like those. Thank you!
A: It is my pleasure

Vocabulary

Man anírol = What do you want? (Formal, literally, What do you desire)
Aníron = I want (I desire)
aes = Meat
a = and (remember this is before a consonant so it is a not ah/adh)
nen = Water
Hin = These
ú = No
Hain = Those
Len hannon = Thank you (formal)
De i 'ell nîn = It is my pleasure (my joy)

There isn't really any way of saying 'please' in the way that we would say "Can I have some meat please?" - they just say "I want some meat". You could use enni = 'for me', e.g. Aes a nen, enni = Meat and water, for me

You can also use Anírog/Anírol for 'Do you want ___', for example:
Anírog mass? = Do you want bread?

For a longer list of things to ask for, check the vocabulary lists on Sindarin Phrases.

Formal vs Informal

Again, as I haven't covered verb endings yet, here are the differences between the formal and the informal.

Formal	Informal	English
Man anírol?	Man anírog?	What do you want?
Len hannon	Gin hannon	Thank you

Lesson 7 - Soft mutation continued

Before you learn any more vocabulary, you need to learn some syntax - and the first and most important piece of syntax, is Soft Mutation.
You need to learn when it is used, and know which letters change into what (though I am not expecting you to memorise them instantly, the table is here for you to refer to - though eventually you will know all of them off by heart as they are used so often).

When is soft mutation used?

A word is mutated with soft mutation if:
It follows the word i = the (singular)/that/who
It follows the word a(dh) = and
It is an adjective following a noun
It is an adverb following a verb
It is a word that follows a preposition (including verb prefixes)

Soft mutation table

If a letter is not in the table below, *it does not change.* I will explain parts of the table at the bottom.

Original letter	Becomes after mutation
b	v
c	g
d	dh
g	'
h	ch
m	v
p	b
s	h
t	d
gl	'l
gr	'r
gw	'w
hw	chw
lh	l/thl
rh	r/thr
(n)d	n
(m)b	m
(n)g	ng

What does ' mean?
This is a glottal stop, and it simply signifies that the g has been removed from the word.

How do I know when to use l/r and when to use thl/thr?
This depends on the word, and it is something you will learn as you pick up vocabulary.

What do (n)d (m)b and (n)g mean?
When Tolkien invented his many languages, a lot of the words that ended up in Sindarin came from

original roots that started with the (n) or the (m). I will give you one of the most common examples:
The word bar means house, however it comes from the root mbar.
When you want to say *the house*, you do not write i var, you write i mar.

Unfortunately, the lists of words like these are just something you will have to check and learn for yourself, there is no obvious way to tell a word's root simply by looking at it.

I have written lists of the words that come from a different root, and these can be found underneath the tab Resources on the website.

Lesson 8 - Plurals (part one)

To be able to write in Sindarin, you need to know and learn the rules that govern the pluralisation of nouns.

I have split it into two parts - one for the single vowels, and the other for diphthongs (ae, ai etc.) with examples for each.

Original vowel	Non-final position in word	Final position in word
a	e	ai
e, ê	e	i, î
i, î	i	i, î
o, ô	e	y, ŷ
u	y	y
û	u	ui
ŷ	Doesn't exist	ŷ

Examples

Las (leaf) = Lais (leaves)
Adan (Man) = Edain (Men) - this is the Race of Man, as in "I am a Man, not an Elf" rather than "he's a man, she's a woman". This shows what we mean by 'non-final position' - the first a changes to an e, and the second a changes to an ai as it is the last vowel in the word.

Hên (child) = Hîn (children) - the lengthened vowel indicated by the accent stays long
Benn (man) = Binn (men)
Leber (finger) = Lebir (fingers)

Lim (fish) = Lim (fish). Basically, as you can see from the table, i does not change.

Solch (edible root) = Sylch (edible roots)
Torog (troll) = Teryg (trolls)

Haru (wound) = Hery (wounds)
Amlug (dragon) = Emlyg (dragons)

Hûn (heart) = Huin (hearts)
Hûb (harbour, haven) = Huib (harbours, havens)

I've put this one in, but there's only really one example:
Mŷl (gull) = Mŷl (gulls)

Lesson 9 - Plurals (part two)

Now, let's look at all the diphthongs and what they change into when you pluralise a noun.

Original vowel	Non-final position in word	Final position in word
ai	Doesn't exist	ei
ae	ae	ae
au	au	oe
ie	Doesn't exist	i
io	Doesn't exist	y
ui	ui	ui

Examples
Naith (spearhead, promontory) = Neith (spearheads, promontories) - both a military word and a word for rock formations.
Taith (mark) = Teith (marks)

Gwaew (wind) = Gwaew (winds)
Taeg (boundary) = Taeg (boundaries)
As you can see, this one doesn't change, but if you didn't know that, you might try and change it.

Naug (dwarf) = Noeg (dwarves)
Bauglir (tyrant) = Boeglir (tyrants)

Eirien (daisy) = Eirin (daisies)

Bior (follower, vassal) = Byr (followers, vassals)
Cirion (sailor) = Ciryn (sailors)

Duin (river) = Duin (rivers)
Again, it doesn't change, but you still need to know that.

Irregular plurals

There are also some (not many!) irregular plurals in Sindarin due to how the word was originally formed. This is a useful list to keep in mind, and as there is no 'rule' as such for these, this is here for you to refer to (and hopefully memorise over time). Please be aware that some of these words have homophones (words that are spelt identically but have a different meaning), and their plurals are regular.

Singular	Plural	Meaning
Ael	Aelin	Pool(s)
Alph	Eilph	Swan(s)
Caun	Conin	Prince(s)
Cef	Ceif	Soil(s)
Doron	Deren	Oak tree
Drû	Drúin	Wose(s), Wild men
Êl	Elin	Star(s)
Fair	Fîr	Mortal(s)
Fela	Fili	Cave(s)
Fêr	Ferin	Beech tree(s)
Naith	Natsai	Promontory(ies)

Nawag	Neweg	Dwarf (one of the many words)
Ôl	Elei	Dream(s)
Orod	Ered	Mountain(s) - also has a regular plural Eryd
Parf	Perf	Book (s)
Pel	Peli	Fenced field (s)

Lesson 10 - 'in', and Nasal Mutation

Now you have all the rules for how to turn a noun into the plural form, let's have a look at how we actually incorporate them into a sentence!

You have already seen that the word i means the, however this is only for singular use -
The book = i barf etc; and you also know that a word following i undergoes Soft Mutation.

When we want to write a sentence with a plural, e.g. the book**s**, we need to use in, the plural form of the. Any word following in undergoes Nasal Mutation.

Some scholars will also advise using nasal mutation for the prepositions 'dan' and 'an', but I see this as more 'pure' Sindarin (Doriathrin Sindarin, as opposed to the Sindarin spoken in the Third Age onwards).

Nasal mutation table

Original letter	Becomes after mutation
b	m
c	ch
d	n
g	ng
h	ch
m	m
p	ph
s	s
t	th
gl	gl
gr	gr
gw	gw
hw	'w
lh	l
rh	r
(n)d	nd
(m)b	mb
(n)g	ng

Examples (these also show again the changes nouns undergo when pluralising them)

i draug = the wolf, but in droeg = the wolves
i galadh = the tree, but i ngelaidh = the trees
Why is this not in ngelaidh? Because that results in a double 'n'. Say it out loud. It sounds odd, and it looks odd, so the Elves just removed that first 'n'.

However! Nasal mutation is not as simple as taking in + noun and changing its first letter, oh no!
As Elves like their language to flow, you also need to know when in takes the form i. Confused yet?
Take a look at the table below.

'In' or 'I'?

In + ...	Becomes
b	i m
c	i ch
d	i n
f	i f
g	i ng
h	i ch
l	i l
m	i m
n	i n
p	i ph
s	i s
t	i th
th	i th
gl	in gl
gr	in gr
gw	in gw
hw	i 'w
lh	idh l
rh	idh r
(n)d	i nd
(m)b	i mb
(n)g	in g

If the letter is not in the table above, it takes the form in.

Please note the special case for words beginning with **LH** or **RH**, where in takes the form **idh**.
This is only for words whose modern Sindarin forms begin with an LH or RH, not those whose
original Noldorin beginnings were an LH or an RH and are now a modern Sindarin L or R.

Lesson 11 - Talking about the weather

Sindarin has many words for different types of weather, and coming from Britain as I do, one of the first things people often make small talk about is whether it's raining or not!

Text One - Two Elves are conversing via telepathy...

A: Suil, mellonig.
B: Galu!
A: Man tolthant i 'waew?
B: Eliant, dan thî síla i anor. Laug enni.
A: Ma.
B: A gin?
A: Danna loss, de ring.
B: Nae!

And now the text again, in English.

A: Greetings, my friend.
B: Hello! (A blessing!)
A: What is the weather like?
B: It was raining, but now the sun shines. I am warm.
A: Good.
B: And you?
A: Snow falls, it is cold.
B: Alas!

Vocabulary

Mellonig = My friend (don't use mellon nîn, the reason why is in a later lesson!)
Man tolthant i 'waew? = How is the weather/What is the weather like? (Literally 'what did the wind bring?')
Eliant = it was raining (This is the verb 'to rain', note this is the past tense, the present tense is in the text below)
dan = but
si = now (remember soft mutation - it changes to 'hi' because of 'dan').
síla = shines (part of the verb 'to shine')
anor = Sun
Laug enni = I am warm (Laug = (it is) warm, enni = to me)
Danna = falls (part of the verb danna-)
loss = snow
de ring = (it is) cold. You can also say Ring enni for 'I am cold'.
Nae = Alas!

Text Two - Two Elves meet on a flet in Lórien.

A: Man tolthatha i 'waew abarad?
B: Alagos tôl.
A: Na vedui!
B: Tiro! Ail.

Just a short text, to cover some of the other vocabulary. And again in English...

A: What will the weather be like tomorrow?
B: A storm comes.
A: At last!
B: Look! It is raining.

* Reconstructed word

Why can I not just say Im/Ni ring, or Im/Ni laug?
For the same reason that we do not say Ich bin kalt in German, it has a rather different meaning with a sexual undertone (you're saying 'I am frigid' or 'I am 'hot", basically!)

Lesson 12 - Prepositions

A preposition is, as I remember my English teacher telling me once, 'a joining word'; they are the words that link sentences together.

So before you start to work on writing texts, you need to be know and be able to use these.

Obviously I'm not expecting you to memorise them, I still have to check my lists occasionally (and there are quite a lot of them).

Sindarin has four types of prepositions, I'm going to cover two here.

The letters in brackets are what is deleted or added in if the following word starts with a vowel:

e.g.

N'aur = at day

Adh Im = and myself

O(h) is a bit special, and I'll cover it in the examples.

*The word that follows a preposition is mutated with **Soft Mutation***

Sindarin	English
A(dh)	And
N(a)	At
O(h)	About
Adh	With/By/Near
Adel	Behind
Am	Upon/Up
An	To/For
Athan	Beyond
Be	According to
Bo	On
Dad	Down
Dan	But/Yet/Against
Ed	Out of/Forth
Eng*	Except, save
Egor	Or
Mi	In/Between (not time)
Na	To/Towards/At (when referencing time)
Nan	With/Possessing/Including
Nad	To/At (a place)
Ned	In/During (when referencing time)
Nef	On this side of
Nu	Beneath/Under
Núf*	Before
Od	From/Of
Or	Over/Above
Sui	As/Like
Thar	Across/Over
Trî	Through/Throughout

*This is reconstructed

When it comes to using adh it can be a little tricky, e.g.:

i luin adh i 'wath adh i chemmaid dholl

There are two possible translations for this sentence (it's actually a line of a poem):
1) The blue and the dim and the dark cloths *or*
2) The blue with the dim with the dark cloths

My general attitude towards using adh is that context is everything, and provide an English translation alongside.
You can also use ah for and, if the meaning is unclear.

Right, let's have some example sentences using the prepositions!

Examples:
O heilph = Concerning swans
but
Oh lhing = About a spider/cobweb
With o(h), you attach the h onto the following word *if it begins with a vowel*. If it doesn't, don't!

N'aur = At day
but
Nad Imladris = At Imladris
These highlight the difference between at(time) and at(a place).

Le vain sui loth = You are beautiful as a flower
Nu i iant = Under the bridge

Further prepositions

The second set of prepositions I want to cover are ones with the word 'the' combined into them.

Sindarin	English
Anin	To/For the
Ben	According to the
En *	Of the
Erin	Over/Upon the
Min	In the
Nuin	Under the
Uin	From the

*En is (you will soon start to groan when I write this) **a special case**.
All of these other prepositions do not change for a plural form, but En does.

As you already know, i becomes in on a plural. En also changes to in on a plural.
Now you might be thinking "Ah ha, okay, so it will use nasal mutation."
Afraid not, it has its own set of mutations, which I will cover in lesson 14.

Onto some examples:
Uin gobel = From the town
There's nothing to stop you writing Od i gobel, they mean exactly the same, the first just looks a little neater perhaps.

Nuin iant = Under the bridge (just to show you the other way to write this sentence).

Lesson 13 - Adjectives

First off, you'd better learn some vocabulary!
Here's a (not exhaustive) list of the most common adjectives, with their soft mutated forms for easy access. There are no 'exceptions' in this list, you'll be glad to know!

English	Sindarin	Soft mutated form
Long	And	And
Strong	Bell	Vell
Great	Beleg	Veleg
Bold, brave	Beren	Veren
Old	Brûn	Vrun
Tough, hard	Dern	Dhern
Silent	Dínen	Dhinen
Mean, poor, bad	Faeg	Faeg
Dead	Fern	Fern
Slender	Fim	Fim
New	Gwain	'wain
Dirty	Gwaur	'waur
Sweet	Leich	Leich
Weary	Lom	Lom
Heavy	Long	Long
Dear, beloved	Mell	Vell
Friendly, lovely	Milui	Vilui
Dear, beloved	Muin	Vuin
Young	Neth	Neth
Small	Niben	Niben
Good	Maer	Vaer
Clean, tidy, neat	Puig	Buig
Wrong	Raeg	Raeg
Straight, right	Tîr	Dir
Tall	Tond	Dond

You only need soft mutation for this lesson, as regardless of whether the noun or subject is plural, the adjective will follow that word, and adjectives use soft mutation.

Example sentences:
i venn veren = the brave man
but
i minn veren = the brave men. As you can see, benn (man) has been pluralised to binn and mutated to minn with nasal mutation, but beren has just been changed with soft mutation.

Using more than one adjective in a list:
i orn vrun bell = the old strong tree (brun mutates to vrun and bell stays the same as it is the 2nd word) or i orn vell brun = the strong old tree (bell mutates to vell and brun stays the same as it is the 2nd word).
As you can see, if you are writing a list of things, 'the young tall man' etc, then the second adjective (or any thereafter) do not need to change, **just the first word in the list needs to mutate.**
But when using a(dh) in a sentence such as this you need to write:
i orn vrun a vell = the old and strong tree, as as you are already aware, any word following 'and' must mutate.

Lesson 14 - Mixed Mutation ('En')

This is the third type of mutation for you to learn - there are a few others, but they're not quite so common - I will cover those in a much later lesson.
Mixed mutation is used for any preposition that includes the word 'the' - i.e. En, Anin, Min etc.

Original letter(s) means 'the first letter(s) of the word following the preposition', e.g.:
en + brun = e-brun, the original letter is 'b', and the 'n' of en does a disappearing act.

The letter changes, i.e **c** becoming **g** are the same for all words subject to Mixed Mutation, but the table below also shows you how the preposition En changes depending on the word. (It will also teach you some new vocabulary!)

Original letter(s)	With mutation	Example
En + B	E-B	e-brennil = of the lady
En + C	E-G	e-gaun = of the prince
En + D	E-D	e-dae = of the shadow
En + DR	EN-DR	en-drúedain = of the wild men
En + F	E-F	e-falas = of the shore
En + G	E-G	e-gath = of the cavern
En + GL	EN-GL	en-glamor = of the echo
En + GR	EN-GR	en-grond = of the club
En + GW	EN-GW	en-gwaew = of the wind
En + H	E-CH	e-chalf = of the seashell
En + HW	E-'W	e-'wind = of the twirling
En + L	E-L	e-laer = of the song
En + LH	E-'L	e-'loss = of the whisper
En + M	E-M	e-maethor = of the warrior
En + P	E-B	e-beng = of the bow
En + R	EDH-R	edh-rant = of the lode
En + RH	E-'R	e-'rass = of the precipice
En + S	E-H	e-hell = of the daughter
En + T	E-D	e-dachol = of the brooch
En + TH	E-TH	e-thavron = of the carpenter
En + TR	EN-DR	en-drenarn = of the account, tale
En + (m)B	E-MB	e-mbar = of the house
En + (n)D	E-ND	e-ndîr = of the man
En + (n)G	E-NG	e-ngolodh = of the Noldo

Lesson 15 - Pronouns (part one)

The basic pronouns that this lesson will cover are indefinite pronouns, nominative pronouns and emphatic pronouns.

Indefinite - Somebody, someone etc.
Nominative - I am, He is, You are etc.
Emphatic - **I** am, **You** are, **My**self, **Your**self, **Our**selves, etc.

Indefinite pronouns

I've put these in their pairs of opposites:
Something = nad   Nothing = ú-nad
Someone = pen   No one = ú-ben
Somewhere = sad   Nowhere = ú-had

Where these act as the direct object of a sentence, soft mutation applies, for example:

ed i had hen = out of this place
abrannen ben = after I found a way to someone

Nominative pronouns

Singular		Plural	
I am	ni	We are	me
You are (formal)	le	You are (formal)	le
You are(informal)	ci	You are (informal)	ci
He/She/It is	te	They are	ti
This is	se	These are	si
That is	sa	Those are	sai

Example phrases:
Ni brun = I am old
Le leich = You are sweet
De ithron = He is a wizard

Why is it De ithron, not Te ithron? Because the 'he' being discussed is the subject of the sentence. Where the pronoun is the subject, it needs to mutate (soft mutation).

Emphatic pronouns

The word that follows an emphatic pronoun does NOT mutate

I am, (I, myself) **or** Ourselves	Im
You are **or** Yourself	Ech
He/She/It is **or** Him/Her/Its self	E or Est

The singular is the same as the plural - the same word is used to signify **You are** as it is for **Yourselves**.
You can use either E or Est, it isn't a case of one is meant to be before a vowel and one isn't, we just have two options from Tolkien!

So, why would you use an emphatic pronoun over a nominative pronoun?

Im Boromir = **I am** Boromir egor Ni Boromir = I am Boromir?

Using the emphatic to introduce yourself lends an extra something to it - the example of this comes from a text in The Lord of the Rings, which hopefully you might recognise from the inscription on the door that leads into Moria: Im Narvi, hain echant which translates as 'I, Narvi, made them', but it is not just 'I made them' it is 'I, **myself**, made them', there is the extra edge of self importance to it.

<u>Example phrase:</u>
Similarly, you could introduce someone with the emphatic:
E/Est Gandalf, i ithron vith = He is Gandalf, the grey wizard

Lesson 16 - Verbs (Present tense)

Verb endings in Sindarin are by every scholar's admission, a bit of a mess...there are some irregular verbs, and a lot of endings. However! As with most things, start using them and things will start to fall into place.

So, let's start with the Present Tense!

Sindarin has two types of verbs, I stem verbs and A stem verbs.
You can tell which is which simply by looking at a verb in a dictionary. If it ends with an 'a', it's an A stem verb!
A stem verbs are further broken into 'simple' and 'complex'. Complex just means that it has some irregular endings. The verb 'to rain' is a very good example of an irregular verb, but they are in lesson 19.

Lets list out the endings for five (hopefully useful) verbs:
· Mad - *to eat* (I stem)
· Cen - *to see* (I stem)
· Tol - *to come* (I stem)
· Aníra - *to want* (A stem)
· Ista - *to know* (A stem)

This should show you *why* the previously used sentence Aníron aes means 'I want meat' and why Man anírog? means 'What do you want?'

I have put the different endings in red to show how it changes.

I stem verbs

Mad- to eat			
Infinitive 'to eat'	Med**i**		
Gerund 'eating'	Mad**ed**		
1st person 'I eat'	Med**in**	Plural 'We eat'	Med**im**
2nd person formal 'You eat'	Mad**ol**	Plural 'You (all) eat'	Mad**olir**
2nd person informal 'You eat'	Mad**og**	Plural 'You (all) eat'	Mad**ogir**
3rd person 'He/she/it eats'	Mâd	Plural 'They eat'	Med**ir**
Imperative 'Eat!'	Mad**o**!		

Cen- to see			
Infinitive 'to see'	Cen**i**		
Gerund 'seeing'	Cen**ed**		
1st person 'I see'	Cen**in**		
2nd person formal 'You see'	Cen**ol**	Plural 'We see'	Cen**im**
2nd person informal 'You see'	Cen**og**	Plural 'You (all) see'	Cen**olir**
3rd person 'He/she/it sees'	Cê**n**	Plural 'You (all) see'	Cen**ogir**
Imperative 'See!'	Cen**o**!	Plural 'They see'	Cen**ir**

Tol- to come (to a place)			
Infinitive 'to come'	Tel**i**		
Gerund 'coming'	Tol**ed**		
1st person 'I come'	Tel**in**		
2nd person formal 'You come'	Tol**ol**	Plural 'We come'	Tel**im**
2nd person informal 'You come'	Tol**og**	Plural 'You (all) come'	Tol**olir**
3rd person 'He/she/it comes'	Tôl	Plural 'You (all) come'	Tol**ogir**
Imperative 'Come!'	Tol**o**!	Plural 'They come'	Tol**ir**

You might have noticed that the vowels in I stem verbs change in the same way that we change vowels in plurals. This is generally known as I-affection. If you need a reminder on how they change, revisit lesson 8.

A stem verbs

Aníra- to want/desire			
Infinitive 'to want'	Aníro		
Gerund 'wanting'	Anírad		Aníram
1st person 'I want'	Aníron		Anírolir
2nd person formal 'You want'	Anírol	Plural 'We want'	Anírogir
2nd person informal 'You want'	Anírog	Plural 'You (all) want'	Anírar
3rd person 'He/she/it wants'	Aníra	Plural 'You (all) want'	
Imperative 'Want!'	Aníro!	Plural 'They want'	

Ista- to know			
Infinitive 'to know'	Isto		
Gerund 'knowing'	Istad		Istam
1st person 'I know'	Iston		Istolir
2nd person formal 'You know'	Istol	Plural 'We know'	Istogir
2nd person informal 'You know'	Istog	Plural 'You (all) know'	Istar
3rd person 'He/she/it know'	Ista	Plural 'You (all) know'	
Imperative 'Know!'	Isto!	Plural 'They know'	

A stem verbs are **not** subject to I-affection, making them much more regular.

<u>Examples to show you how they work:</u>

One of the easiest mistakes to make is something like -
Im iston or Ni iston to try and say 'I know'.
Because of the way Sindarin verbs are constructed, you do not need the pronoun. Simply say Iston.

Madol lembas = You eat lembas (formal). No need for le or ci.

I'll give you one example of a sentence where you **would** use a pronoun and then finish this lesson -
Len cenin = I see you.

Lesson 17 - Verbs (Past tense) Parts 1 & 2

Okay, carrying on with the same I-stem verbs that we looked at for the Present tense (and two different A-stem verbs: Aníra- and Ista- are irregular in the past tense) let's now look at the past tense. What's known as the 'passive participle' and 'active participle' are rarely used in practice, but I've included them so you have all of the verb forms.

Bear in mind that the 2nd person verb forms are a tad theoretical, and based off work in PE17, common sense, and Quenyan rules. Please take note that these are different to the versions used by David Salo and some other Sindarin scholars, I don't use the -ich ending.
Some translators refuse to use them as they're not attested (neither is -ich, incidentally) but you are rather limiting what you can say and write if you don't.

Remember that you must use I-affection when dealing with I-stem verbs!

Part One - Examples

I stem verbs

Mad- to eat			
1st person 'I ate'	Mennin	Plural 'We ate'	Mennim
2nd person formal 'You ate'	Menninol	Plural 'You (all) ate'	Menninolir
2nd person informal 'You ate'	Menninog	Plural 'You (all) ate'	Menninogir
3rd person 'He/she/it ate'	Mant	Plural 'They ate'	Mennir
Active participle 'having eaten'	Módiel	Plural	Módiel
Passive participle 'having been eaten'	Mannen	Plural	Mennin

Cen- to see			
1st person 'I saw'	Cennin	Plural 'We saw'	Cennim
2nd person formal 'You saw	Cenninol	Plural 'You (all) saw'	Cenninolir
2nd person informal 'You saw'	Cenninog	Plural 'You (all) saw'	Cenninogir
3rd person 'He/she/it saw'	Cann	Plural 'They saw'	Cennir
Active participle 'having seen'	Cíniel	Plural	Cíniel
Passive participle 'having been seen'	Cennen	Plural	Cennin

Tol- to come (to a place)			
1st person 'I came'	Tellin	Plural 'We came'	Tellim
2nd person formal 'You came'	Tellinol	Plural 'You (all) came'	Tellinolir
2nd person informal 'You came'	Tellinog	Plural 'You (all) came'	Tellinogir
3rd person 'He/she/it came'	Toll	Plural 'They came'	Tellir
Active participle 'having come'	Túliel	Plural	Túliel
Passive participle 'having been come'	Tollen	Plural	Tellin

A stem verbs

Lasta- to listen			
1st person 'I listened'	Lasta**nnen**	Plural 'We listened'	Lasta**nnem**
2nd person formal 'You listened'	Lasta**nnenol**	Plural 'You (all) listened'	Lasta**nnenolir**
2nd person informal 'You listened'	Lasta**nnenog**	Plural 'You (all) listened'	Lasta**nnenogir**
3rd person 'He/she/it listened'	Lasta**nt**	Plural 'They listened'	Lasta**nner**
Active participle 'having listened'	Last**iel**	Plural	Lest**iel**
Passive participle 'having been listened'	Lasta**nnen**	Plural	Lesten**nin**

Dartha- to wait			
1st person 'I waited'	Dartha**nnen**	Plural 'We waited'	Dartha**nnem**
2nd person formal 'You waited'	Dartha**nnenol**	Plural 'You (all) waited'	Dartha**nnenolir**
2nd person informal 'You waited'	Dartha**nnenog**	Plural 'You (all) waited'	Dartha**nnenogir**
3rd person 'He/she/it waited'	Dartha**nt**	Plural 'They waited'	Dartha**nner**
Active participle 'having waited'	Darth**iel**	Plural	Derth**iel**
Passive participle 'having been waiting'	Dartha**nnen**	Plural	Dartha**nnin**

Part two - I-stem Consonant changes

As you can see, A-stem verbs have much more regular endings*, it is the same endings added to the stem.
We do however have consonant changes to contend with when it comes to the past tenses of verbs - if you look at Mad- you see it becomes Mennin in the past tense due to i-affection.

see part four in lesson 18 for when this is not always the case

Original consonant (from the stem)	Becomes in the past tense	Example
B	-MMIN	Cab- = Cemmin (I leapt)
D	-NNIN	Ped- = Pennin (I spoke)
DH	-NNIN	Edledh- = Edlennin (I went into exile)
G	-NGIN	Dag- = Dengin (I slew)
L	-LLIN	Tol- = Tellin (I came)
R	-RNIN	Palandir- = Palandirnin (I watched from afar)
V	-MMIN	Hav- = Hemmin (I sat)

Lesson 18 - Verbs (Past tense) Parts 3 & 4

This carries directly on from lesson 17, and examines the irregularities with A-stem verbs.

Part three - A-stem consonant simplification

Although A-stem verbs do not have I-affection and consonant changes to worry about, they do have some simplifications to prevent large groups of repeated consonants.

Consonant cluster	Becomes in the past tense	Example
nna- ida- ada-	-nnen not -nnannen -innen -annen	Penna- = Pennen not Pennannen Nimmida- = Nimminnen Gannada- = Gannen Tangada- = Tangannen

Part four - A-stem irregular verbs

And finally, we come to the (small, panic ye not) group of A-stem verbs that have irregular conjugations *in the past tense*. They are regular in the present tense and the future tense, so please do not try and stick random endings on them! For the true irregular verbs that are irregular in most tenses, please see lesson 20.

The reason that these are important is that to make them regular is the equivalent of saying 'I thinked' or 'I drinked' in English. You know what the person means, but it isn't the correct formation, and it certainly isn't how a native would say it!

Instead of listing the consonant changes in a little table, I'm going to do each verb individually.
As it isn't clear what happens to the 2nd person forms of these verbs, I will treat them as if they were any other A-stem verb, adding the ending onto the 1st person form, so for example:
We take Ammen = I refused, and add the second person ending, giving us -
Ammenol = You refused, Ammenolir = You all refused, etc.

Aníra- to want			
I wanted	Anírnen	We wanted	Anírnem
He/she/it wanted	Anírn	They wanted	Anírner

Tíra- to see, to gaze is conjugated identically to Aníra-

Ava- to refuse			
I refused	Ammen	We refused	Ammem
He/she/it refused	Am	They refused	Amer

Banga- to trade			
I traded	Bangen	We traded	Bangem
He/she/it traded	Banc	They traded	Banger

Gala- to grow			
I grew	Gallen	We grew	Gallem
He/she/it grew	Gall	They grew	Galler

Gawa- to howl			
I howled He/she/it howled	Gonen Gaun	We howled They howled	Gonem Goner

Groga- to feel terror			
I felt terror He/she/it felt terror	Grungen Grunc	We felt terror They felt terror	Grungem Grunger

Ista- to know			
I knew He/she/it knew	Sinnen or Istassen Sint or Istas	We knew They knew	Istassem Istasser

Laba- to hop			
I hopped He/she/it hopped	Lammen Lamp	We hopped They hopped	Lammem Lamber

Loda- to float			
I floated He/she/it floated	Lunnen Lunt	We floated They floated	Lunnem Lunder

Muda- to labour			
I laboured He/she/it laboured	Mudassen Mudas	We laboured They laboured	Mudassem Mudasser

Pada- to walk (on a path)			
I walked He/she/it walked	Pannen Pant	We walked They walked	Pannem Pander

Síla- to shine with silver light			
I shone He/she/it shone	Síllen Síll	We shone They shone	Síllem Síller

Thora- to fence (in)			
I fenced He/she/it fenced	Thoren Thaur	We fenced They fenced	Thorem Thorer

Toba- to cover, roof over			
I covered He/she/it covered	Tummen Tump	We covered They covered	Tummem Tumber

Lesson 19 - Verbs (Future tense)

Let's now look at the future tense, for the five verbs that we looked at in the present tense.
The future tense is incredibly regular, the endings are the same for I stem and A stem, it's just the initial vowels that you have to still change on the I-stem verbs.
Again, I have marked the verb endings in red.

Although Sindarin doesn't technically have a conditional tense 'I would eat', 'I would see', I have recently had an idea on how this might be constructed (from attested material). This can be found in lesson 19a.

I stem verbs

Mad- to eat			
1st person 'I will eat'	Me**dithon**	Plural 'We will eat'	Me**ditham**
2nd person formal 'You will eat'	Me**dithol**	Plural 'You will all eat'	Me**ditholir**
2nd person informal 'You will eat'	Me**dithog**	Plural 'You will all eat'	Me**dithogir**
3rd person 'He/she/it will eat'	Me**ditha**	Plural 'They will eat'	Me**dithar**

Cen- to see			
1st person 'I will see'	Cen**ithon**	Plural 'We will see'	Cen**itham**
2nd person formal 'You will see'	Cen**ithol**	Plural 'You will all see'	Cen**itholir**
2nd person informal 'You will see'	Cen**ithog**	Plural 'You will all see'	Cen**ithogir**
3rd person 'He/she/it will see'	Cen**itha**	Plural 'They will see'	Cen**ithar**

Tol- to come (to a place)			
1st person 'I will come'	Tel**ithon**	Plural 'We will come'	Tel**itham**
2nd person formal 'You will come'	Tel**ithol**	Plural 'You will all come'	Tel**itholir**
2nd person informal 'You will come'	Tel**ithog**	Plural 'You will all come'	Tel**ithogir**
3rd person 'He/she/it will come'	Tel**itha**	Plural 'They will come'	Tel**ithar**

A stem verbs

Aníra- to want/desire			
1st person 'I will want'	Aníra**thon**	Plural 'We will want'	Aníra**tham**
2nd person formal 'You will want'	Aníra**thol**	Plural 'You will all want'	Aníra**tholir**
2nd person informal 'You will want'	Aníra**thog**	Plural 'You will all want'	Aníra**thogir**
3rd person 'He/she/it will want'	Aníra**tha**	Plural 'They will want'	Aníra**thar**

Ista- to know			
1st person 'I will know'	Ista**thon**	Plural 'We will know'	Ista**tham**
2nd person formal 'You will know'	Ista**thol**	Plural 'You will all know'	Ista**tholir**
2nd person informal 'You will know'	Ista**thog**	Plural 'You will all know'	Ista**thogir**
3rd person 'He/she/it will know'	Ista**tha**	Plural 'They will know'	Ista**thar**

Lesson 19a - Conditional tense (future unreal)

Please bear in mind that this lesson is entirely theoretical based on my own surmisings from Tolkien's work, do not feel that you have to use it, you may bypass this lesson entirely if you wish.

Future unreal = 'could', would'. Obviously we already have the basic conditional tense from the word 'If', this is for more complicated sentences.

This is an idea I had whilst thinking about the King's Letter, the longest Sindarin text, particularly the line:
i sennui Panthael estathar aen = 'who ought to be called Fullwise'.

Now, if we analyse this sentence, we see we have
i = the relative pronoun, 'who'
sennui = instead/rather
Panthael = 'Fullwise'
estathar = 'will be called'

And then we have aen at the end, which to my mind can only be to signify the conditional tense, changing estathar - 'will be called' into estathar aen - 'could be called'.

As I'm sure you're aware, if you've done much research into Sindarin, aen is probably the most controversial word in Sindarin, every scholar has their own thoughts on what it means, and some prefer not to use it at all as we don't know for certain Tolkien's intentions.

Usage

As the only example we have is for the future tense, I will not try and extrapolate it into other tenses. In the King's Letter, aen is shown to follow the verb, so here are some examples that follow in the same vein:

Medithon aen = I would eat
Cenithol aen = You would see
Istatha aen = He would know
Telithon aen nad i mar gîn = I would come to your house
Aníratham aen lembas = We would want lembas

Lesson 20 - Irregular verbs

N.B - this is for the truly irregular verbs, who like to plague us with their strangeness. For verbs such as Ista- etc. which do have changes in their past tense compared to normal A-stem verbs, please see lesson 18.

Part one

Sindarin does not have many (thankfully), but it does have some irregular verbs, which I have listed below in all their forms, as when it comes to these, you cannot rely on the normal rules to conjugate them, you have to look them up!

Anna- = To give	
Infinitive 'to give'	Anno
Gerund 'giving'	Annad
1st person present 'I give'	Annon
3rd person present 'He/she/it gives'	Anna
Imperative 'Give!'	Anno!
1st person past 'I gave'	Onen
3rd person past 'He/she/it gave'	Aun
1st person future 'I will give'	Annathon
3rd person future 'He/she/it will give'	Annatha

Elia- = To rain	
Infinitive	Elio
Gerund	Eliad
3rd person present	Ail
Imperative	Elio!
3rd person past	Aul
3rd person future	Eliatha

Elia- is what is known as an impersonal verb, when we refer to 'it is raining', the 'it' in question is a rather nebulous 'it' (the sky in general). Thus there are no first person forms for this verb, as we only ever refer to weather in such a manner, we do not say 'You are raining'.

Boe- = It is necessary to

(m)boe- is another impersonal verb, but a rather odd one. This verb only has one form regardless of tense, and that is boe. (Please note the mb stem for mutation purposes however!)
Examples:
Boe pedim = It is necessary we speak
Boe i pennim = It is necessary that we spoke
Boe i penitham = It is necessary that we will speak

Car- = To do, to make	
1st person past	Agoren
3rd person past	Agor

Car- is only irregular in the past tense, for present and future tenses conjugate it as you would any other I-stem verb.

Part two (theoretical)

The second part of this lesson concerns: I-stem verbs where two verbs of different meanings can end up with the same verb part due to lenition, for example:

Nin cenir

Do they see me, or do they call me? It's a normal sentence, and one you would use in everyday speech. but you can't tell the difference, as Can- (to call) due to I-affection, becomes Cen in some of its forms, and thus looks like the verb Cen- (to see), which, again, due to I-affection, *does not change*, and remains Cen in all forms.

I thus do not believe for a moment that Elves would conjugate all verbs identically, as they would not be able to differentiate other than through context, and that does not apply in all cases (such as the example above). Homophones for nouns or adjectives are easy to navigate, much as they are in English - we do not get mixed up when someone uses fur/fir or to/too/two while talking, as context always provides the answer.
In much the same way in Sindarin, we would (probably) not confuse i 'wend vîn and = 'Our friendship is long' with 'Our maiden is long'!
When it comes to verbs though, particularly in a short sentence, there is little or no context to be able to tell the difference, and so I propose the following -

These are the verbs that this applies to:
Cen- (to see) and Can- (to cry)
Gar- (to have, hold) and Gor- (to warn, counsel)
Hal- (to lift) and Hol- (to close)
Ped- (to speak) and Pad- (to step)

My proposal is that of the verbs in these pairs, the first verb listed remains with its normal conjugation (Cen- stays as Cen in all forms, Gar- still changes to Ger for some forms, and so on), and the second verb in the pairs does not undergo lenition.

For example:
Can- should become Cenithon = I will cry out. I propose that it remains Canithon = I will cry.
Gor- should become Gerithon = I will warn. I propose it remains Gorithon = I will warn.
Hol- should become Helithon = I will close. I propose it remains Holithon = I will close.

And so on, for all other forms of the verb where they would normally mutate, for the other pairs.

A question also arises concerning Lammen = I hopped vs. Lammen = my tongue, but I believe that context can be applied in this case.

We also have:
Cab- (to leap) and Caf- (to bow)
As Caf- is a reconstruction of my own I thought it prudent to look at it separately.
In the past tense, I leapt = Cemmin, but if we follow the rules of I-stem verbs, I bowed also = Cemmin.
How could we get round this? There is always of course the option that 'we don't', but what about this instead -
David Salo proposes two options for Haf- (we are looking at this as it is an I-stem verb which also ends in f) which should according to our rules become Hemmin (I sat). He offers both Hemmin (I sat), and curiously Hevennin (I sat). Perhaps then, (while Cab- remains Cemmin in the past tense), Caf- becomes Cevennin.

Lesson 21 - Plurals (part three) - Class plurals

There are four other plurals in Sindarin - being able to say 'all of something' or 'a group of something', and they are all suffixes, (they attach to the end of the word.)

-ath

This plural ending makes the word mean 'all of the x' and can be used on 'things' as well as peoples.

For example:
Elenath = All of the stars
Gaudath = All of the machines

The table below shows you the rules for adding -ath onto a word.

If last letter(s) is/are:	Then turn it into (before adding the suffix):
A	O - This becomes 'oth' not 'oath'.
F	V
LT	L
M (from MB)	MM
N/NN (from ND)	NN
NC	NG
NT	NN
S	SS
OL/EL/OR (from either l or r)	L/R

How do I know if a word 'comes from ND or MB'?

Look it up in the word lists on the website, if you are unsure.

-rim

This suffix means 'a group of'/'some'/'a tribe of' and is used on nouns.

For example:
Onodrim = A group of Ents

However, you cannot simply attach -rim onto the end of any noun; again, it has its own mini set of rules to follow:

If the last letter(s) of the word are a	Then the suffix becomes
L	-lim
N/NN that comes from ND	-ndrim
N (that does not come from a ND root)	-dhrim
NT	-ndrim
S/SS/ST	-thrim

Again, if you are unsure if a word has an ND root or not, check the word lists on the website.

-hoth

This suffix means 'host', and is invariably used for 'evil' peoples.
For example:
Glamhoth = 'noisy host' (orcs).

This suffix you can just add onto the end of the word without worrying about having any rules to follow.

-waith

This suffix simply means 'people' or 'peoples', and can only be used for Free Peoples (Elves, Men, Dwarves etc. - no evil peoples, orcs and the like). It also has no rule to follow, just add the suffix, for example:

Forodwaith = North peoples, (Northmen)

Lesson 22 - Pronouns (part two)

This lesson will cover possessive pronouns, one of the most commonly used pronouns in English. Examples: my book, your pen etc.

The possessive pronoun includes the definite article, i (the, singular). This cannot be omitted unless you are using the pronoun to start the sentence, and as always when i is used, causes **soft mutation** in the following word.

Possessive pronouns

Singular		Plural	
My...	i_____nîn	Our (not your)... Our (and your)...	i____vîn i____'wîn
Your...(formal)	i_____lîn	Your...(formal)	i_____lîn
Your...(informal)	i_____gîn	Your...(informal)	i_____gîn
His/Hers/Its...	i_____dîn	Their...	i_____dîn
This...	i_____hen	These...	i_____hin
That...	i_____han	Those...	i_____hain
Reflexive	i_____în	Reflexive	i_____în

Those of you that have been paying attention to the earlier lessons may have realised that all of these pronouns have undergone Soft mutation; the original form of 'His/hers/its' for example is i_____tîn.

This is however just a note on the formation of the language, as you will never see the possessive pronouns in their 'original' forms, you will always use those in the table above.

Example phrases:

i iaul nîn = my cat
i barf lîn = your book
i grist dîn = his sword

What does reflexive mean?
A reflexive pronoun is one that refers back to the subject of the verb.
For example:
Fara i aras în = He hunts his own deer
Hevin bo i cham în = I sit on my own chair

Diminutive suffix

What is the diminutive suffix?
Well, if you want to say something like 'my love' when talking to your other half then what you wouldn't do is write i veleth nîn. Instead, you would write Melethig.
Why?
To say i veleth nîn implies that you own them (it is after all a possessive pronoun, MY cat, YOUR dog). The diminutive suffix is the English equivalent of an endearment.

The diminutive suffix uses the -ath rule on the last letter of the end of the word, before you add the suffix below.

If the last vowel/diphthong in the word is:	Then add (to the end of the word):
AE, AI, E, EI, I, or OE A, AU, AW, O, or U	-ig -eg

Look back to lesson 21 for the -ath rule.

Lesson 23 - 'To be'

The verb 'to be' can be one of the most difficult things to understand when learning Sindarin, as a lot of the time, it is simply left out, for example, when a sentence contains Is or Are - for example:

It is a leaf = Te lass
They are leaves = Ti laiss

What this actually says if you translate it back into English word for word is "It leaf" and "They leaves".
The 'is (a)' and the 'are' that we use in English are implied, or rather, we put them in when we translate from Sindarin to English.

However. For other sentences, where you're not using a pronoun such as in this case, there is an option for putting the verb 'to be' in. This is the original work of David Salo (the linguist who wrote the Elvish dialogue in the LotR films), but not all linguists use it as it is reconstructed. Personally, I use these quite a lot, as I find it makes translations a lot easier!

Present tense	
Naun/Non	I am
Narn	We are
Naw/No	He/She/It is
Nar	They are
Future tense	
Nathon	I will be
Natham	We will be
Natha	He/she/it will be
Nathar	They will be
Past tense	
Nonen	I was
Nonem	We were
Naun/Non	He/She/It was
Noner	They were
Naul	Being
No!	Be!

The difference between Naun/Non and Naw/No is listed by David Salo as the following:
"Naun and Naw are used when the word takes a strong stress in the sentence.
Non and No are used when the word is weakly stressed." *(A Gateway to Sindarin)*

There is also way of saying the [noun] is [adjective] (for example 'the cat is small')
Compare the following sentences:
i iaul vîw = the small cat
i iaul mîw = the cat is small

However, this does run into the obvious problem that it looks as if you've forgotten to apply soft mutation.
By using the following sentence, you bypass this problem completely (if making it a little unwieldy).
i iaul no vîw = the cat (it) is small

Lesson 24 - Relative pronouns

A relative pronoun is 'that/who/whom/which'. Technically 'that' is the subordinate conjunction, but as Sindarin treats it identically to the others, I am not differentiating.
The relative pronoun in Sindarin is i for singular, and in for plural, exactly like the word 'the'.
For singular, use soft mutation as you would normally for a word following i = the.
For plural, you must use nasal mutation as you would for a word following in = the.

Here are some examples. The relative pronouns are marked in red:

I see that you came to Imladris
Cenin i dellinol nad Imladris

I will see him whom I love
Cenithon de i velin

I am she who ate it
Ni de i de mennin

This is the house in which we sleep
Se i mar mi i lostam

What stops this i from meaning 'the'?
Well, translate the first sentence back, and you would get 'I see the you came to Imladris', which doesn't make sense! As always, context is everything.

How do I know when to use i for who and when to use a man?
This is a good question, and easily answered. A man is an interrogative pronoun, used for asking questions. Here, we are not asking anyone a question, and so we use the relative pronoun, i.

When/while

The word for when/while is ir.
For example:
Istathon ir tolog nad Lothlorien = I will know when you come to Lothlorien

Farathon ir postol = I will hunt while you rest

The word following ir is not mutated.

If

There are two options for writing the word 'if', and both of them are reconstructed.
The first is ae (reconstructed by David Salo).

Ae nin melog, darthathog = If you love me, you will stay

The second option is reconstructed by Bainwen at Realelvish, and is pe.
If you love me, you will stay
Pe nin melog, darthathog

Neither of these two words cause mutation in the following word.

Ae is the word I personally use, as it has been around for a lot longer (it was used in the Lord of the

Rings films), and is more likely to be recognised by other translators than pe.
(From a more technical viewpoint, pe is the preferred option, so use which one suits you better).

Where

The word for where is ias. Remember this is not for questions, only sentences of the type below!

Examples:
Ias i thŷn, dhûr a chall = Where the pine trees, dark and high

Lesson 25 - Further prepositions: prefixes

Sindarin has several prepositions that are prefixes, that you attach to the front of a noun or a verb. We will also look at a set of adverb prefixes, that alter the verb they attach to.

What is important to realise, particularly when scanning dictionaries, is that just because a word looks like it is made up of one of these prefixes, does not necessarily mean it is! Combinations of letters can occur for other reasons, such as compound mutation, so do not automatically think you have discovered a word's etymology simpy because it starts with an oth- or a go-.

Preposition prefixes

Sindarin	English
ab-	After/Later
ath-	On both sides/Across
athra-	Across
di-	Under/Beneath/Sub
nedh-	In/Inside/Mid
os-	Around/About
pen-	Without
per-	Half
thar-	Over/Across
tre-	Through (denotes completeness when attached to a verb)

Examples:

Trenarn (Tre+narn) = Account, tale (literally, to tell a tale through to the end)

Adverb prefixes

Sindarin	English
ad-	Again
al-	Well
an-	Forth
ath-	Easily
(n)dan- /(n)dad-	Redoing something/Undoing something
dír-	With difficulty
dý-	Mistakenly
ein-	To do well (properly)
fer-	Soon/Promptly
go-	Together
(n)gor-	With fear/dread/pain, difficult to do
oth-	Badly (Improperly)
per-	Half
rhae-	Awkwardly
rhu-	Wickedly
thu-	Badly (Incorrectly)
tre-	Thoroughly
ui-	Ever (Forever, always)

Examples:

Uidafnen = Everclosed

Lesson 26 - Comparatives & Superlatives

Comparatives

What is a comparative?
To answer that, let me give you some English examples:

She is taller than her sister.
He is better at football than his friend.
I am more confident than her.

To translate a sentence like this into Sindarin we need to use the preposition word athan and create the sentence thusly:

[Pronoun] has [beauty/etc.] beyond [comparative term]

For example:
To translate the sentence *'A woman is more beautiful than an Elf'* you need to first turn it into the Sindarin equivalent, which is:
'A woman has beauty beyond the beauty of an Elf' - Bess sâf vainas athan i vainas Edhel.

Superlatives

What is a superlative?
If you wanted to pay a compliment to a craftsman, you could say he is 'very skillful', or you could say he is 'the most skillful' - the latter is a superlative. Let me give you some examples, the superlative is on the right:

Great - Greatest
Good (at something) - Best (at something)
Very - Most
Brave - Bravest

To turn a Sindarin word, such as beren (brave/bold) into **bravest/boldest**, we do the following:

If the word starts with a vowel, **apart from u** we add Raw- to the front of the word, and then apply soft mutation to the word.
If the word starts with any other letter, **including u** we add Ro- to the front of the word, and then apply soft mutation.

For example:
Ro+Beren = Roveren = Bravest/boldest
Ro+Bain = Rovain = Most beautiful
Ro+Um = Rawum = Baddest/Most evil

Lesson 27 - Pronouns (part three)

In this lesson we're going to look at the last two sets of pronouns, Object pronouns, and Dative pronouns.

Object (also known as oblique) pronouns act as the direct object, and are generally placed before the verb. Please note soft mutation applies to these pronouns, the table below is of the unmutated forms. Dative pronouns are the oblique pronouns with an = to/for prefixed onto them. They usually come at the end of the sentence.

Object pronouns

First person exclusive	nin (me)	men (us, not you)
First person inclusive		gwen (us, and you)
Formal second person	len (you)	len (you)
Informal second person	cin (you)	cin (you)
Neutral third person	ten (him/her/it)	tin (them)
Close demonstrative	sen (this)	sin (these)
Far demonstrative	san (that)	sain (those)

Examples:
I orn dannant bo den = The tree fell on him
Goheno men = Forgive us
Gin melathon an-uir = I will love you forever
Han ú-aniron = I don't want that

Dative pronouns

Please note where it says 'to xxx' or 'for xxx' in brackets, this is simply explanatory, each pronoun below can be used to mean both 'to xxx' and 'for xxx'.

	Singular	Reflexive	Plural
First person exclusive	Annin/Enni (to/for me)	Anim (for myself)	Ammen (for us, not you)
First person inclusive			
Formal second person	Anlen (to/for you)		Angwen (for us and you)
Informal second person	Angin (to/for you)		
Neutral third person	Anden (to him/her/it)	Anech (to/for yourself)	Anlen (for you)
Close demonstrative	Anhen (to this)	Anest (to/for his/her/itself)	Angin (to/for you)
Far demonstrative	Anhan (to that)		Andin (to them)
			Anhin (to these)
			Anhain (to those)

Examples:
De maer annin = It is good to me (I like it).
Onen i grist anden = I gave the sword to her
Dengin in yrch angin = I slew the orcs for you
Linno dínen anech! = Sing to yourself quietly!

Lesson 28 - The Abstract Suffix

The abstract suffix is one of the most useful tools I have found for creating non attested words from already existing Sindarin words. It can be used on nouns, adjectives and verbs, and I shall attempt to illustrate the point of it below with some examples.

Sindarin word	With the abstract suffix becomes
Aeg (point)	Aegas (mountain peak)
Bain (beautiful)	Bainas (beauty)
Gala- (to grow)	Galas (growth, a plant)
Ovor (abundant)	Ovras (crowd, heap)
Pent (tale)	Pennas (history)
Rîn (remembrance)	Rínas (memory)

Once you get the hang of using it, the abstract suffix is a powerful tool to help you with translations. Adjectives and verbs are relatively straight forward - take an adjective such as hand = intelligent, and it becomes hannas = intelligence, understanding.
Nouns are a little less easy to treat. The abstract version of a noun becomes a greater version of the original, for example: hûb = a harbour becomes hobas = harbourage or ind = inner thought, meaning becomes innas = will.

Creating words with the abstract suffix

The abstract suffix is -as. The rules for using it are the same as for the suffix -ath (change the last letter if you need to before attaching the abstract suffix). If you have forgotten the rules for -ath, check back through to lesson 21.

Lesson 29 - Futher suffixes (-weg, -ui, -ren, -on and -red)

By now (with the aid of a good dictionary to fill in some of your knowledge of vocabulary) you should be able to put sentences together with a degree of competency.

These suffixes help to fill some of the gaps in the attested word lists, and much like the Abstract Suffix in the previous lesson, allow you to use existing rules to do this.

-weg

This suffix is only known to work on I stem verbs, but I have been known to ignore this and use it on other things.

The definition of -weg in PE17 is 'active in doing', or to add the English -ful or -ive on the end.

For example:
Carweg = Active, busy (from the I stem verb Car- = to do)
Pedweg = Talkative, active in saying (from the I stem verb Ped- = to talk)

The reason I tend to ignore the I stem verb only part is that the following also works:
Gellweg = Joyful *(Gell = Joy, + weg = -ful)*

-ui

This suffix is attested to work with both I stem verbs and nouns, and is the equivalent of the English -able or -ible on the end of a word, or to say 'of xyz'.

For example:
Melui = Loveable
Lithui = Of ash, ashen

Don't forget you can always negate a word to gain its opposite meaning, which gives us:
úvelui = Unloveable

-ren

This is a suffix I worked out from when I was scanning Hisweloke's dictionary and noticed a pattern between some words:
Celebren = Silvery (like silver)
Gondren = Stony (like stone)
Mallen = Golden (like gold) and many other attested words

I propose that this suffix can be used on any noun, but also on verbs, and is the equivalent of -LY or -Y on the end of an English word.

How to add the suffix:
On a noun -
If the word ends in an **L**, add **-LEN**
If the word ends in an **S**, remove it and add **-THREN**
Otherwise, add **-REN**

On an I stem verb -
Take the basic stem and add the suffix as above

On an A stem verb -
Remove the vowel and add the suffix as above.

Examples:
Hortha- = To speed, urge on
Horthren = Speedily

Laeg = Keen, sharp
Laegren = Keenly, sharply

Gais = Steel
Gaithren = Of steel, steely

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-on

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This is a suffix I came across very recently, by a scholar who termed it the 'augmentative suffix'.
The examples we seem to have are:
Ardh = Realm, region, but Ardhon = Great region, great province (the world)
and
Aear = Sea, but Aearon = Ocean

Basically, it takes a noun and makes it bigger! (Do not confuse with the abstract suffix, this suffix is **only** for making things physically bigger.)

<div align="center">

-red

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This suffix is an attested one (first published in PE17) that I only came across very recently. Although the suffix itself comes from material written by Tolkien, there are unfortunately, no attested words that show its usage, so this is based entirely on the paragraph in PE17 and my surmisings there from.

It is written as 'Ornamentation, highlighting, with the intimation of being fair, used especially on colours and shapes'. This isn't a suffix that exists in English, so I'm afraid I can't show you any easy examples! I believe it would be something like this however:

How to add the suffix:
There are no rules of any sort attached to the information (as there are no words listed using this), but we can make some fairly easy inferences, based on how other suffixes attach to words (such as -rim and -ren).

If the word ends in an **L**, add **-LED**
If the word ends in an **S**, remove it and add **-THRED**
Otherwise, add **-RED**

Peng garanred = A bow with red ornamentation/red detail (highlights)
Sigil vorn adh valenred = A black necklace (or dagger) with yellow ornamentation/yellow detail (highlights).
Adab adh rendred = Building with circular detailing (with the intimation of carving)
Hebaid adh glothred = Shoes with white (as snow) ornamentation

Lesson 30 - Sentence order

Compared to English, the sentence structure of Sindarin can take some getting used to. If you already know another language like French or German however, you will find it a lot easier to get the hang of, at least in the first section below.

Adjectives

As you saw in lesson 13, an adjective follows the noun it describes.
To write 'a red book' you write it as [noun] [adjective] - parf garan.
This is of course backwards to English, we say 'a red book' not 'a book red', but compare it to other languages and suddenly we find it's not so unusual! (If we look at French for example, we find that it is un livre rouge = literally, 'a book red'!)

Verbs

This section will be a little longer as there are a few different cases to discuss.

Imperative
As you should remember, the imperative form is e.g. Isto! Know! or Mado! Eat!
When using an imperative, the verb comes first, followed by the subject.
For example:
Mado i aes! = Eat the meat!
Isto i vellas in Edhil! = Know the strength of the Elves!

Coming under the umbrella of imperative is also sentences such as 'Be ____' or 'May _____'.
No = Be! Nai = May, come before the verb. I use soft mutation following No but not after Nai.
(Nai is borrowed from Quenya to alleviate using the same word 'No' to mean both things).
For example:
Nai i had hen no i dhagnir lîn = May this place be your bane
Nai madol = May you eat
No deithad anin, mellon! = Be writing to me, friend!

With pronouns
When you want to say something like 'I see you' or 'I eat it', remember that the first part, 'I see', 'I eat' does not use the first person pronoun, it is part of the verb - Cenin, Medin.
The second part, the 'you', 'it', is a pronoun, and it goes before the verb, like so:
Len cenin = I see you
Den medin = I eat it

You mutate the pronoun as it is the subject of the sentence.
This is why it is De medin not Te medin.

If the pronoun is the **indirect object**, do not mutate it.

With nouns
For this type of sentence structure, it is like the following: 'A cat sat on a chair'.
'A cat' is the subject, followed by the verb 'to sit', and then the noun, 'a chair'.
I have highlighted the parts of the sentence to illustrate:
Iaul havant bo cham = A cat sat on a chair

Lesson 31 - How to make names and compounds

One thing most people will want to do at some point is make up character names, whether it be for a fanfiction story, online game or anything else, and they would often like to know how to do it themselves, but end up looking through a dictionary and just mashing two words together.
Names derived like this tend to make me wince when I see them, so this lesson will teach you how to put elements together properly! A lot of this is based simply on mutation (usually soft mutation, however with names we have more freedom, and ultimately it is about making the name sound 'good', so if nasal mutation works better with the two elements you have, feel free to use it, Tolkien did!)

First of all we're going to look at the changes that happen to *the first letter of the second element*.
Let me give you an example of what I mean by 'elements':
Elrond is made up of El = star and rond = dome, two separate words (elements) brought together in a compound.

If the first letter(s) of the second word is:	Then it becomes:
B	V if the first word ends in an R
	B remains if it follows anything else
C	G
CH	H
D	DH if the first word ends in a vowel or an L and a preceding vowel
	D remains after other consonants
G	Usually lost (don't bother with putting in a ')
GR	R (G lost)
GL	L (G lost)
GW	W (G lost) UNLESS the word comes from an original GW
H	L
LH	CH if the first word ends in a vowel or after R
M	V or W if the first word ends in a LW or L
ND	NN if the first word ends in a vowel
P	B
R	L if the first word ends in an L
RH	R
S	H
T	D
(m)B	M
(n)D	N

If the last letter(s) of the first word is:	Then it becomes:
B	PH if the second word starts with a S or H
CH	H
D	TH if the second word starts with a S or H
DH	Disappears before M, N, TH.
	TH if the second word starts with a H
	D if the second word starts with a C, G or GL
G	CH if the second word starts with a S or H
LL	L if the second word starts with a consonant
MP	M if the second word starts with a B, D, L, T, R
N	DH if the second word starts with a R apart from the word Aran

ND	L if the second word starts with an L
	N if the second word starts with a consonant ***apart from B,P,M***
OL	M if the second word starts with a B, P or M
S	ND remains if the second word starts with an R
	LA
ST	SS if the second word starts with a vowel
	TH if the second word starts with a L or R
	S if the second word starts with a C, G, F
	TH if the second word starts with a L or R

Miscellany, and other points to consider when making names and compounds

One that is often missed by people is that an AU should become an O, for example:
Naur + -iel, a feminine suffix = Noriel not Nauriel.

If the last letters of the second word are LL then change it to L
If the last letters of the second word are ND, then change it to NN
If the last letters of the second word are NW then change it to N
If the last letters of the second word are MP then change it to M
If the last letters of the second word are RN then change it to R
If the last letters of the second word are ST then change it to S

Long vowels shorten: **â ê î ô û** become **á é í ó ú** (regardless of whether it's in the first word or the second).

Duplicate letters (for example Calen + Nen) are not repeated. This would give us Calenen not Calennen.