

Lesson 3 Past tense – impersonal constructions – imperatives
(*nepamádurgas – kora-isegazylramáda – mitteremáda*)

\$19 The past tense is not marked on the verb as in English (*walk-ed*). Instead, the noun **nepa** ‘past’ is used. The past tense is formed as **va(ks)/da(ks) + nepa** ‘past’ + verb:

Mijala vaks nepa esin.	I ate.
Zhijala daks nepa nãei se.	She saw it.

\$20 The past tense of the copula is **da(ks) + nepa + da (va)** (never **daks**):

Mijala vaks nepa va katsume.	I was green.
Da nepa da tjalme.	It was gentle.

\$21 The past tense is used for both the English past tense (*walked*) and present perfect (an action that has been completed with respect to the present – *have walked*):

Ba da nepa nãei zhitada.	He saw the girl.
	He has seen the girl.

\$22 Impersonal constructions such as “it is you” conjugate the copula according to the pronoun referred: as such, the construction “it is I” uses **vaks**:

(Sejala) vaks mijala.	It is I.
Sejala vaks.	

\$23 Impersonal verbs are verbs that do not require a subject – good examples are weather related ones such as *rain, snow*. In English, such verbs use the dummy subject *it*. In Kazujisha, such usage is incorrect.

It is important to learn the difference between pronoun omission as in “(it) sees” and the impersonal (“rains”).

Monoshikaushe.	It rains.
Keimla.	It snows.

\$24 When telling someone to do something, imperative verb forms are used – in English, this is the same as the present tense: *Go! Walk! Hunt!*. An imperative in Kazujisha also uses the plain present tense.

It is important to intonate an imperative sentence correctly, with a slightly rising intonation during the entire sentence. Otherwise, it might be interpreted as a normal statement with the pronoun dropped.

Lãe vorja zhi!	Go to her!
Jusupa jutalfei!	Read the book!

\$25 Temporal adverbs are usually placed sentence-initially or sentence-finally.

Va nepa lãe vorja shan erajaju ni.	I walked to my friend yesterday.
---	----------------------------------

\$26 The word *or* has two main counterparts in Kazujisha: **vôtsin** and **vôe**. The former is used with two alternatives, and the second is used for higher numbers of alternatives.

Text

Korano daks nepa nãei mijala ni rafei. Va nepa va ise-enna ni rafei erajaju ni. Rafei daks sôbrikimma, me tenjust. Me shi rafei. Ari, Ialgitya shan ne shi rafei. Ba da nepa rãe, “ni rafei, jo darena skah irgete sluviere”. Su! Rãe – teh su shi vôtsin ne shi rafei?

Sehkajaju ni, monoshikaushe ni rafei. Mijala vaks ise-enna ao araminsha. Nãei! Lanje agenvaka tahtm! Ga lanat daks kaua. Teh su shi agenvaka vôtsin ne shi? Jei lanat sluviere, ari jo darena ano agenvaka. Naete nãei? Kita. Me kashi ten lãe. Imetan, pikei sluviere. Ae!

Daks má, Ialgitya shan! Me va kegete. Ba lãe vorja me ja mej rãe.

- Ira, Ialgitya! me rãe.
- Ira-ira, Arukaslan! ba menako.
- Kaeterãe, itta su te ni rafei? me soma.
- Me te lãe. Ja su?
- Ja ka. Teh da nepa nãei agenvaka gu lanat ni rahkete?
- Ne nãei. Kudamejii nãeiva.

Mej lãe vorja rahkete ao agenvaka ja jei lanat.

- Nãei! Rah agenvaka! me rãe.
- Skah! Sãebitsuke rah! Ne shi!

Mej kashi ten te lãe ni rafei.

Wordlist

ae!	interjection of surprise
agenvaka	spider
ao araminsha	as usual
erajaju ni	yesterday
imetan	suddenly
ise-enna	alone
irgete	insect
ja ka	also
jo darena	only
kashi ten	to continue
kaua	beautiful
kegete	relieved
korano	no one
kudamejii	please
lanat	net
menako	to answer
monoshikaushe	to rain
nãeiva	show
pikei	sound
rafei	forest
rah	big

rahkete	tree
sāebitsuke	so [adjective] (sāebitsuke kaua, rah...)
sehkajaju ni	today
shi	to like
skah	bad
sluviere	to exist
soma	to ask
sôbrikimma	calming, relaxing
tenjust	to have an opinion
vôtsin	or

Exercise

1. Translate the following into English.

Shan da nepa esin ja me va nepa nāei. Rāe! Nāeiva! Teh su nāei? Se va mijala. Teh zhi turera ao araminsha Kudamejii menako. Menako! Me va nepa nāei lanje agenvaka tahtm sehkajaju ni. Korano nāei. Meiri da kaugi ja tahagi. Rahkete sluviere ni rah ja sāebitsuke kaua rafei ga. Soma! Naete kashi ten Monoshikaushe tahtm? Jo darena zhijalaja nāei. Menako vorja Arukaslan!

Exercise answers

1. The friend ate and I saw. Speak! Show! Do you see? It is I. Is she coming as usual? Please answer. Answer! I saw a black spider here today. No one sees. The flag is red and orange. Trees exist in the big and so beautiful forest. Ask! Does the rain continue to fall here? Only they (female) see. Answer Arukaslan!