

Turkish
Emergency Grammar Reference

For Grammatical Emergencies Only

Türkçe sözlüğümü nerede bıraktım? = Where did I leave my Turkish dictionary?

VOWEL HARMONY

Back vowels	Front vowels
a	e
ı	i
u	ü
o	ö

The first vowel of a suffix agrees with the last vowel of the word. An *e/a* suffix uses *e* if the last vowel of the word is a front vowel or *a* if it is a back vowel. An *i/ı/ü/u* suffix uses *i* if the last vowel of the word is *i*; *ı* if it is *ı*; *u* if it is *u* or *o*; and *ü* if it is *ü* or *ö*.

CONSONANT MUTATION

1. Word mutation: when a vowel is added to certain voiceless consonants, it becomes voiced. Most monosyllabic words are exceptions to this rule.

<i>Voiceless</i>	<i>'Voiced'</i>
p	b
ç	c
t	d
k	ğ
nk	ng

2. Suffix mutation: the first consonant of the suffix must change to agree with the terminal consonant of the word:

<i>Word ends in...</i>				<i>Suffix</i>
p	s	t	f	<i>c</i> becomes <i>ç</i> and <i>d</i>
ç	ş	k	h	becomes <i>t</i>

Personal Suffixes, Pattern I	
-(y)im	-(y)iz
-sin	-siniz
-(dir)	-(dir)ler
Personal Suffixes, Pattern II	
-m	-k
-n	-niz
-	-ler
Personal Suffixes, Pattern III	
-yim	-lim
-sin	-siniz
-	-ler

* *ler* can come before terminal tense suffix.

* The copula can take *(y)di*, *(y)miş*, *(y)diyse*, *(y)mişse* and pattern I. Use *olmak* for future copula. Add suffixes to *değil* for negative copula.

Imperative

N/A	N/A
-	-(y)in(iz)
-sin	-sinler

General Tense Negative:

-mem	-meyiz
-mezsın	-mezsınız
-mez	-mezler

Subject participle	-(y)en
Object participle	-dik
Past participle (not inferential)	-miş

The future and general participles are the stems of the future and general tenses. Remove the final *-k* for the short infinitive.

Tense and Mood Suffixes	
Reflexive	-(i)n
Reciprocal	-(i)ş
Causative	After vowel or l/r: -t After ş/ç: -ir Else: -dir
Passive	After vowel or l: -(i)n Else: -il •
Continuative	-(y)edur or -(y)ekal •
Accelerative	-(y)iver •
Negative	-me •
Potential	-(y)ebil •
Negative potential	-(y)eme •
General tense	-(e)r/(i)r¹ + I
Continuous	-iyor + I

1 Monosyllabic roots take *-er*, with 13 exceptions.

Future	-(y)ecek² + I
Inferential	-miş + I
Past	-di + II
Necessitative	-meli + I
Conditional	-se + II
Subjunctive	-(y)e + III
Infinitive	-mek

* If a suffix ends in a vowel and another suffix is appended, buffer with *y*.
 * Independent forms: *-miş = imiş*; *-(y)di = idi*; *-(y)diyse = idiyse*; *-(y)mışse = imişse*
 * The last three only take past/inferential.
 * If combining *-di* and *-miş*, *-miş* comes first.
 * The interrogative particle is *mi + I* or *miydi + II* as appropriate.

2 A preceding *a/e* becomes *i/i*

-ir in the aorist		-ir in the causative	
al	take/get	art	increase
bul	find	bat	sink
dur	stop	bit	finish
kal	stay	doğ	be born
ol	become	doy	be filled
san	suppose	düş	fall
var	arrive	geç	pass
vur	hit	göç	migrate
bil	know	iç	drink/smoke
gel	come	kaç	escape
gör	see	piş	cook
öl	die	şaş	be surprised
ver	give	şiş	swell
		taş	overflow
		uç	fly

IRREGULARS

Verb	Causative	Meaning
ak	akıt	cause to flow
sark	sarkıt	hang [something] up
ürk	ürküt	startle
çık	çıkır	cause to go out
git	gider	cause to go; remove
kop	kopar	cause to be snapped
on	onar	have repaired
gör	göster	cause to see; show

<i>Verbs where the t mutates to d when a vowel is added</i>	
gitmek	to go
ditmek	to shred
tatmek	to taste of
etmek	to do

NOUN DECLENSION

Plural	-ler
Accusative	-(y)i
Genitive	-(n)in
Dative	-(y)e
Locative	-de
Ablative	-den
Comitative	-(y)le³

* If more than one suffix is present, or for suffixes added to third person pronoun, the buffer letter is always *n*.

Possessed object suffixes	
-(i)m	-(i)miz
-(i)n	-(i)niz
-(s)i	-leri

PERSONAL PRONOUNS

ben sen o	biz siz onlar
Irregulars:	
Genitive 1 st sg.	Benim
Genitive 1 st pl.	Bizim
Dative 1 st sg.	Bana
Dative 2 nd sg.	Sana
Comitative	Add -le to genitive. Exception: <i>onlarla</i> .

Demonstrative Pronouns

bu	this	bunlar	these
şu	that	şunlar	those
o	that yonder	onlar	those yonder

³ Or as a separate word: *ile*

POSTPOSITIONS

<i>Case</i>	<i>Word</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
Nominative	üzere	on the point of
Ablative	başka	except for
	beri bu yana	since
	dolayı	because of
	evvel	before (in time)
	sonra	after (in time)
	içeri	inside, into
	itibaren	with effect from
Dative	dair	about
	doğru	straight towards
	göre	according to
	karşı	against, opposite
	nazaran	compared to

<i>Case</i>	<i>Word</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
Dative	rağmen	despite
Genitive for: ben, sen, o, biz, siz, bu, şu, kim... ...Nominative otherwise.	gibi	similar to
	için	for the purpose of
	ile	(comitative)
...Dative otherwise	kadar	as far as

* X is more/less Y than Z
= X Z-ABL daha/az Y.

* X is the most Y Z
= X en Y Z.

* Add *-re* and locative/dative/ablative suffixes to demonstratives or *ne* (what) to make deictics. *-ler* after *-re* makes it vaguer.

Derivational Suffixes on Nouns:

Abstract noun	-lik
Without	-siz
Profession	-çi
Agent, 'doer'	-(y)ici
Diminutive	-çik
Noun from verb	-(y)iş
Son of	-oğlu

Useful little words:

çok	many	en çok	the most
fazla	too much	ve	and
(bir)az	a little	veya	or
her	every	hiç	no/none

Nouns that lose their final vowel when a suffix beginning with a vowel is added:

Aciz	Akıl	Alın
Ağız	Akıt	Asıl
Ahit	Akis	Asır

Azim	Hazım	Nefis
Bağır	Hışım	Nesir
Beyin	Hilkât	Neşir
Boyun	Hüzün	Nutuk
Burun	İlim	Oğul
Cisim	İsim	Resim
Cürüm	İzin	Sabır
Defin	Kadir	Satır
Devir	Kahr	Şehir
Ecir	Karın	Seyir
Emir	Kasıt	Sıkıt
Fasil	Kayın	Şekil
Fetih	Kayıp	Şükür
Fikir	Kesir	Tavır
Filim	Keşif	Ufuk
Geniz	Keyif	Usul
Göğüs	Kısım	Vakit
Gönül	Metin	Vasıf
Hacım	Nabız	Zehir
Haciz	Nakil	Zihin
Hapis	Nakit	Zulüm
Hasım	Nazım	