

Thinking in Pravlish

To speak like an Anarresti you must think like an Anarresti.

This short booklet shows you how to think like an Anarresti.

If you follow the ways of thinking set out here you will be able to translate from standard English into Pravlish.

Speech Anarresti becomes from-thought Anarresti.

The-booklet small is of-speech Anarresti a-true-thing.

Thoughts in-Pravlish are-made in-the-booklet by-the-ways cognitive. Thought is-moved from-English to-Pravlish by-the-ways cognitive.

First way of thinking:

People don't do things, things happen to people

Don't think: Shevek likes apples

Think: *Apples are-liked by-Shevek*

Don't say: Shevek is going to London

Say: *London will-be-visited by-Shevek*

Second way of thinking:

Put the active noun at the end of a sentence

Don't think: The-friend was met by-Shevek in-the-park under-the-oak-tree

Think: *The-friend was-met in-the-park under-the-oak-tree by-Shevek*

Third way of thinking:

There is no 'I' or 'me'

Don't think: I like apples

Think: *Apples are-liked by-a-speaker*

Don't say: Give the book to me

Say: *The-book may-perhaps-be-used by-a-speaker*

Fourth way of thinking:

There is no 'you'

Don't think: You like apples

Think: *Apples are-liked by-the-listener*

Don't say: You gave me an apple

Say: *A-speaker was-given-an-apple by-the-listener*

Fifth way of thinking:

There is no 'she', 'he', 'it' or 'they'

You say: *the-known-person
the-known-people
the-unknown-person
the-unknown-people*

You say: *the-known-thing
the-known-things
the-unknown-thing
the-unknown-things*

Sixth way of thinking:

Nobody owns anything

Don't think: I have a pencil

Think: *A-pencil is-being-used by-a-speaker*

Don't say: This is my desk

Say: *The-desk is-used by-a-speaker*

Seventh way of thinking:

You cannot tell other people what to do

Don't think: Shevek must do it

Think: *This-thing maybe-is a-good-thing by-Shevek*

Don't say: Shevek, could I have a drink, please?

Say: *A-drink may-perhaps-be a-good-thing for-a-speaker by-Shevek?*

Eighth way of thinking:

Adjectives and adverbs follow nouns and verbs

Don't think: Shevek **quickly** wrote the list in the **red** book

Think: *The-list was-written **quickly** in-the-book **red** by-Shevek*

Don't say: I'm **really very** happy

Say: *Happiness **great** is-become **in-a-real-way** of-a-speaker*

Ninth way of thinking:

Refer to yourself as *a-speaker*.

The-speaker is the person who last spoke

Don't say: That was a good idea, but I have a better one

Say: *An-idea good was-made by-the-speaker, but an-idea more-good maybe-becomes from-a-speaker*

Tenth way of thinking:

When you use the word 'we', say what you mean

There are five different ways of saying 'we' or 'us':

- *A-speaker and the-listener*
- *A-speaker, the-listener & a group of others (but not everyone);
OR a-speaker and the-listeners*
- *A-speaker and one other who is not the-listener*
- *A-speaker and a group of others which does not include the-listener(s)*
- *Everyone, but nobody in particular*

Eleventh way of thinking:

When you say 'not' or 'no' you have to say what you mean

You can say:

The-known-thing is factually-incorrect

The-known-thing is not-generally-accepted-as-correct

The-known-thing is believed-to-be-incorrect by-a-speaker

A text you can practise with

A-practice can-perhaps-be-done with-the-text by-the-listener:

Recently a friend asked me how long it would take before she started thinking in French. My response was “a week or so.” She was shocked (and understandably so). We worked on it together and within a week we were both thinking in the language despite it still being quite new to us.

Thinking in a foreign language is an important goal that brings you one giant step closer to becoming fluent. There is also the fact that language and culture are intertwined, and thinking in your target language is an essential part of being able to connect with the people you are trying to get to know.

It is not necessarily easy to think in a new language (especially if you’ve never done it before) but it is still simple – there is no magic here. First time language learners often believe that if they study long enough and hard enough they will eventually just start thinking in the target language, as if a switch had been flipped. This is how I approached it the first time around and it did work... eventually... kind of.

[From *How to think in a foreign language (it does NOT “just happen”*)
by Benny Lewis, <http://www.fluentin3months.com/thinking/>]

***For more on Pravic and Pravlish see
<http://martinedwardes.webplus.net/pravic/>***