

APPENDIX 8

Parsing The Past Tense Of The Assertive Verb

The Assertive Verb is used to bring an element to the beginning of a sentence for emphasis. The terms **subject** and **object** used in the following examples are based of the English sense.

A. The Past Tense (With pronoun subject and definite object)

		Bu †		mhise † tusa esan ise	an dotair
	Cha	bu †		sinne sibhse iadsan	na dotairean
	?Am				
	?Nach				
Thuirte	gum				
	nach				

† **m**ise is lenited to **mh**ise after **Bu.†** **Bu** is shortened to **B'** before a vowel.

B. The Past Tense (With pronoun subject and indefinite object). High register form and very rarely heard in the spoken language

		Bu †		dotair	mi thu e i
	Cha	bu †		dotairean	sinn sibh iad
	?Am				
	?Nach				
Thuirte	gum				
	nach				

† **Bu** will lenite a following word beginning with **b, f, m, p, c,** or **g**.

C. The Past Tense (With pronoun subject and indefinite object). Preferred spoken form to B

		B' e †			
	Cha	b' e †	dotair	a bha	annam annad ann innte
	?Am				
	?Nach		dotairean	a bha	annainn annaibh annta
Thuirte	gum				
	nach				

† The Present Tense 'S e is frequently used in the spoken language. The sense coming from the subordinate clause's verb and tense.

D. The Past Tense (With noun subject and definite noun object)

		B' e		
	Cha	b' e	Calum Mòrag † a' chaileag † am balach	an dotair
	?Am			
	?Nach			
Thuirte	gum			
	nach			

† i may be used in place of e for feminine subjects.

E. The Past Tense (With noun subject and indefinite noun object)

		B' e †			
	Cha	b' e †	dotair	a bha	ann am Mòrag ann an Calum anns a' chaileig anns a' bhalach
	?Am				
	?Nach				
Thuirte	gum				
	nach				

† The Present Tense is frequently used in the spoken language. The sense coming from the subordinate clause's verb and tense.

F. The Past Tense (Indefinite noun subject and object) High register form and very rarely heard in the spoken language. E is the preferred spoken form

		Bu †	iasg	bradan
	Cha	bu †		
	?Am			
	?Nach			
Thuirte	gum			
	nach			

† Bu is shortened to B' before a vowel and will lenite a following word beginning with b, f, m, p, c, or g.

G. The Past Tense (Definite noun subject and adjective) High register form becoming less common in the spoken language

		Bu †	mhòr †	am bradan
	Cha	bu †		
	?Am			
	?Nach			
Thuirte	gum			
	nach			

† Bu is shortened to B' before a vowel and will lenite a following word beginning with b, f, m, p, c, or g.

H. The Past Tense (Definite noun subject and adjective). Preferred spoken form to G

		B' †	ann	mòr	a bha	am bradan
	Cha	b' †				
	?Am					
	?Nach					
Thuirte	gum					
	nach					

† The Present Tense is frequently used in the spoken language. The sense coming from the subordinate clause's verb and tense.