

Examples.

water, wat, waar, waai, wie, wil.

sch at the beginning of a word is pronounced like *sch* in the English word *school*; in the middle or end of a word it is pronounced like *s*.

Examples.

school, schop, schip, schuim, scheef,
visch, varsch, asch, frisch, vissche.

k and *g* are, unlike in English, pronounced before *n*.

Examples.

knie, knaag, knel, knip, knak,
gnieps,

w is also pronounced before *r*.

Examples.

wrak, wrik, wring.

B. SHORT GRAMMATICAL NOTES.

I.

The language, generally known as **Cape Dutch**, is a dialect of the High Dutch, largely mixed with foreign elements, principally Portuguese and Malay; a small portion of its vocabulary can be traced to French or German origin. Being merely a *spoken* language, and having practically no literature of its own, its spelling is to a large extent subject to variation, according to the education and tact of the person writing it; for the same reason a large number of endings have worn off and the grammar reduced to the simplest form.

In spelling Cape Dutch in this book, the relation between Cape Dutch and High Dutch has been kept in view, as far as possible. At the same time attention has been paid to the phonetic changes, and to the dropping of endings of words, or of consonants in the middle of

words. For instance, the Infinitive of Verbs in High Dutch usually ends in *en*; this ending has been completely lost in Cape Dutch; instead of the High Dutch *leeren* = to learn, we say in Cape Dutch *leer*. In High Dutch the word for "rain" is *regen*; in Cape Dutch it is *re'e*, because in that dialect the final *n* of the ending *en* is not sounded; secondly the *g* is left out, because *d*, *g* & *v* standing between two vowels, are not pronounced. An apostrophe (') is thus placed there instead, to show that such consonant has fallen out, and that the word still remains bisyllabic — *re'e*.

The word *van* (of) is spelt in this book with a *v*, in contradistinction to the spelling followed by other authorities on the subject. In High Dutch, as well in Cape Dutch, the *v* has the sharp sound of the *f*; the word is spelt in High Dutch with a *v*, and the supposed phonetic change to *f*, is therefore unnecessary and only leads to confusion.

One more peculiarity, made in the spelling in this work, must be noticed. The ending *sch* is always sounded like *s*, and might easily be written that way. In High Dutch, however, it often makes a great difference whether such a word ends in *s* or *sch*, and to avoid confusion in the minds of those students, who might afterwards wish to learn High Dutch, the proper spelling, as in vogue in that language, has been adhered to in this instance.

II.

The Definite Article *the* is in Cape Dutch *die*. *Die* is, however, at the same time used for the demonstrative pronouns *this* and *that*, and as this is apt to cause confusion, the Cape Dutchman either adds *hier* (here) after the noun, if he means *this*, and *da* (there), when he means *that*, or else he will point to the object referred to. An example will more clearly illustrate this.

The horse	=	Die paerd.
This horse	=	Die paerd hier.
That horse	=	Die paerd da, <i>or</i> , Da die paerd.

The indefinite article *a* or *an* is in Cape Dutch *en*. It is in reality the same word as the numeral adjective *one*, but the latter is written and pronounced één, of which *en* may be considered an enclitic form.

A horse	=	En paerd.
One horse	=	Een paerd.

III.

Nouns in Cape Dutch have practically only *one* gender, viz. the *Masculine*; all things without life are also considered masculine, as the *Neuter* is not in use. The females of the larger animals, including man, are considered feminine, but even in such cases the Dutchman will often say: „die koei *zijn* kalf”, which means literally — “The cow his calf”; this peculiarity will be referred to later on.

Nouns, articles, or adjectives are not declined in Cape Dutch. The form of the Nominative is used for all cases, in the Singular as well as in the Plural.

The *Plural* of Nouns is formed by adding either *s* or *e* to the singular, sometimes with a small change of the word. The practice of forming these plurals cannot easily be reduced to rules, which apply in all instances. The following will, however, be found useful.

Ist. Words ending in *n*, *l*, or a vowel, generally take *s* in the plural.

Examples.

man	—	mans	wa'e	—	wa'es
tafel	—	tafels	re'e	—	re'es
deken	—	dekens	operatie	—	operaties.

IInd. Words ending in *s*, *sch*, *m*, *p*, *d*, *d*, *t*, *f*, *g* & *k*, and the monosyllables in *r*, generally form their plural

by adding *e*. Where the vowel of the word is *short*, the consonant at the end of the monosyllabic words (and of their compounds) is usually doubled, in order to keep the vowel short.

Examples.

huis — huise	vader — vaders
visch — vissche ¹⁾	hok — hokke
hoef — hoeve ²⁾	lap — lappe
slag — sla'e (see § I)	stoflap — stoflappe
kam — kamme	raam — rame ³⁾
kleur — kleure	stam — stamme
hoed — hoede	kat — katte.

Some words have an irregular plural e.g.

stad — ste'e	blad — blaie or
lid — le'e	blare.
maat — maters	schip — schepe
kalf — kalvers	werkman — werklui
kind — kinders	vrouw — vrouwen.

Nouns in *d*, preceded by a vowel, often form their plural by substituting *ie* for *d*, the *a* being in such cases lengthened, if this vowel stands immediately before the *d* e.g. pad — paie; rad — raie; hoed — hoeie.

IV.

Cape Dutch has, like High Dutch, a peculiar way of forming diminutives by means of *suffixes*.

These suffixes are *ie*, *tjie*, *pie*, en *etjie*.

The suffix *ie* is the one generally in use.

<i>huis</i> (house)	forms	<i>huisie</i> (little house)
<i>doek</i> (cloth)	„	<i>doekie</i> (a small piece of cloth)

1) Words ending in *sch* double the *s* in the plural.

2) Most words ending in *f*, preceded by either a vowel or consonant, change the *f* into *v*, and then add. *e*.

3) When a noun of *one* syllable has an *aa* in the singular, the plural thereof has only one *a*.

• *vlieg* (fly) forms *vliegje* (a small fly)
lamp (lamp) " *lampje* (a little lamp).

tjie is generally used after vowels, and after *l*, *n*, and *r*, when these are preceded by a long vowel or diphthong.

ma (mother) forms *maatjie* (little mother)
knie (knee) " *knietjie* (small knee)
tuin (garden) " *tuintjie* (small garden)
koei (cow) " *koeitjie* (small cow)
lepel (spoon) " *lepeltjie* (a small spoon)
leer (ladder) " *leertjie* (small ladder).

pie is used mostly after *m*, if preceded by a long vowel.

raam (window) forms *raampie* (small window)
zoom (seam) " *zoompie* (small seam)
bloem (flower) " *bloempie* (small flower).

etjie is used after *b*, *l*, *m*, *n*, *r*, and *ng*, when these are preceded by a short vowel; the first five consonants are then doubled (see § 3).

rib (rib) forms *ribbetjie* (a small rib)
kam (comb) " *kammetjie* (a small comb)
zon (sun) " *zonnetjie* (a small sun)
spul (game) " *spulletjie* (a small game)
kar (cart) " *karretjie* (a small cart)
ring (ring) " *ringetjie* (a small ring)
blom (flower) " *blommetjie* (a small flower)

Some deminutives are formed in an irregular manner:

meid (a servant) forms *meisjje* (a girl)
zuster (a sister) " *sussie* (a little sister)
jonge (a boy) " *jongetjie* (a little boy)
broer (a brother) " *boetie* (a little brother)
dag (a day) " *daagje* (a small day).

V.

Adjectives are not declined, but when used qualitatively, to define a noun, and thus standing before it, the adjective has an *e* added, *e. g.*

Sentences like "this horse is mine", etc., are expressed in Cape Dutch as follows:

The horse is mine	=	Die paerd is mijne.
" " " thine	=	" " " joue.
" " " his	=	" " " zijne
" " " ours	=	" " " ons zijne.
" " " yours	=	" " " jullie zijne,
" " " theirs	=	" " " hullie zijne.

Sometimes the masculine possessive pronoun *zijn* (his) is used for the feminine; one often hears:

Die vrouw zijn kind = The woman's child.

The *Interrogative Pronoun* who = *wie*, which has the same form under all circumstances. The question "Whose is this?" = *Wie zijne is dit?*

The Interrogative *What* = *Wat*.

The Relative Pronoun is in reality *die* (who) but very often *wat* is used.

Die man wat dit gedaan hêt = The man who has done this.

VII.

The *Cardinal Numbers* are as follows:

1 = één	13 = dertien
2 = twee	14 = veertien
3 = drie	15 = vijftien
4 = vier	16 = zestien
5 = vijf	17 = ze'entien
6 = zes	18 = achttien
7 = ze'e	19 = ne'entien
8 = acht	20 = twintig.
9 = ne'e	21 = een-en-twintig
10 = tien	22 = twee-en-twintig
11 = elf	23 = drie-en-twintig
12 = twaalf	30 = dertig

40 = veertig	102 = (een) honderd-en-twee
50 = vijftig	200 = twee honderd
60 = zestig	300 = driehonderd
70 = ze'entig	400 = vierhonderd
80 = tachtig	500 = vijfhonderd
90 = ne'entig	1000 = duizend
100 = honderd	1001 = duizend-en-een
101 = honderd-en-een	2000 = twee duizend
10,000 = tien duizend.	
100,000 = honderd duizend.	
1,000,000 = millioen.	
4605 = vier duizend zes honderd en vijf.	
1903 = Een duizend ne'enhonderd en drie <i>or</i>	
(in dates) = ne(g)entien honderd en drie.	

The *Ordinal Numbers* are formed by adding *ste* if the cardinal number ends in *d*, *g* or *t*; and adding *de* in all other cases, except *the first* which is formed irregularly.

1 st = die eerste	9 th = die ne'ende
2 ^d = „ tweede	10 th = „ tiende
3 ^d = „ derde	11 th = „ elfde
4 th = „ vierde	20 th = „ twintigste
5 th = „ vijfde	21 th = „ een-en-twintigste
6 th = „ zesde	30 th = „ dertigste
7 th = „ ze'ende	100 th = „ honderdste
8 th = „ achtste	1000 th = „ duizendste

The *Fractional Numbers* are :

$\frac{1}{2}$ = die helft	$\frac{1}{8}$ = en zesde.
$\frac{1}{3}$ = en derde	$\frac{1}{7}$ = en ze'ende.
$\frac{1}{4}$ = en kwart.	$\frac{1}{8}$ = en achtste (en aks).
$\frac{1}{5}$ = en vijfde.	$\frac{1}{10}$ = en tiende. etc.

Once = Eenmaal (eens).

twice = tweemaal *or* twee keer.

thrice = driemaal „ drie „ etc.

For convenience's sake the names of the days and months are given here :

Maandag, Dinsdag, Woensdag, Donderdag, Vrijdag, Zaterdag, Zondag.

Januari, Februari, Maart, April, Mei, Juni, Juli, Augustus, September, October, November, December.

VIII.

The *Verb* in Cape Dutch is far more simple than in High Dutch, principally because the South African dialect has no *Past Tense*, and there is therefore no trouble about weak or strong verbs. With very few exceptions all verbs have the same form.

There is practically only *one* Voice, viz. the *Active*; the *Passive* may be formed with the auxiliary *Worden* (to become), but is very rarely used; where the *Passive* is used in English, the sentence is usually turned in Cape Dutch in such a manner, that the *Active* can be used. For instance, where the English has — "I am being beaten", or "I am beaten", the Cape Dutch has "They beat me", or "they have beaten me".

There are three *Moods*: *Infinitive*, *Indicative*, and *Imperative*; occasionally a *Conditional* is used.

The *Tenses* are three, viz. *Present*, *Perfect* and *Future*; a *Future Perfect* also exists.

The basis of all parts of the verb is the *Infinitive*.

The *Present* has, except in six verbs (*wees, hê, gaan, staan, slaan, and doen*) always the same form as the *Infinitive*. The verb does not change its form according to person; all persons have the same ending as the 1st person singular, and this is the case in *all* tenses.

We give examples of the *Present Tense* of the three verbs: *loop* = to walk; *slaap* = to sleep; *eet* = to eat.

Present.

Ik loop.

ik slaap.

ik eet.

jij loop.

jij slaap.

jij eet.

hij loop.

hij slaap.

hij eet.

zij loop.	zij slaap.	zij eet.
ons loop.	ons slaap.	ons eet.
jullie loop.	jullie slaap.	jullie eet.
hullie loop.	hullie slaap.	hullie eet.

The *Perfect Tense* is formed by means of the auxiliary verb *hê* (to have) followed by the *Past Participle*.

The *Past Participle* itself is formed by placing the prefix *ge* before the infinitive e. g.

loop	P. P.	geloop
slaap	" "	geslaap.
eet	" "	ge-eet.

Perfect.

ik hêt geloop.	ik hêt geslaap.	ik hêt ge-eet.
jij hêt geloop.	jij hêt geslaap.	jij hêt ge-eet.
hij hêt geloop.	hij hêt geslaap.	hij hêt ge-eet.
zij hêt geloop.	zij hêt geslaap.	zij hêt ge-eet.
ons hêt geloop.	ons hêt geslaap	ons hêt ge-eet.
jullie hêt geloop.	jullie hêt geslaap.	jullie hêt ge-eet.
hullie hêt geloop.	hullie hêt geslaap.	hullie hêt ge-eet.

The *Future* is formed by means of the auxiliary *zal* (shall or will), followed by the Infinitive.

Future.

ik	zal loop	ik	zal slaap	ik	zal eet
jij	" "	jij	" "	jij	" "
hij	" "	hij	" "	hij	" "
zij	" "	zij	" "	zij	" "
ons	" "	ons	" "	ons	" "
jullie	" "	jullie	" "	jullie	" "
hullie	" "	hullie	" "	hullie	" "

The *Future Perfect*, which is not in general use, is formed by both the auxiliaries *zal* and *hê*, and the Past Participle.

ik	zal	geloop	hê = I shall have walked.
jij	"	"	"
hij	"	"	"
zij	"	"	"
ons	"	"	"
jullie	"	"	"
hullie	"	"	"

Similarly: ik zal geslaap hê; ik zal ge-eet hê.

Of the verbs *hê* (to have) and *wees* (to be) a Past Tense is sometimes used: *ik had* = I had; *ik was* = I was. *ik kon*

Occasionally a *Conditional Mood* is used, which is then formed by means of the auxiliary *zou*, which is in reality the past tense of the verb *zal*, f.i.

ik zou loop;	ik zou slaap;	ik zou eet
etc.	etc.	etc.

Staan, *gaan*, *doen* and *slaan*, differ from the above examples only in the *Present Tense*, which is not exactly the same as the Infinitive, the forms being:

ik sla	(I beat)
ik ga	(I go)
ik doe	(I do)
ik sta	(I stand)

One hears, however, forms like: *ik gaan*; *hij gaat*; *ons gaan*; *hij slaat*; *ons slaan*; *ons doen*; *ons staan*; *hij staat* (or *staan*).

The Verb *hê* (to have) is conjugated as follows:

<i>Pres.</i>	ik hêt (but <i>hê-jij</i> = have you).
<i>Perf.</i>	ik hêt gehad.
<i>Fut.</i>	ik zal hê.
<i>Fut. Perf.</i>	ik zal gehad hê.
<i>Cond.</i>	ik zou hê.

Wees = to be, goes as follows.

Pres. ik is.

Perf. ik is geweest.

Fut. ik zal wees.

Fut. Perf. ik zal geweest hê.

Cond. ik zou wees.

N. B. The student is recommend to write out in full, the tenses of the following verbs:

blaas = to blow.

rook = to smoke.

maak = to do.

brand = to burn.

praat = to talk.

neem = to take.

waag = to venture.

vra = to ask.

The *Imperative* is the same as the *Present*, without the Personal Pronoun, e. g.

loop! slaap! eet!

IX.

One class of verbs in Cape Dutch is somewhat more intricate, and, as they are very often used, they deserve special notice. They are called *Compound Verbs*, and consist of an Adverb, Adjective, or Preposition, and a Verb. For instance the verb "doodmaak" = "to kill", really means "to make dead", of which *dood* is the adjective and *maak* the verb.

These two parts are separable, and can take up different positions towards each other. If we call the *first* part, i. e. the adjective, adverb, or preposition, the *Prefix*, and the second part the *Verb*, we may state their positions in the various tenses and moods as follows:

<i>Infinitive.</i>	1. Prefix.	2. Verb.
<i>Present.</i>	1. Verb.	2. Prefix.
<i>Past Participle.</i>	1. Prefix.	2. <i>ge.</i> 3. Verb.

Applying these rules we therefore conjugate the verb *doodmaak* as follows:

Present. Ik maak dood, jij maak dood, etc.

Perfect. Ik hêt doodgemaak, jij hêt doodgemaak, etc.

Future. Ik zal doodmaak, jij zal doodmaak, etc.

Future Perf. Ik zal doodgemaak hê, etc.

Conditional. Ik zou doodmaak, etc.

Imperative. Maak dood.

In the Present Tense, the prefix can stand some distance after the Verb, e. g.

Hij ga zeker nie morre dood nie.

He certainly will not die to-morrow.

N.B. It should be remembered that, as far as the *Present Tense* of the Compound Verbs is concerned, the above rules apply only in *Principal Sentences*; in *Subordinate sentences* the Present Tense follows the usual rule, and is like the Infinitive.

Examples.

Ons maak hem dood.

We kill him, *but*,

D'is tijd, dat ons hem doodmaak (subord, sent).

It is time, that we kill him.

The following is a list of the most important Compound Verbs in Cape Dutch; for convenience's sake we have given the Infinitive, Present, and Perfect of the first three.

uitblaas (to blow out),	ik blaas uit,	ik hêt uitgeblaas
doodgaan (to die),	ik ga dood,	ik hêt doodgegaan
uitgaan (to go out),	ik ga uit,	ik hêt uitgegaan.

thuiskom	=	to come home
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binnekom	=	to come in
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doorloop	=	to run on
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voorloop	=	to run in front
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ansteek	}	= to light.
opsteek		

opgaan	=	to go up, to rise (of the sun)
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opstaan	=	to arise
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ondergaan	=	to go down
loslaat	=	to let go
vasmaak	=	to fasten
losmaak	=	to loosen
opemaak	=	to open
toemaak	=	to shut
inspan	=	to harness
uitspan	=	to unharness
opschrijf	=	to write down, to enter (in a
o'erschrijf	=	to copy book)
antrek	=	to dress
uittrek	=	to undress
neerzit	=	to sit down
neerzet	=	to put down
klaarmaak	=	to finish
opschep	=	to dish up
ophang	=	to hang
hardloop	=	to run
o'ereenkom	=	to agree
weggaan	=	to depart
ankom	=	to arrive
rechmaak	=	to repair, to settle
uitschel	=	to scold
opbouw	=	to rebuild
afbreek	=	to demolish
afwasch	=	to wash off
nadenk	=	to reflect
aanbid	=	to adore
volhou	=	to continue
volmaak	=	to fill
leegmaak	=	to empty.

Verbs beginning with *be*, *ge*, *ont*, *ant* and *ver* are never Compound Verbs. They have (with the exception of *one* beginning with *ant*) the peculiarity of *not* using *ge* in forming their Past Participle, although this rule is not always adhered to; one does sometimes here "*ge*-verkrij."

been

Examples.

begrijp (to understand)	ik begrijp	ik hêt begrijp
geloof (to believe)	ik geloof	ik hêt geloof
ontvang (to receive)	ik ontvang	ik hêt ontvang
verkrij (to get)	ik verkrij	ik hêt verkrij
<u>antwoord (to answer)</u>	ik antwoord	ik hêt <u>ge-antwoord.</u>

X.

Adverbs have usually the same form as the adjectives to which they belong, e.g. *goed* means *good*, and also *well*. But Cape Dutch has a number of adverbs and adverbial expressions, which are peculiar to it; as these are very often used, we give here a list of the most important ones, which the student should commit to memory.

Banja (<i>or</i> baïn)	=	much, many.
gnieps	=	in an underhand manner.
liewers	=	rather
glad	=	altogether
glad nie	=	by no means
amper <i>or</i> ampertjies	=	nearly.
heeltemaal	=	quite.
hoe kom?	}	= why?
waarom?		
stadiggies. <i>zœliger</i>	=	slowly. <i>stadig = adj.</i>
partij keer	=	sometimes.
alledag	=	every day.
dikkels	=	often.
eens	=	once.
en tijdjie lang	=	for some time.
lang gele'e	=	a long time ago.
vandaag	=	to day.
morre	=	to morrow.
gister	=	yesterday.
o'ermorre	=	the day after to morrow.

ten einde = in order to

eergister	=	the day before yesterday.
verle'e week	=	last week.
verle'e maand	=	last month.
verle'e jaar	=	last year.
vollende jaar	=	next year.
eindelijk } ten leste }	=	at last.
erg	=	very.
net	=	just.
in tijd	=	in time.
<i>rustig</i> bi tijds	=	before the time.
eer er	=	before.
voor	=	before.
elke slag	=	every time.
stilletjes	=	quietly.
al	=	already.
op die plek	=	on the spot.
da'elijk } net nou }	=	directly.
dalkies } miskien }	=	perhaps.
onderwijl	=	in the meantime.
weer	=	again.
kamma-kamma	=	quasi.
al te banja	=	too much.
zeker	=	certainly.
alles	=	everything. <i>things</i>
almaal	=	all <i>things</i>
rechtig	=	really.
makaar	=	each other.
zoo ma zoo	=	without any reason whatever.
huistoe	=	home. (<i>at home. thuis</i>)
hier	=	here.
daar	=	there.
hierbo'e	=	above here.

dabo'e	=	above there.
da op	=	above it.
davan	=	of it.
toch	=	yet, still.
ma	=	but.
positief	=	absolutely, for certain.
ja	=	yes.
né	=	no.
nog nie	=	not yet.

XI.

The principal Conjunctions and Prepositions are :

en	=	and.
ma	=	but
toch	=	yet.
niette'enstaande	=	notwithstanding. <i>daaron</i>
hoewel	=	although.
daarom	=	for all that.
toe	=	then.
want	=	because, for.
nadat	=	after.
waarom	=	why.
in	=	in.
op	=	upon.
deur } door }	=	through, by, on account of.
met .	=	with. <i>in company. mee</i>
naast	=	next.
buite	=	without.
langs	=	alongside of.
achter	=	behind.
binne	=	inside of.
dicht bij	=	near.
buite	=	outside of.
rondom	=	around.

onder	=	under.
bij	=	near.
dwars	=	across.

XII.

It is unnecessary to give here a complete Syntax of Cape Dutch. This would require constant reference to High Dutch forms, and lead the student too much out of his course; most of the peculiarities of construction are best learnt by practice. Where necessary, expressions deserving special notice will be explained, in notes to the conversations, found later on in this book. A few leading rules only are given here.

A. Cape Dutch has a *double* negation, which is expressed by the words *nie* - *nie* = not - not, e. g.

Ik hêt *nie* en stok *nie* = I have no stick.

Sometimes even a form is used, which in reality is a *triple* negation, e. g.

Ik weet *niks nie* van die ding af *nie* = I know nothing of the matter.

It should be remembered that the second *nie* is put as near the end of the sentence as possible.

 In some short expressions, like: "Ik weet nie" (It don 't know); "ik geloof nie (I don 't believe) etc, a *single* negation is only used.

B. In the *Present Tense* the Verb is usually put immediately after its subject, e. g.

Jan loop vinnig = John walks fast.

Die paerd bijt ver mij = The horte bites me.

But in the *Perfect* and *Future*, as well as in the *Conditional*, the verb is divided; the auxiliary is put as near the subject as possible, but the *past participle* of the *Perfect*, and the *Infinitive* of the *Future* and *Condi-*

tional, are put as near the end of the sentence, as can conveniently be done, e. g.

Jan *hêt* banja vinnig huistoe *geloop*.

John has walked home very fast.

Jan *zal* vinnig na die school *loop*.

John will walk fast to school.

Die paerd *hêt* ver die arme man *gebijt*.

The horse has bitten the poor man.

Die man *zou* al die dinge nie *doen* nie.

The man would not do all the things.

C. Cape Dutch, as usually spoken, has really no *transitive* verbs; generally the preposition *ver* is placed between the verb and its object, e. g.

Hij sla *ver* die hond = He beats the dog.

Steek *ver* die lamp an = Light the lamp.

N.B. The more educated among the Cape Dutch often leave the *ver* out, and then, of course, the verb is transitive.

C. PHRASES AND QUESTIONS.

Before starting long conversations, it is desirable that the student should know a number of phrases and questions which occur in every-day life. A considerable number of these are given below, and the student would do well to learn these thoroughly by heart, and even, to copy them once or twice. As this book is intended principally for English-speaking persons, the English is put in the first column.

Good morning!

Goeie morre!

Good afternoon.

Goeie middag.

Good evening.

Goeien a'end.