



LANGUAGE COURSE

Klingon Basic Conversation 1

Twelve chapters of everyday Klingon conversation.

12 Chapters

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Generated with Claude

Contents

Chapter 1	Greetings & Farewells	2
Chapter 2	Introducing Yourself	9
Chapter 3	Numbers and Age	16
Chapter 4	Where You're From	23
Chapter 5	Family and House	29
Chapter 6	Your Work	35
Chapter 7	Days and Time	41
Chapter 8	Food and Drink	48
Chapter 9	Trade and Prices	54
Chapter 10	Directions	60
Chapter 11	Quarters	66
Chapter 12	Travel	72

Klingon Basic Conversation 1

Chapter 1 · Greetings & Farewells

Greetings & Farewells — Qapla' je nuqneH

Welcome to your first Klingon conversation lesson. This is the shortest greetings chapter in the whole series, because Klingon has **no word for "hello"** and, on the whole, no word for "goodbye" either. A Klingon who arrives asks what you want, and a Klingon who leaves usually just leaves. By the end of this chapter you will know the handful of things Klingons really do say, how to thank someone (and why they will not answer), how to welcome a guest, praise a warrior, say yes and no, and admit that you do not understand. You already know the sounds and the grammar from Klingon Grammar 1, so the dialogs carry no pronunciation line; the tables show how to say each word.

① Meeting a Klingon — nuqneH

A:

nuqneH.

What do you want? (the Klingon "hello")

B:

nuqneH.

What do *you* want?

A:

tlhIngan Hol Dajathl'a'?

Do you speak Klingon?

B:

HIja', tlhIngan Hol vIjathl.

Yes, I speak Klingon.

② Success! — Qapla'

A:

Heghlu'meH QaQ jajvam!

Today is a good day to die!

B:

Qapla'!

Success!

A:

Qapla'!

Success! (and that is the end of the conversation)

③ Praise and Thanks — majQa'

A:

tlhIngan Hol vIjathl.

I speak Klingon.

④ I Don't Understand — jIyajbe'

A:

tlhIngan Hol Dajathl'a'?

Do you speak Klingon?

B:

majQa'!

Well done!

A:

qatlho'.

Thank you.

B:

...

(B says nothing. There is no standard reply to thanks.)

B:

HIja'. tlhIngan Hol vIjatlh.

Yes. I speak Klingon.

A:

jIyajbe'.

I don't understand. (B speaks too fast for a beginner.)

⑤ Come In — yl'el

A:

yl'el.

Enter. (the nearest thing to "welcome")

B:

qatlho'.

Thank you.

A:

'ach nuqneH?

But what do you want?

⑥ Good Night — maj ram

A:

QaQ jajvam.

This day is good.

B:

HIja', QaQ jajvam.

Yes, this day is good.

A:

maj ram.

Good night.

B:

maj ram.

Good night.

Key Phrases — Gravaj Hol

Klingon has **no formal and informal "you"**, so there is no formal column here. The table gives each phrase, how to say it, and a note on how it is really used. Klingon Grammar 1 showed you the sounds: *q* is a *k* made at the back of the throat, *Q* is the same sound with a rasping release, *H* is the rasp of Scots loch, and *'* is a catch in the throat.

SITUATION	KLINGON	SAY IT	NOTE
Hello (the nearest thing)	nuqneH	<i>nuq-nekh</i>	literally "what do you want?"; used to open a conversation
Success (greeting, send-off, cheer)	Qapla'	<i>Qap-la'</i>	wishes the other success; often the last word
Goodbye	(none; Qapla' or just leave)		Klingons rarely say farewell
Come in / welcome (to one person)	yl'el	<i>yi'-el</i>	literally "enter!"
Come in / welcome (to several)	pe'el	<i>pe'-el</i>	the plural command prefix <i>pe-</i>
Thank you	qatlho'	<i>qa-tlho'</i>	there is no reply; Klingon culture does not expect one
Well done	majQa'	<i>maj-Qa'</i>	praise for a deed
Yes	HIja'	<i>Hi-ja'</i>	
No	ghobe'	<i>gho-be'</i>	
I don't understand	jlyajbe'	<i>ji-yaj-be'</i>	<i>jl- + yaj + -be'</i>
Do you speak Klingon?	tlhIngan Hol Dajatlh'a'?	<i>tlhi-ngan Hol Da-jatlh-'a'</i>	object, verb, then the question suffix
Good night	maj ram	<i>maj ram</i>	an idiom, not a literal wish
Toast / battle cry	Heghlu'meH QaQ jajvam!	<i>Hegh-lu'-meH QaQ jaj-vam</i>	"today is a good day to die"

There Is No "Hello" — and Why That Matters

A Klingon who greets you with **nuqneH** is asking, bluntly, *what do you want?* Marc Okrand, who created the language, has said it is what you would say to a Klingon who comes up to you without saying why. It is often used as a general greeting by learners and by the community, which is fine, but

remember its real flavour: you do not chat, you state your business. **Qapla'**, "success", does most of the other work: it can greet, cheer or take leave. Compare Esperanto, which has a warm *Saluton* for every occasion (Esperanto Basic Conversation 1, Chapter 1).

Thanks Without a Reply

qatlho' is how learners say "thank you", but Okrand has pointed out that Klingon culture has little tradition of thanking and none of replying. So you will not find a "you're welcome". If someone thanks you, a nod, a grunt or silence is exactly right. That is why the table above has no "you're welcome" row.

abc Three Verbs for Conversation — Verboj

From *Klingon Grammar 1*, Chapter 4: the verb carries its subject in a **prefix**, and the third person has none. These three verbs, with no object, show all six forms.

	JATLH (TO SPEAK)	YAJ (TO UNDERSTAND)	SOP (TO EAT)
jlH (I)	jljatlh	jlyaj	jlSop
SoH (you)	bljatlh	blyaj	blSop
ghaH (he / she)	jatlh	yaj	Sop
maH (we)	majatlh	mayaj	maSop
tlhIH (you, plural)	Sujatlh	Suyaj	SuSop
chaH (they)	jatlh	yaj	Sop

Build It — Compounds and Suffixes

tlhIngan Hol "the Klingon language" is two nouns together, the first modifying the second. **jajvam** "this day" is *jaj* "day" plus *-vam* "this". **Heghlu'meH** is *Hegh* "die" + *-lu'* "one" + *-meH* "in order to". Chapter after chapter, the vocabulary stays small because the suffixes do the work.



Vocabulary — Vortaro

20 key words. The **Say it** column shows the syllables.

#	KLINGON	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	nuqneH	<i>nuq-nekh</i>	what do you want? (greeting)	phrase
2	Qapla'	<i>Qap-la'</i>	success	phrase
3	majQa'	<i>maj-Qa'</i>	well done	phrase
4	qatlho'	<i>qa-tlho'</i>	thank you	phrase
5	HIja'	<i>Hi-ja'</i>	yes	phrase
6	ghobe'	<i>gho-be'</i>	no	phrase
7	yl'el	<i>yi'-el</i>	enter! (to one person)	verb
8	jatlh	<i>jatlh</i>	speak, say	verb
9	yaj	<i>yaj</i>	understand	verb
10	Sop	<i>Sop</i>	eat	verb
11	Hol	<i>Hol</i>	language	noun
12	tlhIngan	<i>tlhi-ngan</i>	Klingon	noun
13	jaj	<i>jaj</i>	day	noun
14	ram	<i>ram</i>	night	noun
15	QaQ	<i>QaQ</i>	be good	verb
16	JIH	<i>JIH</i>	I	pron
17	SoH	<i>SoH</i>	you	pron
18	maH	<i>maH</i>	we	pron

#	KLINGON	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
19	nuq	nuq	what	question
20	'ach	'ach	but	conj

Real Klingon Tip — A Sentence in Two Words

tlhIngan maH ("we are Klingons") is a whole sentence in two words: the noun first, then the pronoun, with no verb "to be" (Klingon Grammar 1, Chapter 5). It is a proud, short thing to say, and it uses only words from this chapter. Sentences are short in Klingon: the language prefers action to politeness.

Reading — LaD

A short text using only words you know.

tlhIngan maH. tlhIngan Hol majatlh. QaQ jajvam. Qapla'!

We are Klingons. We speak the Klingon language. This day is good. Success!

True or false? (a) The speakers say they are Klingons. (b) The speakers do not speak Klingon. (c) The day is bad. (d) The text ends with a farewell.

▼ Show answers

(a) True. (b) False: **tlhIngan Hol majatlh**. (c) False: **QaQ jajvam** "this day is good".
(d) Roughly true: **Qapla'** "success" is the Klingon way to end.

Try It Yourself — Ekzercoj

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. A Klingon walks up to you. What is the standard greeting, and what does it mean literally?

▼ Show answer

nuqneH. It means "what do you want?".

2. Ask someone whether they speak Klingon, then say that you do.

▼ Show answer

tlhIngan Hol Dajath'a'? · tlhIngan Hol vIjath.

3. A friend does something impressive. What do you say? And what do you say if you did not follow what they said?

▼ Show answer

majQa'! · jIyajbe'.

4. Someone thanks you. What is the Klingon reply?

▼ Show answer

There is none. Say nothing, or just nod. (**qatlho'** is how *you* thank someone.)

5. Welcome a guest to your hall: first one person, then a group.

▼ Show answer

yI'el. · pe'el.

6. Say "we speak Klingon" and "this day is good", using the verb table.

▼ Show answer

tlhIngan Hol majathh. · QaQ jajvam.

Coming Up in Chapter 2

Introducing yourself: saying who you are with ... **jIH** ("I am ..."), naming your species and your house, asking someone else's name, and your first questions with **nuq** and **Iv**.

Klingon Basic Conversation 1

Chapter 2 · Introducing Yourself



Introducing Yourself — pongwIj

After the blunt greetings of Chapter 1, you can now say who you are. By the end of this chapter you will be able to ask someone's name and give your own, say what you are (Klingon, Earthling, warrior), introduce a third person, and name your house. There is no "I am" verb in Klingon: you say the noun first, then the pronoun, as in *Klingon Grammar 1*, Chapter 5. And there is still no formal "you": SoH works for a stranger and for a general alike.

① What Is Your Name? — nuq 'oH ponglIj'e'?

A:

nuq 'oH ponglIj'e'
What is your name?

B:

pongwIj 'oH Philip'e'.
My name is Philip.

A:

majQa'.
Well done. (A Klingon's highest praise for a name.)

② Are You a Klingon? — tlhIngan SoH'a'?

A:

tlhIngan SoH'a'?
Are you a Klingon?

B:

HIja', tlhIngan jIH.
Yes, I am a Klingon.

A:

Qapla'!
Success!

③ An Earthling — tera'ngan jIH

A:

tera'ngan SoH'a'?
Are you an Earthling?

B:

HIja', tera'ngan jIH. 'ach tlhIngan
Hol vIjatlh.
Yes, I am an Earthling. But I speak Klingon.

④ Officer or Warrior? — Suvwl' jIH

A:

yaS SoH'a'?
Are you an officer?

B:

ghobe'. Suvwl' jIH.
No. I am a warrior.

A:

majQa'!

Well done!

A:

majQa'.

Well done.

⑤ Who Is She? — 'Iv ghaH?

A:

'Iv ghaH?

Who is she?

B:

pongDaj 'oH Anna'e'.

Her name is Anna.

A:

tera'ngan ghaH'a'?

Is she an Earthling?

B:

HIja'. tera'ngan ghaH.

Yes. She is an Earthling.

⑥ Two Klingons Meet — wo'rlv je Martaq

A:

nuqneH. nuq 'oH pongllj'e'?

What do you want? What is your name?

B:

pongwlj 'oH wo'rIv'e'. nuq 'oH

pongllj'e'?

My name is Worf. What is your name?

A:

pongwlj 'oH Martaq'e'.

My name is Martok.

B:

Qapla'.

Success.

Key Phrases — Gravaj Hol

Klingon has **no formal and informal "you"**, so the table gives the full question and, where one exists, a shorter spoken form.

SITUATION	KLINGON	SAY IT	NOTE
What is your name?	nuq 'oH pongllj'e'?	nuq 'oH pong- llj-'e'	a shorter form is pongllj nuq?
My name is ...	pongwlj 'oH ... 'e'.	pong-wlj 'oH ... 'e'	the name, then -'e' (topic marker)

SITUATION	KLINGON	SAY IT	NOTE
Are you a Klingon?	tlhIngan SoH'a'?	tlhi-ngan SoH-'a'	noun, pronoun, then -'a'
I am a Klingon	tlhIngan jIH.	tlhi-ngan jIH	no verb "to be"
I am an Earthling	tera'ngan jIH.	te-ra'-ngan jIH	
I am a warrior	Suvwl' jIH.	Suv-wl' jIH	
Who is he / she?	'lv ghaH?	'lv ghaH	the question word takes the slot of the answer
His / her name is ...	pongDaj 'oH ... 'e'.	pong-Daj 'oH ... 'e'	-Daj "his, her"
I am of the House of ...	... tuq jIH.	... tuq jIH	house name first, as in Martaq tuq

Why the -'e'? — The Topic Marker

In **pongwl'j 'oH Philip'e'** the -'e' after the name marks the topic, the thing being identified (Klingon Grammar 1, Chapter 3, group 5 noun suffix). You can think of it as "the name is: *Philip*". It is normal in the full forms of these sentences and the sentence is not wrong without it in casual speech.

abc "To Be" for Three Nouns — Esti

There is no verb "to be". You say the noun and then the pronoun. Here are all six persons for three nouns:

	TLHINGAN (A KLINGON)	TERA'NGAN (AN EARTHLING)	SUVWI' (A WARRIOR)
I	tlhIngan jIH	tera'ngan jIH	Suvwl' jIH
you	tlhIngan SoH	tera'ngan SoH	Suvwl' SoH
he / she	tlhIngan ghaH	tera'ngan ghaH	Suvwl' ghaH

	TLHINGAN (A KLINGON)	TERA'NGAN (AN EARTHLING)	SUVWI' (A WARRIOR)
we	tlhIngan maH	tera'ngan maH	Suvwl' maH
you (plural)	tlhIngan tlhIH	tera'ngan tlhIH	Suvwl' tlhIH
they	tlhIngan chaH	tera'ngan chaH	Suvwl' chaH

Build It — Names and Possessives

pong "name" takes the possessive suffixes you know from Klingon Grammar 1: **pongwIj** "my name", **pongIj** "your name", **pongDaj** "his or her name". The plural of a being is **-pu'**: **tlhInganpu'** "Klingons", **tera'nganpu'** "Earthlings", **Suvwl'pu'** "warriors".

Vocabulary — Vortaro

20 key words. The **Say it** column shows the syllables.

#	KLINGON	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	pong	<i>pong</i>	name	noun
2	tuq	<i>tuq</i>	house, ancestral unit	noun
3	tlhIngan	<i>tlhi-ngan</i>	Klingon	noun
4	tera'ngan	<i>te-ra'-ngan</i>	Earthling, Terran	noun
5	loD	<i>loD</i>	man, male	noun
6	be'	<i>be'</i>	woman, female	noun
7	ghot	<i>ghot</i>	person	noun
8	Suvwl'	<i>Suv-wl'</i>	warrior	noun
9	yaS	<i>yaS</i>	officer	noun
10	puq	<i>puq</i>	child	noun

#	KLINGON	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
11	'Iv	'Iv	who	question
12	nuq	nuq	what	question
13	ghaH	ghaH	he, she	pron
14	chaH	chaH	they (beings)	pron
15	tlhIH	tlhIH	you (plural)	pron
16	-wlj	-wlj	my (suffix, for things)	suffix
17	-Ilj	-Ilj	your (suffix, for things)	suffix
18	-Daj	-Daj	his, her (suffix)	suffix
19	-'e'	-'e'	topic marker (suffix)	suffix
20	Qo'noS	Qo'-noS	Kronos, the Klingon homeworld	noun

Real Klingon Tip — Names Change Their Sounds

Klingon has no *f*, so a name is adapted to the sounds of the language. The best-known example is **wo'rIv** for the Klingon officer Worf: the *f* became a *v*, and an apostrophe was added. By the same logic, *Philip* would be something like **vIlIp**. (That is a suggestion by analogy, not an official form.) Full names use the pattern "name, parent, house": **wo'rIv mogh puqloD Martaq tuq** "Worf, son of Mogh, of the House of Martok". The word *puqloD* is "son" (literally "child-male").

Houses and Honour

A Klingon's house (**tuq**) is part of their name and their honour. Saying "I am of the House of ..." is the Klingon equivalent of giving your surname and your address at once, and you would not give your house to a stranger lightly.

Reading — LaD

A short text using only words you know.

pongwIj 'oH Philip'e'. tera'ngan jIH. 'ach tlhIngan Hol vIjatlh. SuvwI' jIH.

My name is Philip. I am an Earthling. But I speak Klingon. I am a warrior.

True or false? (a) The speaker is called Philip. (b) The speaker is a Klingon. (c) The speaker speaks Klingon. (d) The speaker is an officer.

▼ Show answers

(a) True. (b) False: **tera'ngan jIH**. (c) True: **tlhIngan Hol vIjatlh**. (d) False: **SuvwI' jIH**.

Try It Yourself — Ekzercoj

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Ask someone their name, and give yours.

▼ Show answer

nuq 'oH ponglIj'e'? · pongwIj 'oH ... 'e'.

2. Say "I am a Klingon", "you are a warrior" and "we are Earthlings".

▼ Show answer

tlhIngan jIH. · SuvwI' SoH. · tera'ngan maH.

3. Ask whether someone is an officer, and answer "no, I am a warrior".

▼ Show answer

yaS SoH'a'? · ghobe'. SuvwI' jIH.

4. Ask "who is she?" and answer that her name is Anna and she is an Earthling.

▼ Show answer

'Iv ghaH? · pongDaj 'oH Anna'e'. tera'ngan ghaH.

5. Make the plurals of *tlhIngan*, *SuvwI'* and *tera'ngan*.

▼ Show answer

tlhInganpu' · SuvwI'pu' · tera'nganpu' (the suffix *-pu'* is for beings who use language).

6. Say "Martok's name is Martaq" the Klingon way, using *pongDaj*.

▼ Show answer

pongDaj 'oH Martaq'e'.

Coming Up in Chapter 3

Numbers and counting: **wa'**, **cha'**, **wej**... up to ninety-nine and beyond, counting warriors and ships, giving your age, and the **-maH** multiplier in everyday use.

Klingon Basic Conversation 1

Chapter 3 · Numbers, Age & Counting

1234 Numbers, Age & Counting — mI'mey

Klingons count enemies, ships and years survived. This chapter gives you the numbers, the way to count things, and the one thing that surprises every learner: **Klingons do not say how old they are; they say how many years ago they were born.** It builds on the number system in Klingon Grammar 1, Chapter 9.

Part 1 — The Numbers

NUMBER	KLINGON	SAY IT	NUMBER	KLINGON	SAY IT
0	pagh	<i>pagh</i>	5	vagh	<i>vagh</i>
1	wa'	<i>wa'</i>	6	jav	<i>jav</i>
2	cha'	<i>cha'</i>	7	Soch	<i>Soch</i>
3	wej	<i>wej</i>	8	chorgh	<i>chorgh</i>
4	loS	<i>loS</i>	9	Hut	<i>Hut</i>

Bigger numbers are built by adding a suffix to a digit: **-maH** "ten", **-vatlh** "hundred", **-SaD** "thousand". Join the parts with no spaces, biggest first.

NUMBER	KLINGON	HOW IT IS BUILT
10	wa'maH	wa' + maH (one ten)
11	wa'maH wa'	ten, then one (a space between the two parts)
20	cha'maH	two tens
35	wejmaH vagh	three tens, five
99	HutmaH Hut	nine tens, nine

NUMBER	KLINGON	HOW IT IS BUILT
100	wa'vatlh	one hundred
1000	wa'SaD	one thousand
① How Many Ships? — Duj 'ar? A: Duj 'ar Dalegh? How many ships do you see? B: wej Duj vIlegh. I see three ships. A: majQa'. Well done.		
② Counting Warriors — Suvwl' cha' A: Suvwl' 'ar Daghaj? How many warriors do you have? B: wa'maH Suvwl' vIghaj. I have ten warriors. A: wa'maH? Qapla'! Ten? Success!		
③ How Old Are You? — ben 'ar bIboghpu'? A: ben 'ar bIboghpu'? How old are you? (Literally: how many years ago were you born?) B: cha'maH vagh ben jIboghpu'. I am 25. (I was born 25 years ago.) A: Qapla'. Success.		
④ The Old Warrior — Suvwl' qan A: ben 'ar boghpu'? How old is he? (How many years ago was he born?) B: javvatlh ben boghpu'. He is six hundred. (An exaggeration, for a legend.) A: Suvwl' qan! An old warrior!		
⑤ Older or Younger? — jIqan		
⑥ A Count of the Fleet — Duj wa'vatlh		

A:

bIqan'a'?

Are you old?

B:

ghobe'. jIQup.

No. I am young.

A:

cha'maH ben jIboghpu'. jIqan 'e'

vIHAr.

I was born twenty years ago. I think I am old.

A:

Duj 'ar ghaj Qo'noS?

How many ships does Kronos have?

B:

Duj wa'vatlh ghaj.

It has a hundred ships.

A:

majQa'!

Well done!

Part 2 — Counting Things and Beings

The Number Goes Before the Noun

wej Duj "three ships", **wa'maH Suvwl'** "ten warriors". After a number the noun does not need the plural suffix: **wej Duj**, not *wej Dujmey*. The question word **'ar** "how many" can go in the same slot as the number: **Duj 'ar Dalegh?**.

SITUATION	KLINGON	SAY IT	NOTE
How many ...?	'ar	<i>'ar</i>	the question word for numbers
I see three ships	wej Duj vIlegh.	<i>wej Duj vi-legh</i>	object (number + noun), then verb
I have ten warriors	wa'maH Suvwl' vIghaj.	<i>wa'-maH Suv-wl' vi-ghaj</i>	
I was born 25 years ago	cha'maH vagh ben jIboghpu'.	<i>cha'-maH vagh ben ji-bogh-pu'</i>	this is how age is told
How old are you?	ben 'ar bIboghpu'?	<i>ben 'ar bi-bogh-pu'</i>	"how many years ago were you born?"

SITUATION	KLINGON	SAY IT	NOTE
nothing, zero	pagh	<i>pagh</i>	also means "nobody" or "nothing"
Three verbs with the prefixes you know from Klingon Grammar 1 (vI- I → it, Da- you → it, no prefix for he or she → it):			
VERB	I → IT	YOU → IT	HE / SHE → IT
legh (see)	vllegh	Dalegh	legh
ghaj (have)	vlghaj	Daghaj	ghaj
jatlh (speak)	vljatlh	Dajatlh	jatlh

Part 3 — Age, and Being Old or Young

No "I Am 25" — "I Was Born 25 Years Ago"

The word **ben** means "years ago" (and, in a number phrase, "years old"). The verb is **bogh** "be born", here with the suffix **-pu'** (perfective, Klingon Grammar 1, Chapter 7): **jIboghpu'** "I was born". The prefix **jI-** means "I" with no object. So **wa'maH ben jIboghpu'** is "I am ten", literally "I was born ten years ago".

Culture — Age Is a Boast, Not a Secret

In a culture where reaching old age means surviving many battles, your age is a point of pride, not a subject to avoid. Asking **ben 'ar bIboghpu'?** is not rude; the answer is usually delivered at volume. To describe someone, use **qan** "be old" and **Qup** "be young": **SuvwI' qan** "an old warrior" (the describing verb follows the noun). For "I am old" use the prefix: **jIqan**.

Vocabulary — Vortaro

20 key words. The **Say it** column shows the syllables.

#	KLINGON	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	pagh	<i>pagh</i>	zero, nothing	number
2	wa'	<i>wa'</i>	one	number
3	cha'	<i>cha'</i>	two	number
4	wej	<i>wej</i>	three	number
5	loS	<i>loS</i>	four	number
6	vagh	<i>vagh</i>	five	number
7	jav	<i>jav</i>	six	number
8	Soch	<i>Soch</i>	seven	number
9	chorgh	<i>chorgh</i>	eight	number
10	Hut	<i>Hut</i>	nine	number
11	-maH	<i>-maH</i>	ten (suffix)	suffix
12	-vatlh	<i>-vatlh</i>	hundred (suffix)	suffix
13	-SaD	<i>-SaD</i>	thousand (suffix)	suffix
14	'ar	<i>'ar</i>	how many	question
15	ben	<i>ben</i>	years ago	noun
16	bogh	<i>bogh</i>	be born	verb
17	qan	<i>qan</i>	be old	verb
18	Qup	<i>Qup</i>	be young	verb
19	Duj	<i>Duj</i>	ship, vessel	noun
20	ghaj	<i>ghaj</i>	have	verb

Real Klingon Tip — The Space in 11

Within one place value the digit and the suffix join: **cha'maH** (20), **wa'vatlh** (100). Different place values are separate words, biggest first: **cha'maH loS** (24), **wa'vatlh wa'maH** (110).

Reading — LaD

A short text using only words you know.

wej Duj vIlegh. wa'maH SuvwI' vIghaj. cha'maH vagh ben jIboghpu'. jIQup.
I see three ships. I have ten warriors. I am twenty-five. I am young.

True or false? (a) The speaker sees four ships. (b) The speaker has ten warriors. (c) The speaker is twenty-five. (d) The speaker says they are old.

▼ Show answers

(a) False: **wej Duj** is three. (b) True. (c) True: **cha'maH vagh ben jIboghpu'**. (d) False: **jIQup** "I am young".

Try It Yourself — Ekzercoj

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Say the numbers 1 to 9.

▼ Show answer

wa', cha', wej, loS, vagh, jav, Soch, chorgh, Hut

2. Say 15, 40 and 100.

▼ Show answer

wa'maH vagh · loSmaH · wa'vatlh

3. Ask how many ships someone sees, and answer "I see five ships".

▼ Show answer

Duj 'ar Dalegh? · vagh Duj vIlegh.

4. Ask someone's age, and say that you are 30.

▼ Show answer

ben 'ar bIboghpu'? · wejmaH ben jIboghpu'.

5. Say "I have seven warriors".

▼ Show answer

Soch SuvwI' vIghaj.

6. Say "an old warrior" and "I am young".

▼ Show answer

SuvwI' qan · jIQup.

Coming Up in Chapter 4

Where you are from: **Qo'noS** and other worlds, the place suffixes **-Daq** and **-vo'**, and saying which language you speak.

Klingon Basic Conversation 1

Chapter 4 · Where You're From

Where You're From — mung

After your name and your age, the next question is where you come from. By the end of this chapter you will be able to say which world you come from, where you live, here and there, and which language you speak or are learning. The tools are two noun suffixes you met in Klingon Grammar 1: -**Daq** "at, in, on" and -**vo** "from".

① Where Are You From? — munglIj nuq?

A:

munglIj nuq?

Where are you from? (Literally: what is your origin?)

B:

mungwIj 'oH Qo'noS'e'.

I am from Kronos. (Literally: my origin is Kronos.)

A:

Qapla'!

Success!

② An Earthling — tera' mungwlj

A:

munglIj nuq?

Where are you from?

B:

mungwIj 'oH tera'e'.

I am from Earth.

A:

tera'ngan SoH. 'ach tlhIngan Hol
Dajatlh.

You are an Earthling. But you speak Klingon.

B:

HIja'.

Yes.

③ Where Do You Live? — nuqDaq bIyIn?

A:

nuqDaq bIyIn?

Where do you live?

B:

Qo'noSDaq jIyIn.

④ A Vulcan on Earth — tera'Daq vulqangan

A:

vulqangan SoH'a'?

Are you a Vulcan?

B:

HIja'. tera'Daq jIyIn.

I live on Kronos.

A:

majQa'.

Well done.

Yes. I live on Earth.

A:

vulqangan! tera'Daq? jIyajbe'!

A Vulcan! On Earth? I do not understand!

⑤ Learning the Language — tlhIngan Hol vIghoj

A:

tlhIngan Hol Dajatlh'a'?

Do you speak Klingon?

B:

HIja'. tlhIngan Hol vIghoj.

Yes. I am learning Klingon.

A:

majQa'!

Well done!

⑥ Here and There — naDev, pa'

A:

nuqDaq Suvwl' yIn?

Where does the warrior live?

B:

pa'. Qo'noSDaq yIn.

There. He lives on Kronos.

A:

majQa'. naDev tlhIngan vIlegh.

Well done. I see a Klingon here.

Key Phrases — Gravaj Hol

Klingon has **no formal and informal "you"**, so the table shows one form.

SITUATION	KLINGON	SAY IT	NOTE
Where are you from?	mungllj nuq?	<i>mung-llj nuq</i>	"what is your origin?"
I am from ...	mungwlj 'oH ... 'e'.	<i>mung-wlj 'oH ... 'e'</i>	the same pattern as the name sentence
Where do you live?	nuqDaq blyIn?	<i>nuq-Daq bi-yIn</i>	question word, then verb with bl-
I live on Kronos	Qo'noSDaq jlyIn.	<i>Qo'-noS-Daq ji-yIn</i>	place + -Daq, then the verb

SITUATION	KLINGON	SAY IT	NOTE
from here	naDevvo'	na-Dev-vo'	here + -vo'
Do you speak Klingon?	tlhIngan Hol Dajatlh'a'?	tlhi-ngan Hol Da-jatlh-'a'	
I am learning Klingon	tlhIngan Hol vlghoj.	tlhi-ngan Hol vi-ghoj	

-Daq and -vo' — Two Suffixes, Two Directions

Both go on the end of a noun: **Qo'noSDaq** "on Kronos", **Qo'noSvo'** "from Kronos". The place word comes first, then the verb: **Qo'noSDaq jIyIn**. With a verb of motion, **-Daq** also says where you are going; Chapter 10, Asking for Directions, uses it.

Worlds and Peoples — Qo'mey

Place name, then the person from there, built with **-ngan** "inhabitant":

WORLD	KLINGON	PERSON	KLINGON
Kronos	Qo'noS	Klingon	tlhIngan
Earth	tera'	Earthling	tera'ngan
Vulcan	vulqan	Vulcan	vulqangan

Build It — Place to Person

tera' "Earth" + **-ngan** "inhabitant" = **tera'ngan** "Earthling". The same pattern gives **vulqangan**. (**tlhIngan** is a word in itself, not a built form, so do not look for a planet *tlhI* inside it.)

Vocabulary — Vortaro

20 key words. The **Say it** column shows the syllables.

#	KLINGON	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	mung	<i>mung</i>	origin, source	noun
2	-Daq	<i>-Daq</i>	at, in, on (suffix)	suffix
3	-vo'	<i>-vo'</i>	from (suffix)	suffix
4	-ngan	<i>-ngan</i>	inhabitant (suffix)	suffix
5	nuqDaq	<i>nuq-Daq</i>	where	question
6	Qo'noS	<i>Qo'-noS</i>	Kronos	noun
7	tera'	<i>te-ra'</i>	Earth	noun
8	vulqan	<i>vul-qan</i>	Vulcan	noun
9	vulqangan	<i>vul-qan-gan</i>	a Vulcan	noun
10	yuQ	<i>yuQ</i>	planet	noun
11	Hol	<i>Hol</i>	language	noun
12	tlhIngan Hol	<i>tlhi-ngan Hol</i>	the Klingon language	noun
13	naDev	<i>na-Dev</i>	here	adverb
14	pa'	<i>pa'</i>	there	adverb
15	yIn	<i>yIn</i>	live	verb
16	jatlh	<i>jatlh</i>	speak	verb
17	ghoj	<i>ghoj</i>	learn	verb
18	tlhIngan	<i>tlhi-ngan</i>	Klingon	noun
19	'ach	<i>'ach</i>	but	conj
20	'ej	<i>'ej</i>	and (joins sentences)	conj

Culture — Everyone Is From Somewhere, but Kronos Is Home

A Klingon answers "where are you from?" with the world and, if the listener is worth it, the house (Chapter 2). The answer **Qo'noS** is usually given as if it needed no further explanation. If you answer **tera'**, expect the polite reply to be about your Klingon, not your home.

Reading — LaD

A short text using only words you know.

mungwIj 'oH tera'e'. tera'Daq jIyIn. tlhIngan Hol vIghoj 'ej vIjatlh.

I am from Earth. I live on Earth. I am learning Klingon and I speak it.

True or false? (a) The speaker is from Kronos. (b) The speaker lives on Earth. (c) The speaker is learning Klingon. (d) The speaker cannot speak it at all.

▼ Show answers

(a) False: **tera'** is Earth. (b) True. (c) True: **vIghoj**. (d) False: **vIjatlh** "I speak it".

Try It Yourself — Ekzercoj

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Ask where someone is from, and say you are from Earth.

▼ Show answer

munglIj nuq? · mungwIj 'oH tera'e'.

2. Ask where someone lives, and say you live on Kronos.

▼ Show answer

nuqDaq bIyIn? · Qo'noSDaq jIyIn.

3. Say "from Kronos" and "on Earth".

▼ Show answer

Qo'noSvo' · tera'Daq

4. Ask "do you speak Klingon?" and answer "yes, I am learning it".

▼ Show answer

tlhIngan Hol Dajath'a'? · **HIja', vIghoj.**

5. Make the word for a person from Vulcan, and for a person from Earth.

▼ Show answer

vulqangan · tera'ngan (place + *-ngan*).

6. Say "a Klingon lives there".

▼ Show answer

pa' tlhIngan yIn. (Or put *pa'* where it suits you: adverbs come before the rest of the sentence.)

Coming Up in Chapter 5

Family and house: **loD**, **be'**, **puq**, the honour of a lineage (**tuq**), and talking about your family with **-wIj** and **-IIj**.

Klingon Basic Conversation 1

Chapter 5 · Family & House



Family & House — mogh

For a Klingon, family is not a private matter: it is the root of honour. By the end of this chapter you will be able to name your relatives, say "my father" and "your mother", ask how many children someone has, and talk about your house. The grammar is the possessive you learned in Klingon Grammar 1, Chapter 3: people who use language take **-wI'** "my" and **-Il'** "your", while things take **-wIj** and **-Ilj**.

① Who Is Your Father? — 'Iv vavI'?

A:

'Iv vavI'?

Who is your father?

B:

vavwI' 'oH Mogh'e'.

My father is Mogh.

A:

Qapla'!

Success!

② Brothers and Sisters — loDnI'wl'

A:

loDnI' Daghaj'a'?

Do you have a brother?

B:

HIja'. cha' loDnI' vIghaj. be'nI' vIghajbe'.

Yes. I have two brothers. I have no sister.

A:

cha' loDnI'! majQa'.

Two brothers! Well done.

③ Children — puq 'ar Daghaj?

A:

puq 'ar Daghaj?

How many children do you have?

B:

wej puq vIghaj. cha' puqloD, wa' puqbe'.

I have three children. Two sons, one daughter.

④ Your House — nuq tuqlIj?

A:

nuq tuqlIj?

What is your house?

B:

tuqwIj 'oH Martaq tuq'e'.

My house is the House of Martok.

A:

A:
majQa'.
Well done.

Qapla'.
Success.

⑤ Mother — SoSwI'

A:
SoSI' qan'a'?
Is your mother old?

B:
HIja'. SoSwI' qan.
Yes. My mother is old.

A:
SuvwI' ghaH'a'?
Is she a warrior?

B:
HIja'. SuvwI' ghaH.
Yes. She is a warrior.

⑥ Husband and Wife — loDnalwI'

A:
loDnalwI' 'oH Worf'e'.
My husband is Worf.

B:
be'nalwI' 'oH Anna'e'. wa' puq
maghaj.
My wife is Anna. We have one child.

A:
majQa'. mogh QaQ.
Well done. A good family.

Key Phrases — Gravaj Hol

Klingon has ***no formal and informal "you"***, so the table shows one form.

SITUATION	KLINGON	SAY IT	NOTE
Who is your father?	'Iv vavII'?	'Iv vav-II'	
My father is ...	vavwI' 'oH ... 'e'.	vav-wI' 'oH ... 'e'	
Do you have a brother?	loDnI' Daghaj'a'?	loD-nI' Da-ghaj- 'a'	
I have two children	cha' puq vlghaj.	cha' puq vi-ghaj	number before noun (Chapter 3)

SITUATION	KLINGON	SAY IT	NOTE
I have no sister	be'nl' vlghajbe'.	be'-nl' vi-ghaj-be'	-be' "not" goes right after the verb root
What is your house?	nuq tuqlIj?	nuq tuq-llj	a house takes -wlj and -llj
an old mother	SoS qan	SoS qan	the describing verb follows the noun

My and Your — People vs Things

People who use language take **-wI'** "my" and **-II'** "your": **vavwI'** "my father", **SoSI'** "your mother". Everything else takes **-wIj** and **-IIj**: **tuqwIj** "my house". For "his, her" the suffix is **-Daj** and for "their" it is **-chaj**: **vavDaj** "his father".

abc The Family — mogh

Take a root and add a possessive:

RELATIVE	KLINGON	MY ...	YOUR ...
father	vav	vavwI'	vavII'
mother	SoS	SoSwI'	SoSI'
brother	loDnI'	loDnI'wI'	loDnI'II'
sister	be'nl'	be'nl'wI'	be'nl'II'
son	puqlOD	puqlODwI'	puqlODII'
daughter	puqbe'	puqbe'wI'	puqbe'II'

Build It — Child, Son, Daughter

puq "child" + **loD** "man" = **puqlOD** "son" (a male child). **puq** + **be'** "woman" = **puqbe'** "daughter". Likewise **loD** + **nal** (a spouse suffix) = **loDnal** "husband" and **be'** + **nal** = **be'nal** "wife".

Vocabulary — Vortaro

20 key words. The **Say it** column shows the syllables.

#	KLINGON	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	mogh	<i>mogh</i>	family, clan	noun
2	tuq	<i>tuq</i>	house, ancestral unit	noun
3	vav	<i>vav</i>	father	noun
4	SoS	<i>SoS</i>	mother	noun
5	loDnI'	<i>loD-nI'</i>	brother	noun
6	be'nI'	<i>be'-nI'</i>	sister	noun
7	puq	<i>puq</i>	child	noun
8	puqlOD	<i>puq-loD</i>	son	noun
9	puqbe'	<i>puq-be'</i>	daughter	noun
10	loDnal	<i>loD-nal</i>	husband	noun
11	be'nal	<i>be'-nal</i>	wife	noun
12	-wI'	<i>-wI'</i>	my (for people)	suffix
13	-lI'	<i>-lI'</i>	your (for people)	suffix
14	-Daj	<i>-Daj</i>	his, her	suffix
15	-chaj	<i>-chaj</i>	their	suffix
16	ghaj	<i>ghaj</i>	have	verb
17	-be'	<i>-be'</i>	not (verb suffix)	suffix
18	QaQ	<i>QaQ</i>	be good	adj

#	KLINGON	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
19	qan	qan	be old	verb
20	'lv	'lv	who	question

Culture — The House Is Your Honour

A Klingon's **tuq** (house) is more than a surname. Its standing is the standing of everyone in it, and an act of dishonour by one member stains all. That is why Klingons introduce relatives by house, and why a warrior speaks of **vavwI'** (my father) with the pride of someone who is still being measured against him.

Reading — LaD

A short text using only words you know.

vavwI' 'oH Mogh'e'. SoSwI' qan. cha' loDnI' vIghaj. wa' puq vIghaj. mogh QaQ.
My father is Mogh. My mother is old. I have two brothers. I have one child. A good family.

True or false? (a) The father is called Mogh. (b) The mother is young. (c) The speaker has two brothers. (d) The speaker has three children.

▼ Show answers

(a) True. (b) False: **SoSwI' qan**. (c) True. (d) False: **wa' puq** is one child.

Try It Yourself — Ekzercoj

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Say "my father", "my mother" and "your brother".

▼ Show answer

vavwI' · SoSwI' · loDnI'I'

2. Ask "who is your mother?" and answer that she is a warrior.

▼ Show answer

'Iv SoSI'I'? · SuvwI' ghaH.

3. Ask how many children someone has, and say you have four.

▼ Show answer

puq 'ar Daghaj? · loS puq vIghaj.

4. Say "I have no daughter".

▼ Show answer

puqbe' vIghajbe'.

5. Say "my house is the House of Martok" and "his father".

▼ Show answer

tuqwIj 'oH Martaq tuq'e'. · vavDaj

6. Make the words for "husband" and "wife" from *loD*, *be'* and *nal*.

▼ Show answer

loDnal · be'nal

Coming Up in Chapter 6

Your work: warrior, officer, engineer, healer, clerk; the doer suffix **-wI'** in use, and what you do and where.

Klingon Basic Conversation 1

Chapter 6 · Your Work

Your Work — Qu'

*Klingons are not good at small talk about careers, but they are very good at saying what they do and what rank they hold. By the end of this chapter you will be able to say your role (warrior, officer, commander, teacher), ask someone else's, and say that a duty is done. The key tool is the doer suffix -wI' from Klingon Grammar 1, Chapter 7: **Suv** "fight" becomes **SuvwI'** "one who fights, a warrior". This chapter uses only roles whose words I could check. Words for engineer, healer and clerk are left out rather than guessed; you will meet them in Klingon Basic Conversation 2.*

① What Are You? — nuq SoH?

A:

nuq SoH?

What are you? (What is your role?)

B:

SuvwI' jIH.

I am a warrior.

A:

majQa'.

Well done.

② Officer or Commander? — ra'wI'

A:

yaS SoH'a'?

Are you an officer?

B:

ghobe'. ra'wI' jIH.

No. I am a commander.

A:

Qapla'!

Success!

③ Who Is the Captain? — 'Iv HoD?

A:

'Iv HoDI'I'?

Who is your captain?

B:

HoDwI' 'oH Martaq'e'.

My captain is Martok.

A:

④ Teacher or Learner? — HaDwI', ghojwI'

A:

HaDwI' SoH'a'?

Are you a teacher? (Literally: a one who studies.)

B:

ghobe'. ghojwI' jIH. tlhIngan Hol
vIghoj.

No. I am a learner. I am learning Klingon.

Qapla'.

Success.

A:

majQa'!

Well done!

⑤ The Task Is Done — Qu' vIta'pu'

A:

Qu' Data'pu"a'?

Have you done the task?

B:

HIja', Qu' vIta'pu'.

Yes, I have done the task.

A:

Qapla'!

Success!

⑥ On the Ship — DujDaq

A:

nuqDaq SoH?

Where are you?

B:

DujDaq jIH. Suvwl' jIH.

I am on the ship. I am a warrior.

A:

Duj 'ar ghaj HoDII'?

How many ships does your captain have?

B:

wa' Duj ghaj.

He has one ship.

Key Phrases — Gravaj Hol

Klingon has **no formal and informal "you"**, so the table shows one form.

SITUATION	KLINGON	SAY IT	NOTE
What are you?	nuq SoH?	<i>nuq SoH</i>	question word, then pronoun
I am a warrior	Suvwl' jIH.	<i>Suv-wl' jIH</i>	noun + pronoun (Chapter 2)
I am a commander	ra'wl' jIH.	<i>ra'-wl' jIH</i>	
Are you an officer?	yaS SoH'a'?	<i>yaS SoH-'a'</i>	
Who is your captain?	'Iv HoDII'?	<i>'Iv HoD-II'</i>	a captain is a person: -II'

SITUATION	KLINGON	SAY IT	NOTE
I have done the task	Qu' vIta'pu'.	Qu' vi-ta'-pu'	-pu' "already, done"
on the ship	DujDaq	Duj-Daq	place suffix (Chapter 4)

The verb **ta'** "do, accomplish" with the prefixes you know, in the completed form with **-pu'**:

VERB	I → IT	YOU → IT	HE / SHE → IT
ta' (do)	vIta'pu'	Data'pu'	ta'pu'
HaD (study)	vIHaD	DaHaD	HaD
ghoj (learn)	vIghoj	Daghoj	ghoj

Build It — The Doer Suffix -wI'

Suv "fight" + **-wI'** = **SuvwI'** "one who fights, warrior". **ra'** "command" + **-wI'** = **ra'wI'** "commander". **HaD** "study" + **-wI'** = **HaDwI'** "teacher/student of a subject". **ghoj** "learn" + **-wI'** = **ghojwI'** "learner". The plural is **-pu'**: **SuvwI'pu'** "warriors". Note that this **-wI'** is the same letters as the possessive "my" in Chapter 5: the doer suffix goes on a *verb*, the possessive on a *noun*.

Vocabulary — Vortaro

20 key words. The **Say it** column shows the syllables.

#	KLINGON	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	Qu'	Qu'	task, mission	noun
2	-wI'	-wI'	one who does (suffix)	suffix
3	SuvwI'	Suv-wI'	warrior	noun
4	Suv	Suv	fight	verb
5	yaS	yaS	officer	noun

#	KLINGON	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
6	HoD	<i>HoD</i>	captain	noun
7	ra'wl'	<i>ra'-wl'</i>	commander	noun
8	ra'	<i>ra'</i>	command, order	verb
9	HaDwl'	<i>HaD-wl'</i>	teacher, student	noun
10	HaD	<i>HaD</i>	study	verb
11	ghojwl'	<i>ghoj-wl'</i>	learner	noun
12	leng	<i>leng</i>	travel	verb
13	lengwl'	<i>leng-wl'</i>	traveller	noun
14	-taH	<i>-taH</i>	continuing (suffix)	suffix
15	ta'	<i>ta'</i>	do, accomplish	verb
16	-pu'	<i>-pu'</i>	already done (suffix)	suffix
17	Duj	<i>Duj</i>	ship	noun
18	DujDaq	<i>Duj-Daq</i>	on the ship	phrase
19	nuq	<i>nuq</i>	what	question
20	QaQ	<i>QaQ</i>	be good	adj

Culture — Rank Is Earned, Not Given

In Klingon society rank is won in service. A warrior is **Suvwl'** first and anything else second. Saying **Suvwl' jIH** is the most respected answer you can give to **nuq SoH?**, whatever your actual post.

Reading — LaD

A short text using only words you know.

SuvwI' jIH. HoDwI' 'oH Martaq'e'. DujDaq jIH. Qu' vIta'pu'. QaQ.

I am a warrior. My captain is Martok. I am on the ship. I have done the task. Good.

True or false? (a) The speaker is an officer. (b) The captain is Martok. (c) The speaker is on a ship. (d) The task is not done.

▼ Show answers

(a) False: **SuvwI' jIH.** (b) True. (c) True: **DujDaq jIH.** (d) False: **Qu' vIta'pu'** "I have done the task".

Try It Yourself — Ekzercoj

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Ask someone's role, and say that you are a commander.

▼ Show answer

nuq SoH? · ra'wI' jIH.

2. Make the doer noun from *leng* "travel" and from *Suv* "fight".

▼ Show answer

lengwI' · SuvwI'

3. Say "my captain is Martok" and "who is your captain?".

▼ Show answer

HoDwI' 'oH Martaq'e'. · 'Iv HoDI'?

4. Ask "have you done the task?" and answer "yes".

▼ Show answer

Qu' Data'pu'a'? · HIja', Qu' vIta'pu'.

5. Say "I am a learner" and "I am on the ship".

▼ Show answer

ghojwI' jIH. · DujDaq jIH.

6. Say "warriors" (plural) and "I am learning Klingon".

▼ Show answer

SuvwI'pu' · tlhIngan Hol vIghoj.

Coming Up in Chapter 7

Days, dates and the time: **wa'Hu'** "yesterday", **DaHjaj** "today", **wa'leS** "tomorrow", and making an appointment, or a challenge.

Klingon Basic Conversation 1

Chapter 7 · Days, Dates & Telling the Time

Days, Dates & Telling the Time — jaj, rep

A Klingon who says "tomorrow" means it. By the end of this chapter you will be able to talk about yesterday, today and tomorrow, say whether something happens by day or by night, ask the hour and tell it, and fix a time to meet, or to fight. The chapter has three parts: days, the hour, and appointments. Klingon has no tense, so a time word at the start of the sentence does the work, as in Klingon Grammar 1, Chapter 10.

Part 1 — Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow

ENGLISH	KLINGON	SAY IT	NOTE
day (24 hours)	jaj	jaj	
today	DaHjaj	DaH-jaj	"now-day"
yesterday	wa'Hu'	wa'-Hu'	"one day ago"
tomorrow	wa'leS	wa'-leS	"one day from now"
daytime	pem	pem	
night	ram	ram	
month	jar	jar	
year	DIS	DIS	

No Days of the Week Here

There are published names for the days of the week, but I could not confirm them, and the Klingon calendar does not run on a Terran week. This course uses the words above, which are enough to arrange anything in Klingon.

Part 2 — The Hour

The words are **rep** "hour", **tup** "minute", **lup** "second". According to Marc Okrand, Klingons use the Federation 24-hour clock for dealings with other worlds, and the hour is numbered, not counted: **tera' rep cha'maH** "Earth hour 20", meaning 8 p.m. To ask the time you give an order: **rep yIper!** "Label the hour!".

① What Time Is It? — rep yIper!

A:

rep yIper!

What time is it? (Literally: label the hour!)

B:

tera' rep cha'maH.

It is hour 20, 8 p.m.

A:

majQa'.

Well done.

② Tomorrow We Fight — wa'leS maSuv

A:

wa'leS maSuv.

Tomorrow we fight.

B:

nuqDaq?

Where?

A:

naDev.

Here.

B:

tera' rep 'ar?

At what hour?

A:

tera' rep wa'maH.

At hour 10.

③ Yesterday and Today — wa'Hu', DaHjaj

A:

wa'Hu' nuqDaq SoH?

Where were you yesterday?

B:

wa'Hu' Qo'noSDaq jIH. DaHjaj

DujDaq jIH.

Yesterday I was on Kronos. Today I am on the ship.

④ Tomorrow — wa'leS jIjaH

A:

wa'leS nuqDaq bIjaH?

Where will you go tomorrow?

B:

wa'leS Qo'noSDaq jIjaH.

Tomorrow I will go to Kronos.

A:

Qapla'!

A:

Qapla'.

Success.

Success!

⑤ Day and Night — pem, ram

A:

pem jIleng. ram jIQong.

By day I travel. By night I sleep.

B:

SuvwI' SoH'a'?

Are you a warrior?

A:

HIja'. ram maSuv.

Yes. We fight by night.

⑥ The Challenge — DaHjaj

A:

DaHjaj tera' rep jav maSuv.

Today at hour 6 we fight.

B:

DaHjaj? QaQ!

Today? Good!

A:

Qapla'!

Success!

Part 3 — Arranging a Meeting

SITUATION	KLINGON	SAY IT	NOTE
What time is it?	rep ylper!	<i>rep yi-per</i>	an order, yl-
It is hour 20	tera' rep cha'maH.	<i>te-ra' rep cha'-maH</i>	number of the hour, 0–23
Today	DaHjaj	<i>DaH-jaj</i>	time word first
Tomorrow we fight	wa'leS maSuv.	<i>wa'-leS ma-Suv</i>	<i>ma-</i> "we"
At what hour?	tera' rep 'ar?	<i>te-ra' rep 'ar</i>	
By night	ram	<i>ram</i>	

Three verbs with time words in front. Remember that "we" with no object is **ma-**:

VERB	I	YOU	WE
jaH (go)	jIjaH	bljaH	majaH
leng (travel)	jIleng	blIeng	maleng
Suv (fight)	jISuv	blSuv	maSuv

Build It — Day Words

wa' "one" + **Hu'** (ago) = **wa'Hu'** "yesterday". **wa'** + **leS** (from now) = **wa'leS** "tomorrow". Any number works: **cha'Hu'** "two days ago", **wejleS** "three days from now" (Klingon Grammar 1, Chapter 10).

Vocabulary — Vortaro

20 key words. The **Say it** column shows the syllables.

#	KLINGON	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	jaj	<i>jaj</i>	day	noun
2	DaHjaj	<i>DaH-jaj</i>	today	adverb
3	wa'Hu'	<i>wa'-Hu'</i>	yesterday	adverb
4	wa'leS	<i>wa'-leS</i>	tomorrow	adverb
5	pem	<i>pem</i>	daytime	noun
6	ram	<i>ram</i>	night	noun
7	jar	<i>jar</i>	month	noun
8	DIS	<i>DIS</i>	year	noun
9	rep	<i>rep</i>	hour	noun
10	tup	<i>tup</i>	minute	noun

#	KLINGON	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
11	lup	<i>lup</i>	second	noun
12	per	<i>per</i>	label, name	verb
13	jaH	<i>jaH</i>	go	verb
14	leng	<i>leng</i>	travel	verb
15	Qong	<i>Qong</i>	sleep	verb
16	Suv	<i>Suv</i>	fight	verb
17	tera' rep	<i>te-ra' rep</i>	Earth hour (24-hour clock)	phrase
18	'ar	<i>'ar</i>	how many	question
19	nuqDaq	<i>nuq-Daq</i>	where	question
20	naDev	<i>na-Dev</i>	here	adverb

Culture — A Time Is a Promise

To give a time to a Klingon is to make a promise, so the hour is kept. Turning up late for a fight is a disgrace, and turning up on the wrong day is worse. That is why the day words come first in the sentence: they set the terms before anything else is said.

Reading — LaD

A short text using only words you know.

wa'Hu' Qo'noSDaq jIH. DaHjaj DujDaq jIH. wa'leS tera' rep jav maSuv.

Yesterday I was on Kronos. Today I am on the ship. Tomorrow at hour 6 we fight.

True or false? (a) Yesterday the speaker was on Kronos. (b) Today the speaker is on Earth. (c) The fight is tomorrow. (d) The fight is at hour 10.

▼ Show answers

(a) True. (b) False: **DujDaq jIH** "on the ship". (c) True: **wa'leS**. (d) False: **jav** is six.

Try It Yourself — Ekzercoj

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Say "yesterday", "today" and "tomorrow".

▼ Show answer

wa'Hu' · DaHjaj · wa'leS

2. Ask the time, and answer "hour 15".

▼ Show answer

rep yIper! · tera' rep wa'maH vagh.

3. Say "two days ago" and "three days from now".

▼ Show answer

cha'Hu' · wejleS

4. Say "tomorrow we go to Kronos".

▼ Show answer

wa'leS Qo'noSDaq majaH.

5. Say "by day I travel, by night I sleep".

▼ Show answer

pem jIleng. ram jIQong.

6. Challenge someone: "tomorrow at hour 8 we fight here".

▼ Show answer

wa'leS tera' rep chorgh naDev maSuv.

Coming Up in Chapter 8

Food and drink at the feast hall: **gagh**, **HIq**, eating and drinking verbs, asking for food, and praising a dish.

Klingon Basic Conversation 1

Chapter 8 · Food & Drink at the Feast Hall



Food & Drink at the Feast Hall — Soj

A café in the human sense does not exist here: Klingons feast. By the end of this chapter you will be able to say what you want to eat and drink, ask what someone wants, praise a dish, and shout the commands "Eat!" and "Drink!". The chapter adapts the usual café situation to the feast hall, as agreed in the course outline. The grammar is the same: object, then verb, with the prefixes you know.

① Ordering — HIq vIneH

A:

nuqneH.

What do you want?

B:

'Iw HIq vIneH.

I want bloodwine.

A:

majQa'!

Well done!

② Do You Eat Gagh? — gagh DaSop'a'?

A:

gagh DaSop'a'?

Do you eat gagh?

B:

HIja', gagh vISop.

Yes, I eat gagh.

A:

Qapla'!

Success!

③ Water? — bIQ?

A:

bIQ DaneH'a'?

Do you want water?

B:

ghobe'! HIq vIneH.

No! I want ale.

A:

majQa'.

④ Praising the Food — Soj QaQ

A:

Soj QaQ'a'?

Is the food good?

B:

HIja'. Soj QaQ.

Yes. The food is good.

A:

majQa'!

Well done.

Well done! (to the cook)

⑤ Commands — *yISop! yItlhutlh!*

A:

yISop!

Eat!

B:

yItlhutlh!

Drink!

A:

Qapla'!

Success!

⑥ A Toast — *tlhIngan maH!*

A:

tItlhutlh!

Drink! (to everyone)

B:

tlhIngan maH!

We are Klingons!

A:

Qapla'!

Success!

Key Phrases — Gravaj Hol

*Klingon has **no formal and informal "you"**, and no "please", so the table gives only the blunt forms.*

SITUATION	KLINGON	SAY IT	NOTE
I want bloodwine	<i>'Iw HIq vIneH.</i>	<i>'Iw HIq vi-neH</i>	object, then verb
Do you want water?	<i>bIQ DaneH'a'?</i>	<i>bIQ Da-neH-'a'</i>	
I eat gagh	<i>gagh vISop.</i>	<i>gagh vi-Sop</i>	
The food is good	<i>Soj QaQ.</i>	<i>Soj QaQ</i>	describing verb after the noun
Eat! (one person)	<i>yISop!</i>	<i>yi-Sop</i>	<i>yl-</i> command
Drink! (several people)	<i>tItlhutlh!</i>	<i>ti-tlhutlh</i>	<i>tl-</i> command to a group
Well done! (praise)	<i>majQa'!</i>	<i>maj-Qa'</i>	the answer to a good dish

Three verbs, each with the prefixes you know (vI- I → it, Da- you → it, nothing for he or she → it):

VERB	I → IT	YOU → IT	HE / SHE → IT
Sop (eat)	vISop	DaSop	Sop
tlhutlh (drink)	vItlhutlh	Datlhutlh	tlhutlh
neH (want)	vIneH	DaneH	neH

No "Please" — Use a Command

A command uses the prefix **yI-** (one person) or **tI-** (several): **yISop!**, **tItlhutlh!**. In Klingon this is not rude, because there is no softer way to say it. The one way to add respect is the honorific **-neS** (Klingon Grammar 1, Chapter 7).

Vocabulary — Vortaro

20 key words. The **Say it** column shows the syllables.

#	KLINGON	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	Soj	<i>Soj</i>	food	noun
2	gagh	<i>gagh</i>	gagh (serpent worms)	noun
3	HIq	<i>HIq</i>	ale	noun
4	'lw	<i>'lw</i>	blood	noun
5	'lw HIq	<i>'lw HIq</i>	bloodwine	noun
6	bIQ	<i>bIQ</i>	water	noun
7	chab	<i>chab</i>	pie	noun
8	Sop	<i>Sop</i>	eat	verb
9	tlhutlh	<i>tlhutlh</i>	drink	verb
10	neH	<i>neH</i>	want	verb

#	KLINGON	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
11	yl-	yl-	command prefix (one person)	prefix
12	tl-	tl-	command prefix (several)	prefix
13	QaQ	QaQ	be good	adj
14	majQa'	maj-Qa'	well done	phrase
15	Qapla'	Qap-la'	success	phrase
16	nuqneH	nuq-neH	what do you want?	phrase
17	HIja'	HI-ja'	yes	phrase
18	ghobe'	gho-be'	no	phrase
19	maH	maH	we	pron
20	-'a'	-'a'	question suffix	suffix

Culture — GagH, Served Live

gagH is the classic Klingon dish, served live because freshness is the point. The polite thing to say about it is **Soj QaQ** "the food is good", ideally with your mouth full. Water (**bIQ**) is for ships' coolant and nervous diplomats: a Klingon asks for **'Tw HIq**.

The Word for "Feast Hall"

The Klingon words for a hall or a table are not ones I could confirm, so this chapter does not use one. You can say where you are with the place words from Chapter 4 (**naDev** "here") and the food with the words above.

Reading — LaD

A short text using only words you know.

gagh vISop. 'Iw HIq vItlhutlh. Soj QaQ. majQa'!

I eat gagh. I drink bloodwine. The food is good. Well done!

True or false? (a) The speaker eats gagh. (b) The speaker drinks water. (c) The food is good. (d) The speaker is angry.

▼ Show answers

(a) True. (b) False: 'Iw HIq vItlhutlh "I drink bloodwine". (c) True: Soj QaQ. (d) False: majQa'! is praise.



Try It Yourself — Ekzercoj

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Say "I want bloodwine" and "I want food".

▼ Show answer

'Iw HIq vIneH. · Soj vIneH.

2. Ask "do you eat gagh?" and answer "no".

▼ Show answer

gagh DaSop'a'? · ghobe'.

3. Order a friend to eat, then a group to drink.

▼ Show answer

yISop! · tItlhutlh!

4. Say "the food is good" and ask whether it is.

▼ Show answer

Soj QaQ. · Soj QaQ'a'?

5. Say "I drink water" and "I do not want water".

▼ Show answer

bIQ vItlhutlh. · bIQ vIneHbe'.

6. Say "we eat gagh" (we → it is *wI-*).

▼ Show answer

gagh wISop.

Coming Up in Chapter 9

Trade and prices: buying, selling and exchanging, asking how much, and haggling Klingon style.

Klingon Basic Conversation 1

Chapter 9 · Trade & Prices



Trade & Prices — Huch

The usual "shop" chapter becomes a trade chapter, as agreed in the outline: a Klingon market is a place for merchants (**Suy**), swords and loud bargaining. By the end of this chapter you will be able to say you want to buy or sell something, ask how much it costs, pay, and haggle. The tools are numbers from Chapter 3, **neH** "want" from Chapter 8, and a handful of trade words.

① At the Merchant's — Suy jIH

A:

Suy SoH'a'?

Are you a merchant?

B:

HIja', Suy jIH. nuqneH.

Yes, I am a merchant. What do you want?

A:

'etlh vIje' vIneH.

I want to buy a sword.

② How Much? — Huch 'ar?

A:

Huch 'ar DaneH?

How much money do you want?

B:

Huch wa'vatlh.

One hundred.

A:

wa'vatlh?!

A hundred?!

③ Bargaining — tlhong

A:

Huch puS vIDil vIneH.

I want to pay less money.

B:

ghobe'. Huch law' vIneH.

No. I want more money.

A:

jItlhong. Huch wejmaH.

④ A Fair Price — majQa'

A:

Huch loSmaH.

Forty.

B:

QaQ. 'etlh vIngev.

Good. I sell the sword.

A:

majQa'!

I bargain. Thirty.

Well done!

⑤ Paying — vIDIl

A:

'etlh vIDIl.
I pay for the sword.

B:

Huch Daghaj'a'?
Do you have the money?

A:

HIja'. Huch loSmaH vIghaj.
Yes. I have forty.

⑥ No Deal — ghobe'

A:

Duj vIje' vIneH. Huch 'ar?
I want to buy a ship. How much?

B:

Huch wa'SaD.
One thousand.

A:

ghobe'! Huch law'!
No! That is too much money!

Key Phrases — Gravaj Hol

Klingon has **no formal and informal "you"**, so the table shows one form.

SITUATION	KLINGON	SAY IT	NOTE
I want to buy a sword	'etlh vIje' vIneH.	'etlh vi-je' vi-neH	two verbs, each with vI-
How much do you want?	Huch 'ar DaneH?	Huch 'ar Da-neH	
The price is 100	Huch wa'vatlh.	Huch wa'-vatlh	numbers from Chapter 3
I pay for the sword	'etlh vIDIl.	'etlh vi-DIl	
I sell the sword	'etlh vIngev.	'etlh vi-ngev	
I want to pay less	Huch puS vIDIl vIneH.	Huch puS vi-DIl vi-neH	puS "less"

SITUATION	KLINGON	SAY IT	NOTE
I bargain	jltlhong.	ji-tlhong	
Three verbs with the prefixes you know:			
VERB	I → IT	YOU → IT	HE / SHE → IT
je' (buy)	vIje'	Daje'	je'
ngev (sell)	vIngev	Dangev	ngev
DII (pay for)	vIDII	DaDII	DII

Two Verbs in a Row — "I Want to Buy"

Klingon says "I want to buy a sword" with two verbs, each carrying its own prefix: 'etlh vIje' vIneH. The object goes first, then the verb of the action, then the verb of wanting. The same pattern gives tlhIngan Hol vIjatlh vIneH "I want to speak Klingon".



Vocabulary — Vortaro

20 key words. The **Say it** column shows the syllables.

#	KLINGON	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	Huch	Huch	money	noun
2	je'	je'	buy	verb
3	ngev	ngev	sell	verb
4	DII	DII	pay for	verb
5	mech	mech	trade	verb
6	tlhong	tlhong	bargain, barter	verb

#	KLINGON	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
7	Suy	<i>Suy</i>	merchant	noun
8	malja'	<i>mal-ja'</i>	business	noun
9	'etlh	<i>'etlh</i>	sword, blade	noun
10	Duj	<i>Duj</i>	ship	noun
11	neH	<i>neH</i>	want	verb
12	'ar	<i>'ar</i>	how many, how much	question
13	law'	<i>law'</i>	more, many	adj
14	puS	<i>puS</i>	fewer, less	adj
15	QaQ	<i>QaQ</i>	be good	adj
16	QaQbe'	<i>QaQ-be'</i>	be not good, bad	adj
17	wa'vatlh	<i>wa'-vatlh</i>	one hundred	number
18	wa'SaD	<i>wa'-SaD</i>	one thousand	number
19	Hlja'	<i>HI-ja'</i>	yes	phrase
20	ghobe'	<i>gho-be'</i>	no	phrase

Culture — A Price Is a Challenge

Haggling in Klingon style is a contest of will. The first price is an insult, the second a counter-insult, and a deal is struck when both sides have shown they cannot be pushed. Being cheated is dishonourable; cheating at a bargain you both understood as a game is not.

Money Is a Loose Word

Huch means "money" in general. I could not confirm a standard unit of currency, so the prices in this chapter are bare numbers: **Huch wa'vatlh** "money, one hundred".



Reading — LaD

A short text using only words you know.

Suy jIH. 'etlh vIngev. Huch loSmaH vIneH. QaQ!

I am a merchant. I sell a sword. I want forty money. Good!

True or false? (a) The speaker is a merchant. (b) The speaker sells a ship. (c) The speaker wants forty. (d) The speaker is unhappy.

▼ Show answers

(a) True. (b) False: **'etlh vIngev** "I sell a sword". (c) True: **loSmaH**. (d) False: **QaQ!** is "good".



Try It Yourself — Ekzercoj

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Say "I want to buy a ship".

▼ Show answer

Duj vIje' vIneH.

2. Ask how much money someone wants, and answer "fifty".

▼ Show answer

Huch 'ar DaneH? · Huch vaghmaH.

3. Say "I am a merchant" and ask someone else if they are.

▼ Show answer

Suy jIH. · Suy SoH'a'?

4. Say "I pay for the sword" and "I sell the ship".

▼ Show answer

'etlh vIDIl · Duj vIngev.

5. Say "I want to pay less money" and "no, that is too much".

▼ Show answer

Huch puS vIDIl vIneH · ghobe'! Huch law'!

6. Say "I do not have the money" (use *-be'* after the verb).

▼ Show answer

Huch vIghajbe'.

Coming Up in Chapter 10

Asking for directions: where, ahead, behind, left, right, up and down, and the commands **yI-** and **tI-** in use.

Klingon Basic Conversation 1

Chapter 10 · Asking for Directions



Asking for Directions — nuqDaq?

A warrior who is lost does not wander: he asks, loudly. By the end of this chapter you will be able to ask where something is, understand and give simple directions (left, right, ahead, behind, above, below, beside), and say that you do not understand. Klingon does not use words like "left" as adverbs. They are **place nouns** ("the left area"), and you add **-Daq** from Chapter 4 to say "at" or "to" them. Commands use **yI-** and **tI-** from Chapter 8.

① Where Is It? — nuqDaq Duj?

A:

nuqDaq Duj?
Where is the ship?

B:

pa'.
There.

A:

majQa'.
Well done.

② To the Left — poSDaq yIjaH!

A:

nuqDaq juH?
Where is the home?

B:

poSDaq yIjaH!
Go to the left!

A:

poSDaq jIjaH.
I go to the left.

③ To the Right — nIHdaq yIjaH!

A:

nuqDaq Qo'noS?
Where is Kronos?

B:

nIHdaq yIjaH!
Go to the right!

A:

Qapla'!

④ Ahead and Behind — tIhop, 'em

A:

tIhopDaq yIjaH!
Go to the front!

B:

nuqDaq SuvwI'?
Where is the warrior?

A:

'emDaq.

Success!

Behind.

⑤ Above and Below — Dung, bIng

A:

DungDaq Duj.

The ship is above.

B:

bIngDaq jIjaH.

I go below.

A:

Qapla'.

Success.

⑥ I Do Not Understand — jIyajbe'

A:

jIyajbe'. nuqDaq jIH?

I do not understand. Where am I?

B:

naDev SoH.

You are here.

A:

naDev? Qapla'!

Here? Success!

Key Phrases — Gravaj Hol

Klingon has **no formal and informal "you"**, so the table shows one form.

SITUATION	KLINGON	SAY IT	NOTE
Where is the ship?	nuqDaq Duj?	<i>nuq-Daq Duj</i>	question word first
Where am I?	nuqDaq jIH?	<i>nuq-Daq jIH</i>	
Go to the left!	poSDaq yIjaH!	<i>poS-Daq yi-jaH</i>	place noun + <i>-Daq</i> , then command
Go to the right!	nIHdaq yIjaH!	<i>nIH-Daq yi-jaH</i>	
Go to the front!	tlhopDaq yIjaH!	<i>tlhop-Daq yi-jaH</i>	front, ahead
Go to the back!	'emDaq yIjaH!	<i>'em-Daq yi-jaH</i>	

SITUATION	KLINGON	SAY IT	NOTE
You (all) go to the left!	poSDaq tljaH!	poS-Daq ti-jaH	tl- for several
I do not understand	jlyajbe'.	ji-yaj-be'	from Chapter 1
The place nouns:			
PLACE NOUN	MEANING	"TO / AT ..."	
poS	left side	poSDaq	
nIH	right side	nIHDaq	
tlhop	front	tlhopDaq	
'em	area behind	'emDaq	
Dung	area above	DungDaq	
blng	area below	blngDaq	
retlh	area beside	retlhDaq	
"My Left" — Place Nouns Take Possessives			
Because they are nouns, these words can take a possessive before -Daq : poSwIjDaq "to my left". An example in a published article is poSwIjDaq qalegh "I see you to my left". The same logic gives nIHlIjDaq "to your right".			
Verbs of Movement			
This chapter uses one verb, jaH "go", with the prefixes you know: jljaH "I go", bljaH "you go", majaH "we go", and the commands yIjaH! and tljaH! . A verb for "turn" is not covered here because I could not confirm one.			

 **Vocabulary — Vortaro**

20 key words. The **Say it** column shows the syllables.

#	KLINGON	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	nuqDaq	<i>nuq-Daq</i>	where	question
2	poS	<i>poS</i>	left (side)	noun
3	nIH	<i>nIH</i>	right (side)	noun
4	tlhop	<i>tlhop</i>	front	noun
5	'em	<i>'em</i>	area behind	noun
6	Dung	<i>Dung</i>	area above	noun
7	blng	<i>blng</i>	area below	noun
8	retlh	<i>retlh</i>	area beside	noun
9	-Daq	<i>-Daq</i>	at, to (suffix)	suffix
10	jaH	<i>jaH</i>	go	verb
11	yl-	<i>yl-</i>	command prefix (one person)	prefix
12	tl-	<i>tl-</i>	command prefix (several)	prefix
13	naDev	<i>na-Dev</i>	here	adverb
14	pa'	<i>pa'</i>	there	adverb
15	juH	<i>juH</i>	home	noun
16	Duj	<i>Duj</i>	ship	noun
17	Qo'noS	<i>Qo'-noS</i>	Kronos	noun
18	jlyajbe'	<i>ji-yaj-be'</i>	I do not understand	phrase
19	HIja'	<i>HI-ja'</i>	yes	phrase

#	KLINGON	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
20	ghobe'	gho-be'	no	phrase

Culture — Never Admit You Are Lost

A Klingon does not say "I am lost". They say **nuqDaq jIH?** "where am I?", in the tone of someone asking the ground to explain itself. The correct reply is a loud, short answer and a pointing arm. If you are the one answering, **Qapla'!** is the usual send-off.

Reading — LaD

A short text using only words you know.

nuqDaq Duj? poSDaq yIjaH! tIhopDaq yIjaH! naDev Duj. Qapla'!

Where is the ship? Go to the left! Go to the front! The ship is here. Success!

True or false? (a) The speaker asks where the ship is. (b) The first direction is to the right. (c) The ship is there. (d) The speaker says "success".

▼ Show answers

(a) True. (b) False: **poSDaq** is left. (c) False: **naDev** is "here". (d) True: **Qapla'!**

Try It Yourself — Ekzercoj

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Ask where the ship is, and answer "there".

▼ Show answer

nuqDaq Duj? · pa'.

2. Tell one person to go to the right and a group to go to the left.

▼ Show answer

nIHDaq yIjaH! · poSDaq tIjaH!

3. Say "I go below" and "we go above".

▼ Show answer

bIngDaq jIjaH. · DungDaq majaH.

4. Say "to my left" and "to your right".

▼ Show answer

poSwIjDaq · nIHlIjDaq

5. Say "I do not understand. Where is Kronos?".

▼ Show answer

jIyajbe'. nuqDaq Qo'noS?

6. Order a friend to go to the front, and say "the warrior is behind".

▼ Show answer

tlhopDaq yIjaH! · 'emDaq SuvwI'.

Coming Up in Chapter 11

Quarters and lodging: a room, a bed, a door, asking for quarters on a visit, and what you need.

Klingon Basic Conversation 1

Chapter 11 · Quarters & Lodging

Quarters & Lodging — pa'

The usual "hotel" chapter becomes a chapter about quarters, as agreed in the outline. By the end of this chapter you will be able to ask for a room and a bed, say how many nights you need, ask where the door or the washroom is, and say what you need with the suffix **-nIS** from Klingon Grammar 1, Chapter 6. Everything uses patterns you already know: object, then verb, with the prefix naming who does what.

① I Want a Room — pa' vIneH

A:

nuqneH.

What do you want?

B:

pa' vIneH.

I want a room.

A:

pa' 'ar DaneH?

How many rooms do you want?

B:

wa' pa'.

One room.

② How Many Nights? — ram 'ar?

A:

ram 'ar bIQong?

How many nights do you sleep?

B:

wej ram jIQong.

I sleep three nights.

A:

majQa'.

Well done.

③ A Bed — QongDaq vIghajnIS

A:

QongDaq Daghajnis'a'?

Do you need a bed?

B:

HIja'. QongDaq vIghajnIS.

④ Where Is the Door? — lojmlt nuqDaq?

A:

lojmlt nuqDaq?

Where is the door?

B:

nIHdaq.

Yes. I need a bed.

A:

Qapla'.

Success.

To the right.

A:

nIHDAQ yIjaH! puchpa' poSDaq.

Go to the right! The washroom is to the left.

⑤ The Hotel — mebpa'Daq

A:

nuqDaq mebpa'?

Where is the hotel?

B:

pa'. mebpa'Daq maQong.

There. We sleep at the hotel.

A:

QaQ.

Good.

⑥ The Officers' Quarters — yaS pa'

A:

yaS pa' vIneH.

I want the officers' quarters.

B:

yaS SoH'a'?

Are you an officer?

A:

ghobe'. SuvwI' jIH. 'ach yaS pa'

vIneH!

No. I am a warrior. But I want the officers' quarters!

Key Phrases — Gravaj Hol

Klingon has *no formal and informal "you"*, and no "please". The table shows the blunt forms.

SITUATION	KLINGON	SAY IT	NOTE
I want a room	pa' vIneH.	pa' vi-neH	
How many rooms?	pa' 'ar DaneH?	pa' 'ar Da-neH	'ar as in Chapter 3
I sleep three nights	wej ram jIQong.	wej ram ji-Qong	number + noun
I need a bed	QongDaq vlghajnlS.	Qong-Daq vi-ghaj-nlS	-nlS "need" on the verb

SITUATION	KLINGON	SAY IT	NOTE
Where is the door?	lojmlt nuqDaq?	loj-mlt nuq-Daq	
We sleep at the hotel	mebpa'Daq maQong.	meb-pa'-Daq ma-Qong	place + -Daq
I do not need a room	pa' vlghajnlSbe'.	pa' vi-ghaj-nlS-be'	-be' after -nlS

Three verbs with the prefixes you know:

VERB	I	YOU	WE
Qong (sleep)	jlQong	blQong	maQong
ghaj (have) + object	vlghaj	Daghaj	wlghaj
neH (want) + object	vlneH	DaneH	wlneH

Build It — Room Compounds

pa' "room" joins another noun to name a kind of room: **yaS pa'** "officers' quarters" (officer + room), **puchpa'** "washroom", **mebpa'** "hotel" (a room-for-strangers word), **SopmeH pa'** "dining room" (*Sop* "eat" + *-meH* "for the purpose of"; Klingon Grammar 1, Chapter 9). That last one answers a question from Chapter 8: it is the nearest thing to a "feast hall" I found.

-nlS — Saying What You Need

The suffix **-nlS** "need" goes on the verb: **vlghajnlS** "I need to have it". Put **-be'** after it for "do not need": **vlghajnlSbe'**. It is the only way to say "need" in this chapter, and it is suffix group 2, so it comes before **-be'** and before any question suffix.

Vocabulary — Vortaro

20 key words. The **Say it** column shows the syllables.

#	KLINGON	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	pa'	pa'	room	noun
2	lojmlt	loj-mlt	door, gate	noun
3	QongDaq	Qong-Daq	bed	noun
4	mebpa'	meb-pa'	hotel	noun
5	yaS pa'	yaS pa'	officers' quarters	noun
6	SopmeH pa'	Sop-meH pa'	dining room	noun
7	puchpa'	puch-pa'	washroom	noun
8	Qong	Qong	sleep	verb
9	ghaj	ghaj	have	verb
10	neH	neH	want	verb
11	-nIS	-nIS	need (suffix)	suffix
12	ram	ram	night	noun
13	jaj	jaj	day	noun
14	nuqDaq	nuq-Daq	where	question
15	-Daq	-Daq	at, to (suffix)	suffix
16	'ar	'ar	how many	question
17	QaQ	QaQ	be good	adj
18	-be'	-be'	not (suffix)	suffix
19	HIja'	HI-ja'	yes	phrase
20	ghobe'	gho-be'	no	phrase

Culture — Rank Decides the Bed

Quarters follow rank. A warrior who asks for the officers' quarters has to be ready to defend the request, in the Klingon way. A visitor with no standing is lucky to get a room at all, and even more lucky if the bed is the right length.

Reading — LaD

A short text using only words you know.

wa' pa' vIneH. wej ram jIQong. QongDaq vIghajnIS. lojmIt nIHDaq. QaQ!

I want one room. I sleep three nights. I need a bed. The door is to the right. Good!

True or false? (a) The speaker wants two rooms. (b) The speaker sleeps three nights. (c) The speaker needs a bed. (d) The door is to the left.

▼ Show answers

(a) False: **wa' pa'** is one room. (b) True. (c) True: **QongDaq vIghajnIS**. (d) False: **nIHDaq** is right.

Try It Yourself — Ekzercoj

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Say "I want a room" and "I need a bed".

▼ Show answer

pa' vIneH. · QongDaq vIghajnIS.

2. Say "I sleep two nights" and ask someone how many nights they sleep.

▼ Show answer

cha' ram jIQong. · ram 'ar bIQong?

3. Ask where the door is and where the hotel is.

▼ Show answer

lojmIt nuqDaq? · nuqDaq mebpa'?

4. Say "I do not need a room".

▼ Show answer

pa' vIghajnISbe'.

5. Say "we sleep at the hotel".

▼ Show answer

mebpa'Daq maQong.

6. Use *-meH* to name a "dining room" (*Sop* + *-meH* + *pa'*).

▼ Show answer

SopmeH pa'

Coming Up in Chapter 12

Travel: ships, docks and tickets, **-pa'** and **-DI'** clauses in use, and the Course Complete recap.

Klingon Basic Conversation 1

Chapter 12 · Travel: Ships, Docks & Tickets



Travel: Ships, Docks & Tickets — Duj

The last chapter adapts the usual train-station chapter to a ship, as agreed in the outline. By the end you will be able to say where you go, arrive and leave, and tie two actions together with **-DI'** "when" and **-pa'** "before" (Klingon Grammar 1, Chapter 9). There is no ticket office in this chapter: I could not confirm Klingon words for "ticket" or "dock", and I would rather leave a gap than invent one.

① Where Do You Go? — nuqDaq bIjaH?

A:

nuqDaq bIjaH?

Where do you go?

B:

Qo'noSDaq jIjaH.

I go to Kronos.

A:

Qapla'!

Success!

② The Ship Leaves — Duj mej

A:

Duj mej'a'?

Does the ship leave?

B:

HIja'. wa'leS Duj mej.

Yes. Tomorrow the ship leaves.

A:

tera' rep 'ar?

At what hour?

B:

tera' rep jav.

At hour 6.

③ Arriving — Duj vIpaw

A:

Duj vIpaw.

I arrive at the ship.

B:

majQa'. pa' Duj.

Well done. The ship is there.

④ When I Arrive — vIpawDI'

A:

Qo'noS vIpawDI', Soj vISop.

When I arrive at Kronos, I eat.

B:

Soj? QaQ!

Food? Good!

A:

Qapla'.

Success.

A:

'Tw HIq vItlhutlh.

I drink bloodwine.

⑤ Before I Go — jljaHpa'

A:

DujDaq jljaHpa', pa' vIQong.

Before I go to the ship, I sleep there.

B:

ram 'ar bIQong?

How many nights do you sleep?

A:

cha' ram jIQong.

I sleep two nights.

⑥ Farewell — majQa'

A:

wa'leS jIleng. maj ram.

Tomorrow I travel. Good night.

B:

Qapla'! Heghlu'meH QaQ jajvam.

Success! Today is a good day to die.

A:

majQa'.

Well done.

Key Phrases — Gravaj Hol

Klingon has **no formal and informal "you"**, so the table shows one form.

SITUATION	KLINGON	SAY IT	NOTE
Where do you go?	nuqDaq bljaH?	nuq-Daq bi-jaH	
I go to Kronos	Qo'noSDaq jljaH.	Qo'-noS-Daq ji-jaH	place + -Daq
The ship leaves	Duj mej.	Duj mej	
I arrive at the ship	Duj vlpaw.	Duj vi-paw	the place arrived at is the object
When I arrive ...	vlpawDI' ...	vi-paw-DI'	-DI' "when", last on the verb
Before I go ...	jljaHpa' ...	ji-jaH-pa'	-pa' "before"
Tomorrow I travel	wa'leS jIleng.	wa'-leS ji-leng	time word first

Three verbs of travel with the prefixes you know:

VERB	I	YOU	WE
jaH (go)	jljaH	bljaH	majaH
leng (travel)	jlleng	bleng	maleng
paw (arrive at it)	vlpaw	Dapaw	wlpaw

Two Actions in One Sentence — -DI' and -pa'

Both suffixes are group 9, so they come last on the verb. **vIpawDI'** "when I arrive" starts the sentence and the main clause follows after a comma: **Qo'noS vIpawDI', Soj vISop**. The same applies to **-pa'** "before". Klingon has no tense, so the order of the clauses and the time words show when things happen.

Vocabulary — Vortaro

20 key words. The **Say it** column shows the syllables.

#	KLINGON	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	Duj	<i>Duj</i>	ship	noun
2	jaH	<i>jaH</i>	go	verb
3	leng	<i>leng</i>	travel	verb
4	paw	<i>paw</i>	arrive at	verb
5	mej	<i>mej</i>	leave, depart	verb
6	ghoS	<i>ghoS</i>	proceed, approach	verb
7	-DI'	<i>-DI'</i>	when (suffix)	suffix
8	-pa'	<i>-pa'</i>	before (suffix)	suffix

#	KLINGON	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
9	-Daq	-Daq	to, at (suffix)	suffix
10	nuqDaq	nuq-Daq	where	question
11	wa'leS	wa'-leS	tomorrow	adverb
12	wa'Hu'	wa'-Hu'	yesterday	adverb
13	DaHjaj	DaH-jaj	today	adverb
14	rep	rep	hour	noun
15	Qo'noS	Qo'-noS	Kronos	noun
16	pa'	pa'	there	adverb
17	naDev	na-Dev	here	adverb
18	majQa'	maj-Qa'	well done	phrase
19	Qapla'	Qap-la'	success	phrase
20	maj ram	maj ram	good night	phrase

Culture — The Journey Is Part of the Honour

A Klingon does not talk about "getting there". Departure is a vow and arrival is a result: **Qapla'!** is said both ways. If a ship leaves, the crew expects to come back with a story, or not at all.



Reading — LaD

A short text using only words you know.

wa'leS Duj mej. Qo'noSDaq jIjaH. Qo'noS vIpawDI', 'Iw HIq vItlhutlh. Qapla'!

Tomorrow the ship leaves. I go to Kronos. When I arrive at Kronos, I drink bloodwine. Success!

True or false? (a) The ship leaves today. (b) The speaker goes to Kronos. (c) The speaker drinks water on arrival. (d) The text ends with "success".

▼ Show answers

(a) False: **wa'leS** is tomorrow. (b) True. (c) False: **'Iw HIq** is bloodwine. (d) True: **Qapla'!**



Try It Yourself — Ekzercoj

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Ask where someone goes, and say you go to Kronos.

▼ Show answer

nuqDaq bIjaH? · Qo'noSDaq jIjaH.

2. Say "the ship leaves tomorrow at hour 6".

▼ Show answer

wa'leS tera' rep jav Duj mej.

3. Say "when I arrive at the ship, I sleep".

▼ Show answer

Duj vIpawDI', jIQong.

4. Say "before I go to Kronos, I eat".

▼ Show answer

Qo'noSDaq jIjaHpa', Soj vISop.

5. Say "we travel tomorrow".

▼ Show answer

wa'leS maleng.

6. Say goodbye the Klingon way (use two phrases from Chapter 1).

▼ Show answer

Qapla'! · Heghlu'meH QaQ jajvam.

❏ Course Complete — Qapla'!

You have finished Klingon Basic Conversation 1. Here is what you can now do:

CHAPTER	YOU CAN ...
1 Greetings & Farewells	say nuqneH , Qapla' , majQa' , yes and no
2 Introducing Yourself	give a name and say what you are with noun + pronoun
3 Numbers, Age & Counting	count, and tell your age with ben
4 Where You're From	use -Daq and -vo'
5 Family & House	name relatives with -wl' and -ll'
6 Your Work	name roles with -wl'
7 Days, Dates & Telling the Time	say today, tomorrow, and the hour
8 Food & Drink	want, eat and drink, and command
9 Trade & Prices	buy, sell, ask the price
10 Directions	ask and give directions
11 Quarters & Lodging	ask for a room and say what you need
12 Travel	go, arrive, leave and link two clauses

Coming Up — Klingon Basic Conversation 2

The next course builds on this one with longer conversations, more vocabulary (engineer, healer, clerk, days of the week, a ticket office) and the full question words. Take your **Qapla'** with you.