

M i s c e l l a n e a

Maciej Klimiuk

Heidelberg University

klimiuk.maciej@gmail.com | ORCID 0000-0003-4936-350X

Language Questionnaire for Gozo, Malta

Abstract The questionnaire presented here was designed to collect linguistic data in Gozitan dialects, which are classified as rural dialects of the Maltese language. It consists of three parts: lexical, phonological and morphological. Since a particular feature of the Gozitan dialects are pausal forms involving diphthongisation of etymologically long vowels (**i* and **ū*), attention is directed towards contextual as well as pausal data acquisition. In the morphological part, the issues concerning verbs are mainly expanded, while in the phonological part, those concerning the realisation of vowels. With minor modifications, the questionnaire can also be used to conduct field research on dialects of the island of Malta.

Keywords dialectology, field research, Gozo, Gozitan dialects, Malta, Maltese, Maltese dialectology, Semitic dialectology

One of the preliminary tasks for dialectological fieldwork is the preparation of a questionnaire according to its purpose. Subsequently, its implementation allows to verify first of all the expected methods of interviewing, data collection and in general the very validity of their design. Usually, the first field research is only a prelude to further improving and revising of the first version of the linguistic questionnaire.

Publication of language questionnaires for Arabic dialect research is not a common practice. Caubet (2000–2001) published a general questionnaire for the research on North African Arabic dialects, based primarily on earlier studies by researchers such as Jean Cantineau, David Cohen, Marcel Cohen, Georges S. Colin, Philippe Marçais and William Marçais. Caubet's questionnaire is a collection of the most important features of North African dialects and a peculiar set of questions which should become a starting point for the design of an individual questionnaire. This one, however, should not omit any of the questions posed by Caubet.

The three questionnaires published in *Arabic Dialectology: Methodology and Field Research* (Arnold and Klimiuk 2019) take a markedly different approach from Caubet's questionnaire. Behnstedt (2019b) implemented the first questionnaire during his research in Syria collecting data for a language atlas. His second questionnaire also has an analogical purpose (Behnstedt 2019a). In the latter case, it was used to prepare a language atlas of northern Morocco, the work on which Behnstedt describes more extensively along with selected maps elsewhere (Behnstedt 2022). The third published questionnaire prepared by Behnstedt and Woidich (2019) is probably the best known to dialectologists of Arabic language. It served to collect lexis that was then used to some extent in their four-volume atlas *Wortatlas der arabischen Dialekte* (Behnstedt and Woidich 2011; 2012; 2014; 2021). Unfortunately, Behnstedt's other questionnaires known to exist, such as those for the study of Yemeni or Egyptian Arabic dialects, have not been found years later.

In 2018, I prepared the first version of the questionnaire presented here as a preliminary step in the ongoing research on Gozitan dialects conducted with Maria Lipnicka. It was my assumption that the questionnaire would be used during field research in each Gozitan locality in order to collect linguistic data, which would then form the basis for the preparation of a language atlas of Gozo and grammatical descriptions of selected dialects.

For the first version of the questionnaire, in addition to a number of phonological, morphological and lexical issues, I also added all the lexemes from the work *A Survey of Contemporary Dialectal Maltese. Volume I: Gozo*, part 'Summary of Transcriptions of Words in Questionnaire' (Aquilina and Isserlin 1980: 69–99). As we have already found out in the course of our research, the University of Malta also has an original questionnaire, entitled 'Malta-Leeds Dialect Survey: Phonological Questionnaire'. Essentially it is identical to what is shown in Aquilina and Isserlin's survey and consists of 115 lexemes. The differences are only

due to a different way of translating certain words, which it seemed methodologically appropriate to re-check.¹

Subsequently, I implemented the questionnaire with Lipnicka during our first field research in Gozo (2019) within the framework of the project ‘GozoDia: Gemeinschaftsorientierte dialektologische Studien zur Sprachdynamik der Insel Gozo (Malta)’ [‘GozoDia: Community-oriented dialectological studies on the linguistic dynamics of the island of Gozo (Malta)’]. The questionnaire, however, turned out to be too extensive. Hence, we decided to use it in its entirety by first questioning speakers in three Gozitan localities, Gharb, Sannat and Ir-Rabat (Wara San Franġisk)

¹ I give here all 115 words from Aquilina and Isserlin’s ‘Phonological Questionnaire’ as they are given in their study (1980: 69–99). However, where additional information appears next to a word in square brackets, this is the original notation from the printed version of the questionnaire used by them (?) during their fieldwork on Gozo in the 1970s. Their questionnaire includes the following lexemes: 1 *fin* ‘delicate, fine’ [‘refined’], 2 *gibs* ‘chalk’, 3 *sibt* ‘I found’ (*Sibt* ‘Saturday’) [*Sibt* ‘Saturday’], 4 *gib* ‘bring!’, 5 *xena* ‘scene’, 6 *dehra* ‘scene, appearance’ [‘appearance’], 7 *xeghel* ‘he lighted, he put on light’ [‘he lighted’], 8 *elf* ‘thousand’, 9 *serp* ‘snake’, 10 *ċar* ‘clear’, 11 *ċagħaq* ‘pebbles’, 12 *xahar* ‘month’, 13 *xagħar* ‘hair’, 14 *ċatt* ‘shallow, plain, flat’ [‘flat’], 15 *ċass* ‘staring fixedly’ [‘fixed stars’], 16 *kok* ‘cook’, 17 *soru* ‘nun’, 18 *xogħol* ‘work’, 19 *gozz* ‘heap’ [‘pile’], 20 *hoss* ‘sound’, 21 *sur* ‘bastion’, 22 *kul* ‘eat!’, 23 *kull* ‘every’, 24 *dawl* ‘light’, 25 *Għawdex* ‘Gozo’, 26 *għawm* ‘swimming’, 27 *raw* ‘they saw’, 28 *rgħaw* ‘they grazed’, 29 *sew* ‘good, well’ [‘good’], 30 *sewwa* ‘good, well’ [‘good’], 31 *liwja* ‘bent’ [‘a curve’], 32 *kiwja* ‘a burn’, 33 *ħajt* ‘wall’, 34 *ħajt* ‘a thread’ [‘thread’], 35 *għajta* ‘a shout’, 36 *rgħajt* ‘I grazed’, 37 *rajt* ‘I saw’, 38 *bejt* ‘roof’, 39 *xejn* ‘nothing’, 40 *bghid* ‘distant, far’ [‘sending’], 41 *wied* ‘valley’, 42 *siegha* ‘hour’, 43 *triq* ‘street’, 44 *Qammieħ* ‘place-name in Malta’, 45 *dqiq* ‘flour’, 46 *bdil* ‘change’, 47 *bħajra* ‘melon crop’ [‘melon crops’], 48 *blat* ‘rock’ [‘rocks’], 49 *brija* ‘dandruff’, 50 *bżar* ‘pepper’, 51 *ċfuf* ‘bows’ [‘ribbons’], 52 *dhul* ‘entry’, 53 *fdat* ‘trusted’, 54 *fħula* ‘stallions’, 55 *fniek* ‘rabbits’, 56 *għdid* ‘new’, 57 *għiedem* ‘chins’ [‘snouts’], 58 *gżira* ‘island’, 59 *ħbit* ‘attack, striking’ [‘beating’], 60 *ħkik* ‘scratching, grated cheese’ [‘grating’], 61 *ħquq* ‘rights’, 62 *ħtija* ‘guilt’, 63 *kbir* ‘big’ [‘great’], 64 (*l*)*lbies* ‘clothes’ [*lbies* ‘dress’], 65 (*l*)*lħit* ‘chin’ [*lħit*], 66 (*l*)*lsien* ‘tongue’ [*lħit*], 67 *Mdina* ‘the old capital of Malta’, 68 (*m*)*mħuh* ‘minds’ [*mħuh* ‘brains’], 69 (*m*)*mkebbba* ‘spinning-wheel’ [*mkebbba* ‘a reel’], 70 (*m*)*mqieghed* ‘placed’ [*mqieghed*], 71 (*m*)*mqietgħa* ‘work-piece’ [*mqietgħa* ‘piece work’], 72 (*n*)*nbiet* ‘sprouts’ [*nbiet*], 73 (*n*)*ngħib* ‘I bring’ [*ngħib*], 74 (*n*)*nkejja* ‘spite’ [*nkejja*], 75 (*n*)*nkwiet* ‘trouble’ [*nkwiet* ‘worry’], 76 (*n*)*ntiena* ‘stink’ [*ntiena* ‘stench’], 77 *qbiela* ‘land rent’ [‘rent’], 78 *qliegħ* ‘profit’, 79 *qsaset* ‘round cheese-cakes’, 80 *qzieqez* ‘pigs’, 81 (*r*)*rdum* ‘ruins’ [*rdum* ‘precipice’], 82 (*r*)*rkoppa* ‘knee’ [*rkoppa*], 83 *skiet* ‘silence’, 84 *smin* ‘fat’ [‘stout’], 85 *żmerald* ‘emerald’, 86 *sriep* ‘snakes’, 87 *tħatija* ‘sufferance’ [‘suffering’], 88 *tħellem* ‘he spoke’, 89 *tħieta* ‘three’, 90 *tħejn* ‘two’, 91 *xbiek* ‘nets’ [‘net’], 92 *xmiel* ‘North’, 93 *xmara* ‘river’, 94 *zħib* ‘raisins’, 95 *zħieg* ‘glass, pane’ [‘glass’], 96 *zħarr* ‘rough’ [‘rude’], 97 *ħjut* ‘roofs’, 98 *dħar* ‘houses’, 99 *għwienah* ‘wings’, 100 *għwerra* ‘war’, 101 *ħjut* ‘threads’, 102 (*l*)*ljun* ‘lion’ [*ljun*], 103 (*l*)*lwien* ‘colours’ [*lwien*], 104 *mħwerreċ* ‘squint’ [‘squint-eyed’], 105 *pħjan* ‘plan’, 106 *qħwiel* ‘proverbs’ [‘sayings’], 107 *sħajf* ‘summer’, 108 *sħejf* ‘sword’, 109 *tħewm* ‘garlic’, 110 *denb* ‘tail’, 111 *tarf* ‘end’, 112 *dħell* ‘shadow’, 113 *dħiqa* ‘sorrow’ [‘anguish’], 114 *ħanaq* ‘he throttled, he choked’ [‘he throttled’], 115 *għamel* ‘he made’.

which presumably represent different dialect groups of the island, and only partially in several other localities. The data thus collected in three different dialects were then juxtaposed in order to correct and improve the first version of the questionnaire, as well as to discard some lexemes taken from Aquilina and Isserlin's questionnaire. The latter turned out to be mostly unknown to our speakers in their dialects or do occur, according to them, only in standard Maltese.² This resulted in a second revised version of the questionnaire in 2019, which, after few small corrections, is presented in full length below.

However, it is worth emphasising that the data gathering by means of such an extensive questionnaire enabled us, above all, to highlight some of the most interesting features of the Gozitan dialects as well as to draw major differences between them. Following this, I have prepared another short questionnaire with the sole purpose of data collection for the language atlas of Gozo.

The questionnaire presented here consists of three parts: lexicographic, phonological and morphological. Naturally, some elements in the questionnaire are intertwined, and some may even be repeated. Thus, lexemes collected in the lexical part may later be used to work on phonological or morphological issues. This is the case, for example, with *tafxim* (*išmām*), which is not covered in the phonology section because forms in which the shift **ā* to *o/u* occurs appear in many other parts of the questionnaire.

Since the main characteristic of Gozitan dialects is diphthongisation in *pausa* (Borg 1977; Klimiuk and Farrugia 2022; Klimiuk and Lipnicka 2022; Lipnicka 2017; 2022a; 2022b), the way speakers are interviewed is therefore particularly relevant. It was therefore crucial to prepare adequately for each recording session in order to register as many forms as

² Rejected words include: 5 *xena* 'scene', 6 *dehra* 'scene, appearance' ['appearance'], 16 *kok* 'cook', 17 *soru* 'nun', 28 *rġhaw* 'they grazed', 31 *liwja* 'bent' ['a curve'], 32 *kiwja* 'a burn', 36 *rġajt* 'I grazed', 44 *Qammieh* 'place-name in Malta', 46 *bdi* 'change', 49 *brija* 'dandruff', 51 *ċfuf* 'bows' ['ribbons'], 52 *dhul* 'entry', 59 *ħbit* 'attack, striking' ['beating'], 60 *ħkik* 'scratching, grated cheese' ['grating'], 61 *ħquq* 'rights', 62 *ħtija* 'guilt', 67 *Mdina* 'the old capital of Malta', 70 (*i*)*mġieghed* 'placed' [*mġieghed*], 71 (*i*)*mġietġha* 'work-piece' [*mġietġha* 'piece work'], 72 (*i*)*nbiet* 'sprouts' [*nbiet*], 74 (*i*)*nkejja* 'spite' [*nkejja*], 75 (*i*)*nkwiet* 'trouble' [*nkwiet* 'worry'], 76 (*i*)*ntiena* 'stink' [*ntiena* 'stench'], 77 *qbiela* 'land rent' ['rent'], 78 *qlieġh* 'profit', 81 (*i*)*rdum* 'ruins' [*rdum* 'precipice'], 83 *skiet* 'silence', 85 *żmerald* 'emerald', 87 *tbatija* 'sufferance' ['suffering'], 102 (*i*)*ljun* 'lion' [*ljun*], 104 *mwerreċ* 'squint' ['squint-eyed'], 105 *pjan* 'plan', 106 *qwi* 'proverbs' ['sayings'], 113 *diqa* 'sorrow' ['anguish'].

possible in both context and *pausa* (Klimiuk and Lipnicka 2019). However, this was not always achieved and frequently some words were recorded only in pausal forms.

The following abbreviations appear in the questionnaire:

+	as well as
#	pausal form
>	turns into
→	see
!	imperative
AI	Aquilina and Isserlin's 'Phonological Questionnaire'
coll.	collective noun
dl.	dual
f.	feminine singular
imp.	imperative
imper.	imperfect
m.	masculine singular
pl.	plural
per.	perfect
sg.	singular
sin.	singulative noun

If the abbreviation 'AI' appears next to a word followed by a number, it indicates a word that is found in Aquilina and Isserlin's 'Malta-Leeds Dialect Survey: Phonological Questionnaire'.

If '+' appears next to a word, ask also about the plural (+ pl.), feminine (+ f.) or dual (+ dl.). If there is an abbreviation 'coll.' or/and 'sin.' next to a word, give a collective or/and singulative form of a noun. In general, each verb should be checked for the 3rd person masculine singular in the perfect and/or imperfect. If forms for other persons have to be given as well, they are listed after '+', with an indication if it is the perfect and/or imperfect. Some verbs require the complete conjugation to be checked, hence tables appear next to them. The same applies to some nouns with pronominal suffixes, genitive exponent or personal pronouns.

Additional comments and remarks are in regular brackets. The questionnaire is available in English and standard Maltese, but it is recommended to avoid interviewing speakers in standard Maltese (Klimiuk and Lipnicka 2019).

References

- Aquilina, Joseph, and B.S.J. Isserlin. 1981. *A Survey of Contemporary Dialectal Maltese. Volume I: Gozo*. Leeds: B.S.J. Isserlin.
- Arnold, Werner, and Maciej Klimiuk, eds. 2019. *Arabic Dialectology: Methodology and Field Research*. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz.
- Behnstedt, Peter. 2019a. 'Questionnaire for Morocco'. In *Arabic Dialectology: Methodology and Field Research*, edited by Werner Arnold and Maciej Klimiuk, 263–289. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz.
- Behnstedt, Peter. 2019b. 'Questionnaire for Syria'. In *Arabic Dialectology: Methodology and Field Research*, edited by Werner Arnold and Maciej Klimiuk, 241–261. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz.
- Behnstedt, Peter. 2022. 'Projekt eines Dialektatlas von Nordmarokko'. In *Semitic Dialects and Dialectology. Fieldwork—Community—Change*, edited by Maciej Klimiuk, 147–181. Heidelberg: Heidelberg University Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.17885/heiup.859.c13959>.
- Behnstedt, Peter, and Manfred Woidich. 2011. *Wortatlas der arabischen Dialekte. Band I: Mensch, Natur, Fauna und Flora*. Handbook of Oriental Studies. Section 1: The Near and Middle East 100/1. Leiden and Boston: Brill.
- Behnstedt, Peter, and Manfred Woidich. 2012. *Wortatlas der arabischen Dialekte. Band II: Materielle Kultur*. Handbook of Oriental Studies. Section 1: The Near and Middle East 100/2. Leiden and Boston: Brill.
- Behnstedt, Peter, and Manfred Woidich. 2014. *Wortatlas der arabischen Dialekte. Band III: Verben, Adjektive, Zeit und Zahlen*. Handbook of Oriental Studies. Section 1: The Near and Middle East 100/3. Leiden and Boston: Brill.
- Behnstedt, Peter, and Manfred Woidich. 2019. 'Questionnaire for the *Wortatlas der Arabischen Dialekte*'. In *Arabic Dialectology: Methodology and Field Research*, edited by Werner Arnold and Maciej Klimiuk, 291–301. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz.
- Behnstedt, Peter, and Manfred Woidich. 2021. *Wortatlas der arabischen Dialekte. Band IV: Funktionswörter, Adverbien, Phraseologisches: eine Auswahl*. Handbook of Oriental Studies. Section 1: The Near and Middle East 100/4. Leiden and Boston: Brill.
- Borg, Alexander. 1977. 'Reflexes of Pausal Forms in Maltese Rural Dialects?' *Israel Oriental Studies* 7: 211–225.
- Caubet, Dominique. 2000–2001. 'Questionnaire de dialectologie du Maghreb (d'après les travaux de W. Marçais, M. Cohen, G.S. Colin, J. Cantineau, D. Cohen, Ph. Marçais, etc.)'. *Estudios de dialectología norteafricana y andalusí* 5: 73–92.
- Klimiuk, Maciej, and Ruben Farrugia. 2022. 'A Text in the Maltese Dialect of Sannat (Gozo) with Grammatical Remarks'. In *Semitic Dialects and Dialectology: Fieldwork—Community—Change*, edited by Maciej Klimiuk, 381–396. Heidelberg: Heidelberg University Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.17885/heiup.859.c13975>.
- Klimiuk, Maciej, and Maria Lipnicka. 2019. 'Dialectology in Practice: Notes from Fieldwork in Gozo'. In *Arabic Dialectology: Methodology and Field Research*, edited by Werner Arnold and Maciej Klimiuk, 23–32. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz.
- Klimiuk, Maciej, and Maria Lipnicka. 2022 (Forthcoming). 'Gozitan Dialect of Xewkija: Three Recorded Dialogues and Some Preliminary Remarks'. *The Israel Oriental Studies Annual* 22.
- Lipnicka, Maria. 2017. 'Pausalformen in den maltesischen Dialekten der Insel Gozo'. Master's thesis, Heidelberg: Universität Heidelberg.

- Lipnicka, Maria. 2022a. 'Pausal Diphthongisation in Gozitan Dialects Compared to Zahlé, Lebanon'. In *Semitic Dialects and Dialectology: Fieldwork—Community—Change*, edited by Maciej Klimiuk, 229–241. Heidelberg: Heidelberg University Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.17885/heiup.859.c13963>.
- Lipnicka, Maria. 2022b. 'The Dialect of Gharb, Gozo/Malta'. PhD Thesis, Heidelberg: Heidelberg University.

Acknowledgements

The publication of the questionnaire has been supported by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) under the programme 'Kleine Fächer – Große Potenziale' through the project 'GozoDia: Gemeinschaftsorientierte dialektologische Studien zur Sprachdynamik der Insel Gozo (Malta)', grant no. 01UL1834X (2018–2021).

Questionnaire

1 Lexicon

1.1 People and family

people, *nies* (ask ‘people say’, ‘people came’, ‘stupid people’)
 father, *missier* (ask ‘my father’)
 mother (+ pl.), *omm* pl. *ommijiet*
 brother (+ pl.), *ħu* pl. *aħwa*
 sister (+ pl.), *oħt* pl. *aħwa* (ask ‘my sister’)
 woman (+ pl.), *mara* pl. *nisa*
 wife (+ pl.), *mara* pl. *nisa* (ask ‘my wife’)
 husband (+ pl.), e.g. *żewg* pl. *żwieg*, *raġel* pl. *rġiel*, *raġel tiegħi*, etc.
 grandmother, *nanna*
 grandfather, *nannu*
 maternal uncle, *ziju*
 aunt, *zija*
 partner, companion (+ f., pl.), e.g. *sieħeb*, *ħabib*, *gharus*, etc.

1.2 Body parts

chin (+ pl.), *geddum* pl. *gdiedem* AI 57, *ħhit* AI 65
 beard (+ pl.), *leħja* pl. *leħjiet*
 brain, mind (+ pl.), *moħħ* pl. *mħuħ* AI 68
 mouth, *ħalq*
 nose, *mnieħer* (ask ‘my nose’, ‘your [sg.] nose’, ‘his nose’, ‘her nose’)
 throat (+ pl.), *gerżuma* pl. *grieżem*
 tooth (+ pl.), *sinna* pl. *snien*
 tongue, *lsien* AI 66
 face (+ pl.), *wicċ* pl. *uċuħ*
 head (+ pl.), *ras* pl. *rjus* (ask ‘my head’, ‘your [sg.] head’, ‘his head’, ‘her head’, ‘our heads’, ‘your [pl.] heads’, ‘their heads’)
 forehead (+ pl.), e.g. *għbin* pl. *għbien/igħbna*, *moħħ* pl. *mħuħ*
 eyebrow (+ pl.), e.g. *suf ta’ għajnejja*, *xagħar ta’ għajnejja*, *ħaġeb*, etc. (the word *ħaġeb* is probably unknown)
 neck, *għonq*
 arm, *driegħ*
 elbow, *minkeb*
 knee (+ pl.), *rkoppa* pl. *rkoppiet* AI 82 (is pl. used as pseudodual?)

leg (+ dl., pl.), e.g. *sieq, riġel*
 foot (+ dl., pl.), e.g. *sieq, riġel*
 sole of the foot, *qieġh*
 heel of the foot, *għarqub*
 anklebone, *għaksa*
 bones (coll., sin.), *għadam* sin. *għadma*
 bump on the head, *gundalla* (is *g* or *k* in an onset?)
 finger (+ pl.), *seba'/saba'/suba'* pl. *swaba*
 fingernail (+ pl.), *difer* pl. *dwiefer*

1.3 Plants, fruits, vegetables

fruits (coll., sin.), *frott* sin. *frotta*
 peaches (coll., sin.), *ħawħ* sin. *ħawħa* (is *ħ* realised as [x] or [ħ]?)
 apricots (coll., sin.), *berquq* sin. *berquqa*
 melon crop, melon field, *bħajra* AI 47
 melons (coll., sin.), *bettieħ* sin. *bettieħa*
 watermelons (coll., sin.), *dullieħ* sin. *dullieħa*
 oranges (coll., sin.), *laring* sin. *laringa*
 lemons (coll., sin.), *lumi* sin. *lumija*
 pears (coll., sin.), *langas* sin. *langasa*
 apples (coll., sin.), *tuffieħ* sin. *tuffieħa*
 grapes (coll., sin.), *għeneb* sin. *għenba*
 dates (coll., sin.), *tamal* sin. *tamla* (*tamal* or *tamar*?)
 carrots (coll., sin., pl.), e.g. *zunnarija, sfunnarija, karrotta* pl. *karrotti*, etc.
 onions (coll., sin.), *basal* sin. *basla*
 (fresh) tomatoes (coll., sin.), *tadam* sin. *tadama*
 (dried) tomatoes (coll., sin.), *tadam imqadded* sin. *tadama mqadda*
 olives (coll., sin.), *żebbuġ* sin. *żebbuġa*
 pumpkins, marrows, courgettes (coll., sin.), *qara'* sin. *qargħa*, e.g. *qargħa ħamra, qarabagħli*, etc.
 lentils (coll., sin.), *għads* sin. *għadsa*
 pepper, *bżar* AI 50
 trees (coll., sin.), *siġar* sin. *siġra*
 raisins, *żbib* AI 94
 walnuts (coll., sin.), *giewż* sin. *giewża*
 almonds (coll., sin.), *lewż* sin. *lewża*
 parsley, *tursin*
 mint, *menta, nagħnieġh* sin. *nagħnieġħa*

1.4 Animals

cock (+ pl.), *serduq* pl. *sriedaq* (is *q* realised as *k* /k/ also in dialects where *k* is not present?)

chicken (+ pl.), *tigieğa* pl. *tigieğ*, *tigieğiet*

hen (+ pl.), *tigieğa* pl. *tigieğ*, *tigieğiet*

chick (+ pl.), *fellus* pl. *flieles*

goose pl. geese (coll., sin.), *wiżż* sin. *wiżża* pl. *wiżeż*

duck (+ pl.), *papra* pl. *papri*

pigeons, doves (coll., sin.), *hamiem* sin. *hamiema*

rabbit (+ pl.), *fenek* pl. *fniek* AI 55

pig (+ pl.), *qazquż* pl. *qzieqez* AI 80

sheep (coll., sin.), *nagħağ* sin. *nagħğa*

goats (coll., sin.), *mogħoż* sin. *mogħża*

cows (coll., sin.), *baqra* sin. *baqra*; cow's horn, *qarn* pl. *qrn*; cow's udder, *bzieżel*; cow's tail, *denb* → tail; cow's mouth, *ħalq* → mouth

bull, ox (+ pl.), *barri* pl. *barrin*

calf (+ f.), *ghogol* f. *ghogla*

kid (+ f.), *gidi* f. *gidja*

foal, *felu*

mule, *bagħal*

ram, *muntun*, *bodbod*

lamb (+ f.), *ħaruf* f. *ħarufa*

donkey (+ f., pl.), *ħmar* f. *ħmara* pl. *ħmir*

stallion (+ pl.), *faħal* pl. *fħula/fħul/fħal* AI 54 (the word *faħal* is probably unknown)

horse (+ pl.), *ziemel* pl. *zwiemel*

dog (+ f., pl.), *kelb* f. *kelba* pl. *klied*

rat (+ pl.), *far* pl. *firien*, *gurdien* pl. *grieden*

turtle, *fekruna*

fishes (coll., sin.), *ħut* sin. *ħuta*

bees (coll., sin.), *naħal* sin. *naħla*

snake (+ pl.), *serp* pl. *sriep* AI 9, 86

lizards (coll., sin.), *gremxul* sin. *gremxula*

frog, *zring*

1.5 Days and months

week (+ pl.), *gimgha* pl. *gimghat*

Monday, *it-Tnejn*

Tuesday, *it-Tlieta*

Wednesday, *l-Erbgha*

Thursday, *il-Ħamis*

Friday, *il-Ġimgħa*

Saturday, *is-Sibt*

Sunday, *il-Ħadd*

January, *Jannar*

February, *Frar*

March, *Marzu*

April, *April*

May, *Mejju*

June, *Ġunju*

July, *Lulju*

August, *Awissu*

September, *Settembru*

October, *Ottubru*

November, *Novembru*

December, *Dicembru*

1.6 Cardinal directions

(cardinal directions are probably not used on a daily basis; possible interchangeability of names or use of other names, such as winds)

North, e.g. *tramuntana*, *xmiel* AI 92 (the word *xmiel* is probably unknown)

South, e.g. *nofsinhar*

East, e.g. *lvant*

West, e.g. *punent*

1.7 Place names

Gozo, *Għawdex* AI 25

Gozitan (+ f., pl.), *Għawdxi* f. *Għawdxija* pl. *Għawdxin*

Malta, *Malta*

Maltese (+ f., pl.), *Malti* f. *Maltija* pl. *Maltin*

Qala, *Il-Qala*

Għarb, *L-Għarb*

Nadur, *In-Nadur*

Xewkija, *Ix-Xewkija*

Rabat/Victoria, *Ir-Rabat/Victoria*

Fontana, *Il-Fontana*

Għajnsielem, *Għajnsielem*

Għasri, *L-Għasri*

Kerċem, *Ta' Kerċem*

Munxar, *Il-Munxar*

San Lawrenz, *San Lawrenz*
 Sannat, *Ta' Sannat*
 Xagħra, *Ix-Xagħra*
 Żebbuġ, *Iż-Żebbuġ*

1.8 Agriculture and garden tools

rake (+ pl.), e.g. *rixkatur*, *rixketta*, *rixkettun*, *barraxa*, *rixkla*, *fekrun*, *gerriefa*, *rejk*, etc.
 pitchfork, fork, e.g. *midra*, *ferkun*, etc.
 broom, *xkupa*
 sickle, reaping hook, *mingel*
 shovel, *pala*
 hoe, *mgħażqa*
 (wooden) plough, *mohriet*
 axe, *mannara*
 field/land boundary, e.g. *ħajt*, *qasma*, etc.
 basket, e.g. *basket*, *qoffa*, *gewlaq*, etc.
 ear (of corn) (coll., sin.), *sbul* sin. *sbula*

1.9 Varia

tail, *denb* AI 110
 chalk, *gibs* AI 2
 pebbles (coll., sin.), *ċagħaq* sin. *ċagħka* AI 11
 heap, *gozz* AI 19
 sound, *ħoss* AI 20
 bastion, *sur* AI 21
 light, *dawl* AI 24
 swimming, *għawm* AI 26
 wall (+ pl.), *ħajt* pl. *ħitan* AI 33
 thread (+ pl.), *ħajt* pl. *ħjut* AI 34, 101
 valley, *wied* AI 41
 hour (+ pl.), *sieġha* pl. *sagħat/sigħat* AI 42
 flour, *dqiq* AI 45
 rock, *blat* AI 48
 clothes, *ħwejjeġ*, *lbies* AI 64
 spinning-wheel, *mkebbra* AI 69 (the word is probably unknown)
 round cheesecakes (+ sg.), *qassata* pl. *qsaset* AI 79
 net (+ pl.), *xibka* pl. *xbiek* AI 91
 river, *xmara* AI 93
 glass, pain, *żgieġ* AI 95

wing (+ pl.), *ġewnaħ* pl. *ġwienah* AI 99
 war, *gwerra* AI 100
 colour (+ pl.), *lewn* pl. *lwien* AI 103, *kulur* pl. *kuluri*
 shadow, *dell* AI 112
 salt, *melħ*
 shoemaker, *żarbun*
 key, *ċavetta*
 butter, *butir*
 breakfast, *kolazzjon* (the word is probably not used)
 lunch (midday), *l-ikla ta' nofsinhar* (the word is probably not used)
 dinner (evening), *pranzu* (the word is probably not used)
 morning, *filġhodu*
 midday, *nofsinhar*
 evening, *filġhaxija*
 afternoon, *wara nofsinhar*
 in the afternoon, *wara nofsinhar*
 rain, rainfall, *xita*; to fall (rain), e.g. *ġhamlet*, *kienet*, *niżlet*, etc.
 carpet, *tapit*
 village (+ pl.), *raħal* pl. *rħula*
 enough!, finished!, *daqshekk!*
 watch out!, be careful!, *oqġhod attent!*, *attent!*
 wind, *rħ*
 spring, well, fountain, *bir*
 bread, *ħobż*; one bread, *ħobża*; piece of bread, *biċċa ħobż*
 marble, *rħam*
 cross, *salib*
 milk, *ħalib*
 car (+ pl.), *karozza* pl. *karozzi*
 bunch (+ pl.), *ġhanqud* pl. *ġhenieqed*
 window (+ pl.), *tieqa* pl. *twieqi*
 cup, glass (+ pl.), *tazza* pl. *tazzi*
 honey, *ġhasel*
 country (+ pl.), *pajjiż* pl. *pajjiżi*
 island (+ pl.), *gżira* pl. *gżejjer* AI 58
 place, square (+ pl.), e.g. *post* pl. *postijiet*, *mkien* pl. *mkinjiet*, *misraħ* pl. *msierah*
 handle (+ pl.), e.g. *maqbad* pl. *mqabad*, *pun* pl. *punjiet*
 mirror (+ pl.), *mera* pl. *mirja*
 lamp, oil lamp (+ pl.), e.g. *lampa* pl. *lampi*, *musbieħ* pl. *msiebah*
 scales (+ pl.), *mizien* pl. *mwiżen*
 health, *saħħa*
 money, *flus*

shoe (+ pl.), *żarbun* pl. *żraben*
 spike, thorn (coll., sin.), *xewk* sin. *xewka*
 kettle, *kitla*
 spoon (+ pl.), *mgharfa* pl. *mgharef*
 boat, ship, e.g. *dghajsa*, *vapur*
 guest (+ f., pl.), *mistieden* f. *mistiedna* pl. *mistednin*
 room (+ pl.), *kamra* pl. *kmamar*
 silver, *fidda*
 sand (coll., sin.), *ramel* sin. *ramla*
 sea (+ pl.), *baħar* pl. *ibħra*
 blossom, blossoming, *zahar*
 work, *xoħol* AI 18
 scent (+ pl.), *riħa* pl. *rwejjah*

1.10 Verbs

to pick up, *rafa'* – *jirfa'*, *rikkeb* – *jrikkeb*
 to put (down), to put s.th., *poġġa* – *jpogġi*
 to become, e.g. *sar* – *jsir*, *laħaq* – *jilħaq*
 to come closer, *qorob* – *joqrob*
 to ask, *saqsa* – *jsaqsi*
 to hurt, *wagġa'* – *jwegġa'*
 to bake bread, *ħema* – *jaħmi*

1.11 Adjectives

new (+ f., pl.), *ġdid* f. *ġdida* pl. *ġodda* AI 56
 big (+ f., pl.), *kbir* f. *kbira* pl. *kbar* AI 63
 small (+ f., pl.), *żġhir* f. *żġhira* pl. *żġhar*
 corpulent, fat (+ f., pl.), *smin* f. *smina* pl. *smien*
 light (+ f., pl.), *ħafif* f. *ħafifa* pl. *ħfief*
 beautiful (+ f., pl.), *sabieħ* f. *sabieħa* pl. *sbieħ*
 bad, wrong (+ f., pl.), *ħażin* f. *ħażina* pl. *ħżiena*
 tight (+ f., pl.), *dejjaq* f. *dejqa* pl. *dojoq*
 old (+ f., pl.), *qadim* f. *qadima* pl. *qodma*
 short (+ f., pl.), *qasir* f. *qasira* pl. *qosra*
 long (+ f., pl.), *twil* f. *twila* pl. *twal*
 clear (+ f., pl.), *ċar* f. *ċara* pl. *ċari* AI 10
 delicate, fine, of a good quality (+ f., pl.), *fin* f. *fina* pl. *fini* AI 1
 flat, shallow, plain, *ċatt* AI 14
 staring fixedly, *ċass* AI 15
 good, well, sew, *sewwa* AI 29, 30

good, fine, tasty (+ f., pl.), *tajjeb* f. *tajba* pl. *tajbin* (ask ‘this food is good’, ‘this rabbit is tasty’)
 trusted (+ f., pl.), *fdat* f. *fdata* pl. *fdati* AI 53
 angry, *irrabjat* (is there f. and pl.?, ask ‘she is angry’, ‘we were angry’)
 hot (+ f., pl.), *šhun* f. *šhuna* pl. *šhan*
 thirsty, *bil-ġhatx* (ask ‘I am thirsty’)
 hungry, *bil-ġuħ* (ask ‘I am hungry’)
 rough, *žmarr* AI 96
 happy (+ f., pl.), *ferħan* f. *ferħana* pl. *ferħanin*
 poor (+ f., pl.), *fqir* f. *fqira* pl. *fqar*
 rich (+ f., pl.), *ġhani* f. *ġhanja* pl. *ġhonja*, *sinjur* f. *sinjura* pl. *sinjuri*
 high (+ f., pl.), *ġholi* f. *ġholja* pl. *ġholjin*
 expensive (+ f., pl.), *ġhali* f. *ġhalja* pl. *ġhaljin*
 sweet (+ f., pl.), *ħelu* f. *ħelwa* pl. *ħelwin*
 clean (+ f., pl.), *nadif* f. *nadifa* pl. *ndaf/nodfa*

2 Phonology

2.1 Vowels

2.1.1 *Imāla* *ā → ī (*ie*), etymologically long/short vowels *i* ~ ī (*ie*)

*ā ~ *ie*

we saw, *rajna*

we did not see, *ma rajniex*

we saw you, *rajniek*

we found, *sibna*

we did not find, *ma sibniex*

ī ~ *ie*

he did not find me, *ma sabnix*

he did not find us, *ma sabniex*

sell!, *biġħ!*

he sold, *bieġħ*

corpulent, fat (m.sg.), *smin* AI 84

corpulent, fat (pl.), *smien*

bring!, *ġib!* AI 4

he brought, *ġieb/ġab*

years, *snin*

tooth, *snien*

i ~ *ie*

dress, *libsa*

dressed, worn (f.), *liebsa*

descent, way down, *nizla*

descending (f.), *niezla*

doors, *bibien*

door, *bieb*

2.1.2 Minimal pairs

a : i/ie

he visited, *zar*

sleepiness, *ngħas*

small, *zghir*

people, *nies*

a : e

gathering, collecting, *damm*

blood, *demm*

ie : u

he kissed, *bies*

kiss!, *bus!*

2.1.3 Etymologically short vowel *i*

I found, *sibt* AI 3

Saturday, *is-Sibt*

2.1.4 Shortening of etymologically long vowels

staying (+ pl.), *qieghad* pl. *qegħdin* time (+ pl.), *zmien* pl. *zminijiet*

thief (+ pl.), *ħalliel* pl. *ħallelin*

2.1.5 Realisation of vowels in *CaCC, *CiCC, *CuCC

meat, *laħam*

lifetime, *ghomor* (ask 'his life')

hair, *xagħar*

work, *xogħol*

back, *dahar*

boy, *tifel*

food, *ikel*

span, *xiber*

fingernail, *difer*

lap, *ħogor*

voice, *leħen*

man, *raġel*

cheese, *gobon*

name, *isem*

daughter, *bint* (ask 'my daughter')

wheat, *qamħ*

leather, *gild*

2.1.6 Realisation of vowels in *CaCaC

city (+ pl.), *belt* pl. *bliet*
 fodder, *ghalf*
 joy, *ferħ*
 tail, *denb*
 loss, *telf*
 end, *tarf* AI 111
 sickness, *mard*

2.1.7 Realisation of vowels in *CVCCVC̄ (+ pl.)

killer (+ pl.), *qattiel* pl. *qattiela/qattilin*
 writer (+ pl.), *kittieb* pl. *kittieba*
 worker, employee (+ pl.), *ħaddiem* pl. *ħaddiema*
 vendor, salesman (+ pl.), *bejjiegħ* pl. *bejjiegħa*
 tailor (+ f. pl.), *ħajjat* f. *ħajjata* pl. *ħajjatin* (pl. may be identical to f.)
 thief (+ f., pl.), *ħalliel* f. *ħalliela* pl. *ħallelin/ħalliela*

2.1.8 Realisation of vowels in *CVCVC̄ → Lexicon

2.2 Diphthongs → Lexicon

aj : *ej*

summer (+ pl.), *sajf* pl. *sjuf* AI 107 sword (+ pl.), *sejf* pl. *sjuf* AI 108
 eggs (coll., sin., dl.), *bajd* sin. *bajda* dl. *badtejn* roof, *bejt*

aj

I saw, *rajt* AI 37
 thread, *ħajt*

wall, *ħajt*

ej

roof, *bejt*

oil, *zejt*

aw

swimming, *ghawm*
 light, *dawl*

fasting, *sawm*

ew

garlic, *tewm* AI 109
 colour, *lewn*

death, *mewt*

128

Maciej Klimiuk

ay > *i*old man, *xih* (ask 'he is an old man') how?, *kif*?*aw* > *u*on, over, *fuq*womb, *ġuf*day, *jum* → two days

2.3 Consonants

2.3.1 Realisation of *r* [r ~ ɹ]

-*r*- (inlaut)Australia, *Awstralja*America, *Amerika*Germany, *Ġermanja*-*r* (coda) → month, hair, back, etc.*r*- (onset) → to see, etc.

2.3.2 Realisation of *q* → Lexicon

cat (+ f., pl.), *qattus* f. *qattusa* pl. *qtates*

2.3.3 Realisation of *h*

month (+ pl.), *xahar* pl. *xhur* AI 12hair (coll., sin.), *xagħar* sin.*xagħra* AI 13back (+ pl.), *dahar* pl. *dhur/dhura/idhra*gold, *dahab*so, *hekk*there, there is, *hemm*

2.3.4 Realisation of *gh*

tool, *ġhodka*envy, *ġhira*root, *ġherq*wooden, *ġhuda*bottom (of a vessel), *qieġh*taste, *togħma*shout, *ġhajta* AI 35

2.3.5 Long consonants → Form II, Form V

eat! (sg.), *kul!* AI 22he speaks, *jitkellm*every, *kull* AI 23they speak, *jitkellmu*

good, tasty (m.), *tajjeb*
his lips, *xuftejh* → Dual

good, tasty (f.), *tajba*

2.4 Stress

(stress on a prefix vowel or on a vowel adjacent to *gh*)
he sends, *jibghat* they send *jibaghtu*
he plays, *jilghab* they play, *jilagħbu*

2.5 Assimilation

book (+ pl.), *ktieb* pl. *kotba* [kodba]
wine, *nbid* [mbit] (ask ‘this wine is good’, ‘we drank wine’)
→ to write, *kiteb* – *jikteb* [pt, db, gd]; to go out, to exit, *ħareg* – *joħrog* [čt];
to cry, *beka* – *jibki* [pk]; to dance, *zifen* – *jizfen* [sf]; bread, one bread [ps]

2.6 Homonyms

cheek – Sunday – someone, *ħadd*
clouds – partners, *shab*
feeling, sense – lettuce, *ħass* sound, *ħoss*
wall – thread, *ħajt*
husband – two, pair, *zewġ*
fire, *nar* day, daylight, *nhar*
heart, *qalb* dog, *kelb*

3 Morphology

3.1 Pronouns

3.1.1 Personal pronouns

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

(ask ‘me and you [sg.]’, ‘you [sg.] and me’, ‘him and me’, ‘him and her’, ‘her and him’, ‘us and them’, ‘you [pl.] and us’, ‘them and me’, etc.)

3.1.2 Negation of personal pronouns

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

3 m.sg. *mhuwiex*, *mhux* 3 f.sg. *mhijiex*, *mhix*
 (ask 'I am not good', 'you [sg.] are not old', etc.)

3.1.3 Pronominal suffixes

brother pl. brothers, *ħu* pl. *aħwa* + pronominal suffixes

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

mother, *omm* + pronominal suffixes

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

brain, *moħħ* + pronominal suffixes

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

to have, with s.o., *ghand-* + pronominal suffixes

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

not to have, *m'ghand-* + pronominal suffixes

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

for s.o., *ghal-* + pronominal suffixes

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

lifetime, *ghomor* + pronominal suffixes

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

house, *dar* + pronominal suffixes

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

meat, flesh, *laham* + pronominal suffixes

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

with s.o., *ma'* + pronominal suffixes

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

behind s.o., *wara-* + pronominal suffixes

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

my soul (+ 2 sg., 3 m.sg., 3 f.sg., 1 pl.), *ruħi*, etc.

my clothes (+ 2 sg., 3 m.sg., 3 f.sg., 1 pl.), *ħwejġi*, etc.

my island, *gżira tiegħi* or *gżiritna*

my life, *ħajti*

my name, *ismi*

my partner, *sieħbi*

my country, e.g. *pajjiż tiegħi*, *pajjiżi*, *arti*, *art twelidi*

my son, e.g. *ibni*, *tifel tiegħi*

3.1.4 Demonstratives

Proximal

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
m.				
f.				

Short forms: *da-*, *di-*, *daw-* (ask ‘this man’, ‘this woman’, ‘these people’, ‘these men’)

Distal

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
m.				
f.				

3.1.5 Demonstrative adverbs

here, *hawn*

now, *issa* (ask ‘I am coming right now’)

there, *hemm*

so, *hekk*

3.1.6 Interrogative pronouns and adverbs

who?, *min?*, *min hu?*, *min hi?*, etc.
(ask ‘who is this?’, ‘who are you [sg.]’, ‘who is he/she?’, ‘who are they?’)

who ... from?, *minn min?*

who ... for?, *ghal min?*

who ... with?, *ma’ min?*

what?, *xi?*, *x’inhu?*, *x’inhi?*, *x’in-hum?*, etc. (ask ‘what are you [sg.] doing?’, ‘what did he say?’, ‘what do you [sg.] want?’, ‘what is this (m., f.)?’, ‘what are these?’)

where?, *fejn?* (ask ‘where is it?’)

where ... to?, *fejn?* (ask ‘where are you [sg.] going?’)

where ... from?, *minn fejn?*

which?, *liema?*

how much?, how many?, *kemm?*
(ask ‘how much time?’)

why?, *ghaliex?*

when?, *meta?*, *xhin?*

how?, *kif?* (ask ‘how is this man?’, ‘how is this woman?’, ‘how are these people?’)

3.1.7 Indefinites

someone, somebody, anybody, *xi hadd* (ask ‘somebody told me’)

some, *xi* (ask ‘some people’, ‘some say it was no accident’)

any, *xi*, *xi wiehed* f. *xi wahda* (ask ‘any book’)

one, *wiehed* f. *wahda ferhana* pl. *uhud ferhanin* (ask ‘a happy one’)

something, *xi haga* (ask ‘something big’)

nobody, nothing → Negation

3.1.8 Relative pronoun

which, *li* (ask ‘the man who has a house’, ‘the people who killed the rabbit’)

3.1.9 Reflexive pronoun

self, *nnifs-*

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

3.2 Nouns, adjectives and adverbs

3.2.1 Gender

(use with adjectives, e.g. ‘big’, ‘small’, ‘long’, ‘wet’, ‘hot’, ‘beautiful’, ‘sharp’, or pronominal suffixes)

moon, *qamar*

sun, *xemx*

belly, *żaqq*

heart (+ pl.), *qalb* pl. *qlub*

shop (+ pl.), *ħanut* pl. *ħwienet*

earth, *art*

rain, *xita*

death, *mewt*

street, road (+ pl.), *triq* pl. *toroq* AI 43

fire, *nar*

water, *ilma*

door (+ pl.), *bieb* pl. *bibien*

house (+ pl.), *dar* pl. *djar* AI 98

knife (+ pl.), *sikkina* pl. *skieken*

wool, *suf*

oil, *żejt*

roof (+ pl.), *bejt* pl. *bjut* AI 38, 97

leg, *riġel*

car, *karożza*

cup, glass, *tazza*

3.2.2 Dual

two months, *xahrejn*

two years, *sentejn*

two hours, *sagħtejn*

two days, *jumejn*

two women, *żewġ nisa*

two meters, *żewġ metri*

two children, *żewġ itfal*

two carpenters, *żewġ mastrudaxxi*

two kilos, *żewġ kilos*

two sisters, *żewġ aħwa*

two litres, *żewġ litri*

two houses, *żewġ idjar*

lip, two lips, *xoffa* dl. *xofftejn* (ask ‘my

two lips’, ‘your [sg.] two lips’, ‘his two

lips’, ‘her two lips’)

eye, two eyes, *għajn* dl. *għajnejn*

(ask ‘my two eyes’, ‘your [sg.] two

eyes’, ‘his two eyes’, ‘her two eyes’)

leg, two legs, *sieq* dl. *saqajn* (ask

‘my two legs’, ‘your [sg.] two legs’,

‘his two legs’, ‘her two legs’)

hand, two hands, *id* dl. *idejn* (ask

‘my two hands’, ‘your [sg.] two

hands’, ‘his two hands’, ‘her two

hands’)

ear, two ears, *widna* dl. *widnejn* (ask

‘my two ears’, ‘your [sg.] two ears’,

‘his two ears’, ‘her two ears’)

cheek, two cheeks, *ħadd* dl. *ħaddejn*

3.2.3 Plural → Lexicon

-a

teacher (+ f., pl.), *għalliem* f. *għalliema* pl. *għalliema*

3.2.4 Article

l-CC-

the book, *il-ktieb*

the roofs, *il-bjut, is-soqfa*

the cities, *il-bliet*

the street, *it-triq*

the children, *it-tfal*

the marriage, *iż-żwieġ*

the years, *is-snin*

l-VC-

the son, *l-iben*

the mother, *l-omm*

the brothers, *l-aħwa*

l-qV-

the moon, *il-qamar*

l-għV-

the bird, *l-ghasfur*

the birds, *l-għasafar*

the eye, *l-għajn*

s-s-, t-t-

the year, *is-sena*

the garlic, *it-tewm*

l-imC-, l-ilC-, l-irC-, l-inC-

the water, *l-ilma*

the tongue, *l-ilsien*

the pillow, *l-imħadda*

the men, *l-irġiel*

the scents, *l-irwejjah*

the Christians, *l-insara*

l-ġV-

the cheese, *il-ġobon*

the camel, *il-ġemel*

3.2.5 Colours

red (+ f., pl.), *aħmar* f. *ħamra* pl. *ħomor*

yellow (+ f., pl.), *isfar* f. *saфра* pl. *sofor*

black (+ f., pl.), *iswed* f. *sewda* pl. *suwed*

white (+ f., pl.), *abjad* f. *bajda* pl. *bojod*

green (+ f., pl.), *aħdar* f. *ħadra* pl. *ħodor*

blue (+ f., pl.), *blu, blun* f. *bluna* pl. *bluni* (ask 'blue eyes')

(dark) blue (+ f., pl.), *ikħal* f. *kaħla* pl. *koħol*
brown, *kannella* dark-skinned (+ f., pl.), *ismar* f. *samra* pl. *somor*

3.2.6 ‘the last’, ‘the other’

(use also with nouns ‘friend’, ‘man’, ‘woman’, ‘people’, ‘building’, ‘church’, etc.)

the last (+ f., pl.), *aħħar* f. *aħħarija* pl. *aħħarin/aħħarija* the other (+ f., pl.), *ieħor* f. *oħra* pl. *oħrajn/oħra*

3.2.7 Adverbs and function words

outside, <i>barra</i>	always, <i>dejjem</i>
inside, <i>gewwa</i>	ever/never, <i>qatt</i> (ask ‘have you ever seen it?’, ‘I have never seen it’)
yesterday, <i>ilbieraħ</i>	often, <i>spiss</i> , <i>sikwit</i>
last night, <i>il-lejl li ġhadda</i>	no longer, <i>m’ghad...-x</i> (ask ‘she is no longer a child’)
the day before yesterday, <i>il-bieraħt lura</i>	must, <i>irid</i> (ask ‘you [sg.] come here’, ‘he must come tomorrow’)
in three days, <i>fi tlett ijiem</i>	almost, nearly, <i>kwazi</i> (ask ‘I am almost done’)
in four days, <i>f’erbat ijiem</i>	just, <i>ghad-</i> (ask ‘he just left’)
today, <i>illum</i> (may be realised in a coda with <i>m</i> or <i>n</i>)	yet, <i>ghad-</i> (ask ‘he has not come yet’)
tomorrow, <i>ghada</i>	still, <i>ghad-</i> (ask ‘he is still sleeping’)
the day after tomorrow, <i>pitghada</i>	only, <i>biss</i> (ask ‘she has only one child’)
year (+ pl.), <i>sena</i> pl. <i>snin</i>	already, <i>diġà</i> (ask ‘it is already five o’clock’)
last year, <i>is-sena l-oħra</i>	then, afterwards, <i>imbagħad</i> , <i>wara</i> (ask ‘then he goes to church’)
next year, <i>is-sena d-dieħla</i>	also, <i>ukoll</i> (ask ‘me too’)
early, <i>kmieni</i> (ask ‘I usually get up early in the morning’)	maybe, perhaps, <i>forsi</i>
straight ahead, <i>dritt</i>	very, <i>ħafna</i> (ask ‘very good’)
on the left hand, <i>ix-xellug</i>	only, <i>biss</i> (ask ‘only two people came’)
left side, <i>fuq ix-xellug</i>	much, <i>ħafna</i> (ask ‘you [sg.] still have much to learn about life’)
on the right hand, <i>il-lemin</i>	a lot, <i>ħafna</i> (ask ‘a lot of water’, ‘a lot of people’, ‘a lot of girls’)
right side, <i>fuq il-lemin</i>	
above/upstairs, <i>fuq</i> , <i>hawn fuq</i> , <i>hemm fuq</i>	
below/downstairs, <i>isfel</i> , <i>hawn isfel</i> , <i>hemm isfel</i>	
again, e.g. <i>mill-ġdid</i> , <i>darb’oħra</i> , <i>erga’</i>	
quickly, <i>malajr</i>	
all/everything, <i>kollox</i>	

a little, *ftit* (ask ‘a little water’, yes, *iva* (ask ‘are you Gozitan? yes,
 ‘a few people’, ‘a few girls’) I am’)
 by force, *bil-forza* no, *le* (ask ‘are you Gozitan? no,
 I am not’)

3.3 Numerals

3.3.1 Cardinal numerals

1 *wiehed* f. *wahda*

2 *tnejn* AI 90

3 <i>tlieta</i> AI 89	7 <i>sebgħa</i>
4 <i>erba</i>	8 <i>tmienja</i>
5 <i>ħamsa</i>	9 <i>disgħa</i>
6 <i>sitta</i>	10 <i>ghaxra</i>

1–10 days, *gurnata* dl. *jumejn* pl. *ijiem*

1	6
2	7
3	8
4	9
5	10

1–10 cats, *qattus* pl. *qtates*

1	6
2 <i>zewg</i>	7
3	8
4	9
5	10

1–10 houses, *dar* pl. *idjar*

1	6
2 <i>zewġ</i>	7
3	8
4	9
5	10

11–19

11 <i>ħdax</i>	16 <i>sittax</i>
12 <i>tnax</i>	17 <i>sbatax</i>
13 <i>tlettax</i>	18 <i>tmintax</i>
14 <i>erbatax</i>	19 <i>dsatax</i>
15 <i>ħmistax</i>	

11–19 days, *ġurnata*

11 <i>ħdax-il</i>	16
12	17
13	18
14	19
15	

11–19 cats, *qattus*

11 <i>ħdax-il</i>	16
12	17
13	18
14	19
15	

20–90

20 <i>ghoxrin</i>	60 <i>sittin</i>
30 <i>tletin</i>	70 <i>sebgħin</i>
40 <i>erbgħin</i>	80 <i>tmenin</i>
50 <i>ħamsin</i>	90 <i>disgħin</i>

21–29

21 <i>wieħed u ghoxrin</i>	26 <i>sitta u ghoxrin</i>
22 <i>tnejn u ghoxrin</i>	27 <i>sebgħa u ghoxrin</i>
23 <i>tlieta u ghoxrin</i>	28 <i>tmienja u ghoxrin</i>
24 <i>erbgħa u ghoxrin</i>	29 <i>disgħa u ghoxrin</i>
25 <i>ħamsa u ghoxrin</i>	

100–1000

100 <i>mija</i>	600 <i>sitt mija</i>
200 <i>mitejn</i>	700 <i>seba' mija</i>
300 <i>tliet mija</i>	800 <i>tminn mija</i>
400 <i>erba' mija</i>	900 <i>disa' mija</i>
500 <i>ħames mija</i>	1,000 <i>elf AI 8</i>

100 days, *mitt jum/ġurnata*1,000 days, *elf jum/ġurnata*5 days, *ħamest ijiem*2 euros, *żewġ ewro*24 days, *erbgħa u ghoxrin jum/ġurnata*12 cows, *tnax-il baqra*5 weeks, *ħames ġimgħat*5 months, *ħames xhur*13 kgs, *tlettax-il kilo*3 times, *tliet darbiet*

3.3.2 Ordinal numerals

m.	f.
1st	
2nd	
3rd	
4th	
5th	
6th	
7th	
8th	
9th	
10th	
11th	
15th	
19th	

1st year, *l-ewwel sena*

2nd year, *it-tieni sena*

6th year, *is-sitt sena*

8th year, *it-tmien sena*

10th year, *l-ġhaxar sena*

15th year, *il-ħmistax-il sena*

1st day, *l-ewwel ġurnata*

2nd day, *it-tieni jum*

6th day, *is-sitt jum*

8th day, *it-tmien jum*

3.4 Genitive exponent/Possession

ta' + pronominal suffixes (ask 'my book', 'your [sg.] book', 'my book is new', 'your [sg.] book is new', etc.)

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

the book of my mother, <i>il-ktieb ta'ommi</i>	a house of a friend, <i>dar ta' habib</i>
the house of his father, <i>id-dar ta' missieru</i>	the cat of the girl, <i>il-qattus tat-tifla</i>
the house of the friend, <i>id-dar tal-habib</i>	a cat of a girl, <i>qattus ta' tifla</i>
	Pawl's cat, <i>qattus ta' Pawl</i>

3.5 Conjunctions

and, <i>u</i> (ask 'bread and milk', 'car and bus', 'glasses and spoons', 'glass and spoon')	but, <i>imma</i> (ask 'I have money but you are poor', 'not today but tomorrow')
or, <i>jew</i> (ask 'bread or milk', 'car or bus', 'cars or buses', 'me or you', 'glasses or pots', 'glass or pot')	because, <i>ghax</i> (ask 'she did not come because she was sick')
either ... or, <i>jew ... jew</i> (ask 'either today or tomorrow')	until, <i>sa</i> (ask 'until today')
	when, <i>meta, xhin</i> (ask 'when he left')

3.6 Negation

nothing, *xejn* AI 39 (ask 'I know nothing')

no one, nobody, *hadd ma* (ask 'nobody has come', 'nobody told me that')

she was, *kienet* she was not, *ma kinitx*

not to know → 'to know'

not to have → Pronominal suffixes and 'to have'

I am not, you are not, etc. → Negation of personal pronouns

3.7 Verbs

3.7.1 Regular verbs

3.7.1.1 Form I

3.7.1.1.1 CaCaC

(use sentences to get the verb forms in context, e.g. 'I wrote a letter', 'I am writing to my mother', 'I killed a rabbit', 'I am killing a hen', 'I closed a door', 'I am closing a window', 'I opened a bottle', 'I am opening a shop', 'I drank coffee', 'I am drinking milk', 'I understood the question', 'I understand your words', etc.)

to sleep (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *raqad – jorqod*
 to flee, to escape (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *harab – jahrab*

to send (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *bagħat – jibgħat*

to bind (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *rabat – jorbot*

to throttle, to choke (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *ħanaq – joħnoq* AI 114

to catch (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *qabad – jaqbad*

to laugh, *daħak – jidħak*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to close, *għalaq – jagħlaq*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

144

Maciej Klimiuk

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to comb, *maxat – jomxot*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to stay, to remain, *qagħad – joqgħod*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to enter, *dahal – jidħol*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

3.7.1.1.2 CaGeC

to agree (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *qabel – jaqbel*

to do, to make (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *ghamel – jagħmel* ‘AI 115

to work, *ħadem – jaħdem*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to go out, to exit, *ħareġ – joħroġ*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to kill, *qatel – joqtol*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

3.7.1.1.3 CeCaC

to approach, to get close (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *resaq – jersaq*

to be happy (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *ferah – jifrah*

to skin, to bruise (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *selah – jisloh*

to blow (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *nefah – jonfoh*

to leave (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *telaq – jitlaq*

to open, *fetah – jeftah*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Language Questionnaire for Gozo, Malta

149

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to steal, *seraq – jisraq*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

150

Maciej Klimiuk

3.7.1.1.4 CeCeC

to understand, *fehem – jifhem*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to become free, to escape, *heles – jehles*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Language Questionnaire for Gozo, Malta

151

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to sink, *għereq – jegħreq*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to kindle, to light, to put on light, *xeghel* – *jixghel* AI 7

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

3.7.1.1.5 CiCeC

to lose (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *tilef – jitlef*

to descend, to go down (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *nizel – jinzel*

to wear (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *libes – jilbes*

to keep silent (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *siket – jiskot*

to write, *kiteb – jikteb*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to dance, *żifen – jżfen*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

3.7.1.1.6 CoCoCto drink, *xorob – jixrob*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to cough, *sogħol – jisgħol*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to dream, *ħolom* – *joħlom*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

3.7.1.2 Active participle

sleeping (+ f., pl.), *rieqed* f. *rieqda* pl. *reqdin*entering (+ f., pl.), *dieħel* f. *dieħla* pl. *deħlin*going out (+ f., pl.), *ħiereğ* f. *ħierğa* pl. *ħerğin*going down (+ f., pl.), *niežel* f. *niežla* pl. *nežlin* (cf. *nizel* ‘he went down’)wearing (+ f., pl.), *liebes* f. *liebsa* pl. *lebsin* (cf. *libes* ‘he wore’)

cold (+ f., pl.), *kiesah* f. *kiesha* pl. *keshin*
 free (+ f., pl.), *ħieles* f. *ħielsa* pl. *ħelsin*
 wise (+ f., pl.), *gharef* f. *gharfa* pl. *ghorrief*

3.7.1.3 Passive participle

ma- (*ja-*)

burnt (+ f., pl.), *mahruf* f. *mahrufa* pl. *mahrufin*
 known (+ f., pl.), *magħruf* f. *magħrufa* pl. *magħrufin*
 washed (+ f., pl.), *maħsul* f. *maħsula* pl. *maħsulin*
 bound (+ f., pl.), *marbut* f. *marbuta* pl. *marbutin*

mi- (*ji-*)

written (+ f., pl.), *miktub* f. *miktuba* pl. *miktubin*
 sent (+ f., pl.), *mibghut* f. *mibghuta* pl. *mibghutin*
 broken (+ f., pl.), *miksuf* f. *miksura* pl. *miksufin*
 understood (+ f., pl.), *mifhum* f. *mifhuma* pl. *mifhumin*
 stolen (+ f., pl.), *misruq* f. *misruqa* pl. *misruqin*

ma-/mi- (*jo-*)

drunk (+ f., pl.), *mixrub* f. *mixruba* pl. *mixrubin*
 killed (+ f., pl.), *maqtul* f. *maqtula* pl. *maqtulin*

me-/mi- (*je-*)

sunk (+ f., pl.), *megħruq* f. *megħruqa* pl. *megħruqin*
 opened (+ f., pl.), *miftuh* f. *miftuha* pl. *miftuhin*
 freed (+ f., pl.), *mehlus* f. *mehlusa* pl. *mehlusin*

3.7.1.4 Negation of regular verbs

not to drink, *ma xorobx* – *ma jixrobx*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

158

Maciej Klimiuk

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

not to write, *ma kitibx* – *ma jiktibx*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

not to open, *ma fetahx* – *ma jeftahx*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

he was not silent, *ma sikitx* [-č]he did not go out, *ma ħariġx* [-č]he did not get dressed, *ma libisx* [-š]

3.7.1.5 Assimilation and helping vowel

we agreed, *qbilna*
 we did, we made, *ghamilna*

we band, *irbatna*
 we came down, *inzilna*

3.7.2 Irregular verbs

3.7.2.1 Hamzated verbs

to take, *ħa – jieħu*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

he took me, *ħadni*
 he took her, *ħadha*
 he takes me, *jehudni*
 he takes her, *jehudha*

take me!, *ħudni*
 take her!, *ħudha*
 he did not take, *ma ħiex*
 she did not take, *ma ħaditx*

we did not take, *ma ħadniex*
 he does not take, *ma jieħux*

she does not take, *ma tieħux*
 we do not take, *ma nieħdux*

Passive participle

taken (+ f., pl.), *meħud* f. *meħuda* pl. *meħudin*

to eat, *kiel/jiekol*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

Passive participle

eaten (+ f., pl.), *mikul* f. *mikula* pl. *mikulin*

3.7.2.2 Weak verbs

to hurt (+ 1 sg., 3 f.sg., 3 pl. per./imper.), *waġa' – juġa'*
 to stand up, to stop (+ 1 sg., 3 f.sg., 3 pl. per./imper.), *waqaf – jieqaf*
 to fall (+ 1 sg., 3 f.sg., 3 pl. per./imper.), *waqa' – jaqa'*
 to arrive (+ 1 sg., 3 f.sg., 3 pl. per./imper.), *wasal – jasal*
 to may contain, to have enough place (+ 1 sg., 3 f.sg., 3 pl. per./imper.),
wasa' – jasa'
 to get stuck (+ 1 sg., 3 f.sg., 3 pl. per./imper.), *wehel – jehel*
 to have a child (+ 1 sg., 3 f.sg., 3 pl. per./imper.), *wiled – jiled*
 to inherit (+ 1 sg., 3 f.sg., 3 pl. per./imper.), *wiret – jiret*
 to weigh (+ 1 sg., 3 f.sg., 3 pl. per./imper.), *wiżen – jiżen*

Active participle

hard (+ f., pl.), *iebes* f. *iebsa* pl. *ibsin*

3.7.2.3 Hollow verbs

(use sentences to get the verb forms in context, e.g. 'I flew to my brother', 'I am flying on a plane', 'I found my old friend', 'I am still finding new friends', 'I kissed my son', 'I am kissing his picture', 'I helped the priest', 'I am helping at the church', etc.)

to sell (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *biegħ – ibiegħ*
 to want (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *ried – irid*
 to add (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *żied – iżid*
 to live (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *għex – jgħix*
 to continue, to take a long time in doing s.th. (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *dam*
 – *idum*
 to get up (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *qam – iqum*
 to swim (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *għam – jgħum*
 to visit (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *żar – iżur*
 to be (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *kien – ikun*
 to die (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *miet – imut*
 to taste a dish (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *daq/dieq – iduq*

to find, *sab – isib*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to fly, *tar – itir*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

164

Maciej Klimiuk

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to bring, *gab/gieb – igib*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to help, *għen – jgħin*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

166

Maciej Klimiuk

to fast, *sam – isum*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to kiss, *bies – ibus*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

Active participle

dead (+ f., pl.), *mejjet* f. *mejta* pl. *mejtin*
 fasting (+ f., pl.), *sajjem* f. *sajma* pl. *sajmin*
 excessive (+ f., pl.), *zejjed* f. *zejda* pl. *zejda/zejdin*
 going (+ f., pl.), *sejjer* f. *sejra* pl. *sejrin* → 'to go'

Passive participle

found (+ f., pl.), *misjub* f. *misjuba* pl. *misjubin*
 brought (+ f., pl.), *miġjub* f. *miġjuba* pl. *miġjubin*
 sold (+ f., pl.), *mibjugħ* f. *mibjugħa* pl. *mibjugħin*

Negation

I did not bring, *ma ġibtx*
 I did not bring him, *ma ġibtux*
 I do not bring, *ma nġibx*
 I do not bring him, *ma nġibux*
 we did not bring, *ma ġibniex*
 we did not bring him, *ma ġibnihx*
 you (pl.) did not bring him, *ma ġibtuhx*

they did not bring, *ma ġabux*
 they did not bring him, *ma ġabuhx*
 they did not bring her, *ma ġabuhiex*
 she did not kiss him, *ma bisitux*
 we did not help him, *ma ġhinnihx*
 they did not help me, *ma ġhenunihx*

3.7.2.4 Weak verbs

(use example sentences to get the verb forms in context, e.g. 'I forgot my keys', 'I am forgetting my glasses', 'I cried a lot', 'I am crying', etc.)

to build (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *bena – jibni*

to walk (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *mexa – jimxi*

to rent (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *kerā – jikri*

to run (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *ğera – jigrī*

to start, to begin (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *beda – jibda*

to be worth s.th., to cost s.th. (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *sewa – jiswa*

to hide; to keep secret (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *ħeba – jaħbi*

to climb up, to be expensive (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *ğhola – jogħla*

to be sweet (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *ħola – johla*

qara – jiqra → to see

to cry, *beka – jibki*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to forget, *nesa – jinsa*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to throw, *rema – jarmi*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

170

Maciej Klimiuk

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to be blind, *ghama – jaghma*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

Active participle

walking (+ f., pl.), *miexi f. miexja pl. mixjin*

running (water), *gieri*

Passive participle

built (+ f., pl.), *mibni f. mibnija pl. mibnijin*

forgot (+ f., pl.), *minsi f. minsija pl. minsijin*

thrown away (+ f., pl.), *mormi f. mormija pl. mormijin*

Negation

he did not cry, *ma bekiex*

he did not forget, *ma nesieix*

he did not forget me, *ma nesinix*

he did not forget him, *ma nesihx*

he did not forget her, *ma nesihieix*

we did not forget, *ma nsejniex*

we did not forget him, *ma nsejnihx*

I do not forget him, *ma ninsihx*

I do not forget her, *ma ninsihieix*

you (pl.) did not forget me, *ma nsejtunix*

you (pl.) did not forget him, *ma nsejtuhx*

you (pl.) did not forget her, *ma nsejtuhieix*

they did not forget, *ma nsewx*

he does not forget, *ma jinsieix*

he does not forget me, *ma jinsinix*

he does not forget him, *ma jinsihx*

he does not forget her, *ma jinsihieix*

3.7.2.5 Doubled verbs

to hold s.o., to stop s.o. (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *żamm – iżomm*

to feel (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *ħass – iħoss*

to carry, to bear (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *ġarr – iġorr*

to finish, to accomplish (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *temm – itemm*

to dip, to wet (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *bell – ibill*

172

Maciej Klimiuk

to love, *ħabb – iħobb*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to touch, *mess – imess*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

Passive participle

loved (+ f., pl.), *maħbub* f. *maħbuba* pl. *maħbubin*

solved (+ f., pl.), *maħlul* f. *maħlula* pl. *maħlulin*

felt (+ f., pl.), *maħsus* f. *maħsusa* pl. *maħsusin*

held, stopped (+ f., pl.), *mizmum* f. *mizmuma* pl. *mizmumin*

accomplished (+ f., pl.), *mitmum* f. *mitmuma* pl. *mitmumin*

3.7.2.6 'Pharyngeal' verbs

can, to be able to (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *sata'* – *jista'*

to remain (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *baqa'* – *jibqa'*

to meet (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *laqa'* – *jilqa'*

to climb, to go uphill (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *tala'* – *jitla'*

to come back (+ 3 f.sg. per./imper.), *raġa'* – *jerġa'*

to hear, *sema'* – *jisma'*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

174

Maciej Klimiuk

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to swallow, *bela'/bala'* – *jibla'*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to lift, *refa'/rafa' – jerfa'*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

3.7.2.7 'to come'

to come, *gie* – *jigi*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

Active participle

coming (+ f., pl.), *gej* f. *gejja* pl. *gejjin*

3.7.2.8 'to see' and 'to read'

to see, *ra – jara*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to read, *qara – jaqra*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

178

Maciej Klimiuk

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

3.7.2.9 'to give'

to give, *ta – jaghti*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

Passive participle

given (+ f., pl.), *mogħti* f. *mogħtija* pl. *mogħtijin*

3.7.2.10 'to say'

to say, *qal*, *għed* – *jgħid*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

3.7.2.11 ‘to go’to go, *mar – imur*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

Active participle

going (+ f., pl.), *sejjer f. sejra pl. sejrin*

3.7.2.12 ‘to know’to know, *kien jaf – jaf* + negation

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

+ negation

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

+ negation

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

3.7.3 Form II

to pay (+ 3 f.sg., 3 pl. per./imper.), *ħallas – iħallas*
to teach (+ 3 f.sg., 3 pl. per./imper.), *għallem – jgħallem*
to make s.o. happy (+ 3 f.sg., 3 pl. per./imper.), *ferrah – iferrah*
to form, to shape (+ 3 f.sg., 3 pl. per./imper.), *sawwar – jsawwar*
to raise, to wake (+ 3 f.sg., 3 pl. per./imper.), *qajjem – jqajjem*
to light, to set on fire (+ 3 f.sg., 3 pl. per./imper.), *qabbad – jqabbad*
to look for s.th., to search (+ 3 f.sg., 3 pl. per./imper.), *fittex – ifittex*
to remind (+ 3 f.sg., 3 pl. per./imper.), *fakkar – jfakkar*
to poison (+ 3 f.sg., 3 pl. per./imper.), *semmem – jsemmem*

Participle

taught (+ f., pl.), *mghallem* f. *mghallma* pl. *mghallmin*
paid (+ f., pl.), *mhallas* f. *mhallsa* pl. *mhallsin*
searched (+ f., pl.), *mfittex* f. *mfittxa* pl. *mfittxin*

Verbal noun

teaching, *tagħlim*
paying, *tahlis* (the word is probably not used)
searching, *tiftix*, *tfittix*

3.7.4 Form III

to promise (+ 3 f.sg., 2 pl. per./imper.), *wieghed – iwieghed*
to watch, to observe (+ 3 f.sg., 2 pl. per./imper.), *ħares – iħares*

to travel, *siefer – isiefer*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

to answer, *wiegeb – iwiegeb*

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

Imperative

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
!				

3.7.5 Form V and VI

to be shortened, *tqassar – jitqassar*

to be searched, *tfittex – jitfittex*

to speak, *tkellem – jitkellem* AI 88

to be explained, *tfiehem – jitfiehem* (the word is probably not used)

to be placed, *tqieghed – jitqieghed* (the word is probably not used)

3.7.6 Form VII and VIII

be forgotten, *intesa/intnesa (nesa)*

to be bent, *iltewa/intlewa (lewa)*

to be touched, *intess/intmess (mess)*

to be bound, *irtabat/intrabat (rabat)*

to be stolen, *inseraq/insteraq (seraq)*

to be fed, *nghalef/intghalef (ghalef)*

to be built, *inbena (bena)*

to be beaten, *indarab (darab)*

to be opened, *infetaħ (fetaħ)*

to be brought, *ingab/ingieb (gab/gieb)*

to be milked, *inhaleb (haleb)*

to be rented, *inkera (kera)*

to be added, *ždied (žied)*

to be shown, *inwera/intwera (wera)*

to be inherited, *intiret (wired)*

to be weighed, *intižen (wižen)*

3.7.7 IX Form

to turn yellow, to yellow (+ 1 sg. per.), *sfar – jisfar*

to turn red, to redden (+ 1 sg. per.), *ħmar – jihmar*

to turn beautiful (+ 1 sg. per.), *sbieħ – jisbieħ*

3.7.8 X Form

to wonder, to be surprised, *staghgeb – jistaghgeb*

to invite, *stieden – jistieden*

to have a rest, *strah – jistrih*

to wait, *stenna – jistenna*

3.7.9 Direct object

they understood me ..., *fehmu* + pronominal suffixes

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

she understood me ..., *fehmet* + pronominal suffixes

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

she saw me ..., *rat* + pronominal suffixes

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

he saw me ..., *ra* + pronominal suffixes

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

I wrote it, you wrote it ..., *ktibtu/ktibtha* + 3 m.sg., 3 f.sg. pronominal suffix

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

I wrote it to him, you wrote it to him ..., *ktibthulu* + 3 m.sg. pronominal suffix

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

you wrote them, *ktibthom*
 I swallowed her, *blajtha*
 I swallowed them, *blajthom*
 I understand her, *nifhimha*
 I understand him, *nifhmu*

I understand them, *nifhimhom*
 she forgot him, *nsietu*
 I forgot her, *nsejtha*
 she killed him, *qatlitu*
 she killed them, *qatlithom*

3.7.10 Direct object with *lil*

I saw Liza, *rajt lil Liza*

we saw her brother, *rajna lil huha*

we visited your mother, *żorna lil ommok*

I will visit his mother, *se nżur lil ommu*

you gave it to your mother, *tajtha lil ommok*

3.7.11 Indirect object

he told me ..., *qal* + pronominal suffixes

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

he tells me ..., *jghid* + pronominal suffixes

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

she found me ..., *sabet* + pronominal suffixes

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

he hit me ..., *laqat* + pronominal suffixes

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

I brought him to you (sg.), *ġibtu lilek (ġibtulek)*

I told you (sg.) this, *ġhidtlek*

I brought her to you (sg.), *ġibtha lilek (ġibthielek)*

3.7.12 Verb modifier in the present continuous

qed/qieġhed f. *qieġhda* pl. *qegħdin* (ask 'I am going to the shop', 'he is eating a rabbit', etc.)

3.7.13 Verb modifier in the future

se/sa/ser (ask 'I will go', 'he will sleep', 'she will cook', etc.)

ħa

rrid (ask 'I want to go', 'I want to sleep', etc.)

3.7.14 'there is', 'there is no'

there is a house, *hemm dar*

there is no church, *m'hemmx knisja*

3.7.15 'to have'

he had, *kellu* + negation

Perfect

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				

Language Questionnaire for Gozo, Malta

189

2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

+ negation

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

he will have, *ikollu* + negation

Future

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				

+ negation

	sg.	sg.#	pl.	pl.#
1				
2				
3 m.				
3 f.				



Copyright © 2021. Maciej Klimiuk. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC-BY 4.0, <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.