

# Complete Grammar

The structure of this description of the grammar of Temenia follows loosely the sequence of chapters in Thomas Payne's *Describing Morphosyntax*, and, in fact, borrows some of the sample phrases for examples.

I assume that you have read the "Phonetics and Orthography" and "Simple Grammar" documents prior to this one, and so are familiar with the basics of Temenia grammar, phonetics and orthography.

## Grammatical Categories

There are three major categories of words in Temenia: nouns, verbs, and modifiers (which contains both adjectives and adverbs). There is no marker on a word to indicate to which category a word belongs.

In addition to the major categories, there are conjunctions, postpositions (similar to prepositions but they follow the noun clause, as in Japanese), pronouns, adjuncts (used to introduce adjunctive clauses to add information concerning time, place or manner – such as: *while, since, unless*), and particles. These tables show the complete list of the three smaller categories, and are placed here as an aid in reading the examples.

Conjunctions	
ωε	and
ψε	but
θο	or

Pronouns	
μι	I / me
τυ	you (singular and plural)
θυ	he / him
ξι	she / her
λο	it / they / them
ηυ	we / us

Particles	
ηα	negation (not, un-)
κε	relativizer
χα	complementizer
θα	interrogative

# Word Order

## Constituent Word Order

The basic word order in Temenia is Agent-Verb-Patient. This means that for transitive sentences, the word order is Subject-Verb-Object, as in most sentences in European languages. However, for intransitive sentences, the word order of Temenia differs from the usual subject-verb structure of European languages. Temenia exhibits the characteristics of “split intransitivity” (that is, neither a nominative/accusative nor an ergative/absolutive grammar). Depending on the semantics of the intransitive “subject,” it may appear either before or after the verb. These three sentences illustrate this:

ΠΑΚΟ ΛΟΚΥΤΟΙ ΚΟΙΗ  
*Paco broke the window.*

ΠΑΚΟ ΛΟΚΥΤΙ  
*Paco broke [something].*

ΛΟΚΥΤΟΙ ΚΟΙΗ  
*The window broke.*

The first sentence is transitive. “Paco” is the agent of the verb, in that he is the one who is performing the breaking. “Window” is the patient of the verb, in that it is the object that is undergoing the breaking. The second sentence is intransitive. Here, as in English, the agent appears before the verb. However, the patient is left unuttered; we know that Paco broke something, but can not tell, without context, what object he is accused of breaking. The third sentence also is intransitive. This time, “window,” which would be the subject in English, follows the verb. This is because the window is the patient of the verb “break.” In this sentence we do not know who or what caused the window to break (whether it be Paco or the wind), but we do know that it is the window that has undergone the process of breaking. Hence, “window” takes on the role of patient in this sentence and therefore follows the verb.

In some cases, there are sentences that have neither an agent nor a patient. Consider this sentence:

ΤΕΜΑΕ  
*It is raining.*

The action, “rain,” has neither an agent or patient (the subject, “it,” in English, is semantically empty). As such, a single verb can constitute a complete Temenia sentence.

Nouns can appear in roles other than agent and patient. For example, a noun may be a *recipient* of the action (Paco gave the gift *to Selena*) or it may be the *beneficiary* of the action (Paco bought the medicine *for Selena*). The more common semantic roles are indicated by suffixes on the noun. The table below shows the list of role suffixes in Temenia:

Noun Suffixes		
-ζι	Possessive	<i>of</i>
-λα	Recipient	<i>to</i>
-τε	Source	<i>from</i>
-φο	Beneficiary	<i>for</i>
-ωι	Comitative	<i>with</i>
-ρο	Instrumentive	<i>by</i>
-ωα	Locative	<i>at</i>
-κα	Agent	
-πυ	Patient	

In the basic word order, nouns in other than the agent or patient role follow the patient in the sentence:

πακο ηυπι ψοηο ζελεηαλα  
*Paco gave the gift to Selena*

πακο ζαυ μετιζιηα ζελεηαφο  
*Paco bought the medicine for Selena*

πακο ηυπι μετιζιηα ζελεηαλα μαμαφο ξικακωα  
*Paco gave the medicine to Selena for her mother in Chicago*

When there are multiple non-agent, non-patient roles in the sentence, their order, after the patient, is not relevant.

Words in other roles not in the Noun Suffixes table are indicated by postpositions. Nouns governed by a postposition take the locative suffix (-ωα) although it may be omitted if it is clear from context.

θυ ξυε τυι κιμαθωα μοετυο  
*He put the book on the table*

θυ ξυε τυι κιμαθωα ωει  
*He put the book under the table*

θυ ξυε τυι κιμαθωα ξεψοτε  
*He put the book to the left of the table*

This table gives many of the postpositions in Temenia:

<b>Postpositions</b>	
ηιρε	<b>in front of (before – temporally)</b>
ηυρο	<b>behind (after – temporally)</b>
ζερυαφο	<b>above, over</b>
ωει	<b>below, under</b>
ωλυχοτε	<b>to the right of</b>
ξεψοτε	<b>to the left of</b>
κυε	<b>in, within</b>
θοαξι	<b>outside of</b>
μοετυο	<b>on</b>
ρευμοτεμε	<b>between</b>
ζυκε	<b>through (during – temporally)</b>
χυεξιψο	<b>without</b>

The noun markings in Temenia may seem to imply that they are inflectional noun *cases*, as in Latin. This is one way to look at it. On the other hand, since the noun markings are simple agglutinative suffixes, it is equally possible to consider them postpositions that, when written, are suffixed to the noun.

In some languages, many verbs are associated always with particular prepositions, for example, the *for* in *Paco searches for Mary*. This does not occur in Temenia; the preposition is subsumed into the meaning of the verb. This eliminates semantically-empty adpositions from Temenia, simplifies sentence structure, and eliminates the need to memorize which, if any, prepositions are associated with verbs.

πακο θοθεο μαρι  
*Paco searches for Mary*  
 πακο μεαραι μαρι  
*Paco depends on Mary*

There is no suffix which represents the vocative (*O Paco!*) in Temenia. The non-suffixed root noun is used (ΠΑΚΟ).

### **Possessive Word Order**

All of the noun roles listed in the Noun Suffixes table above specify the relationship of the noun to the verb, except for the possessive, which specifies a relationship between two nouns. For example, *give to Selena* or *walk with Juana* specify the relationship between the noun *Selena* and the verb *give* or between the noun *Juana* and the verb *walk*. Contrariwise, in the phrase *book of Juana* (or *Juana's book*), the relationship specifies the relationship between the noun *book* and the noun *Juana*.

In Temenia, the possessive always precedes the noun.

ωαηαζι τυι  
*Juana's book*

ωαηαζι παπαζι τυι  
*Juana's father's book*

θυ ηυπι τυι ωαηαζι παπαλα  
*He gave the book to Juana's father*

Personal adjectives (*my book, his book*) use the possessive suffix on the pronoun.

Compare:

μαριζι τυι  
*Mary's book*

ξιζι τυι  
*Her book*

ηυζι τυι  
*Our book*

### Modifier Word Order

Modifiers always follow the nouns or verbs which they modify.

ωιπε χιερυ  
*good man*

ψιτυηιωιλιε θετε  
*walk slowly*

In Temenia there are no articles or determiners. That is, there are no words for *a, an, or the*. There are demonstrative adjectives, however, as shown in the following table:

Demonstratives	
τι	this / these
τα	that / those

A demonstrative follows the noun which it modifies:

λυωαυπε τα  
*that dog*

Numerals (one, two, three) are considered modifiers and so also follow the nouns to which they refer. If a noun is modified by a demonstrative and a numeral and a descriptive modifier, then they follow the noun in this order: first the descriptive modifiers, then the numerals, then the demonstrative.

λυωαυπε ρυξι ρεζι τα  
*those three big dogs*

λυωαυπε ρυξι λυακυι τα  
*those big, mean dogs*

λυωαυπε ρυξι ρεζι θο φιρι  
*three or four big dogs*

If a modifier modifies another modifier (as adverbs modify adjectives) then the modifying modifier follows the modified modifier:

ρυξι θαχο  
*very big*

θεφυχια κοικοψυ  
*too much*

τοτει πευπαυ ζοιραριυ  
*bright white wall*

Demonstrative pronouns do not exist in Temenia. Instead of saying, “*I want this,*” or, “*I want those,*” it is necessary to express that which is referred to. That is, “*I want this cookie,*” or, “*I want those shoes*” (or, at least, “*I want that thing*”).

## Apposition

In appositive constructions, the common noun normally precedes the proper noun (although this word order is not absolutely prescribed).

μιζι κεορεο ωαηα ψυπιποιηε θεφυχια  
*My wife, Juana, exercises a lot*

## Flexible Word Order

To provide *focus* in a sentence it is possible to utilize a word order other than the basic word order shown above. By scrutinizing the Noun Markings table, you can see that there are markings for the agent (-ΚΑ) and patient (-ΠΥ) role as well. By using these markings, it is permissible to permute the words to change the focus of the sentence. In Temenia, the focus of the sentence falls on the *first* word in the sentence.

ξερεμαιθα μυοπαθοα θαριαηα  
*Jeremiah kissed Ariana*  
*[normal word order, no emphasis]*

θαριαηαπυ μυοπαθοα ξερεμαιθακα  
*Jeremiah kissed Ariana -or- It is Ariana whom Jeremiah kissed*  
*[unusual word order, focus placed on Ariana]*

μυοπαθοα ξερεμαιθακα θαριαηαπυ  
*Jeremiah kissed Ariana*  
*[unusual word order, focus placed on the verb kiss]*

ζαξα ηυπι ζερι πακολα  
*Sasha gave a pig to Paco*

πακολα ζαξακα ηυρι ζεριπυ  
*To Paco, Sasha gave a pig*

ζεριπυ ζαξακα ηυρι πακολα  
*It's a pig that Sasha gave to Paco*

These non-standard word orders are used sparingly in Temenia. Just as one does not often say, in English, “To Paco, Sasha gave a pig,” one should not deviate frequently from the normal agent-verb-patient word order in Temenia unless the intent is to change the focus of the sentence from the agent and to emphasize some other constituent of the sentence.

Because of the flexible word order, there is no passive verbal construction in Temenia. The primary reason to use a passive construction is to place the emphasis on the patient by placing it first in the sentence, rather than the agent. This can be accomplished using the noun markings:

πακο ωιμομαι πολα  
*Paco kicks the ball*

πολαπυ ωιμομαι πακοκα  
*or*

πολαπυ πακοκα ωιμομαι  
*The ball is kicked by Paco*

## Noun Operations

There are few noun operations in Temenia. Nouns have no number (that is, no distinction between singular, plural, or dual). Nouns have no gender (masculine, feminine, or neuter).

An exception to this is made for pronouns, which, as can be seen in the following table, do carry gender and number:

Pronouns	
μι	I / me
τυ	you (singular and plural)
θυ	he / him
ξι	she / her
λο	it / they / them
ηυ	we / us

Nouns in Temenia are not marked for case (and neither are pronouns, as can be seen in the table above). However, nouns and pronouns can be marked with suffixes (as described in the section on Word Order), which carry the same type of grammatical

information as case markings carry. The reason that these suffixes are not considered case markings is because they are optional. If the intent is clear from the context of the sentence, then the suffix can be omitted.

Consider:

πακο ηυπι ψοηο ζελεηαλα  
*Paco gave the gift to Selena*

And:

πακο ηυπι ψοηο ζελεηα  
*Paco gave the gift to Selena*

The recipient suffix (-λα) is omitted from the second sentence. This is permissible in Temenia if Selena's role as the recipient of the gift is clear from the conversational context.

## Verb Operations

Many verb markings exist in Temenia. These are agglutinative suffixes, and, just as for the noun suffixes, they are optional if the meaning of the sentence is clear from the context.

### Verb Tense

Verbs may be marked with tense. The table below shows the three tense suffixes.

Verb Tense Suffixes	
-φι	Past
-ωυ	Present
-ζα	Future

θυ μαιφι / θυ μαιωυ / θυ μαιζα  
*He ate / He eats / He will eat*

### Verb Aspect

Verbs may be marked with aspect. The table below shows the four verbal aspects in Temenia.

Verb Aspect Suffixes	
-πτε	Perfective
-ψυ	Imperfective
-χι	Inceptive
-μο	Completive

The perfective aspect (which is different than the "perfect" aspect common in European languages) represents an event considered in its entirety, regardless of tense. The imperfective aspect, contrariwise, represents an event which is ongoing.



Perfective: He ate dinner.  
Imperfective: He was eating dinner.

The sentence, “*He was eating dinner,*” implies a duration of time during which the dinner was consumed and during which some other event could occur (*While he was eating dinner, the telephone rang*). The sentence, “*He ate dinner,*” implies an event that started and finished as a single unit. The preterit in Spanish is a good example of a perfective aspect in a European language.

The inceptive refers to an action that has just started. The completive refers to an action that has just ended. These aspects are not grammaticalized in European languages, so they must be translated approximately using periphrastic constructions.

Inceptive: She (just) began to eat dinner.  
Completive: She (just) finished eating dinner.

There is no perfect aspect in Temenia; the closest is the completive. (Present Perfect: *She has eaten dinner* – Present Completive: *She finishes eating dinner.*) Although these are not identical, they are close enough in intention that the completive in Temenia often can be used to translate the perfect of European languages.

**Ξι μαίμο μίψεμεο ωε τελεφονε ηαοθεχι**  
*She finishes eating dinner and the telephone begins to ring.*  
*[The implication is that just as she laid down her fork the telephone rang.]*

One way to conceptualize these verbal aspects of Temenia is to consider a timeline. The perfective aspect represents an event that has started and finished. The imperfective represents an event that is ongoing; the start and end are not regarded. The inceptive represents an event that has started, but whose completion has not occurred; whereas the completive represents an event whose completion has occurred, but whose commencement is not considered.

Tense and aspect can be combined for one verb.

**θαριαηα μαίμοφι μίψεμεο**  
*Ariana had just finished eating dinner*

**θαριαηα μαίχιζα μίψεμεο**  
*Ariana will begin to eat dinner*

**λαππο θαριαηα μαίφιψυ μίψεμεο, τελεφονε ηαοθεφιπε**  
*While Ariana was eating dinner, the telephone rang.*

Note that there is no order specified if multiple verb suffixes are attached to a single verb.

## Evidentiality

Temenia grammaticalizes evidentiality, that is, the means by which the truth of the utterance is known by the speaker. Evidentiality in European languages must be expressed (if it is expressed at all) using adverbial clauses such as: *I heard that...*, *Everyone knows that...*, *It must be that...*, etc. In many Native American languages, however, the evidence by which the speaker knows the truth of his utterance is grammaticalized.

Temenia represents the evidentiality of events through the use of verbal suffixes, just as for verbal tense and aspect. There are four categories of evidence, as shown in the table below:

Verb Evidentiality Suffixes	
-μυ	Sensory
-κυ	Inferential
-ξο	Reportative
-το	Universal

Sensory evidence represents knowledge gained by the speaker through his own senses. The events described by the speaker are known to him because he saw or heard or tasted, through his own senses, the occurrence of the event.

Inferential evidence represents knowledge that the speaker has deduced through logic and reasoning, but has not experienced himself.

Reportative evidence represents knowledge gained by the speaker because someone else told him about the event, which includes knowledge gained through reading.

The universal evidentiality marking is used to represent facts or events that are universally true, or generally known and accepted as true by the community to which the speaker belongs. This marking would be used to express mathematical or religious truths that are accepted as universally true. (Of course, whether or not the utterance expressed by the speaker as universally true is, in fact, true, is not controlled by the use of Temenia. People can be in error no matter which language they speak or how confident they may be in the truth of an assertion.)

ΠΑΚΟ ΩΑΞΟΜΥ ΠΙΠΟΤΕ

*Paco fell from the roof*

*[...and I know this because I saw it with my own eyes]*

ΠΑΚΟ ΩΑΞΟΚΥ ΠΙΠΟΤΕ

*Paco fell from the roof*

*[...and I know this because he was working on the roof and now I see his broken body lying on the ground]*

ΠΑΚΟ ΩΟΑΖΟΞΟ ΠΙΠΟΤΕ  
*Paco fell from the roof*  
*[...and I know this because John told me]*

ΖΥΕΘΕ ΦΙΡΙ ΜΕΟΤΟ ΠΑΧΑ  
*A square has four sides*  
*[...and I know this because it is a universal truth]*

Just as with the other verbal suffixes in Temenia, affixing evidentiality markers to verbs is optional, and not done if the type of evidence is known to the speaker or clear from the context. If Paco is relating a story told to him by John (and his listeners know this), there is no reason to use the reportative verbal suffix since it is clear contextually that Paco knows this information from John. In general, the evidentiality markings are used for emphasis, or to clarify the means by which the speaker has acquired knowledge about the events which he relates when that information would be important to the listeners.

As an example of evidentiality used for emphasis:

ΩΑΗΑ: ΠΑΚΟ ΩΟΑΖΟ ΠΙΠΟΤΕ  
*Juana: Paco fell from the roof*  
ΖΕΛΕΗΑ: ΗΟ, ΗΑ ΜΕΥΧΕ  
*Selena: No, not true*  
ΩΑΗΑ: ΨΑ, ΠΑΚΟ ΩΟΑΖΟΜΥ ΠΙΠΟΤΕ  
*Juana: Yes, Paco fell from the roof [and I saw it myself]*

### Other Verb Operations

Two other verbal suffixes exist which do not fall into the previous categories:

Miscellaneous Verbal Suffixes	
-ΡΙ	Iterative
-ΖΕ	Reflexive

The iterative is used to indicate that the action of the verb occurred repetitively.

ΘΥ ΧΥΡΕΙ ΧΥΕΚΟΕ  
*He cuts the meat*

ΘΥ ΧΥΡΕΙΡΙ ΧΥΕΚΟΕ  
*He chops up [cuts over and over] the meat*

ΨΙΟ ΜΕΟ ΜΙ ΩΕ ΜΙ ΦΥΘΟΡΙ  
*I have a cold and I am sneezing and sneezing*

The reflexive is used to indicate that the agent and the patient of the verb are the same, that is, the agent performs the action to himself/herself/itself.

ΜΙ ΡΕΗΥΟ ΜΑΡΙ  
*I wash Mary*

μι ρεηυοζε  
*I wash [myself]*

μι ψυιλιλοζιτορα μαρι  
*I wake Mary*

μι ψυιλιλοζιτοραζε  
*I wake up*

The reflexive is used also to indicate a reciprocal function (whether reflexive or reciprocal is determined by context):

λο φοηιωυεζε  
*They watch each other*  
(or)  
*They watch themselves*

### Mode

The only verbal modes in Temenia are indicative and imperative. Verbs in the imperative mode are represented by the root verb, without suffixes.

ρυπε!!  
*Go!!*

There are no other verbal modes, such as subjunctive, conditional, etc.

### Agreement

Since nouns do not carry either number or gender, there is no need for verb agreement in Temenia.

### Style

It is important to note that the verbal suffixes are used rarely in Temenia. Unlike European languages where verb inflections are mandatory, in Temenia the verbal suffixes are used *only* for emphasis or disambiguation. (“Context rules” in Temenia; if it is clear from context then it should be omitted.) This is somewhat similar to Arabic literary style, where, in a paragraph, only the verb in the first sentence is marked for tense, while the verbs in the subsequent sentences use the present tense, since the temporality of the paragraph is contextually clear from the tense marking on the verb of the first sentence.

Consider this narrative as an example:

καηεα ωαηα μαιψυ μιψεμεο ωιε τελεφοηε ηαοθε. ξιζι μαμα  
λιτιο. ξι ωowo χα πακο ωοαζοφι πιποτε. θυ ωιεωεχητε ξεαωοι  
ψακε. θυζι πεξυ ζυαηοξο ξικακωα πυχι.  
*Yesterday Juana was eating dinner when the telephone rang. Her mother was speaking. She said that Paco had fallen off the roof. He had died in great pain. His funeral would take place in Chicago tomorrow.*

Notice what is marked and what is not. *Juana* is not marked as agent since it is implied as the noun preceding the verb. *Eat* is marked as imperfective but not as past since the past tense can be inferred from the adverb *yesterday*. *Dinner* is not marked as patient since it immediately follows the verb and is clearly the object of *eat*. *Telephone* is not marked since it is clearly the agent of *rang*. *Rang* is not marked since the tense and aspect can be inferred from the tense and aspect of *was eating*. Similarly *was speaking* is not marked. Nor is *said*. However, *had fallen* is marked with the past tense suffix to indicate that the action of Paco's falling preceded the time of the telephone call. [An unmarked tense could possibly indicate that Paco fell off the roof while Juana's mother was speaking on the telephone. Also, *had fallen* is perfect aspect, but this can not be translated using the completive since this would indicate that Paco had just fallen off the roof prior to the telephone call.] *Roof* is marked as the place from which Paco had fallen, so it is clear that Paco had not fallen *on* the roof, perhaps, due to some injury while he worked there. *Died* is marked using the perfective aspect to distinguish from the imperfective aspect [which would have been used if Juana's mother had told her yesterday that Paco was dying and she should come home before it was too late]. *Pain* is a comitative, but it is not marked since this is clear from the context. *Take place [happen]* is not marked as future tense since this can be inferred from the word *tomorrow*. However, it is marked using the reportative to indicate that Juana's mother knows about the place and time of Paco's funeral only because she heard of it, that is, she is not certain about the place and time.

The above paragraph is “maximally marked.” That is because the paragraph appears as an isolated fragment of a narrative. In real life, there would be much information already shared between Juana and her mother that would form a communal context between them allowing much to be communicated although not expressed explicitly. What if Juana already knew about Paco's accident? Clearly then some of the aspectual markings could be omitted since news of his death is communicated in the context of that previously shared information.

In brief, any noun or verb markings that are clear from the shared context of the speaker and the listener(s) should be omitted. To over-mark makes Temenia sound heavy and labored.

## Copular Verbs

There are three copular verbs in Temenia, which are translated into English by “be” or “have.”

κοι is the equative and is used for predicate nominals and predicate adjectives.

μαικα κοι φοιμεθια

*Micah is the chief*

*[Micah and the chief are the same individual]*

μαικα κοι ωυφοερυ

*Micah is a teacher*

*[Micah belongs to the set of teachers]*

**μαικα κοι μυψυα**

*Micah is tall*

*[Micah possesses the attribute “tall”]*

**χια** is the existential and is used for “there is” and “there are” constructions.

**χια ψιψιο**

*There is a lion*

*[Either said when pointing out the animal in a zoo, or screamed as loudly as possible while sprinting in the opposite direction]*

**χια ψυοζι ωαλυφραξυ ξεοθο**

*There is a law against smoking*

**μεο** is used for the locative, possessive and benefactive constructions (and anything else that needs a copula that is not an equative nor an existential). The possessive usage is usually translated using the verb “have” in English with the subject and object reversed.

**τυι μεο κιμαθο μοετυο**

*The book is on the table*

**τυι μεο μαρι**

*Mary has the book*

*[The book “is to” Mary]*

**τυι μεο ζελεηαφο**

*The book is for Selena*

Of course, any of the copular verbs in Temenia can take the same tense, aspect and evidentiality markings as the other verbs.

**τυι τι μεοζα ζελεηαφο**

*This book will be for Selena*

Also, **μεο** is used to express the possessive pronouns (*mine, yours, his, hers, its, ours, theirs*). Possessive pronouns do not exist in Temenia. The equivalent meaning is expressed as follows:

**τυι μεο μι**

*The book is mine*

**πυλυο τα μεο ξι**

*Those shoes are hers*

(There is no distinction made in Temenia between, “*I have the book,*” and, “*The book is mine,*” They are both forms of possession. Additional phrasing must be added if it is necessary to distinguish between physical possession and abstract possession.)

## Relative Clauses

All relative clauses are introduced by the relative particle: **κε**. It can mean, variously, *that, which, who, whose, whom*, etc. Relative clauses always immediately follow the noun phrase which is modified by the clause.

ωιπε ζαυπε μιζι θαυτομοπιλε

*The man bought my car.*

ωιπε, κε ζιψιφυ ξι, ζαυπε μιζι θαυτομοπιλε

*The man, who married her, bought my car.*

Any noun in a Temenia sentence can be relativized, regardless of which role it plays in the sentence (agent, patient, recipient, beneficiary, etc.). However, *unless the noun being relativized is the agent of the relative clause*, a pronoun representing the relativized noun is retained in the relative clause to indicate the role of the relativized noun in the relative clause:

ωιπε, κε ξι ζιψιφυ θυ, ζαυπε μιζι θαυτομοπιλε

*The man, whom she married, bought my car.*

*[Literally: The man, that she married him, bought my car]*

ωιπε, κε ξι ηυπι ψοηο θυλα, ζαυπε μιζι θαυτομοπιλε

*The man, to whom she gave a gift, bought my car.*

*[Literally: The man, that she gave a gift to him, bought my car]*

ωιπε, κε ξι ωαθυψεσα θυζι ψοηο, ζαυπε μιζι θαυτομοπιλε

*The man, whose gift she returned, bought my car.*

*[Literally: The man, that she returned his gift, bought my car]*

Other nouns besides the agent in the main clause can be relativized in the same manner:

ωιπε ζαυπε μιζι θαυτομοπιλε κε μι λοαπουμο λοπυ

*The man bought my car which I had just cleaned*

ωιπε ηυπι μιζι θαυτομοπιλε θυζι μαμαλα κε χιο μιζι ζεχυε

*The man gave my car to his mother who built my house*

Of course, nominal phrases can be relativized, too:

λυωαυπε πυεκετο ρυξι κε ζιεφαε μι

*The big black dog that bit me*

λυωαυπε πυεκετο ρυξι κε μι ζιεφαε λο

*The big black dog that I bit*

## Modal Verbs and Complement Clauses

Modal verbs are those that are used to indicate necessity, permission, possibility, desirability, causality and other epistemic modifications of a sentence. Usually the modal verb is considered the verb of the main clause which takes as its argument the complement clause. For example, in the sentence, *Mary wants Billy to go*, the verb *want* is the modal verb, which governs the complement clause *Billy to go*.

In most cases in Temenia, complement clauses are introduced by the complementive particle: **χα**.

**μαρι τοθυκε χα πιλι ρυπε**  
*Mary wants Billy to go.*

If the agent of the complement clause is the same as the agent of the modal verb, then the complementive particle is omitted:

**μαρι τοθυκε ρυπε**  
*Mary wants to go.*

Note the difference in the construction of the complement clause depending on whether the agents of the main clause and the complement clause are the same:

**μαρι τοθυκε μαι ραωειηε**  
*Mary wants to eat noodles*  
**μαρι τοθυκε χα πιλι μαι ραωειηε**  
*Mary wants Billy to eat the noodles*  
*[literally: Mary wants that Billy eats the noodles]*

More examples:

Possibility:

**μαρι φαυχιυ μαι ραωειηε**  
*Mary can eat noodles*

Permission:

**ξερεμαιθα μυηυα χα μαρι μαι ραωειηε**  
*Jeremiah allows Mary to eat noodles*  
**μυηυα χα μαρι μαι ραωειηε**  
*Mary may eat noodles*  
*[Literally: It is allowed that Mary eat noodles]*

Obligation:

**ψαυκιθυ χα μαρι μαι ραωειηε**  
*Mary should eat noodles*  
*[Literally: It is obligatory that Mary eat noodles]*

Necessity:

**ροα χα μαρι μαι ραωειηε**  
*Mary must eat noodles*  
*[Literally: It is necessary that Mary eat noodles]*



Causation:

Ξερεμαιθα λορο χα μαρι μαι ραωειηε  
*Jeremiah makes Mary eat noodles*  
*[Literally: Jeremiah causes that Mary eat noodles]*

Optativity:

Ξερεμαιθα ηιεψι χα μαρι μαι ραωειηε  
*Jeremiah hopes that Mary eats noodles.*  
μαρι ηιεψι ηα μαι ραωειηε χατυ!  
*Mary hopes not to eat noodles today!*

Note that first-person plural imperatives (*Let us eat!*), as in Spanish, are translated using the imperative form of *allow* (μυιηυα):

μυιηυα χα ηυ μαι!

### Non-Modal Complement Clauses

There are certain non-modal verbs that can take complement clauses as objects. The complement clauses for these verbs behave in the same way as the complement clauses of modal verbs. Compare these two sentences:

πιλι ηιυψε ρεπεκα  
*Billy saw Rebecca.*  
πιλι ηιθψε χα ρεπεκα μαι κακε  
*Billy saw that Rebecca ate the cake.*  
*[for: Billy saw Rebecca eat the cake.]*

Anytime a complement clause, instead of a noun or a nominal clause, is an object of a verb, the clause is introduced by the complementive particle, χα.

πιλι ηευρι χα ρεπεκα μαι κακε  
*Billy knows that Rebecca ate the cake*  
πιλι ωωω χα ρεπεκα μαι κακε  
*Billy said that Rebecca ate the cake*  
Ξερεμαιθα ρεπεκαλα παικο χα πιλι παικο θυλα χα Ξι μαι κακε  
*Jeremiah told Rebecca that Billy told him that she ate the cake*  
ρεπεκα ωαυωι χα Ξι ψευ κακε λιε πιλιφο  
*Rebecca thinks that she will bake another cake for Billy*

### Non-Object Complement Clauses

In some languages, such as English, a complement clause can function as the subject of a verb: “*That Rebecca ate the cake angered Billy.*” Sometimes the fact that the complement clause is a subject in relation to the main verb is hidden by a cleft, or other grammatical construction: “*It surprised Billy that Rebecca ate the cake,*” (which actually means: “*That Rebecca ate the cake surprised Billy*”).

These sentences can not be translated directly into Temenia. Temenia allows complement clauses **only** as the objects of a verb (whether modal or not). Sentences with a

complement clause that is not the object of the main verb have to be translated into Temenia in some other way, usually using an adjunctive clause, such as:

*Billy was angry **because** Rebecca ate the cake.*

Or restated, such as:

*Rebecca's consumption of the cake surprised Billy.*

## Adjunctive Clauses

An adjunctive (or adverbial) clause is not an argument of any word in a sentence (or clause), but rather modifies the entire sentence (or clause). For example, clauses specifying time or location or manner are adjunctive clauses. Conditional clauses fall into this category as well.

There is no prescribed sequence for adjunctive clauses; they may either precede or follow the clause that they modify, depending on the emphasis that is intended by the speaker (whichever clause is first has more emphasis). Adjunctive clauses are introduced by an adjunction in Temenia (these are usually considered conjunctions or adverbs in European languages).

The following table lists the common adjunctions in Temenia:

Adjunctions	
ηαιψα	instead of
ηιρε	before
ηυρο	after
κοπο	because
λαθε	until
λαπο	while
μεοφε	if
παεψαο	in order to / so that
τιροηυ	in addition to
φαχοπυτιο	unless
φαχυο	like / as
χερο	where
ψιξαζεσυ	since
ψοεκι	though / although
ωεθι	except
ωει	when

Examples:

ηυ ρυπε ωει πακο ζοωειχο

*We'll go when Paco arrives*

μι φυταε τυ χερο ροαλο χιαφι

*I'll meet you where the statue was*

Ξι Ξολεμι φαχυο φιχιυ Ξολεμι  
*She talks like a child talks*

Θυ ριεζοα μετιζιηα παεψαο θυ ωιυζε  
*He takes medicine in order to cure himself*

Θυ ζοωειχο θυο κοπο θυ τοθυκε ραιηο χιερυ  
*He arrives early because he wants a good seat*

λαπο ηυ μαι, ηυ ψαμεπε ηυωα κοιηεωα θοαξι  
*While we were eating, we heard a noise outside of the window*

μεοφε τεμαε, ηομυ ηαθιπιτο  
*If it rains, the game will be cancelled*

φαχοπυτιο τεμαε, ηυ μαι θοαξι  
*Unless it rains, we'll eat outside*

ψαυκιθυ χα ηυ λαξοθι ραιηο ψοεκι κοι θυο  
*We should find seats although it is early*

μαμα κυκο ηαι ηαιψα παπα πεπυε λο  
*Mother cooked the chicken instead of Father burning it*

τιροηυ παζαπορατα μεο τυ, ροα χα τυ θιποθο ηοθιο  
χυθιωαθιεχεφο  
*In addition to having a passport, you have to pay an exit tax*

## Conditional Clauses

Conditional clauses are a type of adjunctive clause. In Temenia, conditional clauses are introduced by the adjuncts *if* (μεοφε) or *unless* (φαχοπυτιο). The normal order for conditional statements in Temenia is for the conditional clause to precede the main clause, which is the conclusion. However, this is not absolutely prescribed. If doing this would lead to a lack of clarity for the sentence, then the conclusion can be introduced, optionally, with *then* (ηεζια).

μεοφε τεμαε, ηεζια ηομυ ηαθιπιτο  
*If it rains, then the game will be cancelled*

φαχοπυτιο τεμαε, ηεζια ηυ μαι θοαξι  
*Unless it rains, (then) we'll eat outside*

## Derivational Operations

As in many languages, Temenia contains mechanisms to convert between nouns, verbs and modifiers. For example, in English, from the verb *employ*, we have the words

*employer* and *employee*; or from the word *add*, we have the word *addition*. Similar operations on the vocabulary of Temenia are possible.

By use of these operations, the lexicon of Temenia is increased. By no means does this mean that other words in the lexicon should be eliminated because of the possibility of a derived word with a similar meaning. In other words, there may be synonyms of derived words which are themselves non-derived. A large lexicon allows for nuances of meaning.

### Derivational Operations on Nouns

There are two derivational operations on nouns. If the noun is signified by *X*, one operation creates a verb with the meaning of *to cause X* and the other creates a modifier with the meaning of *quality of X*.

Noun Derivatives			
Suffix on Noun <i>X</i>	Resultant Grammatical Category	Meaning	Approximate English Suffixes
-φρα	verb	to cause <i>X</i>	-ify, -Ø
-χο	modifier	quality of <i>X</i>	-y, -ish, -ive, -al

Examples:

πολυ / πολυφρα

*rock / to petrify*

λυφω / λυφωφρα

*beginning / to begin*

λαο / λαοχο

*sun / sunny*

ηατυρο / ηατυροχο

*nature / natural*

### Derivational Operations on Modifiers

There are two derivational operations on modifiers. If the modifier is signified by *X*, one operation creates a verb with the meaning of *to become X* and the other creates a noun with the meaning of *attribute of X*.

Modifier Derivatives			
Suffix on Modifier <i>X</i>	Resultant Grammatical Category	Meaning	Approximate English Suffixes
-ρα	verb	to become <i>X</i>	-en, -ize
-ηε	noun	attribute of <i>X</i>	-ness, -ity

Examples:

ψυιλιλοζιτο / ψυιλιλοζιτορα

*awake / to wake*

κουφορε / κουφορερα

*red / to redden [or blush]*

θευτο / θευτοηε

*poor / poverty*

παμε / παμεηε

*violent / violence*

## Derivational Operations on Verbs

There are seven derivational operations on verbs. Two of them convert the verb to a modifier. If the verb is signified by *X*, then one of these operations creates a modifier with the meaning of *capable of X*, and the other creates a modifier with the meaning of *result of X*. For example, from *bend* we can derive *bendable* and *bent*.

The derivations from verb to noun are more varied. It is possible to derive nouns, for a verb *X*, with meanings of *action of X*, *agent of X*, *patient of X*, *place of X* and *instrument of X*.

Verb Derivatives			
Suffix on Verb <i>X</i>	Resultant Grammatical Category	Meaning	Approximate English Suffixes
-πα	modifier	capable of <i>X</i>	-able
-λε	modifier	result of <i>X</i>	-ed
-ξυ	noun	action of <i>X</i>	-ing, -ment, -tion, -al
-ρυ	noun	agent of <i>X</i>	-er, -or
-ψι	noun	patient of <i>X</i>	-ee
-μα	noun	place of <i>X</i>	(none)
-χε	noun	instrument of <i>X</i>	-er, -∅

Examples:

λοκυτοι / λοκυτοιπα

*to break / breakable*

ζειρα / ζειραλε

*to bend / bent*

κιτοψιε / κιτοψιελε

*to tire / tired*

θοραε / θοραεξυ

*operate / operation*

θοθεηο / θοθεηοξυ

*punish / punishment*

ψευ / ψευρυ

*bake / baker*

μεφιε / μεφιερυ

*represent / representative [an elected official]*

μεα / μεαψι / μεαρυ

*to commit a crime / crime / criminal*

καυωο / καυωοψι

*believe / belief*

ηλω / ηλωχε / ηλωψι  
*to paint / paint [the substance] / painting*  
ζυκι / ζυκιχε / ζυκιρυ  
*to ski / a ski / skier*  
χυψυ / χυψυμα  
*to work / workshop*  
φεξευ / φεξευμα  
*to worship / place of worship*

## Order of Suffixes

The derivational suffixes must be applied first to the word, before any suffixes (verb operations or noun operations) that may pertain to the resultant grammatical category. Although it is possible to create words through a sequence of more than one derivational operation, this is discouraged, as it results in words whose meaning is frequently unclear (although some of these do exist in the lexicon).

Examples:

ξι κουφορεραμυψυφι  
*She was blushing [as I observed]*

ποιλυφαζα λυχαε τι θυψαχυ κιλο ηυρο  
*This wood will petrify in 1000 years.*

## Compounding

Temenia does not have a formal process of forming compound words (for example, *windshield*), as German does. To achieve the sense of a compound, a possessive phrase may be used:

ζεχυεζι ωαριυ  
*housemaid*  
*[Literally: house's maid]*

## Negation

Statements are negated using the negation particle: ηα. The negation particle appears before the verb.

μαρι μαι ραωειηε  
*Mary eats noodles*  
μαρι ηα μαι ραωειηε  
*Mary does not eat noodles*

It is also possible for ηα to precede a noun or a modifier; in that case it has the sense of the prefix: **un-** or **non-**.

ζεληα κοι ηα ηευ  
*Selena is not an adult*  
[Literally: Selena is a non-adult]

ζεληα κοι ηα μαρυμι  
*Selena is unkind*

Double negatives result in an emphasis of the negation of the sentence (as in most languages). A double negative does **not** result in a positive.

ζεληα ηα κοι ηα μαρυμι  
*Selena is not kind at all!!*  
μι ηα ξολεμι ξιλα ηα παε  
*I will not talk to her ever again!!*  
[Literally: I will not talk to her not ever]

Imperatives are negated the same as indicative verb forms:

ηα ωιθιυλε!  
*Don't sit!*

## Interrogatives

### Yes/No Questions

A question is called a “yes/no question” if the answer solicited is either a “yes” or a “no.” In Temenia, a yes/no question is formed by preceding the equivalent statement with the interrogative particle: θα.

μαρι μαι ραωειηε  
*Mary eats noodles*  
θα μαρι μαι ραωειηε?  
*Does Mary eat noodles?*

### Informational Questions

Informational questions are those to which the answer solicited contains informational content. These are questions that solicit, for example, who was the agent of an action, or what was the action done by the agent. In English, informational questions normally start with “question words” such as *who*, *what* or *where*.

Like yes/no questions, informational questions start with the interrogative particle, θα.

Unless the piece of information solicited by the questioner appears first in the question (immediately after the interrogative particle), then the interrogative particle appears again, with a noun role marking as a suffix on the particle, in place of the missing information. (This is similar to the pronoun retention seen for relative clauses.)

If the piece of information solicited by the questioner does appear first in the question, then the initial interrogative particle carries the noun role marking as a suffix and the particle is not repeated.

πακο ηυπι ψοηο ζελεηαλα  
*Paco gave the gift to Selena*  
 θα πακο ηυπι ψοηο ζελεηαλα?  
*Did Paco give the gift to Selena?*  
 θακα ηυπι ψοηο ζελεηαλα?  
*Who gave the gift to Selena?*  
 θα πακο ηυπι θαπυ ζελεηαλα?  
*What did Paco give to Selena?*  
*[Literally: ¿Paco gave what to Selena?]*  
 θα πακο ηυπι ψοηο θαλα?  
*To whom did Paco give the gift?*  
*[Literally: ¿Paco gave the gift to whom?]*

If the word order of the sentence has been modified to emphasize one of the roles of the sentence, then the same rules apply: The interrogative particle, with the appropriate suffix, is repeated unless it refers to the first word of the sentence.

πακολα ζαξακα ηυρι ζεριπυ  
*To Paco, Sasha gave a pig*  
 θαλα ζαξακα ηυρι ζεριπυ?  
*To whom was it that Sasha gave a pig?*  
 θα πακολα ζαξακα ηυρι θαπυ?  
*To Paco, Sasha gave a what?*

There are also a number of oblique question words in Temenia (whose first syllable is consistently θα), as shown in the following table:

Question Words	
θαωιε	when?
θαχερο	where?
θακοπο	why?
θαφαχυο	how?
θαροε	how much? / how many?
θακε	which?

These question words normally appear at the beginning the sentence, but they can appear elsewhere for emphasis (but in that case the interrogative particle must be present at the beginning of the sentence).

θαωιε μαρι μαι ραωειηε?  
*When does Mary eat noodles?*



θαχερο μαρι μαι ραωειηε?  
*Where does Mary eat noodles?*  
 θα μαρι μαι ραωειηε θαωιε?  
*Mary eats noodles when?*  
 θα μαρι μαι ραωειηε θαφαχυο?  
*Mary eats noodles how?*

The use of “*which?*” is a bit different, because the information solicited is a relative clause modifying some noun in the sentence.

πακο ηυπι ψοηο ζελεηαλα  
*Paco gave the gift to Selena*  
 θα πακο ηυπι ψοηο θακε ζελεηαλα?  
*Paco gave which gift to Selena?*  
 πακο ηυπι ψοηο, κε κοι τυι, ζελεηαλα  
*Paco gave the gift, which was the book, to Selena*

### Indirect Questions

Indirect questions are formed by embedding the direct question as the argument of a modal verb. The interrogative particle, **θα**, is used in place of the relative particle, **χα**.

ωαηα θιχου θα μαρι μαι ραωειηε.  
*Juana wonders whether Mary eats noodles.*  
 ωαηα θιχου θαωιε μαρι μαι ραωειηε.  
*Juana wonders when Mary eats noodles.*

Note that these sentences are statements, not questions. Thus, they do not start with the interrogative particle. Compare the following interrogative sentences to the above:

θα ξερεμαιθα ηευρι χα μαρι μαι ραωειηε?  
*Does Jeremiah know that Mary eats noodles?*  
 θα ξερεμαιθα ηευρι θα μαρι μαι ραωειηε?  
*Does Jeremiah know whether Mary eats noodles?*  
 θα ξερεμαιθα ηευρι θαωιε μαρι μαι ραωειηε?  
*Does Jeremiah know when Mary eats noodles?*

### Comparisons

Comparatives and superlatives of modifiers are formed using the words in the following table. These words follow the modifier to which they pertain.

Comparatives and Superlatives	
φυ	more
φυφυ	most
λι	less
λιλι	least

μυψυα / μυψυα φυ / μυψυα φυφυ  
*tall / taller / tallest*  
 φιαηαο / φιαηαο λι / φιαηαο λιλι  
*short / less short / least short*

Comparative constructions (in which two nouns are compared in reference to some attribute) follow a **standard-marker-modifier** formation (where the marker is the particle, ζεωυ, *than*):

λυωαυτε κοι ζυιζυτοα ζεωυ ρυξι φυ  
*The dog is bigger than the cat*  
*[Literally: Dog is cat-than-big-more]*

ζεχυε κοι ψαξαρα ζεωυ ρυξι λι  
*A house is less big than a church*  
*[Literally: House is church-than-big-less]*

Equative constructions (in which two nouns are equated in reference to some attribute) follow an identical **standard-marker-modifier** formation (where the marker is the particle, τυεπο, *as*):

μιζι παπα κοι τυζι παπα τυεπο ψεζελυωο  
*My father is as strong as your father*  
*[Literally: My father is your father as strong]*

## Numbers and Numerals

Temenia uses the so-called Arabic numerals: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 0. These are written with the most significant digit on the left. This is identical to the way in which numerals are written in the European languages (and almost everywhere else in the world today).

The words for numbers in Temenia are derived from those in the following table:

Numbers	
ωαθι	one
τοζι	two
ρεζι	three
φιρι	four
ζιηι	five
ζεζι	six
ζαπι	seven
θοχι	eight
ηοηι	nine
τεκα	ten

Numbers	
θεκο	hundred
κιλο	thousand
μεκα	million
κικα	billion
τερα	trillion
ξερο	zero

The following table illustrates how these numeric primitives are combined to form different numbers:

τεκα ζηι	15
ζηι τεκα	50
ζηι τεκα ρεζι	53
ζηι θεκο	500
ζηι θεκο τοζι τεκα ρεζι	523
ζηι θεκο κιλο ωαθι	500,001

Ordinal numbers (first, second, third, fourth, fifth) are indicated by suffixing the number with -κι.

ωαθικι	first
τοζικι	second
τεκα ζαπικι	seventeenth

Ordinals are also used for the denominators of fractions:

θεκοκι	hundredth (1/100)
ζηι θεκοκι	five-hundredth (1/500)
θεκοκι ζηι	five hundredths (5/100)

Note that when spoken in Temenia, the denominator precedes the numerator (which functions as a numerical modifier of the denominator).

## Alphabet

The pronunciation of the isolated letters of the Temenia alphabet is shown in the table below:

Letter	“Name” of the Letter
α	θαηα
ε	θεηε
ζ	ζα
η	ηαυ
θ	θαυ

Letter	“Name” of the Letter
ι	θηι
κ	κα
λ	λαυ
μ	μα
ξ	ξα
ο	θοηο
π	πα
ρ	ρα
τ	τα
υ	θυηυ
φ	φα
χ	χα
ψ	ψαυ
ω	ωαυ

## Punctuation

The punctuation for Temenia is not prescribed, but probably standard European punctuation is most appropriate. Periods (.) are used to indicate the end of sentences, and commas (,) are used to indicate pauses, where this is not obvious from the sentence structure itself. The use of the question mark (?) is optional. It may be replaced with a period since the fact that the sentence is a question is clearly indicated by the first word, the interrogative particle, **θα**. Exclamation marks (!) are used to indicate emphasis. Inverted question and exclamation marks (¿ ¡) preceding the sentence, as in Spanish, may be used to indicate extreme emphasis, but are not required. Other punctuation marks (colons, semi-colons, hyphens, etc.) may be used if deemed necessary.