

Old Ponish Quick Grammar Guide

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Yes/No

Last Updated in 1.1.1 (Spelling Reform)

Old Ponish	English
<i>Jae</i> (<i>pronounced 'yay'</i>)	Yes
<i>Nae</i> (<i>pronounced 'neigh'</i>)	No

Pronouns

Last Updated in 1.1.1 (Spelling Reform)

Personal Pronouns

Last Updated in 1.1.1 (Spelling Reform)

Old Ponish	English Translation
<i>ight</i>	I/me
<i>ju</i>	you (singular or plural)
<i>hin</i>	she/her
<i>hert</i>	he/him
<i>dae</i>	it
<i>wier</i>	we/us
<i>thar</i>	they

Personal Pronoun Sentence Examples:

Old Ponish	English Translation
<i>Ight poni.</i>	I am a pony.
<i>Hin poni.</i>	She is a pony.
<i>Thar ponisi.</i>	They are ponies.

*The few number of words in these examples will make sense later in the sections "To Be" and "The Definite Article"!

Possessive Pronouns

Old Ponish	English Translation
<i>ighth</i>	My/mine
<i>juth</i>	your/yours
<i>hith</i>	her/hers
<i>herth</i>	his/his
<i>daeth</i>	its
<i>ouser</i>	our/ours
<i>unzer</i>	their/theirs

Possessive Pronoun Example Usage

Old Ponish	English Translation
<i>Ighth Min Poni</i>	My Little Pony
<i>Juth</i>	Yours
<i>Hert horan</i>	His horn
<i>Unzer aeppalasi</i>	Their apples

To Be (Am/Are/Is/Was/Were)

Last Updated in 1.0

Am/Is/Are

Old Ponish	English Equivalent
<i>am</i>	am (used when the subject is the speaker; 'I')
<i>es</i>	is (used when the subject is singular and not the speaker)
<i>ar</i>	are (used in all cases when the subject is plural)

If you are simply equating one thing to another (X is Y), you can leave out the words am/es/ar between them unless you are emphasizing the relationship between the two things. The examples below demonstrate this.

Am/Is/Are Sentence Examples

Old Ponish	English Translation
<i>Dae es ight!</i>	It is me!
<i>Hin rijan</i>	She is a friend.
<i>Ju ighth rijan.</i>	You are my friend.
<i>Ju es ighth rijan.</i>	You ARE my friend.
<i>Ju ar ighth rijani</i>	You are my friends.
<i>Rijanaft es sael!</i>	Friendship is magic!
<i>Rijanaft sael.</i>	Friendship is magic.

Was/Were

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If you need to say 'something was something', you don't use am/ar/es, you use the following:

Old Ponish	English Equivalent
<i>oum</i>	was (when the subject is the speaker; 'I'; past tense of 'am')
<i>ous</i>	was (when the subject is singular and not the speaker; past tense of 'es')
<i>oer</i>	were (in all cases when the subject is plural; past tense of 'ar')

In order to leave out *oum/ous/oer* like you can *am/es/ar*, it must be understood the statement is in the past. There is less emphasis when left in than *am/es/ar*.

Was/Were Sentence Examples

Old Ponish	English Equivalent
<i>Ight oum ju.</i>	Hin ous kweldmatra.
<i>Wier oer hierk</i>	We were here.
<i>Dae ous ighth aeppala.</i>	That was my apple.
<i>Dae aeppala ous ighth.</i>	That apple was mine.

Will/Will Be

Last Updated in 1.2

If you need to say 'something will be something', you don't use am/are/is, you use the following: `

Old Ponish	English Equivalent
<i>wils</i>	will/will be (for all cases no matter if it's the speaker, singular or plural)

Will/Will Be Sentence Examples

Old Ponish	English
<i>Ight wils kweldestra.</i>	I will be a princess.
<i>Thar wils kweldestrasi.</i>	They will be princesses.
<i>Ju wils vaere ighth kweldestra.</i>	You will always be my princess.

Nouns

To Make A Noun Plural

If the noun ends in a consonant, add <i>-i</i> to the end of it.
If the noun ends in a vowel, add <i>-si</i> to the end of it

Noun Plural Examples

Singular (and English Translation)	Plural (and English Translation)
<i>estra</i> (sister)	<i>estrasi</i> (sisters)
<i>rijan</i> (friend)	<i>rijani</i> (friends)
<i>unikeran</i> (unicorn)	<i>unikerani</i> (unicorns)
<i>poni</i> (pony)	<i>ponisi</i> (ponies)
<i>nefyl</i> (cloud)	<i>nefyli</i> (clouds)

Noun Plural Sentence Examples

Old Ponish	English Translation
<i>Ighth estrasi unikerani.</i>	My sisters are unicorns.
<i>Nefyli ar ighth rijani.</i>	The clouds are my friends.

The Definite Article (A, An, The)

Last Updated in 1.2

There are no indefinite articles (a, an) in Old Ponish.

Indefinite Article Examples

<i>estra</i>	sister/a sister
<i>poni</i>	pony/a pony

Indefinite Article Sentence Examples

Old Ponish	English Translation
<i>Dae aeppala.</i>	It is an apple.
<i>Dae aeppalasi.</i>	It's some apples.

The

Old Ponish	English Translation
<i>del</i>	the

'Del' is usually left out unless special emphasis or attention needs to be placed on the noun, like how am/ar/es is often left out. Usually when it is a rather specific noun. If it's simply understood to be the one you're talking about, it can be left out.

Del Usage Examples

Old Ponish	English Translation
<i>sollast</i>	a/the sun
<i>del storra</i>	the (specific) star (in question that we're talking about)
<i>kweldestrasi</i>	(the) princesses
<i>del kweldestrasi</i>	THE princesses

Possession / 'Of'

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There are three different words that mean 'of':

- *a*
- *se*
- *ulf*

Ulf

Use 'ulf' when you want to say someone or something is 'from' somewhere, the word following it is understood to be a place.

Ulf Examples

<i>Ponisua ulf nefyl</i>	A pegasus of/from the clouds
<i>Koukel ulf Rousa Pie</i>	A cake from Pinkie Pie; a Pinkie Pie cake

Se

Use 'se' when you want to say something "is of" something; or represents something. When it could practically be a name, use this.

Se Examples

<i>Elehemi Se Aedesan</i>	The elements of harmony, i.e. the elements that are harmony
<i>Saelfum se Ponehenge</i>	The temple of Ponehenge, i.e. the temple that is known casually as the one that is in Ponehenge

A

Use 'a' for a general possession/relationship

A Examples

<i>grimnek a foala firgendork</i>	The base of Foal Mountain
<i>Vaengri a ponisua</i>	Wings of a pegasus

Adjectives / Adverbs

Adjectives normally go before the noun they modify.

Adjective Placement Example

<i>lghth min poni</i>	My little pony
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Adverbs normally go before or after the verb they modify.

Superlatives

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Superlatives

To form a superlative you add either -mest (most) or -min (least) to the end of a noun or adjective.

Superlative Examples

Vocabulary Note: alt = age, faer = pretty, rath = red, rijanan = friendly

Old Ponish	English Translation (Literal meaning)
<i>altmin estra</i>	youngest sister (age-least sister)
<i>altmest unikeran</i>	oldest unicorn (age-most unicorn)
<i>faermest</i>	prettiest (pretty-most)
<i>rathmest aeppala</i>	reddest apple
<i>rijananmin</i>	least friendly

Comparatives

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To form a comparative you add either -mar (more) or -les (less) to the end of a noun or adjective. Mar is from the word 'maror' meaning 'more, greater, stronger' and Les is from the 'lesen' meaning 'to make less, to diminish, to reduce'.

rarenles = less rare, onesctemar = more honest

Comparative Examples

Vocabulary Note: raren = rare, onesctemar = honest

<i>rarenles</i>	less rare
<i>onesctemar</i>	more honest

Verbs

Regular Verbs

There are regular verbs and irregular verbs. Regular verbs currently make up slightly more than half of all verbs.

All regular verbs end in -en in the dictionary.

Regular Verb Examples

Old Ponish	English Translation
<i>grazen</i>	to eat
<i>lipken</i>	to drink, to lick, to lap up

Regular verbs change endings based on who is doing the verb. When you change a regular verb you remove the -en before adding the personal ending. Change regular verbs as follows:

Regular Verb Ending Changes

-e	when the thing doing the verb is the speaker
-est	when the thing doing the verb is singular and not the speaker (you/she/he/it)
-en	when the thing doing the verb is plural (we/they/things)

Examples Changing a Regular Verb

vocabulary note: grazen = to eat

Old Ponish	English Translation
<i>Ight graze haeg.</i>	I eat hay.
<i>Ju grazest haeg.</i>	You eat hay.
<i>Wier grazen haeg.</i>	We eat hay.

There is no separate present progressive tense ('I'm eating', 'I'm walking').

If a verb is happening in the present it is understood to be taking place now. It can be translated either way. For example:

<i>Ight graze.</i>	I eat/I am eating.
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Irregular -a Verbs

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Verbs ending in -a change similarly to how -en verbs change.

Before adding the personal ending remove the -a then add one of the following:

Irregular -a Verb Ending Changes

Old Ponish	English Translation
-e	when the thing doing the verb is the speaker
-ast	when the thing doing the verb is singular and not the speaker (you/she/he/it)
-en	when the thing doing the verb is plural (we/they/things)

Irregular -a Verb Ending Examples

Vocabulary note: flija = to fly

<i>Ight flije.</i>	I fly.
<i>Hin fijast.</i>	She flies.
<i>Thar flijen.</i>	They fly.

Irregular -an Verbs

Verbs ending in -an change similarly to how -en verbs change.

Before adding the personal ending remove the -an then add the following:

Irregular -an Verb Ending Changes

Old Ponish	English Translation
-e	when the thing doing the verb is the speaker
-as	when the thing doing the verb is singular and not the speaker (you/she/he/it)
-an	when the thing doing the verb is plural (we/they/things)

Irregular -an Verb Ending Examples

Vocabulary note: drawan = to throw, to hurl, astandan = to continue

<i>Ight drawe aeppala.</i>	I threw an apple.
<i>Hert drawas aeppala toward hin.</i>	He threw an apple to her.
<i>Thar astandan uncer kwestar.</i>	They continue their adventure.

Past Tense and Future Tense

To make a verb take place in the past you attach the suffix gen- to the front of the verb.

Past Tense Sentence Examples

<i>Ight gengraze.</i>	I ate.
<i>Ju genfindar ight.</i>	You found me.

To make a verb take place in the future you attach the suffix de- to the front of the verb.

Future Tense Sentence Examples

<i>Ight deflije</i>	I will fly.
<i>Wier degrazen koukel.</i>	We will eat cake.

Negating A Verb ('Not')

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To say a verb is not happening place the adverb 'naer' in front of it.

Negating a Verb Sentence Examples

Vocabulary note: gaet = to go

<i>Ight graze.</i>	I'm eating.
<i>Ight naer graze.</i>	I'm not eating.
<i>Hin degaet.</i>	She will go.
<i>Hin naer degaet.</i>	She will not go.
<i>Hin naer gengaet.</i>	She didn't go.

Forming Questions

To form a question you take a statement, remove the word that you are asking about and place the appropriate question-word at the beginning of the sentence.

Forming Questions Sentence Examples

Old Ponish	English Translation (Literal Translation)
<i>Ju gaet Ponehenge.</i>	You are going to Ponehenge.
<i>Kwar ju gaet?</i>	Where are you going? (Where you are going?)
<i>Hert gengrazest aeppala.</i>	He ate an apple.
<i>Kwa hert gengrazest?</i>	What did he eat? (What he ate?)
<i>Vi yu ar?</i>	How are you? (How you are?)

Question Words

<i>kwa</i>	what
<i>kwar</i>	where
<i>kwen</i>	when
<i>kwek</i>	which
<i>vem</i>	who
<i>vi</i>	how
<i>vine</i>	why

OLD PONISH NEW GRAMMAR PROPOSALS

How To Make A Polite Request

The word 'bidde', meaning 'please', is placed at the beginning or end of a sentence to make it a request towards a listener:

Desietest med ight? = Will you dance with me?

Bidde siettest med ight. = Please dance with me.

Simile Comparison

Use 'vi' (how) in a construction similarly to how you would use 'like, as'. German uses an identical structure with their version of 'how', 'wie'.

Rijanaft es vi raegboga. = Friendship is like a rainbow.

The logic behind this is "Friendship is how a rainbow (is)."

Hin es vi estra vir ight. = She is as a sister to me, literally "She is how a sister (is) to me."

Kusses vi fifalder. = Kisses like a butterfly, literally "Kisses how a butterfly (touches)".

"This/That"

<i>vis</i> this	<i>visi</i> these
<i>trin</i> that	<i>trini</i> those

"Should"

<i>scolt</i>	should
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*Reminder: [sc] is pronounced like the beginning of 'ship'

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Reflexive Pronouns

Reflexive pronouns are used when a person is doing an active to themselves.

"The dishes washed **themselves**."

"I threw **myself** into the trash compactor."

The chart below lists the the regular pronoun first then the reflexive form after the arrow. English translation are in parenthesis besides their word in Old Ponish.

Vocabulary note: se is 'self'

ight (I) -> mese (myself)	wier (we) -> ouse (ourselves)
ju (you) -> jese (yourself/yourselfs)	
hin (she) -> hirse (herself) hert (he) -> hemse (himself) dae (it) -> daese (itself)	thar (they) -> umse (themselves)