This reference grammar is intended for adult speakers of English who are at the elementary through the intermediate levels of acquisition of the Slovene language. It begins with a brief description of the Slovene language, its major dialects and its place among the Slavic languages. Information on the alphabet, pronunciation, and spelling rules follows. The major part of the work treats the major categories of speech: nouns, adjectives, pronouns, numeral declensions, and verbal conjugations. There are brief sections treating prepositions, adverbs, information on syntactic constructions relevant to the early stages of Slovene language study, and word order and word formation. Word and subject indexes and a bibliography are included. (Contains 30 references.) (Author)
A BASIC REFERENCE GRAMMAR OF SLOVENE

WILLIAM W. DERBYSHIRE
A BASIC REFERENCE GRAMMAR OF SLOVENE
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WILLIAM W. DERBYSHIRE

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Printed in the United States of America.
This Work Is Dedicated To

RADO L. LENCEK
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FOREWORD

The reference grammar which follows was written for speakers of English who are at the elementary through the intermediate levels of acquisition of the Slovene language. It attempts to present in a logical and easily comprehensible way the basic grammar of Slovene, beginning with a brief description of the Slovene language, its major dialects and its place among the Slavic languages. Then follows information on the alphabet, pronunciation and spelling rules. The major part of the work treats systematically and in a simplified form the major categories of speech: nouns, adjectives, pronouns, numeral declensions and verbal conjugations. Finally, there are brief sections treating prepositions, adverbs, information on a number of syntactic constructions relevant to the early stages of Slovene language study, word order and word formation.

The need for a work such as this one grew out of the author's own experience in studying Slovene. While there exist a number of grammars of the language for beginners, the majority of them published in Ljubljana, for the most part they neither present Slovene grammar in a systematic way, nor do they contain comprehensive charts of that language's grammar for easy reference in an appendix format. Furthermore, with few exceptions, available grammars are written exclusively in Slovene, requiring the learner to construct the grammar of Slovene as he or she progresses. It is the author's belief that employing the inductive method in the study of a Slavic language in most instances is not the most efficient path towards mastery. The latter is particularly true when applied to Slovene, which contains grammatical structures both more complex than many other Slavic languages (Russian, for example) and at the same time very different from languages such as English, Spanish or even German. The entire process can be accelerated and made more convenient with access to charts, lists and explanations.
at one's fingertips.

In writing this text the author was
guided and aided by extremely helpful hints from
colleagues and was provided with examples by a
number of native speakers of Slovene. He reminds
the learner, however, that Slovene is a language
which contains numerous allowable variant forms.
A reference work of this scope cannot present
every possible form and serves at best as a
guide to the grammar as described by native
linguists and grammarians. In those instances
when the native informants did not agree on the
correctness of a grammatical or lexical item,
the author used as his final arbiter major
comprehensive dictionaries and grammars pub-
lished in Slovenia. The student is likewise
advised to verify forms with a native speaker
and to consult similar works should doubts arise
when encountering an unexpected form.

This work constitutes a basic reference
grammar of Slovene and has been written for use
with any of the several existing grammars of
Slovene*. The intended audience is an adult one
possessing a command of the English language and
a grasp of basic grammatical terminology as
needed for the study of a Slavic language such
as Slovene. Potential users may be university
students, researchers in the Humanities, Social
Sciences or Natural Sciences or those persons of
Slovene descent who wish to improve their com-
mand of their ancestral tongue. Since this work
describes the grammatical structure of the
Slovene language, the author reminds the user
that oral proficiency will be gained only
through systematic work with speakers of
Slovene.

This work would not have been possible
without the continuous support and encouragement
of Rado L. Lencek of Columbia University, a true
humanist, scholar and respected colleague. Prof.
Lencek's dedication to his native Slovene lan-
guage as well as to the fate of the other

* See bibliography at the end of the book.
"minor" Slavic languages has resulted, inter alia, in several roundtable discussions and scholarly panels sponsored by his university, the Society for Slovene Studies and the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies and has served as the primary impetus for this author to codify the Slovene language in the form of a basic reference grammar.

Others who have shown a deep interest in, offered illustrative examples for and provided invaluable comments on this work include Marija Bolta, Henry R. Cooper, Jr., Ljuba Črnivec, Marc Greenberg, Irma Ožbalt and Joseph Paternost. To each of them I am deeply indebted.

The author wishes to express his sincere gratitude to the following agencies whose support enabled the completion of this work: The Department of Higher Education of the State of New Jersey, The Rutgers Research Council and The U.S. Department of Higher Education. Last, but not least, hearty thanks go to Dagmar Jensen who so patiently typed early drafts of the manuscript and to Mikhail Sakgobenzon and Bengt Erikson who provided gracious and much needed proofreadings of the manuscript and to the latter who drew the map on p. 13. The remaining and inevitable errors are the sole responsibility of the author who begs the reader's indulgence!

William W. Derbyshire
Somerset, NJ, and Seattle, WA, 1992
THE SLOVENE LANGUAGE

Modern Slovene is the official language of the Republic of Slovenia. The capital and largest city of Slovenia is Ljubljana, and its second largest city is Maribor. There are approximately two million speakers of Slovene in Slovenia, and large numbers of speakers of the language live in Slovene ethnic enclaves in neighboring Austria, Hungary and Italy. Many speakers of the language and persons of Slovene descent live throughout the world, including the English speaking world.

The language presented in grammars and taught in schools and universities is known as Contemporary Standard Slovene. It is the language of educated Slovenes and is used in all forms of artistic endeavor and in the mass media in Slovenia. Its speech area extends from the Julian Alps to the Croatian border not far from Zagreb and from the Hungarian border to the Italian littoral area. Slovene consists of many dialects with the major bases located in the following regions: Lower Carniola (Dolenjsko), Upper Carniola (Gorenjsko), Styria (Štajersko), the Pannonian region on the Hungarian border (Panonsko), Carinthia (Koroško), the Littoral along the Adriatic coast and the Italian-Friulian border (Primorsko) and the Rovte area (Rovtarsko) between the Littoral and Upper Carniola. The standard language is a composite of the dialects of the several regions of Slovene linguistic territory, but it is based primarily on the geographically central dialects of Dolenjsko and Gorenjsko.

Slovene is a member of the Slavic branch of the Indo-European family of languages. More specifically, it belongs to the South Slavic group of languages and is closely related to Serbo-Croatian and shares close affinities with the other South Slavic languages, Bulgarian and Macedonian. Additional sister Slavic languages include Russian, Ukrainian and Belorussian to the east and Polish, Czech, Slovak and Lusatian.
The Slovene Language

to the northwest. As a member of the large family of Indo-European group of languages, it is related to English and German, as well as to the Romance languages (French, Spanish, Italian, et al.) and to many other languages which extend from India to the British Isles and now to the New World.

The map which follows is based on commonly accepted descriptions and shows a Slovene linguistic territory which extends into Italy and Austria to the west and north, Hungary to the east and Croatia to the south.

1. Lower Carniola (Dolenjsko)
2. Upper Carniola (Gorenjsko)
3. Styria (Štajersko)
4. Pannonia (Panonsko)
5. Carinthia (Koroško)
6. Rovte (Rovtarsko)
7. Littoral (Primorsko)
THE ALPHABET, SOUNDS AND SPELLING RULES

Slovene uses the Latin alphabet and employs 25 letters, three of which are used in combination with the diacritical mark 'v. Presented below are the letters with the sound value for each.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Approximate sound value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>a (see notes below)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>b as in bed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>ts as in cats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Č</td>
<td>č ch as in church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>d as in day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>e (see notes below)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>f as in face</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>g as in get</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(never g as in George)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>h as in hit, but with</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>stronger friction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>i (see notes below)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>j y as in yes (never j as</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>in John)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>k k as in kite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>l (see notes below)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>m as in man</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>n as in net</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>o (see notes below)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>p as in pet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>r (see notes below)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>s as in set</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Š</td>
<td>š sh as in shop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T</td>
<td>t as in ten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U</td>
<td>u (see notes below)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>v (see notes below)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z</td>
<td>z as in zigzag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ž</td>
<td>ž zh as s in the word pleasure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following letters appear in foreign words:
  Q q (listed after P in dictionaries)
  W w (listed after V in dictionaries)
  X x (listed after W in dictionaries)
  Y y (listed after X in dictionaries)
The Alphabet, Sounds and Spelling Rules

Letters above which represent consonant sounds in Slovene are:
- b, c, c, d, f, g, h, j, k, l,
- m, n, p, r, s, š, t, v, z, ž

Letters above which represent vowel sounds in Slovene are:
- a, e, i, o, u

NOTES ON THE CONSONANT SOUNDS L, R AND V:

1. The letter l represents two basic sounds:
   (a) Before vowels and the consonant j, l
       is similar to the l in the word lumber,
       e.g. líst 'leaf' and ljudje 'people'.
   (b) Before all other consonants and at the
       end of words, l is normally pronounced as
       w in way or now, e.g. vólk [vówk] 'wolf'
       and cél [céw] 'whole'.
       There are a number of exceptions to (b) above
       which must be learned individually. They in-
       clude certain literary words as well as some
       foreign borrowings, e.g. the words glágal
       'verb', kultúra 'culture' and names such as
       Ciríl and Báltimore in which l retains the
       pronunciation noted in (a) above.

2. The letter r represents a rolled sound made
   by vibrating the tip of the tongue near the
   back of the upper tooth ridge. A similar sound
   does not exist in most varieties of English,
   but it is found in languages such as Spanish,
   Italian or Russian. When r occurs at the be-
   ginning of a word before another consonant or
   between two consonants it is pronounced with
   the vowel [a] preceding it (see note on the
   vowel e below), for example in the words rděč
   [reděč] and vět [várt].

3. The letter v, like l, represents two basic
   sounds:
   (a) Before vowels it is pronounced like v as
       in very, e.g. víno 'wine' and povédati
       'to tell'.
The Alphabet, Sounds and Spelling Rules

(b) At the end of words and before consonants, it is normally pronounced as \( \tilde{w} \), e.g. pràv [pràv] 'just' / 'quite' and pévka [péwka] '(female) singer'.

Again, like 1, there are some exceptions to (b) above which must be learned individually.

NOTES ON VOWELS

Stressed vowels in Slovene may be short or long, while unstressed vowels are short. In two instances the long vowels may be open or closed. It is not possible to find exact English equivalents for all the various vowel sounds in Slovene, and the comments which follow provide only a broad indication of their sound value. When learning Slovene, the student should imitate carefully the pronunciation of vowels by native speakers and avoid any tendency to diphthongize them.

[Note: the use of accent marks already appears in examples above, and a description of them follows in the section below entitled "accent marks".]

Long and short a/i/u: The preceding vowels may be short or long when stressed and, as noted, short when unstressed.

short       long
a as in father  bràt 'brother'  máti 'mother'
i as in beet    sit 'full'      sín 'son'
u as in moon   krùh 'bread'   múha 'fly'

e/o: These two vowels may also be short or long when stressed. Further, when long, they may be open or closed. Without the stress they are both short and open. Each is discussed separately below.

Long open o: Its pronunciation lies approximately between the a in all and the o in mode as in the word vôda 'water'. 
Long closed o: Its pronunciation lies approximately between the o in mode and the oo in mood as in the word nós 'nose'.

Short o: Its pronunciation is similar to the a in the word all as in the word otrôk 'child'.

Long open e: Its pronunciation lies approximately between the e in bet and the a in bat, but longer in duration, as in the word têle 'calf'.

Long closed e: Its pronunciation lies approximately between the e in let and the a of late, but longer in duration, as in the word léto 'summer'.

Short e: Its pronunciation is similar to the e in bet as in the word èn 'one'.

The vowel [a]: The letter e may also represent a short vowel with a pronunciation similar to the a in the word above. In dictionaries and grammars the symbol a is often used to indicate when e is pronounced as [a], but in standard texts it is normally spelled e. It may occur under stress as in the word pêš [pas] 'dog'. Unstressed it is found frequently in the final syllable of words, e.g. in the word véter [véter] 'wind'.

Those instances when e is pronounced as [a] are not dealt with in detail in this text, although a number of examples are drawn to the reader's attention. The learner will come to predict its occurrence with some confidence over time. (See also the note on r above.)

[Note: The learner may hear in the pronunciation of some educated native speakers of Slovene the vowel i instead of e before the consonant r, e.g. cérkek [církaw] and Prešêren [prešíran].

For those learners whose primary goal is to achieve a reading knowledge of Slovene, vowel
quality (" vs. ") and quantity (", ' vs."") — see the section entitled "accent marks" below — will not be a major concern. For the learner wishing to acquire a knowledge of the spoken language, particular attention must be paid from the very beginning to the pronunciation of one's instructor, recordings or native speakers. Failure to distinguish between short and long vowels or between open and closed o and e, for example, can easily lead to misunderstandings. Notice the difference in the meanings in the pairs of words which follow:

könj (short o) nominative sing. 'horse'
könj (long o) genitive plural 'horse'
peti (long closed e) infinitive 'to sing'
peti (long open e) numeral 'fifth'
nosi (long closed o) '(he/she) 'carries'
nosi (long open o) imperative 'carry'!

ACCENT MARKS

As noted above, grammars and dictionaries of Slovene employ the following diacritical marks over vowel letters: ', " and ' to designate quantity (short vs. long) and quality (open vs. closed). The mark ' (acute accent) is used to designate the long stressed vowels a, e, i, o and u, while the mark " (grave accent) is used to designate the short stressed vowels a, e, i, o and u. The mark " (circumflex) indicates that the quality of long stressed e or o is open, as opposed to the closed quality of a long stressed e or o (marked by '). Thus, all vowels in Slovene may be short or long, with the exception of a, normally written as e, which is always short. Accent marks are not used in standard texts. They will, however, be used throughout this work in order to increase the learner's awareness both of the place of stress and of vowel quality and quantity.
PLACE OF STRESS

Slovene has free stress, i.e. it may fall on any syllable of a word. Furthermore, once established, the place of stress may be non-mobile, i.e. it remains on the same vowel in all forms of those words which change endings by form, or it may be mobile, i.e. it moves between different forms within a word. The latter case, however, occurs with less frequency, since there is a tendency for stress to be non-mobile in Slovene. It is common in linguistic descriptions of Slovene to designate a non-mobile stress which falls on the root of a word and remains there in all forms, e.g. in nouns and verbs, as an A stress pattern. An example is the noun leto 'summer' (see p. 26). Words in which the stress is non-mobile and falls on the ending in all forms, e.g. the present tense of the verb govoriti 'to speak', are said to have a B stress pattern. Words in which the stress is mobile, i.e. moves ahead or back in specific and predictable forms, as in the noun srcë 'heart' (see p. 26) are said to have a C stress pattern.

Likewise the quality of a vowel may alternate between open and closed in different forms of the same word, e.g. in the noun most 'bridge' (see p. 26).

[Hint: Not every word in Slovene receives stress, e.g. prepositions, auxiliary verbs and short forms of pronouns do not. It will help the learner to remember that in accented words which have a long vowel ( ' or `), that vowel automatically receives the stress. In an accented word without a long vowel, the stress is short ( ` ) and normally falls on the final syllable.]

PAIRS OF VOICED AND VOICELESS CONSONANTS

Consonants in Slovene are considered to be voiced or voiceless. Some of them, those listed below, form pairs and undergo assimilation, i.e. they change their character under
specific conditions, a fact not reflected in spelling. In such pairs the presence of a paired voiceless consonant immediately before a paired voiced consonant requires its voicing. Paired voiced consonants which occur before paired voiceless consonants or at the end of a word are pronounced like their voiceless counterparts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Voiced</th>
<th>Voiceless</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b</td>
<td>p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d</td>
<td>t</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g</td>
<td>k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>z</td>
<td>s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ž</td>
<td>š</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[dž]</td>
<td>[č]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[dz]</td>
<td>[c]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Also voiceless are f and h.)

SOME EXAMPLES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Written</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b &gt; p</td>
<td>hríb [hríp]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>golóbček [golόpček]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>p &gt; b</td>
<td>lép dán [léb dán]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d &gt; t</td>
<td>mlád [mlát]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t &gt; d</td>
<td>odhod [othodt]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k &gt; g</td>
<td>snég [snék]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k &gt; g</td>
<td>kdó [gdó]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>z &gt; s</td>
<td>voz [vós]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ž &gt; š</td>
<td>izpít [ispít]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>š &gt; ž</td>
<td>mőž [möš]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ž &gt; š</td>
<td>težkó [težkó]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>š &gt; ž</td>
<td>vaš děd [važ dět]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONSONANT ALTERNATIONS

In certain inflectional and derivational categories of Slovene a series of consonant alternations will occur automatically. This will be seen in the former, for example, in certain verb forms, specific case forms of nouns, the formation of comparative adjectives and in the
latter in the area of word formation. The most common alternations are:

- k, t and c ~ č
- g, z and zd ~ š
- h and s ~ š
- sk and st ~ šč
- d ~ j
- r ~ rj
- l ~ lj
- n ~ nj

SOME EXAMPLES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Czech</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>okó</td>
<td>'eye'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>krátek</td>
<td>'short'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>drág</td>
<td>'expensive'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rézati</td>
<td>'to cut'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tíh</td>
<td>'quiet'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pisáti</td>
<td>'to write'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iskáti</td>
<td>'to seek'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prepustíti</td>
<td>'to yield'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mlád</td>
<td>'young'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>oráti</td>
<td>'to plow'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dáleč</td>
<td>'far'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tánek</td>
<td>'thin'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>očí</td>
<td>'eyes'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kračina</td>
<td>'shortness'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>drážji</td>
<td>'more expensive'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>réži</td>
<td>'cut!'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tíšji</td>
<td>'quieter'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>píšem</td>
<td>'I write'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iščem</td>
<td>'I seek'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prepuščen</td>
<td>'yielded'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mlájši</td>
<td>'younger'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>órjem</td>
<td>'I plow'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dálje</td>
<td>'farther'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>táníjši</td>
<td>'thinner'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTES ON CONSONANT ALTERNATIONS

1. The consonant alternations below are less frequently encountered. They are used primarily in the conjugation of a limited number of verbs, in creating certain types of imperfective verbs (see p. 93 for examples) and in forming past passive participles (p. 87).

- sl~ šlj: posláti ~ póšljem
  'to send' ~ 'I send'
- p~ plj: kápati ~ káplje
  'to drip' ~ 'it drips'
- b~ blj: ljubíti ~ ljúbíjilen
  'to love' ~ 'loved'
- v~ vlj: slavíti ~ sláviljen
  'to glorify' ~ 'glorified'
- m~ mlj: dremáti ~ dřémjilen
  'to doze' ~ 'I doze'
2. In verbs whose infinitive ends in -či the root contains a -k or -g, and these alternate respectively with -c and -z in the imperative form only:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Infinitive</th>
<th>1st person sing.</th>
<th>Participle in -1</th>
<th>Imperative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>'to say'</td>
<td>'to lie down'</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infinitive</td>
<td>rēči</td>
<td>rēčem</td>
<td>rēči(te)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st person sing.</td>
<td>rēčem</td>
<td>léčem</td>
<td>lézi(te)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participle in -1</td>
<td>rékel</td>
<td>légel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. The r ~ rj alternation is limited and less predictable and occurs in certain forms of nouns, adjectives and verbs. For examples see p. 29.

SPECIAL NOTE ON THE ALTERNATION OF O WITH E

In masculine and neuter noun declensions (for example, in the instrumental singular, the dative plural and genitive plural) and in adjective declensions (see p. 39) an expected o after the consonants č, š, ž, c and j, which are considered soft consonants in Slovene, is spelled and pronounced as -e.

Compare: z ávtom 'by car'
           z ěnim udárčem 'with one strike'
           and
           bęlo víno 'white wine'
           rděče víno 'red wine'
THE GRAMMAR OF SLOVENE

Slovene is a language in which nouns, pronouns, adjectives and numerals are declined, i.e. they change form by case. Verbs are conjugated, i.e. they change form by person and number, and they also denote tense (e.g. present, past, future). Words which do not change form by case include adverbs, conjunctions, particles, interjections and prepositions, the last of which, however, determine case selection for declined words.

The descriptions which follow will serve as a basic reference for nouns, adjectives, pronouns, numerals, verbs, adverbs and prepositions. The information presented in this text should be sufficient to guide persons undertaking a study of Slovene through the elementary and intermediate levels of that language. A number of exceptions are included in this description, i.e. irregularities likely to be encountered at the elementary and intermediate levels of Slovene language study. This reference material does not claim to be complete or exhaustive, but every effort has been made to include those exceptional forms needed realistically at the early stages of Slovene language study.

NOUNS

Nouns in Slovene are characterized by gender, case and number. There are three genders: masculine, feminine and neuter. Further, nouns are declined, i.e. their form changes by case through the addition of sets of endings the choice of which depends on the function of the noun within a given sentence. There are six cases: nominative, accusative, genitive, dative, locative, and instrumental. The numbers are singular, dual and plural.

GENDER

In the nominative case, the dictionary entry form, most masculine nouns end in a con-
Feminine nouns end in -a or, in some cases, in a consonant. Neuter nouns end in -o or -e. The case forms (sets of endings) for masculine and neuter nouns are identical in most cases, and they constitute CLASS I for nouns.

Feminine nouns which end in -a, together with a limited number ending in a consonant, form CLASS II. All other feminine nouns ending in a consonant form CLASS III.

There is a small number of nouns which do not decline.

CASE

As noted above, the selection and use of cases in Slovene is determined by the function of the noun within the sentence:

The NOMINATIVE case is the basic form of the noun, and its primary function is to serve as the subject of a sentence.

The ACCUSATIVE case, inter alia, corresponds to the direct object in English. It is also governed by (i.e. its use is required by the presence of) numerous verbs, and it is used with certain prepositions. In the case of masculine singular nouns only, the choice of endings depends on whether the object being referred to is animate or inanimate. If it is animate, i.e. refers to a person or animal, the ending is identical to the genitive case. The accusative ending for inanimate masculine objects coincides with the nominative case. (See pp. 103-104 for additional information on the topic of animate vs. inanimate.)

The GENITIVE case fulfills a wide variety of functions, one of which is to indicate possession. It is also used after many prepositions, after numerals, and it is governed by certain verbs. (Information on additional uses of the genitive is found on pp. 105-107).

The DATIVE case is the equivalent of the indirect object in English, i.e. a person or object acting as the recipient of the action of specific verbs. It is also used with a number of prepositions.
The LOCATIVE case is used with a number of prepositions which denote certain concepts of location and time.

The INSTRUMENTAL case is used with a number of prepositions which denote certain concepts of space and means and functions.

NUMBER

The SINGULAR number is used when discussing one subject or object.

The DUAL is employed only when referring to two counted subjects or objects. (See pp. 102-103 for additional information on the use of the dual in Slovene.)

The PLURAL is used when referring to more than two subjects or objects.

Note: There is a limited but significant number of nouns in Slovene which occur in the singular or plural only, e.g. zlatá 'gold' for the former and vrata 'door' for the latter. Such words often refer to things which are not countable, e.g. zrak 'air'.

ENDINGS

Words which end in a consonant may be said to have a zero ending. (# is a linguistic symbol which is often used to designate a zero ending.) Typically, nouns change form by adding an ending to the root or stem consonant, the final consonant of a word before its ending. Nouns which end in a vowel (-a, -o, or -e) drop that vowel and replace it with the proper ending. Note the final root consonant in the following words: most#, lét-o, knjíg-a, stvár#.

Further, the number of different case endings in the singular does not exceed four, since some endings serve for more than one case. In the plural there may be six different endings, and in the dual the nominative and accusative coincide, as do the dative and instrumental. The genitive and locative cases of the dual coincide with the same cases of the plural.
## Samples of Declensions

### Class I: Masculine and Neuter Nouns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case</th>
<th>'traveller'</th>
<th>'bridge'</th>
<th>'year'</th>
<th>'heart'</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>polnik</td>
<td>most</td>
<td>leto</td>
<td>srcé</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>polnika</td>
<td>most</td>
<td>leto</td>
<td>srcé</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>polnika</td>
<td>mostú/mósta</td>
<td>léta</td>
<td>srcá</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>polniku</td>
<td>mõstú</td>
<td>létu</td>
<td>sícü</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>polniku</td>
<td>mõstú</td>
<td>létu</td>
<td>sícu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>polnikom</td>
<td>mõstom</td>
<td>létom</td>
<td>sícem</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Dual:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case</th>
<th>'traveller'</th>
<th>'bridge'</th>
<th>'year'</th>
<th>'heart'</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>polnika</td>
<td>mostóva</td>
<td>léti</td>
<td>sící</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D/I</td>
<td>polnikoma</td>
<td>mostóvoma</td>
<td>létoma</td>
<td>sícema</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Plural:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case</th>
<th>'traveller'</th>
<th>'bridge'</th>
<th>'year'</th>
<th>'heart'</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>polniki</td>
<td>mostóvi</td>
<td>léta</td>
<td>sícá</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>polnike</td>
<td>mostóve</td>
<td>léta</td>
<td>sícá</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>polnikov</td>
<td>mostóv</td>
<td>lét</td>
<td>síc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>polnikom</td>
<td>mostóvom</td>
<td>létom</td>
<td>sícem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>polnikih</td>
<td>mostóvih</td>
<td>létih</td>
<td>sícih</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>polniki</td>
<td>mostóvi</td>
<td>léti</td>
<td>sící</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Class II: Feminine Nouns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case</th>
<th>'book'</th>
<th>'mountain'</th>
<th>'church'</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>knjišga</td>
<td>gora</td>
<td>cérkev</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>knjišgo</td>
<td>gôro</td>
<td>cérkev</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>knjišge</td>
<td>gôré</td>
<td>cérkve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>knjišgi</td>
<td>gôrî</td>
<td>cérkvi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>knjišgi</td>
<td>gôri</td>
<td>cérkvî</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>knjišgo</td>
<td>gôro</td>
<td>cérkvijo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grammar

Nouns

27

dual

N/A knjígi gőri cérkvi
D/I knjigama gőráma cérkvama

plural

N knjíge gőré cérkve
A knjíge gőré cérkve
G knjíg gőr/gorá cérkev/cerkvá
D knjigam gőrám cérkvam
L knjigah gőrāh cérkvah
I knjigami gőrāmi cérkvami

CLASS III  FEMININE NOUNS

'singlar'  'thought'

N stvár mísel
A stvár mísel
G stvarí mísli
D stvári mísli
L stvári mísli
I stvarjó míslijo

D/I stvaréma míslima

plural

N stvarí míslí
A stvarí míslí
G stvarí míslí
D stvarém míslim
L stvaréh míslih
I stvarmi míslimi
Note: The presence of alternative forms for a single case indicates that either form is acceptable. Such double forms may differ in place of stress, e.g. in the locative singular of čérkev, or in the choice of case ending, e.g. the genitive plural of gôra and čérkev above or the genitive singular mostú/mósta on the preceding page. While either form may be encountered, it is emphasized that the individual speaker will always use one or the other systematically. Throughout this work many such double forms will be presented. In most cases the first form given will be the one more preferred in current standard usage, while the second form may be either more literary, dated, colloquial or dialectal in nature. The declension of the word gôra, for example, indicates the possibility of a non-mobile A stress pattern on the first syllable or a mobile C stress pattern shifting to the ending in several forms. As noted earlier there is a growing tendency in Slovene to prefer a non-mobile stress. Those forms are more common today, so that in this instance gôra stressed on the o of the root throughout is to be preferred.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

1. Many masculine and feminine nouns have a so-called "fleeting" vowel in their stem, i.e. the final vowel letter (-e- or -a-) is dropped throughout the declension: čérkev — cérkve 'church', dán — dné 'day', pès — psà 'dog', and stárec — stárca 'old man', véter — vétra 'wind'. Belonging to this group are most nouns ending in -ec, -eg, -ek, -er and -ev in which the vowel -e- is pronounced [a]. (See also note under e on p. 17.)

2. (a) All borrowings, except those which end in -a, are considered to be masculine, i.e. no borrowings become neuter nouns in Slovene. They are declined like Class I nouns, e.g. finále 'finale', kíno 'movies', rádio 'radio', táksi 'taxi'. (See also note 1. (b) below.)
(b) Borrowings which end in -a are feminine and are declined like Class II nouns. (See also note 1 on p. 33) Those borrowings which refer to a female but do not end in -a, however, are not declined, e.g. lady [lë(j)di], madam and proper names such as Ingrid and Nancy.

NOTES TO NOUN DECLENSIONS

MASCULINE AND NEUTER (CLASS I) NOUNS

1. (a) Many masculine nouns ending in -r add -j- throughout their declension (see consonant alternations, p. 21), e.g. dółtor ~ dółtorja, the nominative and genitive/accusative cases of the word 'doctor'. Other words in common use include:
   cár 'tsar', kühr 'cook', papír 'paper'
The rule, however, is limited, and many nouns in common use ending in -r do not add a -j-.
   Among them are found:
   bóř 'pine'    góvor 'speech'
   dúr 'gift'    séver 'north'
   dvór 'court'  Máribor (city name)
   Nouns with a "fleeting" vowel (see 1. above) do not add a -j, so that, for example, names of months ending in -er, e.g. septémber 'September', do not add -j-, but those ending in -ar do, e.g. fébruar 'February'.

   (b) The -j- is also added to foreign borrowings ending in a vowel, e.g. táksi ~ táksija 'taxi' and komité ~ komitéja 'committee'. These nouns are masculine.

2. Nouns ending in -e which designate masculine beings as well as a few neuter nouns add the suffix -et- in all declined forms, while some other neuter nouns add the suffixes -en- or -es- throughout their declensions:

   (a) The suffix -et- occurs in the word ōče ~ očéta, the nominative and genitive/accusative
cases of the word for 'father'. The same suffix occurs in a few proper names, e.g. Jóže ~ Jóžeta 'Joseph' and the masculine noun fantè fantéta 'boy', as well as in the following neuter nouns:

déte ~ déteta 'baby'
deklè ~ dekléta 'girl'
tèłe ~ teléta 'calf'

(b) The suffix -es- occurs in a group of commonly used neuter nouns ending in -ó (see 10.(c) below also):

drevó ~ drevésa 'tree'
koló ~ kolésa 'wheel'
nebó ~ nebésa 'sky'
peró ~ perésa 'pen'
teló ~ telésa 'body'

(c) The suffix -en- occurs in a few commonly used neuter nouns ending in -me:
imé ~ iména 'name'
vrême ~ vreména 'weather'

3. A small number of monosyllabic Class I masculine nouns in common use take an optional stressed -ú ending in the genitive singular, e.g. dár ~ darú/dára 'gift'. Others include:
glás 'voice' möst 'bridge'
grád 'castle' nós 'nose'
lás 'hair' sád 'fruit'
léd 'ice' sín 'son'
lés 'wood' stráh 'fear'
méd 'honey' zíd 'wall'
mír 'peace'

4. A relatively large group of monosyllabic Class I masculine nouns are like möst and add the suffix -ov- in the dual and plural (see the declension of möst on p. 26). Among the most frequently encountered are:
brég 'shore' möst 'bridge' tók 'current'
cvét 'flower' nós 'nose' vál 'wave'
dár 'gift' pás 'belt' véter 'wind'
dólg 'debt' pláz 'avalanche'vólk 'wolf'
Grammatical Notes

5. (a) A few masculine nouns take the ending -je instead of -i in the nominative plural:
- lás ~ lasje 'hair'
- móž ~ možje 'man'
- zób ~ zobje 'tooth'
- človek ~ ljudje 'person'

(b) A number of other masculine nouns may take either -je or -i in the nominative plural, including:
- brat ~ brátje/bráti 'brother'
- děd ~ dědje/dědi 'grandfather'
- gospod ~ gospódje/gospodi 'sir/Mr.'
- študent ~ študentje/študenti 'student'

6. The normal ending for the genitive dual/plural of masculine nouns is -ov. A few masculine nouns, however, take a zero (#) ending (note the change in vowel quantity between the nominative singular of konj and otrok):
- konj 'horse'
- lás 'hair'
- móž 'man'
- zób 'tooth'

The genitive plural of človek (nominative plural ljudje) 'person' is ljudí (see 10.(a) below).

7. The dative plural for some masculine nouns is -ém instead of -om:
- lás ~ lasém 'hair'
- ljudje ~ ljudém 'people'
- móž ~ možém 'man'
- zób ~ zobém 'tooth'

8. The normal locative dual/plural ending for masculine and neuter nouns is -ih. A few nouns, however, take the ending -éh, including:
9. The normal ending for the instrumental plural of masculine and neuter nouns is -i, while a few nouns take the ending -mi:

- drvá ~ dřvéh 'firewood'
- láš ~ laséh 'hair'
- ljudjé ~ ljudéh 'people'
- móž ~ možéh 'man'
- tlà ~ tléh 'floor'
- zób ~ zobéh 'tooth'

10. A number of nouns in common use display changes in the stress or form of their stems:

(a) Forms in the singular for the word člővek 'person' display a stress shift but are otherwise regular:
člověka, člověku, člověkom.
Its dual forms are: člověka, člověkoma.
Its nominative plural is ljudjé (see also notes 5.(a), 6., 7., 8. and 9. above)

(b) Forms in the singular for the word otrŏk 'child' are otrŏka, otrŏku, otrŏkom.
Its dual forms are: otrŏka, otrŏkoma.
Its nominative plural is otrŏci, and the other forms are otrŏke, otrŏk, otrŏkom, otrŏcih, otrŏki.

(c) The following two neuter nouns add an -es suffix and have a consonant alternation throughout their declensions:
uhó ~ ušésa 'ear'
okó ~ očésa 'eye'
[Note: The plural of okó is očí. It is declined like stvár, i.e it becomes a feminine noun. See p. 27.]
11. The noun dan 'day' is declined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Dual</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>dán</td>
<td>dnéva</td>
<td>dnévi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>dán</td>
<td>dní/dnéva</td>
<td>dní/dnéve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>dné/dnéva</td>
<td>dní</td>
<td>dní</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>dnévu</td>
<td>dnévoma</td>
<td>dném/dnévom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>dné/dnévu</td>
<td>dnéh/dnévi</td>
<td>dnéh/dnévi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>dném/dnévom</td>
<td>dnéma/dnévoma</td>
<td>dnémi/dnévi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FEMININE (CLASS II) NOUNS

1. Borrowed nouns ending in -a are declined like Class II feminine nouns, e.g. fúnkciija 'function'.

2. The normal genitive plural ending for nouns in Class II is zero (#), but a small number may be found with the ending -á, e.g.
   - góra ~ gôr/gorá 'mountain'
   - sêstra ~ sêster/sestrá 'sister'
   and one in -í: besêda ~ beséd/besédi 'word'.

3. The noun gospá 'madam'/ 'Mrs.' has exceptional endings:
   - -é in the dative/locative singular and in the nominative/accusative dual/plural
   - -á in the genitive dual/plural
   - -éma in the dative/instrumental dual in the plural -ém (dative), -éh (locative), -émi (instrumental)

4. The feminine nouns of Class II which end in a consonant almost always have the ending -ev. Also included here are the nouns máti 'mother' and hčí 'daughter'
   (the genitive being mátere and hčere, the accusative máter, hčér and the instrumental máterjo, hčérjo).

5. To feminine nouns of Class II ending in -a belong a number of masculine nouns, e.g. slúga 'servant', koléga 'colleague' and vójvoda 'duke'. They are grammatically feminine (i.e.
they decline like feminine nouns), but their modifiers are always masculine and decline as masculine modifiers, e.g. 'our man-servant':

nominative genitive
náš slúga nášega slúge

Despite the preceding rule, it is noted that there is a growing tendency to decline these nouns as masculine nouns of Class I. In the sentence which follows the genitive singular of the word koléga occurs as koléga instead of the expected kolége:

Môjega koléga ni tükaj.
'My colleague isn't here.'

(See pp. 105 and 121-122 for an explanation on the use of the genitive in sentences of this type.)

FEWINE (CLASS III) NOUNS

A comparison of the declensions for the nouns míxel and stvár on p. 27 reveals a different set of endings for the instrumental singular, the dative and the instrumental dual, and the dative, locative and instrumental plural for those nouns which take the stress on the ending (mostly monosyllabic ones such as kòst 'bone'):
-ijo, -ima, -im, -ih, -imi (unstressed)
as opposed to
-jó, -éma, -ém, -éh, -mí (stressed)

Further, there is a small group of nouns like míxel which have the ending -jo in the instrumental singular, -ma in the dative and instrumental dual, and -mi in the instrumental plural, e.g. míx 'mouse'.

NOTES FOR STRESS ON NOUNS

1. As noted earlier (see p. 19), nouns may have a non-mobile stress, i.e. the place of stress remains on the same syllable throughout the declension. Many masculine nouns have an A stress pattern on the root, such as in the word pótnik on p. 26. A small group of nouns
displays a B pattern with the stress on the ending, e.g. stebèr [stebèr] 'pillar'. A limited number of nouns, including some words in frequent usage, take a C stress pattern in which the stress moves from the root to the ending in the genitive singular and in all dual and plural forms, e.g. mòst (p. 26).

2. The vast majority of neuter nouns display an A stress pattern, e.g. léto (p. 26). A few nouns have a B stress pattern, e.g. senčè 'temple'. In those neuter nouns with a C stress pattern the nominative and genitive singular endings are stressed, while on the remaining forms the stress moves to the root of the word, e.g. srcé (p. 26).

3. In a large number of words, including both masculine and neuter nouns, a variant of the A stress pattern is seen in which the place of stress moves within the stem so that it always falls on the penultimate (next to the last) syllable, e.g. jézik ~ jezíka 'language', tèle ~ teléta 'calf'. Others include:

- bòžič 'Christmas'
- prèdlog 'proposal'
- člóvek 'person'
- pròstor 'space'
- jélen 'deer'
- rázred 'classroom'
- Jèrnej (proper name) sòsed 'neighbor'
- mèdved 'bear'
- zákon 'law'
- ötok 'island'
- závod 'institution'

4. The vast majority of feminine nouns ending in -a display an A stress pattern, e.g. knjíga (pp. 26-27). In a small group of nouns in which the -e- of the stem represents the vowel [ø] there is an optional B stress pattern, e.g. e.g. stèza/stezà 'path'. There is a group of nouns in common use with an optional C stress pattern moving from the stem to the ending in the following cases: accusative, genitive and instrumental singular, dative and instrumental dual, all cases of the plural, e.g. gòra (see note on p. 28 with reference to gòra).
5. Feminine nouns of Class II ending in a consonant do not display a B or C stress pattern, i.e. the stress is a non-mobile A pattern remaining on the stem, e.g. cérkev (but note possible variants in stress and form for the preceding word on p. 28).

6. Some feminine nouns of Class III may have an A stress pattern throughout the declension, as in mísel (p. 27), while the others display a C stress which moves to the ending in the genitive and instrumental singular and in all forms of the dual and plural, e.g. stvár (see p. 27 and comments on Class III nouns on p. 34).
ADJECTIVES

Adjectives in Slovene, like nouns, distinguish gender, case and number. They are declined and have sets of endings, and they reflect the gender, case and number of the noun which they modify. For masculine adjectives in the nominative singular, there is the possibility of distinguishing between the indefinite ('a'/ 'an') and the definite ('the') forms. With the exception of the nominative and accusative cases, in the singular masculine and neuter adjective declensions coincide. In the singular feminine adjectives have endings like the noun knjíga (see pp. 26-27). In the dual, there is an opposition of masculine to feminine and neuter for the nominative-accusative case only. In the plural, forms for four of the six cases are identical for all three genders.

Adjectives in Slovene have three degrees: positive, comparative and superlative. Each is fully declined.

The vast majority of adjectives in Slovene are declined like bogáti 'rich' which follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MASCULINE / NEUTER</th>
<th>FEMININE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>singular</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N bogáti/bogáti</td>
<td>bogáto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A N/G</td>
<td>bogáto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G bogátega</td>
<td>bogáte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D bogátemu</td>
<td>bogáti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L bogátem</td>
<td>bogáti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I bogátim</td>
<td>bogáto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>dual</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A bogáta</td>
<td>bogáti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D/I &lt; bogátima &gt;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NOTES TO ADJECTIVE DECLENSIONS

1. The definite form of the adjective is made by adding the ending -i to the indefinite masculine adjective as in bogát človek 'a rich man' vs. bogati človek 'the rich man'. Appropriate questions eliciting the indefinite or definite form include the words kášen and katéri:
   Kášen človek? 'What kind of a person?'
   Bogat človek.
   Katéri človek? 'Which person?'
   Bogati človek.

2. (a) Adjectives ending in -ski, -ški, -ji, -nji cannot be used in the masculine nominative singular without -i:
   slovenski 'Slovene'
   anglicki 'English'
   divji 'wild'
   srédnji 'middle'

   (b) Adjectives which are derived from nouns and indicate possession and are formed with the suffixes -ov/-ev or -in are inherently definite and do not require the definite form ending -i in the masculine nominative singular, e.g. očetov 'father's', matern 'mother's'

   (c) In certain instances the use of the definite form is obligatory, e.g. with ordinal numerals peti dan 'the fifth day', after demonstrative tisti smesni človek 'that funny man', with comparative adjectives mlajsi brat 'younger brother' and in phrases in which the adjective qualifies the meaning of a modified
noun such as in běli krūh 'white bread' or sádni vřt 'orchard'.

3. (a) One adjective, mājhen 'small', has special definite forms for all three genders: máli, mála, málo.

(b) The adjective vēlik 'big' also has forms for the definite which are distinguished by vowel quality and a stress shift in all three genders:

Indef. vēlik, velīka, velīko
Def. vēliki, velika, veliko

(c) Two adjectives display a shift in stress in the masculine forms: dēbel ~ deběli 'fat', rōjen ~ rojēni 'born'.

4. Adjectives whose stems end in -c, -č, -ỳ, -ỳ and -j end in -e in the neuter nominative and accusative rather than the expected -o, e.g. domáče 'domestic'. (See comment p. 22.)

5. Many adjectives, particularly those ending in a simple -k, -n, -r or -l, have an -a- or an unstressed -e- [=a] present in the masculine nominative singular form. These are fleeting vowels which drop in all other forms of the adjectival declension, e.g.

těžák(or těžek) ~ těžki, těžka, těžko 'difficult'
tájen ~ tájni, tájna, tájno 'secret'
dóber ~ dōbri, dōbra, dōbro 'good'
tópel ~ tópli, tópla, tóplo 'warm'

6. A number of adjectives are not declined. Some display gender only, e.g. rād, ráda, rádo (plural: rádi, ráde, ráda) 'glad' (for the special use of rād see p. 111), while a number of adjectives of foreign origin display neither gender nor are they declined, e.g. šík 'stylish', fájn 'fine', gáy [géj] 'gay', běž 'beige', príma 'top rate', e.g. príma hotel 'a top rate/swell/first class hotel'.
The latter are quite popular, but only some are accepted in the literary language.

NOTES ON STRESS FOR ADJECTIVES

The vast majority of Slovene adjectives have an A stress pattern (non-mobile on the stem), i.e. bogât (see above). A small group of adjectives may have a B stress pattern (non-mobile on the ending in all forms), e.g. temèn, temnegà, etc. 'dark', but it is often an optional stress. The tendency is towards the A stress pattern for all adjectives. One finds, for example, the adjective temèn in the variant forms teman and tèmen. The latter form is the preferred one, and the stress falls on the first syllable where it so remains throughout its declension. Note: The vowel in the root of this adjective is [a].

THE COMPARATIVE DEGREE

The comparative degree of adjectives in Slovene is formed by the simple addition of one of the following suffixes: -š-, -j- or -èjš- to the root. The resulting forms are fully declined like adjectives in the positive degree (see notes for selection of suffix). Alternatively there exists a compound form employing the words bolj 'more' or manj 'less' before the positive degree of participles and those adjectives ending in -ji, -ov, -in, -ski and -ški, e.g. bolj razbít 'more broken', manj urejèen 'less orderly'. With either of the preceding formations, comparisons in Slovene are made by using the preposition od followed by the genitive case or the words kòt, kàkor or ko (the latter being more colloquial) followed by the nominative case:

Péter je mlájši od Bórisa.
'Peter is younger than Boris.'
Vésna je staréjša kòt (sem) jàz.
'Vesna is older than I (am).' 
Jánez ní takò stàr kàkor (si) tí.
'Janez is not as old as you (are).'
THE SUPERLATIVE DEGREE

The superlative degree of adjectives in Slovene is formed by the simple addition of the stressed prefix naj- to the comparative degree: najlepši (= naj- + -lep- + -š- + -i) 'prettiest' or by the use of the compounds najbolj 'most' or najmanj 'least', e.g. najbolj ohranjen 'the best preserved'. In constructions such as the following either preposition od or izmed followed by the genitive case may be used: Dušan je od/izmed vseh najmočnejši. 'Dušan is the strongest of all.'

NOTES FOR FORMING THE SIMPLE COMPARATIVE

1. The suffix -š- occurs with monosyllabic stems ending in -b, -p and -d. The final -d of the stem undergoes an alternation before the addition of the suffix -š-.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>茎</th>
<th>原形</th>
<th>比较级</th>
<th>超级级</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>lép</td>
<td>'pretty'</td>
<td>lépši</td>
<td>'prettier'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sláb</td>
<td>'weak'</td>
<td>slábši</td>
<td>'weaker'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>húd</td>
<td>'bad'</td>
<td>hújši</td>
<td>'worse'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mlád</td>
<td>'young'</td>
<td>mlájši</td>
<td>'younger'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rát</td>
<td>'glad'</td>
<td>rájši</td>
<td>'gladder'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   In some cases the final consonant of the stem is lost before the addition of the suffix -š-:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>茎</th>
<th>原形</th>
<th>比较级</th>
<th>超级级</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>grd</td>
<td>'ugly'</td>
<td>grši</td>
<td>'uglier'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>třd</td>
<td>'hard'</td>
<td>třši</td>
<td>'harder'.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Adjectives which end in -ek, -ak or -ok drop that suffix, and the final consonant of the stem alternates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>茎</th>
<th>原形</th>
<th>比较级</th>
<th>超级级</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>głoôk</td>
<td>'deep'</td>
<td>głooblji</td>
<td>'deeper'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>křátek</td>
<td>'short'</td>
<td>křáčji</td>
<td>'shorter'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nízek</td>
<td>'low'</td>
<td>nížji</td>
<td>'lower'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>óžek</td>
<td>'narrow'</td>
<td>óžji</td>
<td>'narrower'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>širôk</td>
<td>'wide'</td>
<td>širši</td>
<td>'wider'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sládek</td>
<td>'sweet'</td>
<td>slájši</td>
<td>'sweeter'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tânek</td>
<td>'thin'</td>
<td>tânjši</td>
<td>'thinner'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>težák</td>
<td>'heavy'</td>
<td>téžji</td>
<td>'heavier'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>visôk</td>
<td>'tall'</td>
<td>víšji</td>
<td>'taller'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. The suffix -j- occurs with monosyllabic stems ending in -g, -k and -h. Consonant alternations take place.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Original</th>
<th>Comparative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>blág</td>
<td>'mild'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>drág</td>
<td>'dear'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tíh</td>
<td>'quiet'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>blážji</td>
<td>'milder'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>drážji</td>
<td>'dearer'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tíšji</td>
<td>'quieter'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. The suffix -ejš- occurs with all other adjectives and is always stressed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Original</th>
<th>Comparative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bíster</td>
<td>'clear'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bogát</td>
<td>'rich'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>číst</td>
<td>'clean'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>míl</td>
<td>'gentle'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>močán</td>
<td>'strong'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nőv</td>
<td>'new'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stár</td>
<td>'old'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bistre</td>
<td>'clearer'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bogateši</td>
<td>'richer'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>čistěši</td>
<td>'cleaner'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>milěši</td>
<td>'gentler'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>močnéši</td>
<td>'stronger'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nověši</td>
<td>'newer'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>staréši</td>
<td>'older'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. The following adjectives have irregular comparatives:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Original</th>
<th>Comparative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>blížnji</td>
<td>'near'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dóber</td>
<td>'good'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dólgi</td>
<td>'far'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>láhečk</td>
<td>'easy'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>májhen/máli</td>
<td>'small'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vělik</td>
<td>'big'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>blížji</td>
<td>'nearer'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dóljši</td>
<td>'better'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dáljši</td>
<td>'farther'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lážji</td>
<td>'easier'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mánjši</td>
<td>'smaller'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>věčji</td>
<td>'bigger'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. A number of adjectives have alternate forms for the comparative. Some of those listed below are not in current use and may be found only in older literature or in dialects.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Original</th>
<th>Comparative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>globôk</td>
<td>'deep'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kráteck</td>
<td>'short'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>měheck</td>
<td>'soft'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>širok</td>
<td>'wider'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>glóblji</td>
<td>or globôčji</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>krácji</td>
<td>or krájši</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>méčji</td>
<td>or mehkéši</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>šírši</td>
<td>or šírji</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. In addition to forming comparatives by using the suffixes -š-, -j- and -ejš-, the positive form of an adjective may be prefixed by pre-giving the meaning 'too' or 'extremely':

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Original</th>
<th>Comparative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>predólgi</td>
<td>'too long'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prelép</td>
<td>'extremely pretty'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8. The construction čim...tem.... is used with the comparative degree of adjectives (as well as with adverbs) in the following way:

čim věčji, tem boljiši
' the bigger the better'
čim pametnejši, tem bolj zahteven
' the wiser the more exacting'
čim prěj, tem bolje
' the sooner the better'
čim bolj zgodaž, tem bolje
' the earlier the better'
Adverbs in Slovene modify verbs, adjectives and other adverbs. They may come at the beginning, in the middle or at the end of a phrase or sentence. Adverbs are not declined and supply information about:

- **Time**: kdaj 'when'
- **Degree**: zelo 'very'
- **Manner**: takoj 'so'
- **Place**: kje 'where'
- **Amounts**: koliko 'how much'

Others pose questions such as zakaj 'why' or causal relationships such as zato 'therefore'.

Those adverbs which can occupy a relative position in a sentence have special relative forms (see also note 3. on p. 52):

- **Kam greš?**
  'Where are you going?'
- **Pojdi, kamor hőčeš!**
  'Go where you want!'
- **Koliko denarja imáte?**
  'How much money do you have?'
- **Kolikor vėm, očeta ni domā.**
  'As far as I know father isn't home.'

Certain adverbs use the particle le for emphasis. When the particle follows the word it is written together with it. When le precedes it is separated by a dash, e.g. tām + le > tāme 'there!', tāle 'here'! (motion), tūle 'here'!, takole 'so!', as opposed to le + tū > le-tū 'here'!, le-tām 'there'! (see note 5. on p. 53).

In addition to the adverbs provided above, adverbs derived from adjectives in Slovene are extremely common, e.g. tājno 'secretly' from tājen 'secret' and prijāzno 'kindly' from prijāzen 'kind'. Adverbs derived from adjectives usually coincide with the neuter nominative singular form ending in -o or -e. Sometimes the -o is stressed in the adverb form, e.g. lepo 'beautifully', as opposed to the unstressed -o preferred for adjectives: lépo.

Like adjectives, adverbs derived from them may appear in the positive, comparative and superlative degrees. Refer to pp. 41-43 for their
formation. See also note 7. on p. 42 for the use of the prefix pre-

lepó lépše nájlepše
'beautifully/more beautifully/most beautifully'

Listed below are commonly encountered adverbs which display consonant alternations or exceptional forms in the comparative. Many of the corresponding adjectives are on pp. 36-38.

The learner will notice that in a large number of cases there exist alternate forms with abbreviated suffixes so that, for example, both blíže and blížje, húje and hújše or méče, méčje, mehkeje or mehkejše, may all be encountered. Native speakers of Slovene will often prefer one form over another, and some of the forms are found only in literary texts. The list below presents the shorter of the variant forms (shortest when applicable):

blízu 'near' blíže 'nearer'
često 'often' česče 'more often'
dolgo 'long (time)' dálj 'longer'
dobro 'well' bólfje 'better'
drágo 'costly' drážje 'more costly'
globoko 'deeply' globlje 'more deeply'
hudó 'badly' húje 'worse'
kasnó 'late' kasnéje 'later'
krátko 'briefly' krájšje 'more briefly'
lahkó 'easily' láže 'more easily'
málo 'little'/'few' mánj 'less'
mehkó 'softly' méče 'more softly'
nízko 'low' níže 'lower'
široko 'widely' šírše 'more widely'
tího 'quietly' tíše 'more quietly'
velíko 'a lot'/'much' véč 'more'
visőko 'highly' víše 'more highly'

In addition to being derived from adjectives, a number of adverbs in Slovene are formed from other parts of speech.

examples
from pronouns:

zakáj, čemú 'why', 'what for'
(both derived from káj 'what')
from nouns:
  dánes 'today' from dán 'day'
  nocój 'tonight' from nóc 'night'
  jútri 'tomorrow' from jútro 'morning'
from verbs:
  ponevédoma 'unknowingly'
    from védeti 'to know'
  gledé 'in view of'
    from glédati 'to look at'
PRONOUNS

Pronouns in Slovene are fully declined. They are traditionally divided into the following categories: personal, interrogative, indefinite, possessive, demonstrative and relative. The most important ones are presented here.

Personal pronouns have stressed and unstressed forms (clitics). Stressed forms are used to indicate emphasis. Additional information on clitics is found in the chapter on word order. In the spoken and written language personal pronouns in the nominative case are normally omitted except for emphasis or to avoid confusion of person in ambiguous verbal forms, e.g. the conditional. Declensions of personal pronouns are given below. Acceptable alternate forms are those listed as "or", while the clitic forms are preceded by a slash (/). Forms with two stresses indicate that either stress may be found.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>'I'</th>
<th>'you'</th>
<th>[reflexive]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>jaz</td>
<td>ti</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>mene/me</td>
<td>tebe/te</td>
<td>sebe/se</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>mene/me</td>
<td>tebe/te</td>
<td>sebe/se</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>meni/mi</td>
<td>tibi/ti</td>
<td>sebe/si</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>mene</td>
<td>tibi</td>
<td>sebi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>menoj</td>
<td>teboj</td>
<td>seboj</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>or</td>
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<td>or</td>
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<td>or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>mano</td>
<td>tabo</td>
<td>sabo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>'he'</td>
<td>'it'</td>
<td>'she'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>on</td>
<td>ono</td>
<td>ona</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>njega/ga</td>
<td>njyo/jo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>njega/ga</td>
<td>njje/je</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>njemu/mu</td>
<td>njej or nji/ji</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>njem</td>
<td>njej or nji</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>njim</td>
<td>njjo</td>
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</table>

47
### Pronouns

#### dual

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Plural (m/n)</th>
<th>Singular (f)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>N</strong></td>
<td>mídvá mídve</td>
<td>vídvá vídve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A/G</strong></td>
<td>náju</td>
<td>váju</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>D</strong></td>
<td>náma</td>
<td>váma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L</strong></td>
<td>náju</td>
<td>váju</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>I</strong></td>
<td>náma</td>
<td>váma</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 'they two'

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Plural (m/n)</th>
<th>Singular (f)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>N</strong></td>
<td>ónádvá ónidve</td>
<td>ónidve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A/G</strong></td>
<td>njú or njíju/ju or jih</td>
<td>njíma/jíma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>D</strong></td>
<td>njíma</td>
<td>njíma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L</strong></td>
<td>njíju/njíh</td>
<td>njíma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>I</strong></td>
<td>njíma</td>
<td>njíma</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### plural

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Plural (m/n)</th>
<th>Singular (f)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>N</strong></td>
<td>mí mé</td>
<td>ví vé</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A</strong></td>
<td>nás</td>
<td>váš</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>G</strong></td>
<td>nás</td>
<td>váš</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>D</strong></td>
<td>nám</td>
<td>vám</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L</strong></td>
<td>nás</td>
<td>váš</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>I</strong></td>
<td>námi</td>
<td>vámi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 'they'

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Plural (m/n)</th>
<th>Singular (f)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>N</strong></td>
<td>óní</td>
<td>óná óné</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A</strong></td>
<td>njé/jih</td>
<td>njíh/jih</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>G</strong></td>
<td>njíh/jih</td>
<td>njím/jim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>D</strong></td>
<td>njíh</td>
<td>njími</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L</strong></td>
<td>njíh</td>
<td>njími</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>I</strong></td>
<td>njíh</td>
<td>njími</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
[Note: Short forms of the accusative case are always combined and written together with monosyllabic prepositions, and the stress falls on the preposition, e.g. záme 'for me' (as opposed to the emphatic za měne), předte 'before you', pódnjo '(moving) under it'. Compare the latter form with the instrumental case pod njó '(resting) under it'. Further, there is a special contraction for the masculine and neuter accusative. It is -nj (as opposed to the enclitic form ga) seen in náňj 'onto it' (cf. na njêga).]

INTERROGATIVE (followed by relative form)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>'who'</th>
<th>'what'</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>kdó</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>kóga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>kóga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>kómur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>kóm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>kóm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Pronouns

(m) (n) (f)

1. The following are possessive pronouns:
   svój svóje svója 'one's own'
   mój móje mója 'my'/'mine'
   tvój tvóje tvója 'your/s'
   njegov njegovo njegova 'his'
   njén njéno njéna 'her/s'
   nájin nájino nájina 'our/s(two)'
   vájìn vájino vájina 'your/s(two)
   njún njúno njúna 'their/s(two)
   náš náše nása 'our/s'
   váš vášé váša 'your/s'
   njíhov njíhovo njíhova 'their/s'

2. Demonstrative pronouns:
   tá  tó  tá  'this'
   tísti tísto tísta  'that'
   óni  óno  óna  'that'(distant)
   ísti  ísto  ísta  'same'
Pronouns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ták</strong></td>
<td><strong>táko</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>tákšen</strong></td>
<td><strong>tákšno</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>tólîk</strong></td>
<td><strong>tólîko</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>tólîkšen</strong></td>
<td><strong>tólîkšno</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. The following list contains a number of the most commonly used interrogative, relative and indefinite pronouns:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interrogative</th>
<th>Pronoun</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>čigáv</td>
<td>čigáva</td>
<td>'whose'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>drúg</td>
<td>drúga</td>
<td>'other'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kàk</td>
<td>káka</td>
<td>'some'/ 'any'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kàkšen</td>
<td>kàkšno</td>
<td>kàkšna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kákšen</td>
<td>kákšno</td>
<td>kákšna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>katéri</td>
<td>katéra</td>
<td>'which'/ 'whose'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kòlík</td>
<td>kòlíko</td>
<td>kòlíka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kòlíkšen</td>
<td>kòlíkšno</td>
<td>kòlíkšna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nèki</td>
<td>nèka</td>
<td>'a certain'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nobèn</td>
<td>nobèno</td>
<td>nobèna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sàm</td>
<td>sàmo</td>
<td>sàma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vès</td>
<td>vsè</td>
<td>vsà</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vsák</td>
<td>vsákko</td>
<td>vsáka</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The pronouns in 1., 2 and 3. above are fully declined, differing in detail from the adjectival declensions found on p. 37. Note the declensions of t'à 'this' and vès 'all':

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Declension</th>
<th>Case</th>
<th>Usage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>singular</td>
<td>(m)</td>
<td>(n)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N tá to tá</td>
<td>vès</td>
<td>vsè</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A N/G N to N/G</td>
<td>N/G</td>
<td>N vsò</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G téga té</td>
<td>vsegà</td>
<td>vsè</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D tému téj/ò</td>
<td>vsemù</td>
<td>vsèj/vsì</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L tém téj/ò</td>
<td>vsèm</td>
<td>vsèj/vsì</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I tém tò</td>
<td>vsèm</td>
<td>vsò</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dual</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>tâ té/ò té/ò</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D/I</td>
<td>téma</td>
<td>vséma</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NOTES ON PRONOUNS

1. Standard grammars are not consistent in their presentation of the dual forms for personal pronouns. The nominative case of the dual is listed in the charts above as mídvá / médvé, vídva / vídvé and ŏnádvá / ŏnídvé. One may also encounter the following variant forms for the nominative case of the feminine: médvé / védve / onédve. Similarly, not all grammars agree on allowable forms for the locative of the dual. In addition to those listed in the chart, one may also also find the forms: náma váma njíma

2. (a) Indefinite pronouns also include:
   nihče (gen. nikógar) 'nobody'
   nič (gen. ničésar) 'nothing'
   nobéden 'not one'
   (See p. 105 for information concerning the use of double negatives.)

   (b) The prefixes malo-, marsi-, ne-, ni- and vsak- may be added to a number of pronouns (as well as to adverbs) such as kdó, káj, kàk, kàkšen and katéri producing words with indefinite meanings, e.g.
   někdo 'somebody'
   níkdo 'nobody'
   vsákdo 'everybody'
   málokdo 'hardly anyone'
   mársikdo 'many a person'
   někaj 'something'
   málokaj 'hardly anything'
   mársikaj 'many a thing'
3. Relative pronouns (and adverbs) in Slovene are formed by adding the suffix -r(-) to the root of pronouns and are fully declined. (See, for example, the declensions of kdór and kár on p. 43.) Included among relative pronouns are the words kákršen 'like', kólikršen 'such as' and čígar 'whose'. The latter is not declined and refers to masculine nouns only, e.g. Gospódu, čígar híšo vídiš, čésto prodájam knjige. 'I frequently sell books to the gentleman whose house you see.'

If the noun of reference is not masculine, the proper case form of the relative pronoun katéri would be used in place of čígar:
Gospodínji, katére híšo vídiš, prodájam knjige. 'I sell books to the lady whose house you see.'

Glédi skózi ōkno, katérega vídiš.
'Look through the window which you see.'

[See p. 108 for an explanation on the use of the genitive case in the preceding example.]

4. The indeclinable ki is a relative pronoun meaning 'who' or 'which'. When appearing in the function of the nominative case, ki requires no pronoun. When functioning in any other case, ki must be used in combination with a short form (clitic) of a personal pronoun whose gender and number agrees with the noun of the main clause to which it refers. The case of the pronoun, however, is governed by the verb or preposition of the relative clause, e.g.

knjíga, ki je bilá na mízi
'the book which was on the table'
to je tísti fánt, ki takó lepó pôje
'that's the same boy who sings so beautifully'

BUT
člóvek, ki ga vídiš
'the person whom you see'
pšenica, ki jo kupúješ
'the wheat which you are buying'
ljudje, ki jim govoríš
'the people to whom you are speaking'
 Grammar Pronouns

5. The unstressed particle le is frequently used with pronouns (as with adverbs - see p. 44) in Slovene and serves to emphasize a word or phrase. When it precedes the word, it is joined by a dash, and when it follows it is written together with the word, e.g.

Vprašali smo tistole ženo

or

Vprašali smo le-tó ženo.

'Ve asked that very woman.'

In the second example a form of le-tá occurs. It may also be written as tále. Pronouns which can be combined with le include Ŏnale / le-ôna 'she!', tákšânaš 'such a one!' and others.
**NUMERALS**

The two main categories of numerals in Slovene are: cardinal and ordinal. A list of them follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cardinal</th>
<th>Ordinal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>níč [núla]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>en (èden), èno, èna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>dvá, dvé</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>tríje, trí</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>štirje, štiri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>pét</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>šést</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>sèdem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>ôsem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>devèt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>desèt</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>enájest</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>dvánajst</td>
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<td>devètdesti</td>
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<td>stòi</td>
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<td>101</td>
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<td>200</td>
<td>dvésto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300</td>
<td>trístot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400</td>
<td>štíristot</td>
</tr>
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</table>
### Numerals

<table>
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<th>Cardinal</th>
<th>Ordinal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>pětsto</td>
<td>pětstoti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600</td>
<td>šeststo</td>
<td>šeststoti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>700</td>
<td>sedmsto</td>
<td>sedemstoti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800</td>
<td>osemsto</td>
<td>osemstoti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>900</td>
<td>devětsto</td>
<td>devětstoti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000</td>
<td>tisoc</td>
<td>tisoci</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1001</td>
<td>tisoc ena</td>
<td>tisoc prvii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>dvá tisoc</td>
<td>dvatišoci</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3000</td>
<td>trí tisoc</td>
<td>tritišoci</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4000</td>
<td>štiri tisoc</td>
<td>štiritišoci</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5000</td>
<td>pět tisoc</td>
<td>pětitišoci</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>sto tisoc</td>
<td>stotišoci</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>milijon</td>
<td>milijonst/milijonti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>dvá milijona</td>
<td>dvamilijonti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,000,000</td>
<td>trije milijoni</td>
<td>trimilijonti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4,000,000</td>
<td>štirje milijoni</td>
<td>štirimilijonti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,000,000</td>
<td>pět milijonov</td>
<td>petmilijonti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,000,000,000</td>
<td>milijárda</td>
<td>milijárden</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some fractions have their own special forms, e.g.

- 1/2 \(\text{éna polovica}\)
- 1/3 \(\text{éna tretjina}\)
- 1/4 \(\text{éna četrťina OR én četť}\)
- 1/5, 1/6 \(\text{éna petína, éna šestína, etc.}\)

In comparing cardinal and ordinal numerals, the student will note that ordinals from 'fifth' onward are formed by the addition of the suffix \(-i\) to the cardinal, e.g. \(\text{pět + i = pěti}\). The cardinals \(\text{sédem and osem}\) drop the final \(-e\) \(\Rightarrow\). The cardinal \(\text{sto and its compounds}\) take the suffix \(-ti\), as does milijón (which also has an alternate form in \(-ski\)), as well as the rarely used \(\text{níčti/múti}\). Milijárden adds the suffix \(-en\) \(\Rightarrow\). The ordinals \(\text{prvi, drúgi, trétji and četťti}\) should be learned as separate vocabulary items. [Observe accent and stress changes from cardinal to ordinal!]

In the preceding list the numerals from 100,000 to 1,000,000,000 are given in their American style, i.e. with commas. The learner is reminded that Slovene, in standard European style, uses the comma to set off millions \((1,000,000 = 1,000,000)\) and to designate fractions ('three
tenths’ = 0.3). Further, in printed texts when numerals are followed by no punctuation they are to be read as cardinals. A period (i.e. decimal point) is used to indicate ordinals and to set off thousands:

1, 8, 3 = ena ('one' is read as feminine), 
ósem, trí
1., .., 3. = pívi, ósmi, trétji
100.000 = sto tisoč

DECLENSIONS

The cardinal numeral 'one' occurs in the singular and is declined like bogát (p. 33). The cardinals 'two', 'three' and 'four' share a substantial number of endings in common with dual and plural endings for adjectives but display a number of endings which require special attention. Each of the preceding is presented in its entirety below. Ordinal numerals are adjectives, e.g. pívi, píva, píva 'first' and are declined like bogáti (see p. 37 and note 2 (c) on p. 38).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>(m)</th>
<th>(n)</th>
<th>(f)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>eden / en</td>
<td>eno</td>
<td>ena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>N/G</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>eno</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>enega</td>
<td>ene</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>enemu</td>
<td>eni</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>enem</td>
<td>eni</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>enim</td>
<td>eno</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The numerals 'two', 'three' and 'four' distinguish gender in the nominative and accusative cases:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>(m)</th>
<th>(n/f)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>dvá trije</td>
<td>štirje</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>dvá tri</td>
<td>štíri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>dvéh tréh</td>
<td>štírh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>dvéma trém</td>
<td>štírim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>dvéh tréh</td>
<td>štírh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>dvéma trémi</td>
<td>štírimi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Numerals from 5 to 99 do not distinguish gender and are declined like adjectives in the genitive,
dative, locative and instrumental plural. 'Five' is declined below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case</th>
<th>N/A</th>
<th>G</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>I</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>pét</td>
<td>pětih</td>
<td>pětim</td>
<td>pětih</td>
<td>pětimi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Case agreement with numerals

(a) The number 'one' is an adjective and modifies nouns in the singular. If a verb appears in the sentence, it is also in the singular. The special masculine form ěden stands alone, i.e. does not act as a modifier:

Imá pét otrôk, pa je le ěden njēmu podōben.
'He has five children, but only one resembles him.'

En sám gospód je prīšel.
'Just one gentleman arrived.'

(b) The number 'two' is a dual, and the noun and verb occurring with it are also in the dual:

Dvá gospóda sta prišlā.
'Two gentlemen arrived.'

(c) The numbers 'three' and 'four' behave like plural adjectives, as do the nouns which they modify. The verb is also in the plural:

Trīje/štírje gospóđe so prišlī.
'Three/four gentlemen arrived.'

(d) When used in the nominative case, the numbers 'five' and higher require that nouns and adjectives which follow be in the genitive plural. In all other cases the numbers, nouns and adjectives agree in case. The verb, however, occurs in the third person neuter singular:

Pét gospóđov je prišlō.
'Five gentlemen arrived.'

Desét lépih deklét se je pogovārjalo.
'Ten pretty girls were talking.'
1. Stó 'one hundred' is declined like pét: stó, stótih, etc. (A special form stótina exists to indicate groups of one hundred and is used in both the singular and plural, e.g. stótine ljudí 'hundreds of people'). The numeral tisoč 'one thousand' is declined like a masculine noun.

2. In practical terms there is a tendency not to decline numerals other than digits and simple multiples of tens in the spoken language. At the early stages of language learning, the student of Slovene will need to know certain forms of numeral declensions, e.g. those which will be needed in telling time: ob šestih 'at six o'clock' (see pp. 114-115).

3. By the addition of the suffix -krat to cardinal numbers, one obtains an adverb of frequency: enkrat 'once', dvákrat 'twice', etc. Examples:
   enkrat na dán
   'once a day'
   Bíl je enkrat tóčen.
   'He was punctual for once.'
   On je dvákrat staréjši od méne.
   'He's twice as old as I.'
   Dánes sem ga dvákrat vídél.
   'I saw him twice today.'

4. By adding the suffix -ič to ordinal numerals, one obtains an adverb of time: prvič 'firstly', 'for the first time' drúgič 'secondly', 'for the second time'
   Examples:
   Prvič sem v Ljubljáni.
   'This is my first time in Ljubljana.'
   Drúgič se oženiti
   'to get married for the second time'
   Včasih se háli, drúgič krikí.
   'Sometimes he jokes, and at other times he shouts.'

5. The word obá / obé 'both' behaves in all respects like dvá / dvé, including in its
declension (obéh, obéma). Compare the case forms with the declensions of tá and vés.
[Note: Native speakers feel dvá / dvé and obá / obé to be pronouns.]

6. Slovene has collective numerals, i.e. words used to indicate groups or units. They are declined like adjectives.

(a) There are the special forms enőj, dvój, trój and četvér. Higher collectives are formed by adding the stressed suffix -ér to the cardinal form of the numeral, e.g. petér, tisočér. They are used with nouns which have no singular, e.g. dvója vráta 'two doors' or to designate the number of different types of an object, e.g. sedméra vína 'seven varieties of wine'.

(b) The neuter singular form may be used to designate groups of people or objects. In such cases the noun follows in the genitive plural, e.g. desetéro ljudí 'a group of ten persons'.

[See also note 1. above concerning stótina.]
PREPOSITIONS

Each preposition in Slovene requires the use of one or more cases when used with nouns and adjectives. In those instances where the same preposition may be used with more than one case, its meaning changes. Compare, for instance, the preposition z (s) when it requires the genitive case and when used with the instrumental case. A list of the most common prepositions and the cases which they govern follows accompanied by illustrative phrases. The translations attempt to provide each preposition's basic meaning, but the learner is reminded that some prepositions, e.g. za 'for', cover a wider variety of senses than can be expressed by a single "equivalent" in English. The examples each indicate one possible meaning of the given preposition.

GENITIVE

blízu 'near'
Vóž je blízu híše.
'The car is near the house.'
brez 'without'
híša brez výta
'a house without a garden'
do 'up to' / 'till'
do danášnjega dňe
'up to this day'
iz 'from' / 'out of'
práti iz Ljubljáne
'to come from Ljubljana'
ízmed 'from among'
Izmed híš se je slíšal krík.
'A cry was heard from among the houses.'
íznad '(from) above'
On je visóko íznad njíh.
'He towers high above them.'
ízpod 'from under'
Vóda têče ízpod skále.
'Water flows from under the cliff.'
ízpred 'from in front of'
Odpeljál je ízpred híše.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prepositions</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>'He left from in front of the house.'</td>
<td>He left from in front of the house.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'from behind'</td>
<td>from behind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sónce síje ízza obláka.</td>
<td>The sun shines from behind the cloud.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'by' / 'past'</td>
<td>by / past</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Šla je mímo cérkve.</td>
<td>She walked past the church.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'instead of'</td>
<td>instead of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pójdi tjá namesto mène.</td>
<td>Go there in my stead.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'(away) from'</td>
<td>(away) from</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pot od Ljubljáne do Zágreba</td>
<td>the way from Ljubljana to Zagreb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'around'</td>
<td>around</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pogóvor se je súkal okóli politike.</td>
<td>The conversation revolved around politics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>okróg pêtih</td>
<td>around five o'clock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'beside'</td>
<td>beside</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hodíti póleg njé</td>
<td>to walk beside her</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'across'</td>
<td>across</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>préko hríbov in dolín</td>
<td>the length and breadth of the country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( = 'across the hills and valleys')</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'except'</td>
<td>except</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vsí rázen mène</td>
<td>everybody except me</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'in the middle of'</td>
<td>in the middle of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>srédi oceána</td>
<td>in the middle of the ocean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'off of' / 'from'</td>
<td>off of / from</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>z míze vzéti</td>
<td>to take (something) off of the table</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'from that point of view'</td>
<td>from that point of view</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[See end notes for spelling of z / s.]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zarádi</td>
<td>because of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zarádi bolézni je ostál domá.</td>
<td>He stayed home because of illness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'beside'</td>
<td>beside</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Šóla je zráven cérkve.</td>
<td>The school is next to (beside) the church.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DATIVE

k
'to' / 'towards'
Gram k odevtniku.
'I'm going to (my) lawyer's.'
h glávi
'(pointed) towards the head'
[See end notes for spelling of k as h.]
kříb
'in spite of'
Kříb těmu vsému ní srěčen.
'In spite of all that he's not happy.'
proti
'towards'
proti začetku léta
'towards the beginning of summer'

ACCUSATIVE

čez
'across'
ité čez réko
'to go across the river'
med
'among'
pásti med rázbojníke
'to fall among thieves'
na
'onto' / 'at'
Okno gléda na úlico.
'The window looks onto the street.'
na přví pôglêd
'at first sight'
nad
'(to go) above'
Mêč mu je víšel nad glávo.
'The sword hung above his head.'
ob
'against'
ob mízo udáriti
'to bang against the table'
po
'(to go) for' / 'to get
posláti po zdrávniku
'to send for a doctor'
pod
'(to go) under'
Dájte tó pod kljúč.
'Put it under lock and key.'
pred
'(to go) in front of'
Prédme naj ne hôdi. [see note on p. 49]
'Don't walk in front of me.'
skóz(i) 'through'  
pogledati skóz(i) očko  
'to look out (through) the window'  
v 'into'  
Grém v hišo.  
'I'm going into the house.'  
za for' / '(to go) behind'  
vstópniča za gledališče  
'a ticket for the theater'  
Sónce gré za góro.  
'The sun is going behind the mountain.'  
zóper 'against'  
Sem zóper tó.  
'I'm against that.'

**LOCATIVE**

na 'on'  
Víno je na mízi.  
'The wine is on the table.'  
o 'about'  
govoríti o vójni  
'to talk about war'  
ob 'at' (in time expressions) / 'by'  
ob tréh [see p. 91]  
'at three o'clock'  
drevó ob Sávi  
'a tree by the Sava (river)'  
po 'after'  
po božiču  
'after Christmas'  
prí 'at' / 'near'  
prí vášem brátu  
'at your brother's (place)'  
prí očku  
'near the window'  
v 'in'  
bíti v Ljubljáni  
'to be in Ljubljana'

**INSTRUMENTAL**

med 'between'  
med nehm in zemljó  
'between heaven and earth'
64 Prepositions Grammar

nad 'above'
Soncé je nad obzórjem.
'The sun is above the horizon.'
pod 'under'
sedéti pod drevésom
'to sit under the tree'
pred 'in front of'
Vóz je pred híšo.
'The car is in front of the house.'
z (s) 'with'
z vsô močjó
'with all one's might'
vstáti s sóncem
'to get up with the sun'
[See end notes for spelling of z/s.]
za 'behind' / 'after'
 Za híšo je vít.
'There's a garden behind the house.'
éden za drúgim
'one after another'

NOTES TO PREPOSITIONS

1. The preposition z/s is used with the genitive and instrumental cases. It is spelled z when used before a word beginning with a voiced consonant or with a vowel. Likewise, s is used before a word beginning with a voiceless consonant (see pp. 19-20), e.g.
z ávtom 'by car'
z dédom 'with grandfather'
but
s póšto 'by mail'
s tebój 'with you'

2. The preposition k is used with the dative case. It is spelled h when it comes before a k or g, e.g.
h kôňju '[to walk] towards the horse'
h glávi '[to point] towards the head'
VERBS

Slovene has a rich verbal system. There are special forms for the infinitive and supine, described below, as well as sets of forms which change by person (conjugation). The verb in Slovene is further characterized by the category of tense (present, past and future) and by mood (indicative, imperative, optative, conditional), aspect (imperfective and perfective) and voice (active, passive and medium). Finally, it has participles (adjectival and adverbial) which are derived from verbs and also have sets of forms. Each of the preceding is summarized below with a more detailed treatment of each provided throughout this chapter.

INFINITIVE

Slovene verbs are entered in the dictionary in their infinitive form. The vast majority of verbs have an infinitive ending in -ti, with a small number ending in -či. (The -i is not normally pronounced in conversational Slovene in the Ljubljana area.)

Examples:

délati 'to work'
mísliti 'to think'
séstí 'to sit down'
kupováti 'to buy'
pisáti 'to write'
dvígniti 'to lift'
razuméti 'to understand'
něstí 'to carry'
réči 'to say'
molčáti 'to be silent'
víděti 'to see'
čúti 'to hear'
pítí 'to drink'
prítí 'to arrive'

SUPINE

As opposed to the infinitive ending in -ti or -či, the supine has the endings -t or -č.
It is used after verbs of motion such as íti 'to go', prítí 'to arrive', hodíti 'to walk', peljáti 'to lead' and těči 'to run', seen in the following examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>infinitive</th>
<th>supine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>délati</td>
<td>Grém délat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>'I'm going to work.'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>léči</td>
<td>Pójdi léč.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>'go lie down!'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nakupováti</td>
<td>Šlà je nakupovat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>'She went shopping.'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pěči</td>
<td>Grém pěč.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>'I'm going to bake.'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pisáti</td>
<td>Těci pisat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>'Run off to write.'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It should be noted that supine forms do not necessarily coincide with the shortened conversational forms of the infinitive. In some cases there is a different accent:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>infinitive long/short forms</th>
<th>supine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>délati / délat</td>
<td>but</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>délat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>léči / lèč</td>
<td>lèč</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>spáti / spát</td>
<td>spát</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PERSON AND CONJUGATION**

The present tense is conjugated with a set of endings for three persons in all three numbers: singular, dual and plural. The present tense of the Slovene verb is divided into four basic classes in this presentation, with a fifth residual group of verbs which have irregular conjugations.

**TENSE**

There are three tenses in Slovene: the present, past and future. The present tense is simple, i.e. it is non-compound, while the past
and future tenses are compound and are formed by combining conjugated forms of the verb biti 'to be' with the participle in -l, normally called the descriptive participle. In older literature one may encounter the compound past perfect tense, no longer in active use and not presented here.

MOOD

Mood indicates the speaker's attitude about an action or condition. This may be expressed in four ways in Slovene:

1.) The indicative mood is used to express factual statements or elicit information as in the following question and reply (statement):
Kam greš?
'Where are you going?' 'I'm going home.'

2.) The imperative mood is used in order to express commands and requests. It has sets of forms for the second person singular and the first and second persons of the dual and plural.

3.) The optative mood is used as an indirect appeal for the involvement of a person in an action. It does not have a separate set of endings but rather requires the use of a special particle coupled with the regular verbal forms of the first person singular and the third persons singular, dual and plural.

4.) The conditional mood in Slovene is used to express potential events. It is formed with the particle bi in combination with the descriptive participle in -l.

ASPECT

Verbs in Slovene are classified by aspect. Most are either imperfective or perfective, with a small number being considered biaspectual. The imperfective aspect denotes actions in progress or actions which are without limit or which are repeated. The perfective aspect denotes a momentary or limited action, i.e. one with a specific
completed result. Additionally, verbs in Slovene form aspectual pairs, the imperfective and perfective partners of which are derived in a number of ways discussed later in this chapter.

**VOICE**

Voice indicates the relationship between the subject and the action expressed by a the verb. Slovene grammarians traditionally recognize three categories of voice: active, passive (which is limited to past passive participles) and medium (middle).

The active and passive voices subsume the categories of transitive and intransitive. A transitive verb is one which is capable of expressing an action carried from the subject to the object as in the following sentences:

Věra píše písmo.

'Vera is writing a letter.'

Běrem knjígo.

'I'm reading a book.'

An intransitive verb cannot take a direct object as in the following sentences:

Věra spí.

'Vera is sleeping.'

Híša je goréla dvá dní.

'The house burned for two days.'

Medium (middle) voice refers to actions which return to the person engaging in them. The category includes for the most part reflexive verbs which are discussed later in this chapter in greater detail, e.g.

Máma se umíva.

'Mother washes herself.'

**PARTICIPLES**

Slovene has five participles:

1.) Slovene has two adverbial participles. They are derived from verbs and are used to describe actions concurrent with the action of the verb of the main clause or which precede that action in time.
2.) Adjectival participles are of two kinds: The first type includes the present and past (passive) participles. They behave as adjectives, i.e. they can modify nouns and are fully declined like other adjectives. The former is an active one, and the latter is a passive one. The descriptive participle in -1 is the second type of adjectival participle. It is used in forming the non-present tenses (past and future) and the conditional mood and denotes gender and number only.

**ORGANIZATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF VERBS**

The morphology of the verb in Slovene has been described by grammarians and linguists in a number of different ways. The approach used here is one which distinguishes infinitive and present tense stems. The infinitive and present tense stems coincide in many verbs, but often they do not. Establishing a basic division between the two stems will help the student to better understand the structure of the Slovene verb, organized on the formal opposition of the infinitive and present tense stems, and to create its various sets of forms.

A Slovene verb will be encountered in a given form which could be the infinitive (the dictionary entry) form, a present tense form, the imperative, or other. For each new verb it is recommended that the student learn the following forms: the infinitive from whose stem one can automatically generate the supine and the past participles, including the descriptive participle in -1; the first person singular and third person plural of the present tense, from one or both of which the imperative and present participles can be generated. Further, it is helpful to understand that verbs consist of several elements, the most basic of which is its root. For example, the root of the infinitive 'to walk'/'to go on foot' hoditi is hod-. (See also p. 131 for nouns derived from this same root.) The root carries a basic meaning, which can be modified by the addition of a prefix as
in obhoditi 'to make one's rounds'. (See p. 91 for a list of verbal prefixes.)

Suffixes may be added after the verbal root. They do not change the basic meaning of the verb. They create a stem which serves as the base onto which endings will be added. For example, in the case of hoditi the infinitive suffix -i- is added to the root hod- creating the stem to which the infinitive ending is added: hod- + -i- + -ti = hoditi. Infinitive suffixes are the following: -#, -a-, -ova-, -i-, -e- and -ni-. (Compare this list to the infinitives presented on p. 65.) Present tense suffixes are the following: -#, -a-, -i, -e- and -uj-. Reconciling the infinitive and present tense stems is explained in the notes on the present tense conjugation.

Endings may be single, i.e. the infinitive ending, or may come in sets, i.e. those for the various tenses. They are either personal or non-personal. Personal endings, i.e. endings which change according to the subject of the verb, are those which appear in the sections below treating the conjugation of the tense forms and the formation of the imperative. All other endings for Slovene verbs are non-personal and include the infinitive, the supine and all participles. (Adjectival participles indicate gender, but not person.)

CONJUGATION OF THE PRESENT TENSE

With the exception of the third person plural, there is a one set of endings for the conjugation of the present tense. The selection of the correct ending of the third person plural is seen on the following chart and is described in the notes. The present tense conjugations are divided into four basic classes. A fifth class includes a number of irregular verbs, and these are treated separately on pp. 89-91. When comparing the four conjugations which follow with the list of infinitives given on p. 67, one may note that the list includes verbs with the
following infinitive suffixes attached to their roots:

-a-  (délati, pisáti and molčáti)
-i-  (mísliti)
-e-  (vídeti and razuméti)
-ni- (dvígniti)
-ova- (kupováti)
-#-  (něsti, sésti, reči, čúti, píti, and príti).

The number of suffixes to which endings are added in the present tense is smaller (-#-, -a-, -i-, -e-, and -uj-). They behave in a predictable fashion with regard to sets of forms and endings, explained for each category in the notes which follow. Further, only one of three vowels, -a-, -i- and -e-, may precede the endings of the present tense. The verbs razuméti, mísliti and délati retain those vowels in both the infinitive and present tense stems, and the present tense endings are added directly to the stems. The verbs molčáti and vídeti take the vowel -i- as their suffix in the present tense and are conjugated like mísliti. The verb dvígníti takes the suffix -e- as do all remaining verbs in the list above. They have a -#- suffix to which the vowel -e- is added before the endings:

něsti ~ nes#- + -e-
reči ~ reč#- + -e- (root = rek-)
sésti ~ ses#- < sed#- + -e-
pisáti ~ pis#- > píš#- + -e-
príti ~ prid#- + -e-
kupováti ~ kupuj#- + -e-
čúti ~ čuj#- + -e-
píti ~ pij#- + -e-

Present tense endings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>singular</th>
<th>dual</th>
<th>plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>-m</td>
<td>-va</td>
<td>-mo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>-š</td>
<td>-ta</td>
<td>-te</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>-#</td>
<td>-ta</td>
<td>-jo/-e/-o</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Verbs

PRESENT TENSE CONJUGATIONS

infinitive  délati  'to work'  mísliti  'to think'

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>singular</th>
<th>délam</th>
<th>míslim</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>délaš</td>
<td>míslis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>déla</td>
<td>míslis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dual</td>
<td>délava</td>
<td>mísliva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>délata</td>
<td>míslita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>plural</td>
<td>délamo</td>
<td>míslimo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>délata</td>
<td>míslita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>délaj</td>
<td>míslijo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

infinitive  nêsti  'to carry'  kupováti  'to buy'

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>singular</th>
<th>nêsem</th>
<th>kupújem</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>nêseš</td>
<td>kupúješ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>nêse</td>
<td>kupúje</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dual</td>
<td>nêseva</td>
<td>kupújeva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>nêseta</td>
<td>kupújeta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>plural</td>
<td>nêsemo</td>
<td>kupújemo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>nêsete</td>
<td>kupújete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>nêsejo/nésô</td>
<td>kupújejo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTES ON THE PRESENT TENSE CONJUGATION

1. Verbs of the type délati and mísliti are among the most common types of verbs encountered in Slovene. As can be seen above, the vowel, if any, of the infinitive suffix is not a reliable guide for the vowel to which the present tense verbal endings are to be added. That is the reason why the student is encouraged to learn each verb in its infini-
tive form (the form in which it is listed in dictionaries), the first person singular and the third person plural. The latter is also necessary because of the variants often found here (see footnote 8. below). The chart below summarizes the infinitive and present tense suffixes and is followed by notes which will provide hints on reconciling the choice of the vowel to be used in the conjugation of the present tense:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>infinitive suffix</th>
<th>vowel of present tense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-#-</td>
<td>-e- něsti, sěsti, rěči, čúti, půti, průti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-a-</td>
<td>-a- délati</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-i- molčáti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-e- pisáti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ova- (&gt;) -uj-)</td>
<td>-e- kupováti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-i-</td>
<td>-i- míslníte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-e-</td>
<td>-i- vídětí</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-e- razumětí</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ni-</td>
<td>-e- dvígníte</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OR

The chart which follows arranges the same information in a different way, presenting the present tense vowels and suffixes:
Verbs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>present tense vowel</th>
<th>present tense suffix</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-a-</td>
<td>-a-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>délati</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-i-</td>
<td>-i-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>mísliti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>vřídeti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>molčati</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>all others</td>
<td>-#-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>něsti, reči</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sésti, príti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>kupováti (includes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>čúti and píti)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>razuméti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>dvígnéti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>pisáti</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. (a) As can be seen, verbs which have an -a- in the stem of the infinitive require special attention from the learner. The vast majority of them retain that -a- in the present tense and are conjugated like délati. It should be noted that verbs in this class always add a -j- to their stem when used to create other forms derived from the present stem (e.g. the imperative and active participles):

dela- > delaj-.

(b) A number of verbs with an infinitive in -ati, always preceded by the soft consonants -š-, -ž- or -č-, take the vowel -i- in the present tense, e.g.

'to hear' slíšati ~ slíším ~ slíšijo
'to lie' ležáti ~ ležím ~ ležíjo
'to be silent' molčáti ~ molčím ~ molčijo

The presence of a soft consonant does not always mean that the verb behaves as those noted above. Some of them are also conjugated like délati, e.g.

'to pay' pláčáti ~ pláčam ~ pláčajo
'to end' končáti ~ končám ~ končájo
(c) A significant group of verbs with an -a- in the infinitive stem display an alternation of the root consonant (see consonant alternations on pp. 20-21) in all forms of the present tense. Such verbs take the vowel -e- in the present tense, e.g. 'to write' pisáti ~ píšem ~ píšejo
'to seek' iskáti ~ isčem ~ isčejo

Included here also are the verbs:
'to lead' peljáti ~ péljem ~ péljejo
'to call' klicáti ~ kličem ~ kličejo
'to take' jemáti ~ jemljem ~ jemljejo

(d) Verbs whose infinitive ends in -ovati (or -evati) are conjugated like kupováti, i.e. the -ova/-eva- suffix of the infinitive contracts to form a present tense suffix in -uj-, and the vowel of the present tense is -e-. A very small number of other verbs which have the vowel -i- or -u- before the infinitive ending -ti also have a present tense stem ending in -j-. They belong to this category as well and include the verbs:
'to drink' pítì ~ píjem ~ píjejo
'to hear' čuti ~ čujem ~ čujejo

3. Most verbs which have an -i- in the infinitive stem retain that -i- in the present tense and are conjugated like misliti, e.g.
'to praise' hvalíti ~ hvalim ~ hválio
'to speak' govoríti ~ govorím ~ govorijo
'to exclude' izkljúčiti ~ izkljúčim ~ izkljúčijo

[Note: See 2 (d) above for the conjugation of pítì.]

4. (a) Verbs with an -e- in the infinitive stem take the vowel -i- or -e- in the present tense and must be learned individually. The group of verbs which take the vowel -i- in the present includes:
'to see' videti ~ vidim ~ vidijo
'to live' živéti ~ živím ~ živijo
Verbs

'\textit{to burn}' goréti \sim gorím \sim goríjo
'\textit{to sit}' sedéti \sim sedím \sim sedijo

(b) To the group of verbs which take the vowel -e- in the present tense belong the verbs:
'\textit{to understand}' razuméti \sim razúmem \sim razúmejo
'\textit{to be allowed}' sméti \sim smém \sim sméjo

5. In verbs with an infinitive suffix in -ni- that suffix is replaced by -ne- in the present tense, e.g.
'\textit{to lift}' dvígniti \sim dvígnem \sim dvígnejo
'\textit{to set out}' krenítí \sim krémem \sim kréneo

6. (a) Verbs with a -\#- stem in both the infinitive and present tense such as něsti take the vowel -e- as a suffix in the present tense. [Note: In the absence of a vowel, the root and the stem of the infinitive are the same]. The infinitive ending is added directly to the final consonant of the root, as is the vowel -e- of the present tense. (In the case of '\textit{to sit down}' sésti \sim sédem \sim sédejo the alternation of s \sim d between the infinitive and the present tense and participle in -l (sédel) is exceptional and is not found among the consonant alternations given on pp. 20-21. Such information is normally provided in dictionaries.)

(b) All verbs whose infinitives end in -či belong here. Their present tense forms have either -č- or -ž- throughout their conjugations. The root consonant of those verbs is either a -k- or a -g-. Although not apparent from the infinitive, the descriptive participle in -l- will reveal the root consonant. Alternatively, one may be guided by the fact that those with a -č- in the present tense have a root in -k-, and those with -ž- have a root in -g-, e.g.
'\textit{to lie down}' léči \sim léžem \sim légel
Some verbs display the -k- or -g- in alternate forms for the third person plural, e.g. 'to say' reči ~ rečem ~ rečeo/rekó ~ rékel. (See also the following section on past and future tenses.)

[Note: The verb möči does not follow the preceding pattern. It has a special conjugation. See p. 90.]

7. There is a mixed group of verbs in common use whose stem present tense stem cannot be predicted on the basis of information provided in the preceding analysis. Their conjugations must be learned individually.

(a) The following verbs take the vowel -e- in the present tense:
' to read'  bráti ~ běrem ~ běrejo
' to select'  izbráti~ izběrem~ izběrejo
' to arrive'  príti ~ prídem ~ prídejo
' to begin'  začeti ~ začnem ~ začnejo/začnó
' to take'  vzeti ~ vzámem ~ vzámejo
' to sing'  peti ~ pôjem ~ pôjejo

(b) The following verbs take the vowel -i- in the present tense:
' to fear'  báti se~ bojím se~ bojíjo se
' to sleep'  spáti ~ spím ~ spíjo
' to stand'  státi ~ stojím ~ stojíjo

(c) See pp. 89-90 for the special conjugations of the following verbs:
bíti  'to be'
jésti  'to eat'
dáti  'to give'
védeti  'to know'
íti  'to go'
iméti  'to have'
hotéti  'to want'
möči  'to be able'.

8. (a) A number of verbs of the type něsti 'to lead' have short alternate forms in the third person plural: něsejo / nesó. Similarly: 'to
begin' začeti ~ začnêjo / začnó. The short form is always stressed on the final syllable.

(b) Likewise, a few verbs whose ending is normally a stressed -íjo in the third person plural (of the mÎsliti type of conjugation) may take an alternate ending, also stressed, in -é. The longer forms are preferred in the contemporary spoken language, while the short forms may be found in older literature or in dialects. Examples:
'to hurry' hiteti ~ hitíjo / hité
'to lie' ležáti ~ ležíjo / ležé
'to live' živéti ~ živíjo / živé

PAST AND FUTURE TENSES

FORMATION OF THE DESCRIPTIVE PARTICIPLE IN -1

The past and future tenses in Slovene are compound formations consisting of an auxiliary verb plus the descriptive participle in -1. That participle is coupled with the present tense of the verb bîti 'to be' in order to express a past tense and with the future tense of the same verb to express the future. When functioning as an auxiliary, forms of the verb 'to be' are unstressed. Its conjugations are presented in the charts which follow and on p. 89. The participle expresses gender and number, while the auxiliary verb denotes person and tense. The descriptive participle in -1 is formed from the infinitive stem by the simple addition of the -1 to the final vowel of the stem, e.g. 'to speak' govor-+-i-+-ti = govoríti, likewise govor-+-i-+-1 = govoríl, govoríla, etc. Verbs with an infinitive stem in -#- ending in a consonant (including all verbs with the infinitive ending -ذi) add an -e- [a] before the -1 of the descriptive participle for the masculine singular form only. The following list provides the masculine and feminine descriptive participle in -1 of the all verbs shown in the analysis in note 1. on pp. 72-74:
Grammar

Verbs

délati ~ délal / délala  
písáti ~ písal / písála  
molčáti ~ molčal / molčála  
kupováti ~ kupoval / kupovála  
mísliti ~ míslil / míslila  
dvígniti ~ dvígnil / dvígnila  
vídeti ~ vídél / vídela  
razuméti ~ razúmel / razuméla  
píti ~ píl / píla  
čúti ~ čúľ / čúla  
nésti ~ nésel / nésla  
sésti ~ sédel / sédla  
réči ~ rékel / rekla

Note that, in the verb sésti the -l is added to the root -d- (see note 6.(a) above) with an -e- [e] inserted in the masculine form. Likewise, verbs in -či have in their root either -k- or -g- (the root consonant of each of these verbs before alternation) which is used to form the descriptive participle as seen in réči and léči. (see note in 6.(b) above)

PAST TENSE

'm to work' masculinity femininity neuter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>masculine</th>
<th>feminine</th>
<th>neuter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>singular</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>sem</td>
<td>délal</td>
<td>délala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>si</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>je</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dual</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>sva</td>
<td>délala</td>
<td>délali</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>sta</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>plural</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>smo</td>
<td>délali</td>
<td>délale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>ste</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>so</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
'to speak' masculine feminine neuter

**singular**
1. bom govóril govorila govorilo
2. boš " " "
3. bo " " "

**dual**
1. bova govorila govorili govorili
2. - 3. bosta " " "

**plural**
1. bomo govorili govorile govorila
2. boste " " "
3. bodo " " "

**IMPERATIVE**

Comands and strong requests in Slovene may be issued in the second person singular, dual and plural, as well as in the first person dual and plural. The basic form of the imperative is that of the second person singular. It is formed from the present tense stem. There are two possible suffixes, -j- or -i-, to which the following endings are added, as seen below in the verbs délati 'to work' and něsti 'to carry':

#, -va, -ta, -mo, -te

**singular**

-# 2. délaj něsi
     '(you) work / carry!'

-dual
-va 1. délajva nesiva
     'let's you and I work / carry!'

-ta 2. délajta nesíta
     'you two work / carry!'

**plural**

-#mo 1. délajmo nesímo
     'let's work / carry!'

-te 2. délajte nesíte
     '(you) work / carry!'
Those verbs with a present tense stem in -a- (délati) retain that -a- and add the suffix -j- to the stem (refer to note 2 (a) on p. 74), e.g. délaj-. This creates a stem for the imperative to which the other endings are added in the first and second persons dual plural. Note that the stem of délaj is now equal to that of the verbs kupováti ~ kupýj- (p. 74), čúti ~ čúj, and píti ~ pij- (note 2 (d), p. 75). The vowel -i- is used as a suffix to create the stem, i.e. the basic form, of the imperative for all other verbs, i.e. those with present tense suffixes in -#- or -i- (i.e. those verbs which take the vowels -i- or -e- in the present tense conjugation). This includes all verbs of the type míš- liti, videti and molčáti, as well as verbs of the type něši, sěši, rěši, priti, dvíngiti, razuměti and pišáti (See notes 2.-7. on pp. 74-77.). The vowel -i- is added directly to the final consonant of present tense stem. [Note: Verbs with an infinitive in -či have a special alternation of the root consonant: -g->-z- and -k->-c-.]

**samples of imperatives**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>infinitive / 1st sing.</th>
<th>imperative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>'to read'</td>
<td>čítati / čítam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'to work'</td>
<td>délati / délam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'to buy'</td>
<td>kupováti / kupůjem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'to hear'</td>
<td>čúti / čújem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'to drink'</td>
<td>píti / píjem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'to sing'</td>
<td>pěti / půjem</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**but**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>infinitive / 1st sing.</th>
<th>imperative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>'to lift'</td>
<td>dvíngiti / dvíngem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'to speak'</td>
<td>govoriti / govorím</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'to lie down'</td>
<td>léči / léžem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'to be silent'</td>
<td>molčáti / molčím</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'to carry'</td>
<td>něšti / něsem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'to write'</td>
<td>pisáti / píšem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'to arrive'</td>
<td>priti / pridem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'to understand'</td>
<td>razuměti / razůmem</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OPTATIVE

Slovene has a category of mood, complementing the imperative, called the optative which exhorts the listener(s) or expresses the desirability of an event which may be rendered in English by words such as 'let, 'should' and 'may'. The optative pattern uses existing sets of verbal forms, namely the present tense in the first person singular and in the third person singular, dual and plural before which the particle naj is placed:

**singular**

1. naj delam  'let me work'/'I should work'
2. naj dela  'let him/her/it work'
3. naj delata  'let the two of them work'

**dual and plural**

3. naj delajo  'let them work'

**examples**

Naj ti posljem prepis?
   'Should I send you a copy?'

Velel je, naj gredjo.
   'He ordered them to go.'

Naj bo!
   'Let it be!'

Naj pociva v miru!
   'May he rest in peace!'

Kaj naj storim?
   'What should I do?'

Reci mu, naj pride!
   'Tell him that he should come!'

Naj stane, kar hocjo!
   'Let it cost what it may!'

Naj ljudi receno, kar hocjo!
   'Let people say what they will!'

Nisem vedel, ali naj se smejem ali jocem.
   'I didn't know whether to laugh or cry!'
CONDITIONAL

There are two conditional patterns in Slovene. They are formed using the descriptive participle in -1 and the simple addition of the particle bi. In compound sentences both the main and the subordinate clauses require that the verb appear in the conditional form.

PRESENT CONDITIONAL: The particle bi is accompanied by the descriptive participle in -1. (See p. 78 for its formation.)

Bi mi lahko pomagali?
'Would you (please) help me?'
Bi mi dal ogenj?
'Would you give me a light?'
Ne da bi jaz vedel.
'Not as far as I (would) know.'
Jaz bi sel, ko bi utegnil.
'I would go if I had time.'
Ce bi vedel, bi ti povedal.
'If I knew, I would tell you.'
Ko bi mislil na nevarnost, bi vojak v bitki znrel.
'If he thought about the danger, a soldier would become insane in battle.'
Jaz bi delal, ce bi me kdo plasal.
'I would work if someone would pay me.'
Ona bi sela na Brzje, ce bi jo ti zapeljel z avtom.
'She would go to Brzje if you would drive her.'
Mne bi dvignili cen, ce bi ne bil proizvodni stroshki takoj visoki.
'We wouldn't raise prices if production costs weren't so high.'

PAST CONDITIONAL: The participle bi is accompanied by the descriptive participle in -1 of the verb 'to be' (bi bil) plus the descriptive participle in -1 of the action under question. The following sentences illustrate the past conditional, but the learner is cautioned that they are stilted and belong to the literary language.
In conversational Slovene the present conditional would more likely be used:

Če ne bi bil zamúdil tístega letála, bi se bil z drugimi pótikmi vred smrtno ponesrečil.

'If he had not missed that plane, he would have been killed with the other passengers.'

Ko bi védel, kakó mőčna je slívovka, bi je ne bil spil cël kozárec na důšek in se ne bi bil takó osméšil.

'If I had known how strong the plum brandy was, I would not have drunk a whole glass in one gulp and made such an ass of myself.'

**PARTICIPLES**

As seen above, Slovene has a descriptive participle in -1 used to form compound tenses (past and future) and the conditional mood. Beyond that there are two adverbial and two adjectival participles. All five are part of both the written language and of the educated style of spoken Slovene. The two adjectival participles, the present (active) and the (past) passive, behave in all respects like adjectives, i.e. they agree in gender, case and number with the modified noun. In the spoken language adjectival participles are frequently used as simple adjectives, e.g.

Mój brát je molčč žłovek.

'My brother is a reticent (quiet) person.' (literally 'remaining silent')

Reženo, storjeno.

'(No sooner) said (than) done.'

Česta je zapěta.

'The road is closed.'

The two adverbial participles behave as other adverbs in Slovene, with the present adverbial participle describing simultaneous actions, and the past adverbial participle describing antecen-
dent actions. Basic rules for the formation of adjectival and adverbial participles are provided below.

ADVERBIAL PARTICIPLES: Slovene has two adverbial participles, one with the ending -e/-je and the other with the ending -vši/-ši. They modify the main verb of the given sentence.

The participle in -e/-je denotes an action simultaneous with the main verb of the sentence. It is formed from imperfective verbs by adding the vowel -e to the final consonant of the present tense stem (stems in -a-, -i- and -e-). As was the case in the formation of the imperative, verbs with a present tense stem in -a- (déliati) add an -j- to their stem (p. 80) to which the ending -e is added.

(See below for stems in -uj-.)

examples
molčati ~ molčím ~ molčé 'being silent'
Molčo so šli v smrt.
'They went to their death silently.'
igráti ~ igrám ~ igráje 'playing'
Tó bom igráje narédil v pól úre.
'I'll complete that in half an hour (playing)' [= 'It's child's play!]
sěsti ~ sédem ~ sédé 'sitting'
Tó délo lahko oprávljaš sédé.
'You can do that while sitting.'

Other examples include:
stoje from státi ~ stojím 'to stand'
gredé from íti ~ grém 'to go'
ležé from ležáti ~ ležím 'to lie'
kupováje (kupuje in an older literary form)
from kupováti ~ kupujem 'to buy'

[Note: In the last example there is a tendency to derive the participle for this class of verbs from the infinitive stem -ova- by the addition of -j- + -e rather than from the present tense stem -uj- so that their formation is like that for déliati.]
The participle in -\(\text{v}i/-\(\text{vi}\) denotes an antecedent action, i.e. one completed before the action of the main verb of the sentence and is derived from perfective verbs. It is limited in use primarily to the literary language. It is formed from the infinitive stem to which the ending -\(\text{v}i\) is added. In the case of verbs without a vowel in the infinitive stem, i.e. those with a -\(\#\)-stem (including those verbs whose infinitive is -\(\#\)), the ending -\(\text{vi}\) is added directly to the root/stem consonant:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Infinitive Stem</th>
<th>Participle</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>pozabiti</td>
<td>pozabil</td>
<td>'having forgotten'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dvigniti</td>
<td>dvignil</td>
<td>'having raised'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rekci</td>
<td>rekel</td>
<td>'having said'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sediti</td>
<td>sedel</td>
<td>'having sat down'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

examples
Sedi k mizi, so začeli jesti.
'Having sat down at the table, they began to eat.'
Pozabivši, da ní doma, je začela preuréjati sóbo.
'Forgetting [=Having forgotten] that she wasn't home, she began changing around the room.'
«Zdrávo» je rekla Milica, vstopivši v hišo.
"Hello," said Milica, entering [=having entered] the house.'

ADJECTIVAL PARTICIPLES: There are two adjectival participles in Slovene, a present (active) one formed from imperfective verbs and a past (passive) one formed from perfective verbs. Both behave like adjectives and can be fully declined. The rules for forming adjectival participles are somewhat complex, and there are a number of exceptions.

The present participle is formed from the present tense stem. Its ending is -\(\text{č}\) which is added to the vowel -\(\text{o}\)- or -\(\text{e}\)-, the selection of which is described below:
1. (a) Verbs with present tense stems in -uj- and -a- (verbs of the type delati which added -j- in the imperative and adverbial participle in -e/-je, do so here again) take the ending -6č. [Note: It will help to compare these forms to the third person plural.]
delati ~ delajo ~ delajóč 'working'
cákati ~ cákajo ~ cakajóč 'waiting'
kupováti ~ kupújejo ~ kupujóč 'buying'
potováti ~ potújejo ~ potujóč 'travelling'

(b) Verbs which have a present tense stem in -#- or -e-, i.e. those which use the vowel -e- in the present tense, have a third person plural ending in -ejo or -6. They also take the ending -6č, adding it to the final consonant of the stem.
pisáti ~ píšejo ~ pišóč 'writing'
néstì ~ nèsejo/nesò ~ nesóč 'carrying'
bráti ~ bërëjeo/beró ~ beróč 'reading'
réči ~ réčejo/rekó ~ rekóč 'saying'

2. Verbs with a present tense stem in -i- keep that vowel throughout the present tense and have a third person plural ending in -ijo or -é. They take the ending -éč, adding it to the final consonant of the stem.
misliti ~ mislijo ~ misléč 'thinking'
čutiti ~ čútijo ~ čutéč 'feeling'
molčati ~ molčíjo/molčé ~ molčéč 'being silent'
ležáti ~ ležíjo/ležé ~ ležéč 'lying'
sedéti ~ sedíjo ~ sedéč 'sitting'

The past passive participle is formed from the infinitive stem of transitive verbs, to which an -n or -t is added. The vast majority of verbs with past passive participles belong to the perfective aspect, but a number in common use are imperfective (e.g. kúhan and pečén below).
1. Verbs which have an infinitive stem in -a- or -ova- add -n directly to the -a- of the stem, e.g.

- napisáti ~ napísan 'written'
- kúhati ~ kúhan 'cooked'
- kupováti ~ kupován 'purchased'
- poškodováti ~ poškodován 'damaged'
- pláčáti ~ pláčan 'paid'
- razprodáti ~ razprodán 'sold out'
- zdélati ~ zdélan 'tired'/ 'worn out'

2. (a) Those verbs with an infinitive stem in -i- take the ending -en added to the final consonant of the stem. If that consonant is one which can alternate as described on pp. 20-21, then that alternation will occur before the -en is added.

- hvaliti ~ hváljen 'praised'
- navádití(se) ~ navájen 'accustomed to'
- oženíti ~ oženíjen 'married'
- ponosíti ~ ponosen 'worn out'
- popravíti ~ popravljén 'fixed'
- ráníti ~ ránjen 'wounded'
- rodíti ~ rójen 'born'
- ulovíti ~ ulovljén 'caught'
- uredíti ~ urején 'arranged'
- uvozíti ~ uvóžen 'imported'
- zapustíti ~ zapuščén 'abandoned'

[Note: The soft consonants -č-, -ž- and -š- are the result of earlier alternations and cannot alternate further. Verbs with such consonants are included in this group: izključiti ~ izključen 'excluded']

(b) Verbs which have an infinitive stem in -i- or -e- (including verbs with an infinitive in -či) also add the ending -en directly to the final consonant of the stem but without alternation (the first example being an exception).

- peči ~ pečen 'baked' [note!]
- plésti ~ pleten 'knitted'
- preněsti ~ prenesen 'transferred'
3. The ending -t occurs in a limited number of verbs in which the infinitive ending -ti is preceded by -i-, -e- or -u- and whose present tense has the ending -em or -jem (as opposed to -im) in the 1st person singular.

rubiti ~ rubijem ~ rubit 'broken'
skriti ~ skrijem ~ skrìt 'hidden'
obuti ~ obujem ~ obùt 'shod'
začeti ~ začnem ~ začet 'begun'

SPECIAL CONJUGATIONS

Listed below are the conjugations for several very common verbs in Slovene. Each of them has its own special features, and the student is advised to learn each verb individually:

biti 'to be'

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>singular</th>
<th>present</th>
<th>negated</th>
<th>future</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. sèm</td>
<td>nísem</td>
<td>bóm*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. si</td>
<td>nísi</td>
<td>bòš</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. jè</td>
<td>ní</td>
<td>bò</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dual</td>
<td>1. svà</td>
<td>nísva</td>
<td>bòva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. - 3. stà</td>
<td>nísta</td>
<td>bòsta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>plural</td>
<td>1. smò</td>
<td>nísmo</td>
<td>bòmo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. stè</td>
<td>nìste</td>
<td>bòste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. sò</td>
<td>nìso</td>
<td>bòdo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-l participle</td>
<td>bí, biìà, bilò, bilì</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>imperative</td>
<td>bòdi</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* In addition, one may also encounter the more archaic forms bòdem, bòdeș, bòde, bòdeva, bòdeta, bòdemo, bòdete, bòdejo as well as the colloquial third person plural future: bojo.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verbs</th>
<th>Grammar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>jěstí</td>
<td>'to eat'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dáti</td>
<td>'to give'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>věděti</td>
<td>'to know'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>íti</td>
<td>'to go'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**singular**

1. jém  | dám  | vém  | grém |
2. jěš  | dāš  | věš  | grěš |
3. jé   | dá   | vě   | grě  |

**dual**

1. jéva | dáva | véva | gréva |
2. jěsta| dāsta| vésta| grésta|

**plural**

1. jémо | dámо | věмо | gréмо |
2. jěste| dāste| věste| grěste|
3. jějo | dājo | vějo | grějo |

-or-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>or</th>
<th>or</th>
<th>or</th>
<th>or</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

-jedо-

| jedо | dadо | vedо | gredо |

**-1 participle**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>jédel/jésla</th>
<th>dá/lalá</th>
<th>vědel/věsla šěl/šła</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>or</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**imperative**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>jěj</th>
<th>dàj</th>
<th>vědi</th>
<th>pójdi</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

The followings verbs also display peculiarities in their conjugations, and two of them have special negative forms as well:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>iměti</th>
<th>hotěti</th>
<th>můči</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>'to have'</td>
<td>'to want'</td>
<td>'to be able'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**singular**

1. imám  | hóčem* | (nóčem) | můrem |
2. imás  | hóčěš  | (nóčěš) | můreš |
3. imá   | hóčě   | (nóčě)  | můre  |

**dual**

1. imáva | hóčeva | (nóčeva) | můrera |
2. imáta | hóčeta | (nóčeta) | můreta |

**plural**

1. imámo | hóčemo | (nóčemo) | můremo |
2. imáte | hóčete | (nóčete) | můrete |
3. imájo | hóčeo | (nóčeo)  | mőrejo |

**-1 participle**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>iměl/iměla</th>
<th>hőtel/hótelela mőgel/mőgla</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**imperative**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>iměj</th>
<th>hōti</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
* In addition, one may also encounter the non-standard colloquial short forms čem, čes, če, čeva, četa, čemo, čete, čejo.

[NOTE: Two additional special imperatives: 
poglénj from poglédati 'to look (at)' 
vžémi from vzéti 'to take'.]

COMMENTS ON THE USE OF ASPECTS IN SLOVENE

As noted earlier, verbs in Slovene come in pairs, one partner of which is imperfective and one perfective. These aspects may occur in any of the tenses. Perfective verbs used in the present tense, however, often imply an intended future action (see examples on pp. 93-94). Verbs in the imperfective aspect denote actions which are unlimited and which may express one or more of the following ideas: an action in progress for some length of time, an action which is repeated or habitual (i.e. occurs frequently), or an action which is not yet completed. Perfective verbs, on the other hand, denote actions which are limited and which have a single termination, i.e. the beginning or end of an action, or an action which is instantaneous, momentary or whose conclusion is expected or foreseen. There are a few verbs which occur in one or the other aspect only, a few which are biaspectual, but the typical verb in Slovene is paired by aspect.

An unprefixed imperfective verb is considered the basic form of a verb. Its perfective partner is typically formed from it by the addition of a prefix. For example, the verb pisáti 'to write' in its prefixed form napisáti means 'to finish writing'. Among the commonly used verbal prefixes we find the following:

do-, iz-, na-, o/ob-, od-, po-, 
pod-, pre-, pred-, pri-, pro-, 
raz-, s-, u-, v-, vz-, z-, za-

Many of the preceding prefixes are derived from prepositions (compare the lists appearing on pp. 60-64). Some of these prefixes carry more than one meaning. The learner will come to recognize them and their meanings with greater
familiarity with the language. In addition to its basic prefixed form napisati, the verb pisati is found in the prefixed perfective forms listed below. [Note: The verb pisati and its prefixed forms may be correctly used with the stress on the -a- or -i-, e.g. pisati OR písiati.]

izpisati 'to copy out'
[to write a text out of another]
opisati 'to describe'
[to write about]
odpisati 'to reply in writing'
[to write from X to Y]
popisati 'to inventory'
[to write bits of information]
podpisati 'to sign'
[to write under, at the bottom of]
prepisati 'to copy'
[to transfer across in writing]
predpisati 'to prescribe'
[to write in front of]
pripisati 'to annotate'
[to attach something in writing]
razpisati 'to invite application'
[to write about detailing]
spisati 'to compose'
[to put together in writing]
zapisati 'to jot down'
[the writing process is done and over, i.e. it is behind you]

In addition to prefixation, there are other ways in which pairs of imperfective/perfective verbs are formed in Slovene. In many cases verbs display a change within the root or have suffixes in order to distinguish aspect:

imperfective | perfective
--- | ---
dobívati | dobíti 'to get'
kupovati | kupiti 'to buy/shop'
obrácati | obrniti 'to turn'
odločati | odločiti 'to decide'
ográzati | ogroziti 'to threaten'
ostájati | ostatí 'to stay'
pozdrávljati | pozdrávití 'to greet'
prežívljati | preživéti 'to spend time'
Grammar Verbs

uréjati uredíti 'to put in order'
zapisováti zapisáti 'to jot down'
zbíratì zbráti 'to gather'

In a limited number of cases an entirely different root is used to form a pair of imperfective/perfective verbs, e.g. govoríti 'to speak' ~ reći 'to say' and jemáti 'to take' ~ vzeti 'to take'.

Sentences with imperfective and perfective verbs:

**Imperfective:**

Nína je pisála písmo.
'Nina was writing a letter.'

Grém nakupováti v trgovíno.
'I'm going shopping.'

Káj boš délal?
'What will you be doing?'

Lahkó pláčam.
'I can pay.'

Ne odpiraj tújih písem!
'Don't open other people's mail!'

Zdáj ga podpisújem.
'I'm signing it now.'

Ali ne mórete gradíti?
'Can't you build?'

Cestitali so drúgu drúgemu.
'They congratulated one another.'

Olga ne bër velíko.
'Olga doesn't read much.'

Níma smíšla čákati.
'There's no sense in waiting.'

Kóliko čása stoji vlák?
'How long does the train stay (here)?'

Tó mi boš pláčal!
'You'll pay (me) for that!'

Kdór ljúbi, tá kaznúje.
'Spare the rod and spoil the child.'

(lit. = 'He who loves, that one punishes.'

**Perfective:**

Nína je napisála písmo.
'Nina finished writing the letter.'

Knjígo grém kúpit.
'I'm going to buy a book.'
Jóže je pogledal revije.
   'Joe looked at the magazines.'
Tréba je/bo podpisáti formulár.
   'The form has to be signed.'
Prídem zjútra.
   'I'm coming (shall come) in the morning.'
Sóla se začně 1. októbra.
   'School opens (will begin) on Oct. 1.'
Razbesnėl se je nad menój.
   'He blew up at me.'
Zberíte se!
   'Pull yourself together!'
Narédil sem se, kot da sem jézen.
   'I pretended to be angry.'
Obíšcite me jútri.
   'Visit me tomorrow.'
Káj je postálo on?
   'What has become of him?'
Vráta se níso hotéla odpréti.
   'The door wouldn't [=didn't want to] open.'
Ostánete dólgo v Slovéniji?
   'Will you (do you intend to) stay long in Slovenia?'

[NOTE: Students who undertake the study of Slovene already knowing another Slavic language should pay particular attention to the use of aspects. Slovene, like Serbo-Croatian, allows the use of the perfective aspect in the present tense. Russian, on the other hand, restricts the use of the perfective aspect to verbal actions in the past and future denoting actions already completed or whose termination is foreseen. The perfective may not be used for a present tense action in Russian.]

TENSE SEQUENCE IN SLOVENE

The learner is cautioned to take note of the sequence of verbal tenses in compound sentences when translating from or into Slovene. There are significant differences between English and Slovene in many cases. Compare, for instance, the following sentences and their translations:
Rékel je, da o tém ničesar ne vè.
'He said that he didn't know anything about it.'

Analysis: Whereas both verbs in English occur in the past tense, the sequence in Slovene is different. While the first verb is in the past tense, the second is in the present tense, i.e. there is something that the speaker does not know at the time he spoke.

Lahkó mu oménim tvôje težáve, ko ga bom vîdel.
'I can mention your difficulties to him when I see him.'

Analysis: In the English translation the verbs occur in the present tense. (One might also say 'I'll mention', i.e. future tense.) In Slovene the first verb is in the perfective present with an implication of a future act, and it refers to a specific act, while the second verb occurs in the imperfective future without specifying when it is that 'I will be seeing him'.

Ko boš dôbil tó písmo, bóm ţe v Berlín. 
'When you get that letter I'll already be in Berlin.'

Analysis: Similar to the preceding sentence, English uses the present tense in order to suggest a future action in the first clause, while in Slovene the future is used. In the second clause both languages use the future.

Tône ní vêdel, ali ţe živí môja máti.
'Tone did not know whether (or not) my mother was still alive.'

Analysis: As in the first example English places both verbs in the past tense creating an ambiguous statement concerning the state of health of the speaker's mother. In Slovene the verb of the first clause records an action in the past. Whether or not the mother of the speaker is alive at the time the discussion takes place is a fact of which Tone was unaware.
Upal je, da bo ujel zadnji avtobus proti domu.

'He hoped that he would catch the last bus home.'

Analysis: In English 'would' is used in place of 'will' in compound sentences such as the preceding one. The use of 'would' in such a case is not related to the conditional mood discussed earlier. The question here is not one of conditions or potential events, rather the person was thinking and hoping at that time 'I will catch the bus'. Compare the preceding to the sentence on p. 83 Če bi vèel, bi ti povèel. 'If I knew / were to know (but I do not), I would tell you (but I can't, since I do not know)' in which conditions would have to be fulfilled in order for both events to occur.

Otròk ni vèel, kaj se z njim godì.

'The child didn't know what was happening to him.'

Otròk ni vèel, kaj se je z njim godìlo.

'The child didn't know what had happened to him.'

Analysis: The first sentence above is like the first example in this group. English uses the past tense for both clauses, while in Slovene it is clear that at the time the action is taking place, the child did not know its meaning. In the second sentence the child did not know the meaning of an incident which took place at an earlier time.

VERBS WITH THE REFLEXIVE PRONOUNS SE AND SI

The short forms (clitics) of the reflexive pronoun sebe 'oneself', accusative se and dative si (see p. 47), may be used in combination with a large number of verbs. The presence of the pronoun produces a variety of different meanings.
Uses of the accusative reflexive pronoun se:

1. When used with transitive verbs, the presence of se denotes an action directed back to the subject, e.g.
   Māma umīva otrōka.
   'Mother washes the child.'
   vs.
   Māma se umīva.
   'Mother washes herself.'
   The preceding category includes such verbs as:
   brīti se 'to shave (oneself)'
oblāčiti se 'to dress (oneself)'
prāskati se 'to scratch (oneself)'

2. The use of se with a transitive verb often serves to create a passive meaning for the verb, e.g.
   Težkō ga je preprīčati.
   'It's hard to convince him.'
   vs.
   Preprīčal sem se na lāstne oči.
   'I saw it with my own eyes.'
   (i.e. 'I was convinced by my own eyes.')
   Likewise:
   pēči se 'to be baked'
ranīti se 'to be wounded'
uporābljati se 'to be used'

3. The use of se may signify a reciprocal action between two or more persons, e.g.
   Ljūbim Nīno.
   'I love Nina.' [transitive verb]
   vs.
   Onādva sta se ljubīla.
   'They loved one another.'
   Likewise:
   pozdrāvljati se
   'to exchange mutual greetings'
razumētī se
   'to understand one another'
srēčati se
   'to meet one another'
4. There are verbs with which the reflexive pronoun se must always be used. They are intransitive. (The se carries with it no inherent self directed, passive or reciprocal meaning):

Ne bójte se! (from báti se)
'don't be afraid!'  
Likewise:
čúditi se  'to wonder'
jókati se  'to cry'
počutíti se  'to feel'
smejáti se  'to laugh'
spómñiti se  'to remember'

5. Some verbs are combined with se in the third person singular to convey impersonal constructions, i.e. those in which the subject is not named:

Ne vè se, kdáj bodo prišli.  'Nobody knows when they will arrive.'
(i.e. 'It is not known...')

Jáz tó vém. 'I know that.'
Likewise:
govori se  'it is rumored'
mísli se  'it is thought'
slíši se  '(something) is heard'

The dative reflexive si pronoun denotes an action performed for the benefit of the subject of the verb. Only a few verbs are obligatorily used with si. There is a growing preference for the se form. For instance, one finds both úpatí si and úpatí se 'to dare' and oddahníti si and oddahníti se 'to recover'. Verbs accompanied by si in common use include:
mísli si  'to imagine'
ogledováti si  'to sightsee'
pomagáti si  'to help oneself'/'to find a way'
zapómniti si  'to keep in mind'
želéti si  'to wish for oneself'
NOTES ON VERBAL STRESS

1. (a) As stated earlier Slovene recognizes three basic stress patterns: A and B which are non-mobile on the root and ending respectively; a mobile C stress pattern. The vast majority of Slovene verbs have a non-mobile A pattern in which the stress falls on the root in the infinitive, present tense, imperative, participle in -l, supine and past participle. It includes such common verbs as:

- mísliťi 'to think'
- dvígniti 'to raise'
- rézati 'to cut'
- délati 'to work'
- sésti 'to sit down'
- vérovati 'to believe'
- mériti 'to measure'

(b) The number of verbs which display a non-mobile B stress pattern is considerably smaller. It such verbs the stress falls on the final vowel of the stem before the ending is added in the same forms enumerated above. Note, however, that in the basic form of the imperative (the second person singular) of those verbs which take -i, that -i cannot be stressed, while it is stressed in other forms of the imperative.

Infinitive/1st person Imperative
končáťi/končám končaj/končájte 'to end'
kupováťi/kupújem kupúj/kupújte 'to buy'
grešiťi/greším greši/grešíte 'to sin'
besnéťi/besním běsni/besníte 'to rage'
govoríťi/govorím govôri/govoríte 'to speak'

2. In those verbs which display a mobile C stress pattern there is a retraction (moving back) of the stress by one syllable in the present tense, in basic form of the imperative (the second person singular) and in the masculine singular of the descriptive participle in -l.
(infinitive, followed by the 1st person, singular and plural imperatives, and the masculine and feminine participle in -1)

'to defend' braníti ~ bránim ~ bráni/braníte ~ bránil / braníla

'to set out' kreníti ~ krénerm ~ kréni/kreníte ~ krénil / kreníla

'to be silent' molcísti ~ molcím ~ mólči/molčeite ~ mólčal / molčála

'to comb' česáti ~ češem ~ čěski/cešíte ~ čěsal / česála

'to say' rěči ~ rěčem ~ rěci/recíte ~ rékel / rekla

'to read' bráti ~ běrem ~ běri/beríte ~ brál / brála

NOTE: The verbs rěčí and bráti are included above even though they are stressed on the first syllable in the infinitive and present tense. The shift is seen in the second person plural of the imperative. Further, the form molčím with a stressed ending on all forms of the present tense is an exception. A number of other verbs in common use also display the same stress irregularity. They include:

'to run' bežáti ~ bežím
'to hold' držáti ~ držím
'to lie' ležáti ~ ležím and others.

3. Stress for participles:
   a.) Stress for the participle in -1 is covered in notes 1. and 2. above.

   b.) The present adverbial participle in -e is always stressed on the final syllable, e.g. molčé and vedé, and those in -je are stressed on the syllable immediately preceding, e.g. kupováje and deláje.

   c.) The past adverbial participle ending in -váí / -ši is stressed on the next to last syllable (the final vowel of the stem of the infinitive), e.g. končávši and dvignívši.
d.) The present adjectival participle in -č
is always stressed on the final syllable,
e.g. delajoč and mislěč.

e.) The stress of the past adjectival partici-
ciple normally coincides with the stress of
the first person singular, e.g.
  kúpim ~ kúpljen and ránim ~ ránjen.
MISCELLANEOUS NOTES AND SOME SPECIAL PROBLEMS OF SYNTAX AND GRAMMAR

THE USE OF THE DUAL IN SLOVENE

Slovene recognizes three numbers for nominal, pronominal and adjectival declensions, as well as for verbal conjugations: singular, dual and plural. The dual in Slovene, with one exception, is unique among the Slavic languages and indeed among the major languages of Europe. It is a very old category which had fallen into partial disuse over time. Its continued use, however, was assured in the nineteenth century when Contemporary Standard Slovene was codified, i.e. standardized, becoming the language now used by educated Slovenes and as the literary norm in the mass media and the arts. One hears the dual used in everyday speech on the streets of Ljubljana, while its use in the dialects is less consistent.

As seen in the various charts of declensions presented throughout this text, the dual does not have a complete set of forms for all cases in the nominal and adjectival declensions as do the singular and plural numbers. The nominative and accusative cases are the same, as are the dative and instrumental. The genitive and locative cases coincide with the same case forms of the plural. The dual forms for pronouns is somewhat more developed. In verbal conjugation there is a set of forms for the first person, while the second and third persons share the same form.

The general rule is that the dual is used when referring to two persons or objects. In the case of nouns, the numeral for 'two' or 'both' must appear in order for the dual form to be used. Once having been stated in a given situation, the number need not be mentioned again. (See the first two examples below.) For verbs it is sufficient for the number two to be implied:
There are times in Slovene when the speaker must choose between using the accusative or genitive case of a noun depending upon whether that noun refers to a person or animal, i.e. it is animate, or to an inanimate object. The choice arises in connection with transitive verbs requiring a direct object in the accusative case, as well as with prepositions which govern the accusative case. Further, only masculine nouns in the singular are affected by this rule. The accusative case ending for masculine nouns in the singular is identical with

**ANIMATE VS. INANIMATE**

There are times in Slovene when the speaker must choose between using the accusative or genitive case of a noun depending upon whether that noun refers to a person or animal, i.e. it is animate, or to an inanimate object. The choice arises in connection with transitive verbs requiring a direct object in the accusative case, as well as with prepositions which govern the accusative case. Further, only masculine nouns in the singular are affected by this rule. The accusative case ending for masculine nouns in the singular is identical with
either the nominative or the genitive case, while in the dual and plural the nominative, genitive and accusative cases of masculine nouns each have different endings. Compare the accusative endings for the words pótnik 'traveller' and most 'bridge' on p. 26. Neuter nouns are not affected, since virtually all of them refer to inanimate objects (exceptions: děte 'child' and deklé 'girl').

Nor are feminine nouns affected, since feminine declensions in most cases distinguish between the nominative, genitive and accusative cases in the singular, dual and plural. (Feminine nouns ending in a consonant such as mīš 'mouse' are an exception. (See p. 27.)

The general rule states that the accusative ending for masculine nouns in the singular is -a, i.e. the same as the genitive ending, if the point of reference is animate (a living being, person or an animal) and the zero ending (-#) if it is inanimate (a non-living object), i.e. the same as the nominative case.

Examples

Imám sína.
'I have a son.'
Imám účbenik.
'I have a textbook.'
Stárši skrbíjo za otrôka.
'Parents care for their child.'
Skríli so se za zíd.
'They hid behind the wall.'

Imám sinóve.
'I have sons.'
Imám účbenike.
'I have textbooks.'
Stárši skrbíjo za otróke.
'Parents care for their children.'
Skríli so se za zidôve.
'They hid behind the walls.'

There are some important exceptions to the above rule. Certain groups of nouns behave as animates, even though they are not. They include:
1. titles of newspapers referring to a person (Lóvec)
2. brands of cars (fiat)
3. labels of wines (vipávec)
4. names of playing cards (ás, pík)
5. mushrooms (gobăn)
6. names of diseases (râk)
7. planets (Júpiter)
8. sports clubs referring to a person (Slován)
9. a misc. group of nouns including the words:
   (a) duh 'soul'
   (b) words meaning 'dead person'/ 'corpse'/ 'cadaver' mrlè, mrtvák, mrtvec

DOUBLE NEGATIVES

Slovene, like many other European languages, employs the rule of double negation. Thus, the presence of a pronoun or adverb in ni- requires that the verb be negated as well, i.e.:

Kdôr nič ne tvéga, nič níma.
'Nothing ventured, nothing gained.'
['He who risks nothing has nothing.]
Nikômur nísem ničésar rékel.
'I did not say anything to anybody.'
Nikôgar nísem vîdel.
'I didn't see anybody.'
Nikôli nikjér ga ne nájdeš.
'You can never find him anywhere.'
Téga nikár ne délaj!
'Be sure not to do that.'

SPECIAL USES OF THE GENITIVE CASE

In addition to the use of the genitive case with numerals above 5 (see p. 57), there are a number of other special constructions requiring the genitive. They are outlined below.

1. GENITIVE OF NEGATION

In the examples used above under double negatives we see the use of the genitive of negation in the words ničésar, nikôgar and téga.
When transitive verbs which take a direct object in the accusative case are negated, the accusative case is normally replaced by the genitive case in all numbers:

Poznám hotel/hotéle.
'I know the hotel/hotels.'
Ne poznám hotéla/hotélov
'I don't know the hotel/hotels.'
Mírko imá knjígo/knjíge.
'Mirko has the book/books.'
Mírko níma knjíge/knjíg.
'Mirko doesn't have the book/books.'
Pogledal sem danášnjo pósito.
'I saw today's mail.'
Nísem pogledal danášnje pósito.
'I didn't see today's mail.'
Nísmo videli tvójega kolésa.
'We didn't see your bike.'
Nísmo videli váših kolés.
'We didn't see your bikes.'
Ne mórete telefonirati, če nímate žetónov.
'You can't call, if you don't have tokens.'

Note also the following pair of sentences. In the first one the subject occurs in the nominative case as expected. In the second one the subject is in the genitive case due to the presence of a negated form of the verb 'to be' (see also pp. 33-34, 121-122 for other similar examples):

Oče je domá.
'Father is home.'
Očeta ní domá.
'Father is not home.'

2. GENITIVE OF QUANTITY

The following words indicate quantity and require the use of the genitive:
málo 'little'/ 'few', mnógo/velíko 'much'/ 'many', as well as kàj 'some'/ 'any', nêkaj 'some(thing)' or 'several' and nìč 'nothing', e.g.
málo/mnógo (velíko)/nêkaj hìx
'a few/many/several houses'
málo/mnógo/nêkaj zanimìvega
'little/much/something of interest'
and
veliko sreče! 'lots of luck!'  
malo prijateljev '(a) few friends'  
mnogo časa 'lots of time'  
někaj drobiža 'some change'  
še kaj drugega 'something else'  
nič hudega 'nothing bad'

The word kóliko 'how much / many' also requires the use of the genitive case in that it refers to quantity:

Kóliko hotelov je v Ljubljani?
'How many hotels are there in Ljubljana?'
Kóliko denárja imáte?
'How much money do you have?'
The genitive case may also be used if one wishes to express an idea of approximation with the word kàk:

Kóliko hotelov?
'How many hotels?'
Kãkih pět / desět / dvajset.
'Some five / ten / twenty.'

and
Kóliko je stára njegova žena?
'How old is his wife?'
Kãkih pètdeset.
'About fifty.'

Under the category of quantity we may also include the partitive genitive. If part of something, as opposed to the whole of it, is desired, then the genitive is used:

Dàj mi / vzê mi si čája / krúha / síra.
'Give me / take (for yourself) some tea / bread / cheese.'

vs.

Dàj mi / vzêmi si čaj / krûh / sír.
'Give me / take (for yourself) the tea / bread / cheese.'

3. EXCEPTIONAL USE OF ADJECTIVES AND PRONOUNS IN THE GENITIVE CASE

Note the following use of feminine nouns modified by adjectives and pronouns declined like adjectives in the accusative case in the sentences which follow:
Jáž imám svójo knjígo.
'I have my book.'
Vzemi še ti svójo.
'Take yours also.'
and
Katéro slívovko hóčete?
'Which plum brandy do you want?'
Slovénsko.
'A Slovene one.'

In the case of phrases in which the adjective or pronoun modifies an omitted masculine or neuter noun, however, the adjective or pronoun appears in the genitive case rather than in the expected accusative case:
Jáž imám svój kóvček.
'I have my suitcase.'
Vzemi še ti svójega.
'Take yours also.'
Katéri klobúk hóčete?
'Which hat do you want?'
Téga ali ónegá?
'This one or that one?'
Katéro víno naj prinésem?
'Which wine should I bring?'
Prinesíte lánskega / rdéčeega.
'Bring last year's' / 'a red one.'
[See also example on p. 52.]

SOME SPECIAL MODAL VERBS AND EXPRESSIONS

There are special vocabulary items and/or syntactic rules for constructing sentences in Slovene with words which correspond to English 'can' / 'may', 'to be allowed', 'must', 'it is necessary' and 'prefer' / 'like'.

móxi 'can' / 'may'

The verb móxi in Slovene with its present tense mórem, móreš, etc. (see its conjugation on p. 80) has the meaning of 'to be (physically) able(to do something)' / 'to be capable' / 'can'. It is followed by an infinitive:
Mórem samó pohvalíti...
'I can only praise....'
Danes ne morem delati.
'I cannot work today.'

Na izpitu se nikakor nisem mogle zbrati.
'I couldn't concentrate at all at the exam.'

Storil bom, kar bom najveck mogle.
'I'll do the best (most) that I can.'

When one wishes, however, to convey the meaning of 'can' in the sense of 'may' (permission granted) / 'might' in Slovene, the word lahko (literally 'easily') plus a finite form of the verb is used:

Lahko vstopim?
'Can/may I come in?'

Lahko me poklicete, kadarkoli zelite.
'You can/may call me whenever you wish.'

Lahko to bereg?
'Can you read this?'

Lahko, da je pozabil.
'He might have forgotten.'

In the event of a negative reply, the word lahko is not used. The speaker reverts to the verb musti if there is some physical hinderance (for permission denied, see smeti below):

Ne morete se vstopiti.
'You can't come in yet.' [Because, e.g. the floors are still wet.]

Tega ne moreg brati.
'You can't read this.' [Because, e.g.: I'm reading it. / It's too difficult. / It's in a foreign language. See also example under smeti.]

Ne moreg takogovoriti s starejsimi od sebe.
'You can not speak to your elders like that.' [You did, and you are being reproached for having done so. See also final example under smeti.]

smeti 'to be allowed'

The verb smeti has the meaning 'to be allowed' or 'to be permitted, i.e. a more emphatic granting or denying of permission than in the 'can' / 'may' constructions above:
Modals

Ali smém vprašáti...?
'Am I allowed to ask...?'
Ali smém telefonirati od vás?
'Am I allowed to use your telephone?'
Túkaj se ne smé kaditi.
'Smoking is forbidden here.'
Ona ne smé iz hiše.
'She's not allowed out.'
Ne sméš téga bráti.
'You are not allowed to read this.'
Ne sméš takó govoríti s staréjšimi od sebe.
'You are not allowed (may not) to talk to your elders like that.' [A rule is stated without a strong reproach being issued.]

mórati 'must' / 'should'

The verb mórati means 'must' / 'should' / 'ought' / 'to have to'. [Note: Be careful not to confuse its present tense conjugation with that of môči!] Mórati, like môči, belongs to a limited group of verbs which require an infinitive complement. The infinitive may be deleted (but it remains implied) with verbs of motion:
Móraš domóv/k zdravnikú.
'You must / should / ought / have to go home / go see a doctor.'
Tó knjígo mórate prebráti.
'You must read this book.'
Móral je umréti.
'He was doomed to die.'

tréba 'it is necessary'

A construction with the word tréba expresses the concept 'it is necessary' ('needed') as in the following examples:
Tó je tréba storíti.
'It is necessary to do this.'
Ní tréba délati.
'It's not necessary to work.'
Káj je še tréba?
'What else is needed?'
Ní mi tréba tvójega denárja.
'I don't need your money.'
Syntax

Modals / Verbs of Motion

imeti rad 'prefer' / 'like'

The adjective rad (see p. 39) and its comparative rajši/ráje (literally 'glad'/'more gladly') or the superlative with naj- combined with the verb imeti 'to have' in Slovene corresponds to the English meanings: 'to prefer', 'to like' ('to love' when speaking about a person), 'rather'/ 'sooner', 'to be willing'. When used with verbs other than imeti its use is adverbial and its meaning closer to the original 'gladly'.

Note its use in the following sentences:

Rad imám lähka vína.
'I like light wines.'
Radí imajo šah.
'They like (to play) chess.'
Najrágji/najráje imám čaj.
'I'd much rather have tea.'
Péter zeló neràd odgovárja na píisma.
'Peter hates (really prefers not) to answer letters.'
Ali se ráda učíš slovénščino?
'Do you like studying Slovene?'
Jóže bi rájši/ráje ostál v Ljubljáni.
'Joe would prefer to stay in Ljubljana.'
Nína bi ráje odpotovála, kot pa da bi drúžila z máno!
'Nina would sooner leave than join me!'
Mí bi ráje šli péš.
'We'd prefer to walk (go by foot).'

VERBS OF MOTION AND CASE REQUIREMENTS

In Slovene there are many verbs which fall into a category known as verbs of motion. Such verbs suggest the movement of a person or object from one location to another. The prepositions which follow such verbs will require the noun to be in the accusative case, while the same prepositions used with verbs indicating a stationary position will be used with a case other than accusative. [Review prepositions on pp. 60-64.] There are also several paired adverbs which designate place as opposed to movement including:
Verbs of Motion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Motion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>kjé</td>
<td>'where'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>káM/kód</td>
<td>'where' ['whither']</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tükaj</td>
<td>'here'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sém</td>
<td>'here' ['hither']</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tám</td>
<td>'there'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tjá</td>
<td>'there' ['thither']</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Compare the following sentences:
Kjé si bíl? 'Where were you?'
Bíl sem v Ljubljáni. 'I was in Ljubljana.'
[The sentences above indicate a stationary location, not movement, and v takes the locative case.]
as opposed to
KáM gréš? 'Where are you going?'
Grém v Ljubljáno. 'I'm going to Ljubljana.'
[These sentences indicate movement/express direction to a place, and v takes the accusative case.]
likewise
Hódiva na délo. 'We (two) go to work.'
Mídva sva bila na délu. 'We (two) were at work.'
Kdó je pável v vôdo?
'Who fell into the water?'
Pomorščák je v vôdi.
'A sailor is in the water.'
Sédli smo pod drevó.
'We sat down under the tree.'
Letálí smo pod drevésom.
'We were lying under the tree.'
Peljíte ga v mőjo sóbo!
'Take him into my room!'
JúriJ léta sém in tjá.
'Jurij is running (flying) here and there.'
Něsi tó písmo na pósto!
'Take this letter to the post office!'  

Verbs of motion include such verbs as:
- bežáti 'to run'
- íti 'to go'
- hodíti 'to walk'
- gnáti 'to impel'
- létati/letéti 'to fly'
- nosíti/něsti 'to carry'
- plávati 'to swim' '/'to sail'
Many of the verbs in the preceding list have prefixed and related forms derived from them which are part of the inventory of verbs of motion.
TIME EXPRESSIONS

Slovene, like any language, has its own special way of phrasing time expressions, dates and telling age. Age and time expressions employ cardinal numbers, while dates use ordinals (see pp. 54-55). They are summarized below.

1. TELLING AGE: The formula for designating age is a simple one:
   Kóliko je stár Jóže/stára Niná?
   'How old is Joe/Nina?'
   Őn/Ona je stár/stára... 'He/She is...
   Žno léto 1
   dvé léti 2
   trí/štíri léta 3/4
   pét lét 5
   enaindvájset létět 21
   dváintridéset lét 32
   pétinšéstdeset lét. 65 years old.'
[Refer to pp. 56-57 for case requirements.]
In order to state approximation of age, one may use the following constructions:
   Blíža se k pétdesetim.
   'He/she is approaching his/her fifties.'
   je v zgódnjih/pōznih trídesetih
   'in one's early/late thirties'

2. TELLING TIME: There are often several ways to state the same time expression in Slovene. Compare the various possibilities offered below. The learner is also reminded that the 24 hour clock is used in most official areas of life, so that 14 hrs. is 2 p.m. and 20 hrs. is 8 p.m., etc. Further, in written Slovene a period(decimal point) is used to separate the hour and minute(s) rather than a colon as is done in English.
   Kóliko je úra? 'What time is it?'
   Úra je... 'It is...'
   1:00 Žna [nom.]
   2:00 dvé
   3:00 trí
   10:00 desét
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Syntax</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:30</td>
<td>pôl énih (or éne) [pol+gen.]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30</td>
<td>pôl dvéh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30</td>
<td>pôl tréh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30</td>
<td>pôl desětih</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15</td>
<td>četřt na éno/éna [na+acc.]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:15</td>
<td>četřt na dvé</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15</td>
<td>četřt na trí</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15</td>
<td>četřt na desét</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45</td>
<td>trí četřt na éno/éna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:45</td>
<td>trí četřt na dvé</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45</td>
<td>trí četřt na trí</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45</td>
<td>trí četřt na desét</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:15</td>
<td>Ura je éna in pětnajst (minút).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ura je četřt čez éno. [čez+acc.]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30</td>
<td>Ura je éna in trideset (minút).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:45</td>
<td>Ura je éna in pětinštirideset.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Čez pětnajst bo dvé.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ura je pětnajst do dvéh. [do+gen.]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PLUS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:01</td>
<td>Ura je éna minúta čez éno.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:02</td>
<td>dvé minúti čez éno.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:05</td>
<td>pêt minút čez éno.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ALSO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:07</td>
<td>Ura je éna in sédem minút.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:40</td>
<td>dvájset minút do dvéh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:55</td>
<td>Čez pêt minút bo trí.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:57</td>
<td>Čez trí minúte bo trí.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:59</td>
<td>Čez éno minúto bo trí.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:55</td>
<td>pêt minút do tréh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:57</td>
<td>do štírih mánjka (še) trí minúte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:59</td>
<td>éna minúta do pêt</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Kdáj? 'When?' [ob + loc.]
- Ob énih OR ob éni úri 'at 1:00'
- Ob dvéh 'at 2:00'
- Ob pětnajstih 'at 3:00 (p.m.)'
- Ob pôl desětih 'at 9:30'
- Ob desětih in dvájset(minút) 'at 10:20'
3. EXPRESSING AMOUNTS OF TIME:

(a) In order to state that an event will take place in a certain period of time, the preposition čez with the accusative case of the number is used:
Jóže bo tůkaj čez ěno úro / pét úr / ųn mésec.
'Joe will be here in one / five hour(s) / a month.'

(b) In order to specify the duration of an action, the simple accusative is used, i.e. without a preposition. [Hint: If the preposition 'for' in English may be omitted, then no preposition is required in Slovene.]
Bóris je délal ěno úro / dvé úri / pét úr / všo zímo.
'Boris was working (for) one / two / five hours / all winter.'

(c) In order to state the length of time in which an action can be accomplished, v plus the locative is used:
Tó bom narédil v ěni úri / dvéh / pětih úrah / v ěnem tědnú.
'I shall get that done in one / two / five hours / in a week.'

(d) In order to specify that an action is done with a certain frequency, the preposition na plus the accusative is used:
ěnkrať na léto / dvákrat na těden / tríkrat na minúto
'once a (per) year' / 'twice a week' / 'three times a minute'

(e) In order to express time 'before' ('by') which an event occurs, the preposition do followed by the genitive case is used:
Prišél bom k váma / Pri váju bóm do tréh.
'I'll get to / be at your place before (by) three.'
Likewise, the prepositions od....do, both followed by the genitive case, express the concept 'from.....to':
Mesnica je odprita od dvéh do sedmih.  
'The butcher shop is open from two to seven.'

(f) In order to specify the length of time that a given action is intended to last or to be in effect, the preposition za is used followed by the accusative case:
Za kóliko dni ste rezervirali sóbo?  
'For how many days did you reserve the room?'
Za en dán/dvá dni.  
'For one/two days.'

4. DATES:

(a) Requesting and stating the current date may be done by the use of the nominative or genitive cases:
Katéri dátum/dán je dánes? 'What date is it?'
Dánes je devéti. [nom.] 'Today is the ninth.'
Devéti máj. [nom.] 'May 9th.'

OR
Katérega smo dánes?'  'What date is it?'
Dánes smo devétega.[gen.]'Today is the ninth.'
Devétega mája. [gen.] 'May 9th.'

(b) When stating the date on which an event takes place, the use of the genitive is obligatory:
Lahko pridete devétega?  
'Can you come on the ninth?'
Prešeren je umrl ôsmega fêbruarja.  
'Prešeren died on February 8th.'

(c) Dates involving years are stated in the following way:
Smo tisíco devéťsto devéťdesetega. [gen.]  
'It is 1990.'
Rôjen sem (rodíl sem se) tisíco devéťsto pêtidesetega léta. [gen.]  
'I was born in 1950.'

OR
Rôjen sem léta [gen.] tisíco devéťsto pétinšéstdeset.
'I was born in 1965.'
AND
'Rōjen sem trīdesetega māja (gen.) tīsoč devētsto sēdemdesetega.'
'I was born on May 30, 1970.'
'Prešerēn se je rodīl trētjega decēmbra tīsoč ķīsemsto.'
'Prešerēn was born on December 3rd, 1800.'

5. NAMES OF THE DAYS OF THE WEEK:

Katēri dān je dānes?
'What day (of the week) is it?'
Dānes je ponedēļjek. 'Today is Monday.'
tōrek Tuesday sređa Wednesday
četētek Thursday pētek Friday
sobōta Saturday nedēlja Sunday
In order to say 'on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday', etc. the preposition v is used with the accusative case:
v ponedēļjek, v tōrek, v sređo...
The plural, 'on Sundays, on Mondays', etc. is expressed by using the preposition ob with the locative case:
ob nedēljah, ob ponedēļjkih...

6. NAMES OF THE MONTHS: The names of the months are given below. [Note: months may also be read by the use of the ordinal numerals in order 'first' through 'twelfth'. For example, in European style 2.VII.1701 is to be read as 7/2/1701 in American style. It may be read as drūgēga sēdme tīsoč sēdemsto pīvega ķītega.]

jānuar jūlij
fēbruar avgūst
mārec septēmber
aprīl oktōber
māj novēmber
jūnij decēmber

All of the month names are masculine. In order to say 'in January', 'in March', etc., the preposition v is used with the locative case, e.g. v jānuarju, v mārcu. OR the genitive case may be used, e.g.
February je padlo veliko snega.
'A lot of snow fell in February.'

7. DIVISIONS OF THE DAY:

'in the...'/'at'
'morning' jútro zjútraj/dopóldne
('good morning' dôbro jútro)
'day' dán podnévi/čez dán
('good day' dôber dán)
'evening' večér zvečér
('good evening' dôber večér)
'night' nôč ponôči
('good night' láhko nôč) [note!]

note also:
'noon' póldan 'at noon' opóldne
'midnight' pólnoč 'at midnight' opólnoči
'a.m.' dopóldne 'p.m.' popóldne
'today' dánes
'yesterday' včéraj
'tomorrow' jútri
'this morning' dávi
'tonight' nocôj
'this evening' drévi

8. THE YEAR AND ITS SEASONS:

'year' leto
'this year' létos
'last year' láni
'next year' drúgo/prihôdnje leto
'month' meseč
'this month' tá meseč
'last month' prýjšnji meseč
'next month' drúgi/prihôdnji meseč
'season' látni čas 'in the...'
'spring' pomlánd spomládi
'summer' polétje poléti
'秋天' jesén jeséni
'winter' zína pozími
Word order in Slovene is considered to be free. That "freedom", however, is only relative. The meaning which a speaker wishes to convey in a given situation determines the order in which words appear in a sentence. Additionally, word order is closely connected with the imparting of new information and with the overall stress/intonation of the sentence. Independent words, a term used here to include nouns, adjectives, adverbs, numerals and verbs, normally occupy a specific position within a sentence. Their position is rather rigidly defined to the extent that if their place in the sentence is changed, or if the intonation of the sentence is changed, the meaning which the speaker intends also changes. Thus, the position which any given word occupies within a sentence determines the effect which the speaker wishes to achieve. Dependent words, a term used to include prepositions, conjunctions, negatives, particles, short form pronouns (clitics) and forms of the verb biti 'to be' (auxiliaries) adhere to a much stricter word order. Explanations provided here are meant to serve only as a general guide to word order in Slovene. To cover all aspects of Slovene word order is beyond the scope of a work such as this, and the student of Slovene is urged to cultivate the habit of careful reading and analysis of new texts from the beginning.

The general principle governing word order in simple or compound declarative sentences (and in commands) is that information which is given or known (the theme) is considered the least significant and comes first. It is followed by new information (the rheme) and is considered to be of maximum significance and is stated in order of its importance. A sentence in Slovene may begin with a noun and its modifiers, if any, as subject. (Many begin with adverbs or prepositional phrases.) A personal pronoun, unless stressed, is normally omitted. Then follows a verb and its comple-
mēnts, adverbial or prepositional modifiers, or perhaps another noun or an adjective:

Nāš Mārjan īe
'Our Marjan [subject] is [verb]
učītelj. a teacher.' [noun]
mlād. young.' [adjective]
domā. home.' [adverb]

Gregor pīsal
'Gregor [subject] was writing [verb]
knjīgo a book.' [direct object]
žēni. to his wife.' [indir. obj.]
trī āure. for three hours.'
[accusative expression of time]

Let us examine the sentence Njegov stāri
dēd grē lētōs v Ameriko na obīsk. 'His old
grandfather is going to America on a visit this
year.' It contains an adverb and two preposi-
tional phrases at the end of the sentence in
which the new information (rheme), i.e. that of
maximum importance, of the sentence is con-
tained. The subject is a given (theme) consist-
ing of three words and is of least importance in
ther sentence. The fact that he has an old
grandfather has apparently already been estab-
lished as a topic of conversation. It is fol-
lowed by the verb. The adverb lētōs comes after
the verb followed by the prepositional phrases.
The adverb and the two prepositional phrases
could change places within the sentence, each
time creating different results. Here na obīsk
is the final phrase, suggesting that the sen-
tence is in response to the question "For what
reason is he going to America?" ('on a visit' -
perhaps he has been there earlier on business).
Had the adverb lētōs come at the end of the
sentence, then the emphasis would have shifted
to 'this summer' in response to an implied
question "When will he visit America?". If the
phrase v Ameriko had come at the end of the
sentence, then the impact would be a response to
the question "Where is he going?" ('to America' -
as opposed to some other country).

In the sentence Nāšega māčka žē trī dni
ni domōv. 'Our cat hasn't (come) home for three
days now.' the noun phrase nāšega māčka is the
subject and appears in the genitive due to the negated verb ni. (See pp. 34 and 106 for similar examples.) The word že emphasizes the accusative time phrase tri dni which follows, and finally the most important piece of information domov tells where it is that the cat has not been.

The least / maximum rule will take precedence over a word order based on parts of speech as can be seen in the following two sentences each consisting of only two words (no pronoun is necessary, the information being supplied by the ending of the verb):

Móram bráti. 'I must read.'
('Must' is a given, or presumed, and the undertaking of reading as opposed to some other action, such as writing or singing, is new.)

Bráti móram. 'I must read.'
(You already know that there is reading to be done, and now it is time that it must be done, i.e. it cannot be delayed further.)

[HINT: The emphasis (stress) in English sentences such as the two above will often help to decide the word order in Slovene.]

The least / maximum principle for given vs. new information applies to compound sentences such as Dánes je hladnó, zató ostáneva domá. [= Dánes je hladnó. Ostáneva domá.] 'It's cold today, therefore we're staying home.' There is no subject expressed in the first part of the sentence, and here the adverb danes precedes the verb, which is followed by the word hladnó. The clause which follows contains a finite verb form for the first person dual ('the two of us are staying') and an adverb. The new information of maximal significance is 'cold' in the independent clause and '(at) home' in the dependent clause.

The compound sentence Rëci mu, da je njegóva knjíga pri mëni. 'Tell him that I have his book.' follows the normal word order. The first part contains an imperative verb and the dative case of the masculine pronoun on (who is to be told). The subject pronoun ti is absent, as noted above. It is clear from the verbal ending. In the clause which follows, the phrase
njegóva knjíga is the subject of the verb je (see below for placement of the clitic je), and the sentence concludes with a prepositional phrase (where the book is).

The following three sentences further illustrate the relationship between information of least and maximum significance and the question of word order:

1. Na nášem vítu je vsè v cvétju.
2. Vsè je v cvétju na nášem vítu.
3. Vsè na nášem vítu je v cvétju.

In each case those elements or units which the speaker feels are not divisable are grouped together. The placing of the various elements tells us what the speaker considers to be information of least or maximum significance.

The sentences might be translated in the following way:

1. 'In our garden everything is in bloom.' (We don't have to wait for anything to bloom now.)
   WHERE ? + WHAT ? / HOW ?

2. 'Everything is in bloom in our garden.' (Elsewhere not everything is out yet.)
   WHAT ? / HOW ? + WHERE ?

3. 'Everything in our garden is in bloom.' (There is nothing that doesn't have a flower on it.)
   WHAT ? / WHERE ? + HOW ?

Questions in Slovene are freqeritly introduced by interrogatives such as kjé 'where', kâm 'where (to)', kdó 'who', káj 'what', kdáj 'when', zakáj 'why', kakó 'how', etc. or by prepositional phrases. They are usually followed by a verb, then its subject, if any, and finally by additional information as required by the question:

Kdáj gré ávtobus?
   'When does the bus leave?'
Kjé je telefónski imeník?
   'Where's the telephone book?'
Kâm gréš jútri?
   'Where are you going tomorrow?'
Kdó je v híši?
   'Who is in the house?'
Káj je tó?
'What's that?'
Kjé si dóbil té knjíge?
'Where did you get those books?'
Kakó je tó möžno?
'How is that possible?'
Od kód prihájaš?
'Where are you coming from?'
S katérim vlákom se boš peljála?
'Which train will you take?'
Na katére naslóve naj pósľjem tó sporočílo?
'To which addresses should I send this information?'

In the absence of an interrogative pronoun, adverb or prepositional phrase as in the preceding questions, the word ali (un-stressed) is used to introduce explicit questions to which the answer 'yes' or 'no' is required, even in an embedded question as seen in the last example immediately below:

Ali vėš, kakó se imenúje tista gôra?
'Do you know what the name of that mountain is?'
Ali je domá?
'Is he/she home?'
Ali govoríte slovënsko?
'Do you speak Slovene?'
Ni mi povédal, ali se res ločúje.
'He didn't tell me if they are really separating.'

The question word ali is frequently reduced to a shorter a or is omitted in conversation (but not in formal literary texts):

Imáte ávto?
'Do you have a car?'
A razúmète slovënsko?
'Do you understand Slovene?'
Je Ánica tó védela?
'Did Anica know this?'

In questions to which the answer is 'yes' or 'no' such as the preceding a special sentence rising intonation is used in speech. Further, the omission of the word ali implies the continuation of an ongoing conversation, i.e.
ali may be dropped at any point in a conversation once the general theme or subject matter under discussion has already been established. Example: Se je Rajko res poročil? 'Did Rajko really get married?' Here it is apparent that the topic of Rajko's marriage has already been raised (also implied in the word res).

The presence of clitics, i.e. the short forms of pronouns (see pp. 47-49) and auxiliaries (forms of the verb biti 'to be' used with the descriptive participle in -1 for the past and future tenses, see p. 78-80), in a sentence or clause is rigidly defined (although not always so rigidly followed in conversation). They must occupy the second position in declarative sentences and questions, and they themselves follow an accepted order. The list below provides a guide to the prescribed word order for sentences which contain clitics and/or auxiliaries:

1. introductory (head) word / constituent
   (a) The introductory word, normally stressed, may be an independent word (see p. 120) OR constituent such as a phrase or even an entire clause (see p. 127).
   (b) Alternatively the introductory word may be ali, the particle naj or a conjunction such as da, in or če.

2. (a) forms of the present tense of the verb biti 'to be' used as past tense auxiliaries, except for je: sem, si, sva, sta, smo, ste, so
   (b) the word bi (conditional particle)

3. the reflexive pronouns se and si

4. the dative enclitic pronouns: mi, ti, mu, ji, nama, vama, jima, nam, vam, jim

5. the accusative enclitic pronouns: me, te, ga, jo, naju, vaju, ju, nas, vas, jih

6. the genitive enclitic pronouns: me, te, ga, je, naju, vaju, ju, nas, vas, jih

7. (a) forms of the future tense of the verb biti 'to be' used as future tense auxiliaries: bom, boš, bo, bova, bosta, bomo, boste, bodo
   OR
(b) the 3rd person singular present tense of the verb biti 'to be': je

NOTE: Students of Slovene with a knowledge of Serbo-Croatian should take note of the significant difference in clitic word order in the two languages. The pattern for Serbo-Croatian is the following:
1.) head word/constituent or the particle li
2.) auxiliaries of past, future or conditional (except for je)
3.) dative pronoun
4.) genitive/accusative pronoun
5.) reflexive pronoun
6.) auxiliary je.

Below are samples of several simple short sentences illustrating word order with clitics in Slovene. They may be checked against the rules established above. They will then be followed by a series of fuller sentences:

Dál sem mu. / Dál sem mu ga.
'I gave it to him.'
Dála mu je. / Dála mu ga je.
'She gave it to him.'
Prinesel sem ji. / Prinesel sem ji jo.
'I brought it to her.'
Prinesla mu je. / Prinesla mu jo je.
'She brought it to him.'
Ali si mu ga dál?
'Did you give it to him?'
Ali mi ga boš dál?
'Will you give it to me?'
Ali bi ti ga dál?
'Would she give it to you?'
Ali mu ga je dál?
'Did he give it to him?'

The descriptive participle in -l used to form the past and future tenses with forms of the verb biti 'to be' is stressed and may appear as the introductory (head) word (see examples 8., 9., 10. below and notes which follow) or may follow the clitic(s) (examples 1., 2., 3., 4., 5., 7., 15.-19.) if another word acts as the introductory word and begins the sentence. Note
further that the negative particle ne normally stands before the verb which it negates, including before the future forms of biti and the conditional particle bi. In such cases it counts as part of the entire constituent (examples 11., 17., 18., 19.). In those rare instances when ne is separated from the verb it may act as the head word of a sentence as in: Ne se věč báti, ne věč úpati. 'Fear no more, hope no more.' Negated auxiliary verbs of the past tense require that they cease to act as clitics. They acquire stress and become full words in a sentence and precede the participle in -l (examples 12., 13., 14 and notes below).

Study the list of examples below and the notes which follow it. Each sentence begins with an independent word [noun, pronoun, verb, adverb (examples 1., 2., 3., 4., 5.) or the participle in -l (examples 8., 9., 10. and final notes)] / constituent (examples 6., 7. and notes below) or the word ali (examples 20., 21., 22.). Some sentences have clauses introduced by full words (examples 23., 24.) or by the conjunctions da and če (examples 25., 26., 27., 28., 29., 30.). The final notes return to sentences with negated auxiliaries, longer constituent phrases and sentences which appear to deviate from the rule concerning introductory words. Use the following simplified chart for reference:

**INTRODUCTORY WORD/CONSTITUENT FOLLOWED BY:**

1. **PRESENT TENSE OF BITI (except je) or BI**
   + SE/SI + DAT/ACC/GEN
   OR
2. **SE/SI + DAT/ACC/GEN**
   + FUTURE OF BITI or JE

**Examples:**

1. Vše je bilo zasédeno.  
   'All the seats were taken.'
2. Jóže mu je telefoníral.  
   'Joe called him.'
3. Rôke so se mu zacéle trést.  
   'His hands began to shake.'
4. Potém smo se rozlì.
   'Then we went our separate ways.'
5. Obkléj se je pojávil?
   'When did he show up?'
6. Kóliko letalíšč je v Slovéniji?
   'How many airports are there in Slovenia?'
7.Vsì tò ste vídeli?
   'Did you see all of that?'
8. Smejál se mi je.
   'He was laughing at me.'
9. Smejál sem se mu.
   'I was laughing at him.'
10. Kupíla mi je knjígo.
    'She bought me a book.'
11. Ne vídim ga.
    'I don't see him.'
12. Dùšan ga ni védel.
    'Dušan didn't see him.'
    'I didn't see her.'
    'The plan did not succeed.'
15. Jóxe bo telefoníral.
    'Joe will call'.
16. On se vam bo smejal.
    'He'll be laughing at you.'
17. Dùšan ga ne bo védel.
    'Dušan won't see him.'
18. Jaz je ne bom védel.
    'I won't be seeing her.'
19. Takó ne bo šlò.
    'This won't do.'
20. Ali naj se mu opravíčim?
    'Should I apologize to him?'
21. Ali mi lahko povéste...?
    'Can you tell me...?'
22. Ali si boš zapomnil vsì tò?
    'Will you keep all that in mind?'
23. Ne vém, kdo bi lahko svétval bolje.
    'I don't know who could give better advice.'
24. Vsì mu je dál, kàr je imél.
    'He gave him everything that he had.'
25. Mislim, da se je bál psa.  
'I think that he was afraid of the dog.'

'I hope that I shall see him.'

27. Oprostite, da vas je enkrat nadlegujem.  
'Forgive me for bothering you again.'

'I think that the hotel is old.'

29. Olga ni doma, cе se ne motim.  
'Olga is not at home, if I'm not wrong.'

30. Odsel bi, cе bi slо po mоjem.  
'I'd leave if it were up to me.'

NOTE: In the following sentences the negated particle or auxiliary appears as the first element:
Ne bi me videla.  
'She wouldn't see me.'
(Compare: Videla bi me. 'She would see me.')
Nisem je videl.  
'I didn't see her.'
(Compare: Videl sem jo. 'I did see her.')
Ni se nam posreдilo, da bi ga videli.  
'We did not succeed in seeing him.'

NOTE: Entire phrases, clauses, or questions may fill the role of the first constituent of a sentence, e.g.
S tо stvarjо sem se mnogo bавil.  
'I've given a lot of thought to it.'  
[= I have occupied myself with that thing a lot.]

"Lетos sem bilа v Ljubljani", je rekla.  
"I was in Ljubljana this summer," she said."

"Kaj se je zgodilo?" so vpraшali.  
'What happened?' they asked.

"Pridem zjутraj, cе bom mögel", je rekel.  
"I'll come tomorrow if I can," he said."

NOTE: Despite the rules established above, the following two responses to the questions posed begin with a clitic. That is because they are part of an ongoing conversation. They follow the rules established above for the use of the question word ali (pp. 124-125), and the pronoun is implied:
Kjе je Janеz?  
'Where is Janez?'
Je ѕе priдеl!  
'He's already arrived!'
Ali si mój prijateľ? 'Are you my friend?'
Sém in ostánanem. 'I am and shall so remain.'

NOTE: In the following sentences the presence of the clitics before the verb is possible because each sentence has been shortened by deleting the initial word. They are uttered with a single stress:

{} [Ali] Si ga videl? 'Have you seen him?'
{} [To] Se mi je smejál. 'He was laughing at me.'
{} [Compare the preceding sentence with the "correct" version, example 8., in the list of sentences above.]

NOTE: Likewise the participle in -l often precedes the auxiliary in declarative sentences:
{} Dal sem mu ga. 'I gave it to him.'
{} Bil sem v Sloveniji. 'I was in Slovenia.'

The above sentences follow the rule of information of least and maximum significance. One could change the emphasis in the second one from 'in Slovenia' to 'was' by saying:
{} In Sloveniji sem bil.
{} [HINT: Try reading aloud the English sentence, first stressing 'was' and then 'Slovenia':
{} I was in Slovenia.

The first variant in English equals the sentence above. The second equals the Slovene sentence ending with the words v Sloveniji.]

In interrogatives, however, the auxiliary precedes the participle in-l form (see above):
{} Si bilá v Sloveniji? 'Were you in Slovenia?'
{} Ne, nísem bilá. 'No, I wasn't.'
{} (The word ali is missing / implied in the question.)
SOME HINTS ON ENRICHING YOUR VOCABULARY

One of the most difficult problems in learning a new language is the acquisition of vocabulary. For the speaker of English the memorization and activation of new words in a Slavic language such as Slovene is no exception. They appear exotic and remote at the beginning. The following comments provide a few hints on how to recognize seemingly new words thereby expanding one's existing vocabulary.

At the beginning stages of his or her study of Slovene the learner is particularly advised to take note of word roots, prefixes and suffixes. On p. 92 it was shown how a basic verb may change meanings, sometimes radically, by the addition of a prefix. Learning to make informed guesses as to the meaning of a prefixed or suffixed word will help to increase one's vocabulary more quickly, and each newly encountered word will not need to be checked in a dictionary as a totally unknown item. Nouns, like verbs, may also add a prefix and acquire a new meaning, for example the following nouns of which contain the root -hod (cf. hoditi 'to walk'):

- dohod 'access'
- izhod 'exit'
- obhod 'rounds' ('to make one's...')
- odhod 'departure'
- prihod 'arrival'
- razhod 'parting'
- shod 'meeting'/'assembly'
- vhod 'entrance'
- zahod 'west'/'sundown'

Similarly, Slovene is rich in suffixes. Acquiring a working knowledge of them will help to expand one's vocabulary. For example, the word brat 'brother' is presented below with a number of different suffixes added to it:

- brátec 'little brother'
- brátranec 'cousin'
- brátenje 'fraternizing'
- brátov 'brother's'
- bráтовski 'brotherly'
Enriching Your Vocabulary

brátski 'fraternal'
bráštvo 'brotherhood'
brátovščina 'fellowship'
and compounds such as:
bratomör 'fratricide'
bratomóren 'fratricidal'

The word knjíga 'book' has many derivative forms:
knjigárna 'bookshop'
knjížen/književén 'literary'
knjižévnost 'literature'
knjižévnik 'author'
knjižévnica '(female) author'
knjížnica 'library'
knjižničar 'librarian'
knjižničarstvo 'librarianship'

and compounds such as:
knjigotfštvo 'bookselling'
knjigotfšec 'bookseller'
knjigovéštvo 'bookbinding'
knjigovéž 'bookbinder'
knjigovéznica 'book bindery'
knjigovódja 'accountant'
knjigovódstvo 'bookkeeping'

In the preceding lists of words many of the suffixes most frequently found in Slovene appeared, e.g. -stvo, -(n)ost, -ščina, which are used to form nouns of a more abstract nature from adjectives and other nouns (compare them to English nouns with the suffixes -ness, -hood, -kind, -ity and -ship). Additional words:
bogástvo < bogat 'rich' = 'wealth'
člověštvo < človek 'rich' = 'mankind'
točnost < točen 'precise' = 'preciseness'
dvoúnost < dvá'two'+úm 'sense'='ambiguity'
sosěščina < sosed 'neighbor'='neighborhood'
miloščina < míl 'gentle' = 'charity'

The suffix -ina implies a grouping of some sort as in the word skupína 'group' (cf. the adverb skúpaj 'together'). Less common are the abstract suffixes -ota and -oba as in topolsta 'warmth' from tópel 'warm' and zlóba 'malice' from zlò 'evil'.
Adjectives formed by the addition of the suffixes -ski, as well as -ov/-ev and -ovski to nouns ending in a consonant also appeared. To the preceding list the suffix -in, used to derive adjectives from nouns ending in -a, such as sêstra 'sister' : sêstrin 'sister's', may be added. The suffixes -ov and -in are used with masculine and feminine nouns (including proper names) respectively to form possessives (see also note 2. (b) on p. 38). The suffix -čji often fills the same role for animals: máčji 'cat's' < máčka 'cat'. The suffix -en is used frequently to derive adjectives from nouns, e.g. glásben 'musical' < glásba 'music', and the suffix -nji may often create an adjective from an adverb such as sedánji 'present'/'current' < sedáj 'now'.

Professions and roles which people occupy in life are designated, among others, by the suffixes -ec, -nik, -telj, and -tor. Feminine nouns may be formed from them by the addition of the suffixes -ka, -ica and -nica:

gréš + nik/nica 'male/female sinner'
diréktor/ica 'male/female director'
prijá + telj/teljica 'male/female friend'
Slovén + ec/ka 'male/female Slovene'

Among Slovene suffixes are a number which serve to create diminutives from other nouns. The most common include -ca, -ica and -ka from nouns belonging to feminine declensions, -ec, -ek and -ič for masculine declension nouns and -ece for neuter declension nouns:

róžka/róžica 'rose'/ 'small rose'
tčeta/tčetka 'aunt'/ 'auntie'
Ana/Anica 'Ann'/ 'Annie'
stvr/sivrca 'thing'/ 'little thing'
fánt/fántek/fantič 'boy'/ 'little boy'
vrt/vrtc 'garden'/ 'little garden'
méstoméstece 'town'/ 'small town'

Slovene shares two cognate international suffixes with English, i.e. -ist, as in slavist 'Slavist' and -izem (note spelling) as in liberalizem 'liberalism'.

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Two additional suffixes which designate a place or locale where actions take place merit special attention. The first of these is -arna, as in the word knjižarna above. The other one is -išče as in gledališče 'theater' (the place where one goes 'to watch'/'to look' glēdati).

Also commonly used and easy to recognize are verbal nouns (gerunds). Although they belong to the category of verbs, they are fully declined like Class I neuter nouns. They are formed from the past passive participle by the addition of the suffix -je to the -n or -t. (Refer to the formation of past passive adjectival participles on pp. 87-89, including the rules applicable to consonant alternations):

čistiti 'to clean' ~ čiščenje 'cleansing'
dihati 'to breathe' ~ dihanje 'breathing'
goriti 'to burn' ~ gorēnje 'burning'

govoriti 'to talk' ~ govorjēnje 'talking'
hraniti 'to feed' ~ hrānjenje 'feeding'
potovati 'to travel' ~ potovanje 'travelling'
spāti 'to sleep' ~ spānje 'sleep'
vprašati 'to ask' ~ vprašanje 'question'
biti 'to beat' ~ bitje 'beating'
grēti 'to warm' ~ grētje 'heating'
pēti 'to sing' ~ pētje 'singing'

In the final group below all of the words contain the root del-. This root carries the basic meaning of 'work'. As one gains greater fluency in Slovene, it will become easier to make intelligent guesses as to the meaning of words, once having acquired a basic inventory of roots / base words.

delo 'work'
delati 'to work'
delavec 'worker'
delaven 'busy'('at work')/'industrious'
delavka 'working woman'
delavnica 'workroom'
delavnik 'work day'
delavnost 'diligence'
delavski 'workers'
delavstvo 'working class'
delazmožen 'able to work'
delodajálec 'employer' ('giver of work')
delojemálec 'employee' ('one who accepts work')
delokróg 'sphere (circle) of action'
delomízen 'lazy' ('unwilling to work')
delopůst 'time off from work' (closing time before holidays/weekends)
delování 'working', 'activity'
delováti 'to be in operation'
déloven 'working' (as in work day)
delovódja 'foreman' ('work leader')
GRAMMATICAL TERMINOLOGY

The following is a list in English and Slovene of grammatical terms used in this reference grammar.

**alphabet** abecéda

**sound** glás

vowel samoglásnik

length dolžina

long dólg

short krátek

stress poudárek

stressed poudárjen

accent naglás

open odpút (širôk)

closed zapút (ôzek)

consonant soglásnik

voiced zveneč

voiceless nezveneč

change spremémba

alternation due to mehčánje

**syllable** złög

**GENERAL GRAMMATICAL TERMINOLOGY**

gender spôl

masculine môški

neuter srédnji

feminine žénski

root korén

stem osnóva

form oblíka

ending obrazílo

zero ending núlto obrazílo

decension sklanjátev

case sklôn

nominative imenovánišk

accusative tožílnik

genitive rodílnik

dative dajálnik

locative méátnik

instrumental oródnik

number števílo
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WORD INDEX

The index which follows includes words used throughout the text to illustrate grammatical and lexical points, including those used in sample declensions and conjugations. Words discussed in notes which constitute exceptional forms are likewise included. Individual vocabulary items used in sentences have not been included except for those introduced to emphasize a grammatical point. Finally, for the most part those words which are presented in list form throughout the text have been excluded from the word index, and the reader should refer to them separately. They include items such as: voiced and voiceless consonants (pp. 19-20); consonant alternations (pp. 20-21); comparative forms of adjectives (pp. 40-43); comparative forms of adverbs (p. 44); pronouns (pp. 47-53); cardinal and ordinal numerals (pp. 54-55); prepositions (pp. 60-64); imperative verbs (pp. 80-82); the several participles (pp. 84-89); verbal prefixes and prefixed verbs (pp. 91-92); pairs of imperfective and perfective verbs (pp. 92-93); verbs with the reflexive pronouns se/si (pp. 96-98); verbal stress (pp. 99-101); use of the dual (pp. 102-103); verbs of motion (p. 111); telling time (pp. 114-115); names of the days of the week, months, divisions of the day and seasons (pp. 118-119); word formation (pp. 131-135); grammatical terminology in English and Slovene (pp. 136-138).

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The books listed below under Works Consulted have been extremely useful in writing this work, in particular those by Bajec et al., Kopčavar, Lencek and Toporišič. They provided critical information on grammatical forms as well as examples of usage. Likewise, the Grad dictionaries proved invaluable. Many of the examples used throughout the text were borrowed from the preceding works.

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