Turkmen Language Competencies
for
Peace Corps
in
Turkmenistan







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Acknowledgments

This book is one of three Peace Corps language texts prepared under the supervision of Nancy Clair in early 1993. It is hoped that this draft will be helpful in the initial language training for Volunteers in Turkmenistan. Most language text books take years to complete; this text was planned, written, and printed in less than four months. Working both in the U.S. and in Turkmenistan, the authors have gone to great lengths to provide authentic language and as much useful explanatory material as possible. The book will certainly benefit from revisions, additions, and improvements in subsequent editions, but we are proud to have this volume ready for use by the first group of PCVs to serve in Turkmenistan. It is the result of work not only by the author, but also by Nancy Clair and staff at Peace Corps Washington headquarters, especially Toni Borge and Janet Paz Castillo, Training Officers for the Eurasia/Middle East Region, which initiated the textbook project. I have been responsible for editing the English prose and providing technical support.

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Authors' Preface

This manual of the standard Turkmen language is intended to facilitate the acquisition of basic language skills that Peace Corps volunteers will need to enrich their tour in Turkmenistan. Conceivably, its materials may be used in conjunction with a textbook for teaching Turkmen at the university level.

Mr. Tyson and Professor Clark of the Department Centr-' Eurasian Studies at Indiana University collaborated on and share responsibility for both the Turkmen and the English portions of the text. At the same time. the authors wish to acknowledge their gratitude for the assistance of the following individuals.

This project benefitted greatly from the assistance of a number of individuals at Magtymguly Turkmen State University in Ashgabat, namely Professors Rejepali Nazarov and Guichmyrat Durdymyradov, who helped Mr. Tyson tremendously during his fieldwork in Turkmenistan. The Peace Corps staff in Ashgabat, especially Mr. Mark Holt and Ms. Brenda Oldfield, also assisted Mr. Tyson in many ways during his stay.

Project consultant Ms. Nancy Clair made numerous suggestions that helped to improve the text. All shortcomings, however, remain with the authors.

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A Brief Introduction to the Turkmen Language

Turkmen is a member of the widespread Turkic language family. These languages, whose speakers number around 150 million people, are spoken in Siberia (Yakut), China (Uygur), Central Asia (Turkmen, Uzbek, Kirgiz, Kazak), Russia (Tatar), and the Near East (Turkish). Turkic languages share a common grammar and vocabulary, but only a few of them are close enough today to ease mutual understanding. Turkmen speech is so distinctive that it constitutes an independent Turkic language, spoken by more than 2,700,000 people (1989).

Standard Turkmen was formed in the Soviet period primarily on the basis of the dialects spoken by Teke and Yomut groups of the Turkmen people, but it is not identical with any single dialect. In grammar and vocabulary, Turkmen has many features in common with Azeri and Turkish and with some dialects of Turkic speakers in parts of Afghanistan, Iran, and Uzbekistan. Russian constructions and words in the standard literary language are a visible reminder of the Soviet period. Uzbek has exerted an influence on the speech and vocabulary of Turkmen spoken in the eastern part of the republic. Arabic and Persian words and constructions form a classical heritage of the centuries of use of the Central Asian Turkic literary language in Arabic script.

Standard literary Turkmen has been written in a modified Cyrillic script since 1940. From 1928 to 1940, Turkmen was written in a Latin alphabet.

The current Turkmen alphabet does not represent accurately all the sounds of the speech of educated Turkmen. This is especially true of the vowel sounds. The alphabet consists of 36 letters and two signs in the following alphabetic order: А а, Б б, В в, Г г, Д д, Е е, Ё ё, Ж ж, Җ җ, З з, И и, Й й, К к, Л л, М м, Н н, Ң ң, О о, Ө ө, П п, Р р, С с, Т т, У у, Ү ү, Ф ф, Х х, Ц ц, Ш ш, Щ щ, ъ, Ы ы, ь, Э э, Ә ә, Ю ю, Я я.

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Vowels

Beginners should take care to learn the difference between "short" and "long" vowels, because each vowel letter or letter-group in Turkmen can be pronounced with "short" or "long" duration. This difference often is all that distinguishes the meanings of two words.

"Short" vowels are approximately like simple vowels in standard American English; for example **a** in 'call'. Pronouncing a "long" vowel requires keeping the mouth in the same position for a longer time, for the space of two vowels. English has no true equivalents of long vowels, because it has "diphthongs" or double vowels that are different from each other; for example, in pronouncing the word 'wrote' the English speaker actually makes o into two different vowels (*oh--ooh*).

The 17 vowels of Turkmen are represented by the following letters or letter-group:

a Pronounced "short" as English **a** in the word 'call.' In words with a long **a**, it is pronounced as a drawn out English **aa** in 'bah (humbug').

ә Pronounced only short as English **a** in 'ant'. In words with a long **ә**, it is pronounced as a drawn out **a** as in 'ant'.

э, e Pronounced short as English **a** in 'say', but without the glide into a diphthong (say-ee). There are only two Turkmen words with a long e: **бер** 's/he will give' and **гер** 's/he will come'. The letter **э** is used at the beginning of a word, and **e** elsewhere in a word.

ы Pronounced short as English **u** in 'radium'. In words with a long **ы**, it is pronounced approximately as a drawn out **u** in 'radium'.

и Pronounced short as English **e** in 'end'. In words with a long **и**, it is prounounced approximately as English **e ea** in 'be easy'.

o Pronounced short as English **o** in 'stone' but without the glide into a dipthong (sto-oon). In words with a long **o**, it is prounounced approximateiy as a drawn out English **o** in 'oh'.

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ы Pronounced short as English **u** in 'truth'. In words with a long ы, this sound is pronounced approximately as a drawn-out English **oo** in 'ooh'.

ө Pronounced short as German **ö** in 'Körper' [body], which may be pronounced by pronouncing **e** and rounding the lips. In words with a long ө, it is prounounced with a longer duration than short ө.

ү Pronounced short as German **ü** in 'Brücke' [bridge], which may be pronounced by forming **i** and rounding the lips.

үй This is the only long vowel represented distinctly in the Turkmen alphabet. In words with a long ү, this sound is pronounced with a longer duration than ү.

The following doublets (two words spelled the same but pronounced differently) will illustrate the distinction between short and long vowels in Turkmen (with the exception of э, е and ә)

SHORT		LONG	
ат	'horse'	ат	'name'
гыз	'get excited!' (imperative)	гыз	'girl'
бил	'know!' (imperative)	бил	'waist'
от	'grass'	от	'fire'
өч	'extinguish!' (imperative)	өч	'revenge'
гурт	'dry cheese, curd'	гурт	'wolf; worm'
дүш	'come down!' (imperative)	дүйш	'dream'

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Beginners should keep in mind that the Turkmen alphabet distinguishes only between short ү and long үй. Although similar in appearance, short у is not distinguished from long у by the letters уй -- in a word like дуйгы 'sense, feeling' the letters уй are pronounced as English **ewey** in 'Dewey'.

Consonants

Turkmen consonants are represented by the following letters:

п Pronounced as English **p** in 'pen'.

т Pronounced as English **t** in 'stop'.

к Pronounced as English **k** in 'keep' when in words with the vowels э, е, и, ө, ү but as English **c** in 'call' when in words with the vowels а, ы, о, у.

б Pronounced as English **b** in 'boy' at the beginning of a word and similar to **v** in some other positions.

д Pronounced as English **d** in 'deep'.

г Pronounced as English **g** in 'geese' when in words with the vowels э, е, и, ө, ү but as a sound like English **gh** in 'yoghurt' in words with а, ы, о, у.

м Pronounced as English **m** in 'meat'.

н Pronounced as English **n** in the word 'snow'.

ң Pronounced as English **ng** in 'sing'.

л Pronounced as English **l** in 'look'.

р Pronounced the same way as English **r** in 'drill', but with a flap of the tongue.

с Pronounced as English **th** in 'thin' in Turkmen (including Arabic and Persian) words, but as English **s** in 'sun' in words coming from Russian.

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з Pronounced as English **th** in 'then' in Turkmen (including Arabic and Persian) words, but as English **z** in 'zoo' in words coming from Russian.

ш Pronounced as English **sh** in 'share'.

ч Pronounced as English **ch** in 'check'.

ж Pronounced as English **s** in 'treasure' in words from Russian.

ж Pronounced as English **j** in 'juice'.

х Pronounced as English **h** in 'hall' in some Turkmen words, but as **ch** in English-German 'Bach' in other Turkmen words.

ф Pronounced as English **f** in 'four'. '

в Pronounced as English **w** in 'wagon' in Turkmen (including Arabic and Persian) words, but as English **v** in 'very' in words from Russian .

й Pronounced as English **y** in 'yes'.

я Pronounced as English **ya** in 'yawn'.

е Pronounced as English **ye** in 'yea verily', but only when this letter appears at the beginning of a word or after a vowel. When it appears after a consonant, it is pronounced as English **a** in 'say'.

ё Pronounced as English **yo** in 'yoke'.

ю Pronounced as English **you** in 'youth'.

ц, щ, ь, ъ These letters and signs are used in words from Russian. Turkmen often pronounce ц as English **s** and щ as English **sh**, and many times disregard the signs ь and ъ altogether.

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Several Turkmen letters have unexpected pronunciations:

ц Pronounced as English **th** in 'theory' or 'math', instead of **s** (except in Russian words).

з Pronounced as English **th** in 'their' or 'mother', instead of **z** (except in Russian words).

Several Turkmen letters may have two very distinct pronunciations:

х Pronounced as English **h** in 'hill' and 'aha' in some Turkmen words, but as a harsh sound without English equivalent in other Turkmen words. The latter is similar to the soft **g** sound, but without a voiced quality. In Russian words, this letter is always pronounced as a harsh sound.

г Pronounced as English **g** in 'gill' and 'organ' when the Turkmen word has any of the vowels **э, е, и, ө, ү** but as a soft sound without an English equivalent when the Turkmen word has any of the vowels **а, ы, о, у**. It is similar to the **х** sound, but with a voiced quality. In words from Russian, **г** is always pronounced as in 'gill'.

One set of letters and their corresponding sounds may present difficulties for the beginner. These represent the sound **й** plus any of the vowel sounds:

я (English **ya** in 'yawn'; long: no English equivalent)

е (English **ye** in 'foyer'; long: no equivalent)

йи (English **yea** in 'yeast'; long: no equivalent)

ё (English **yo** in 'yoke'; long: no equivalent)

ю (English **you** in 'youth'; long: no equivalent)

йы (roughly English **yu** in 'yuk'; long: no equivalent)

йө (**й** plus vowel like German **oe** in 'Goethe'; long: no equivalent)

йү (**й** plus vowel like German **ü** in 'füss'; long: no equivalent)

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Vowel Harmony

Students of Turkmen should be prepared to learn a number of rules of pronunciation of vowels, as well as of consonants that are not reflected in the script. One of the most distinctive features of Turkmen is vowel harmony.

The vowels of Turkmen words share similarities that produce a kind of "harmony" in speech. Turkmen words may contain only vowels pronounced in the front of the mouth:

ә	**әлем** 'world', **гүнә** 'fault, sin'
э, е	**эркек** 'male, man', **гөзел** 'beautiful'
и	**илери** 'forward', **гүйчли** 'powerful, strong'
ө	**өри** 'pasture', **сөймек** 'to love'
ү	**үзеңги** 'stirrup', **мүмкин** 'possible, permissible'

Or, Turkmen words may contain only vowels pronounced in the back of the mouth:

а	**ачык** 'open', **батыр** 'hero'
ы	**ынсан** 'human', **йылан** 'snake'
о	**оюн** 'game', **сораг** 'question'
у	**улы** 'big', **гушак** 'belt, sash'

All Turkmen words observe this kind of "front-back" harmony. Many also observe a second kind of harmony that affects the vowels of endings. Turkmen vowels may be pronounced with or without a rounding of the mouth. Those pronounced with rounding are the following: **о у ө ү**

Those vowels pronounced without rounding are: **а ә е ы и**

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When a Turkmen word contains a rounded vowel, then the ending also is pronounced with a rounded vowel. However, Turkmen spelling does not reflect this:

буз 'ice'

бузлык 'glacier' = буз+**лык** (pronounced бузлук)

бузлы 'icy' = буз+**лы** (pronounced бузлу)

NOMINAL AND VERBAL WORDS

Turkmen has two basic types of words: nominals and verbals. Nominals are 'noun-like' words and verbals are 'verb-like' words. Endings (suffixes) of various kinds are added to both.

Nominals include classes of words that in English are called nouns, pronouns, adjectives, some adverbs, and verbal nouns; for example, Turkmen депдер 'notebook', улы 'big'. As in English, a Turkmen adjective may stand before a noun or serve as a verbal noun:

Депдерим улы. 'My notebook is big.'

Улы депдерим... 'My big notebook is...'

Verbals include those kinds of words that are equivalent to English verbs and gerunds; for example, гит 'go!' (imperative from the verb гитмек) and гитип 'going'.

Beside nominals and verbals, Turkmen has a small number of particles, conjunctions, and similar words which do not take endings; for example, хем 'also, too' and ве 'and.'

As a rule, the last syllable of a Turkmen word is stressed. However, particles and certain suffixes added to the ends of words are not stressed.

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SUFFIXATION

The meanings of Turkmen words, as well as their grammatical functions within sentences, are indicated by adding elements called suffixes to the ends of the words. These suffixes or endings are clearly distinguishable as such, especially in writing; for example:

гызларым	=	гыз+лар+ым
'my daughters'	=	'daughter+s+my'

WORD FORMATION SUFFIXES

Turkmen forms new words, both nominals and verbals, by means of suffixation, or the addition of endings to existing roots and words. The addition of a suffix to a nominal word creates a new nominal or verbal word:

тәзе	'new, fresh'
тәзелик = тәзе+лик	'innovation, reform, news'
тәзелемек = тәзе+ле+мек	'to reform, renew'

Adding a suffix to a verbal word results in the formation of a nominal or verbal word with a new lexical meaning:

тәзелемек	'to reform, renew'
тәзеленмек = тәзе+ле+н+мек	'to be reformed, renewed'
тәзелеме = тәзе+ле+ме	'reform, renewal'

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GRAMMATICAL SUFFIXES

The grammatical functions of Turkmen words within sentences are expressed by adding suffixes to them. Such suffixes indicate number, case, mood or tense. The addition of a grammatical suffix to a word changes its relationship to to other words in the sentence; however, it does not change its lexical meaning.

Lexical Meaning	*Grammatical Meaning*
гөз 'eye'	гөз+**и** 'the eye' (object)
гөзсиз 'without an eye'	гөзүми юмдум 'I shut my eye'
гөзлемек 'look for, search'	гөзледим 'I searched'

PLURAL SUFFIX

The Turkmen plural suffix +лар may be added to a nominal to indicate that there is more than one subject or object of a sentence. When the subject of a verb is plural, this ending may or may not br added:

гыз 'girl, daughter'	гызлар 'girls, daughters'
Гызлар гитди(лер)	'The girls left.'
Гызлары гөрдү(лер)	'They saw the girls.'

After a numeral, the plural suffix is not added:

диш 'tooth'	дишлер 'teeth'
ики 'two'	ики диш 'two teeth'

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CASE SUFFIXES

Case suffixes express relationships between nominals to which they are added and other nominals or verbals. Their English equivalents include 'in', 'at', 'on', 'from', 'of', 'the', and other ideas:

мекдеп 'school'	мекдепде 'in the school'
өй 'house'	өе 'to the house'
Ашгабат 'Ashgabat'	Ашгабатдан 'from Ashgabat'

POSSESSION

There are several ways to express possession in Turkmen. A common way is the addition of possessive suffixes to a nominal:

кака 'father'	какам 'my father'
өй 'house'	өйүң 'your house' (singular)
дост 'friend'	дости 'his/her friend'

A second way to express possession is to form the possessive relationship construction. In Turkmen, the possessor is placed before the possessed. An example of this type of construction in English is 'my father's house' or 'the house of my father', where 'father' is the possessor and 'house' is the possessed. The suffix +иң 'of' often is added to the possessor, while the possessive suffix +(с)и always is added to the possessed:

кака+м+иң өй+и = какамиң өйи

'father+my+of house+his' = 'my father's house'

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INFINITIVE SUFFIX

The Turkmen equivalent of 'to' in English infinitives of verbs ('to see', 'to go', etc.) is created by adding the suffix +мак, +мек to the verbal stem.

окамак 'to read'

гитмек 'to go'

Without this suffix the stem of the verb is equivalent to the familiar or impolite imperative mood:

ока! 'read!'

гит! 'go, leave!'

MOOD SUFFIXES

Turkmen adds suffixes to verb stems to express moods like the imperative or the conditional:

гөрмек 'to see' (infinitive)

гөр! 'see, look!'

гөрсе 'if s/he sees'

TENSE SUFFIXES

To express tenses like past, present, and future, Turkmen adds suffixes to a verbal stem; for example, the definite past tense suffix +ды:

башламак 'to begin' (infinitive)

башлады 's/he began'

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Turkmen uses suffixes to distinguish between definite action (action which certainly occurred or occurs or will occur) and indefinite action (action which possibly or habitually occurred or possibly will occur) in the past and future:

гитмек	'to go' (infinitive)
гитди	's/he (certainly) left, is gone'
гитен	's/he (possibly) left, is gone'
гитжек	's/he (certainly) will go'
гитер	's/he goes, (and possibly) will go'

ARTICLES

Turkmen does not have words equivalent to the English indefinite article 'a/an' or to the definite article 'the.' Instead, it distinguishes a definite subject or object by placing the numeral бир 'one' (or some other definite word) before the nominal:

Бир китап бар.	'There is one book (=a book).'
Бир китап окудум.	'I read a book.' (definite past)

Without the numeral or other definite words, the subject or object nominal is indefinite:

Китап бар.	'There are books.'
Китап окудум.	'I have read books.'

Another way to make an object definite is to add the ending +ы to the nominal:

Китабы окудум.	'I read the book.' (definite past)

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PERSONAL PRONOUNS

Turkmen has both singular and plural forms for personal pronouns. The first person forms are мен 'I' and биз 'we'. In the second person, the form сен is the singular and familiar 'you' (older English 'thou') and сиз is the plural 'you', as well as the polite singular 'you'.

Turkmen does not have distinct words for 'he,' 'she,' and 'it'. Instead, it expresses all of these with the pronoun ол. The listener must determine the gender from other words in the sentence or from context.

POSTPOSITIONS

In Turkmen, relationship words like 'inside', 'with', and so on, are placed after the nominals they are related to. These postposition words are equivalent to English prepositions, and mostly are nominals themselves:

өй **ичинде**	'inside the house'
достум **билен**	'with my friend'

RELATIVE CLAUSES

One of the most difficult constructions for a student of Turkmen is the relative clause. The English 'who' of the sentence 'my friend who went to Ashgabat' is expressed in Turkmen by adding the suffix +ен (+ан, +эн) to a verbal stem and by reversing the order of the subject and object:

Ашгабат+а гид+ен дост+ум

'Ashgabat+to go+he/past friend+my'

= Ашгабада гиден достум

'My friend **who** went to Ashgabat...'

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COMPLEX SENTENCES

Another difficult formation in Turkmen is the complex sentence. Spoken Turkmen only sometimes uses the conjunction **вe** 'and' to connect two sentences together. The English 'and' of a sentence 'he went home and read the book' is often indicated in Turkmen by adding the suffix **+ип (+ып)** to the first verbal stem:

Өй+е гит+ип китап+ы оку+ду

'Home+to go+ing book+the read+he/past'

= Өе гитип китабы окуду.

'He went home **and** read the book.'

WORD ORDER

In a normal Turkmen sentence the subject is placed first, the object second, and the verb or predicate last:

SUBJECT + OBJECT + PREDICATE

Дост+ум Ашгабат+а гит+ди

'friend+my Ashgabat+to go+he/past'

= Достум Ашгабада гитди.

'My friend went to Ashgabat.'

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Topic 1

PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION

Culture Note: The Turkmen

Competencies:

1. To express initial greetings
2. To identify and introduce oneself
3. To ask and respond about well-being
4. To say goodbye

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Topic 1

THE TURKMEN

Turkmen history can be traced back for centuries. As part of large groups of Turkic peoples who moved from east to west and settled Central Asia, the Turkmen maintained a nomadic and semi-nomadic lifestyle into the 19th century. Russian conquest and and later Soviet rule led most Turkmen to adopt a more sedentary existence. During the Soviet period, much of the land once controlled by the Turkmen became the Turkmen Soviet Socialist Republic; other areas fell within the borders of Iran and Afghanistan.

Today there are approximately 2.8 million Turkmen in Turkmenistan (total population 4 million). Some estimates of Turkmen living outside of Turkmenistan run as high as 2 million. Other major ethnic groups in Turkmenistan include the Russians (10%) and Uzbeks (6%). Administratively, the country is divided into five provinces (вилаят): Ахал in the south with the country's capital, Ashgabat; Балкан in the west along the Caspian Sea; Дашховуз in the northeast; Чәржев in the east bordering Uzbekistan; and the Мары province in the south east.

Aside from purely administrative divisions, the Turkmen distinguish themselves according to "tribal" group. Even today almost all Turkmen are conscious of belonging to a specific tribe or clan. Variations in terms of material culture and dialect of the tribes may be great. Marriage patterns continue to demonstrate the strength of tribal bonds (many Turkmen marry only within their "tribe") and it is not uncommon for villages to be grouped according to clan or lineage. It is often possible to guess tribal affiliation with knowledge of birthplace. The largest and most politically powerful tribe is the Теке of south-central Turkmenistan (including Ashgabat). Other important tribes include the Әрсары of the east and the Ёмут of the north and west.

Since Turkmenistan's independence in 1990, efforts have been made to regain some of the cultural heritage lost under Soviet rule. Islam, the religion of the Turkmen, has been revived (in a non-politicized form) and the Turkmen language has been declared the state language.

An important aspect of Turkmen culture concerns the formalities connected with greeting, hospitality and addressing one another. Turkmen has numerous phrases used as greetings. Aside from personal affairs, it is not uncommon for people to inquire about the health and well-being of family

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members and the general state of the household. Lengthy exchanges of this kind are especially frequent among people of rural background.

The greeting эссалавмалейким! is common when in more formal situations (when people first meet, when they have not seen each other for a long time, etc.). It is from Arabic and literally means 'peace be upon you!'. The response to this greeting should be валейкимессалам! which also is from Arabic and means 'I also wish you peace!' Less formal, shortened forms of this greeting are салавмалейким! and салам! which are used between friends, colleagues and relatives who see each other on a regular basis. The response to both of these greetings is салам!

The difference between the two pronoun forms 'you', сен and сиз (and their corresponding verbal endings), must also be understood by the language learner. In short, сен is the familiar 'you' and сиз is the formal, polite, or plural form of 'you'. When addressing someone older or acquaintances, etc., the use of сиз is in order. Even when one is addressed with сен it by no means implies that a сен response is appropriate. The best rule of thumb is to use сиз always, at least until one becomes more knowledgeable about the nuances concerning the pronouns' usage.

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1. **COMPETENCY : To express initial greetings**

SITUATION : Classroom

ROLES : PCV & Teacher

PCV: Эссалавмалейким!

T: Валейкимессалам! Хош гелдиңиз! Гелиң!

PCV: Саг болуң!

VOCABULARY :

эссалавмалейким	how do you do?
валейкимессалам	how do you do?
хош	good, well
гелмек	to come (infinitive)
гелдиңиз	you have come (past tense, second person plural or polite)
хош гелдиңиз	welcome
гелиң	come in (imperative, singular polite or plural)
саг	healthy
болмак	to be (infinitive)
болуң	be (imperative, singular polite or plural)
саг болуң	thank you, 'be healthy'

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GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

The infinitive or dictionary form of verbs in Turkmen is produced by adding the suffix -мак, -мек to the root or stem of the verb. It is equivalent to English 'to (do something)':

гел-мек = 'to come'

бол-мак = 'to be, become'

To express deeper gratitude (than саг болуң), Turkmen may say таңры ялкасын 'God bless you'. The reply to this is биле ялкасын 'God bless both of us'.

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2. COMPETENCY : To identify and introduce oneself

SITUATION : Classroom

ROLES : PCV & Teacher

PCV: Менің адым Жан. Фамилиям Мартин. Мен американы.

T: Менің адым Гөзел. Фамилиям Мередова. Мен мугаллым. Мен сиз билен танышаныма шат.

PCV: Мен хем шат.

VOCABULARY:

мен	I
менің	my
ат	first name
адым	my first name
Жан	John
фамилия	last name
фамилиям	my last name
Мартин	Martin
американы	American
Гөзел	Gozel ('beautiful' - female name)
Мередова	Meredova

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мугаллым	teacher
сиз	you (polite or plural)
билен	with
танышмак	to become acquainted
танышаныма	meet, (to my) meeting
шат	glad, happy
хем	too, also

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

Under Soviet rule Turkmen adopted the practice of forming their family names with Russian suffixes:

1. the suffix +ов (after consonants) or +ев (after vowels) was added to masculine names;

2. the suffix +ова (after consonants) or +ева (after vowels) was added to feminine names.

Recently, some Turkmen have begun to eliminate this Russian suffix from their names:

Мәмет Сейетов	Мәмет Сейет
Язмырат Мәмедиев	Язмырат Мәмеди

The word адым 'my name' combines a noun ат 'name' and a first person possessive suffix +ым (after consonants), +м (after vowels).

адым
ад+ым
name-my = 'my name'

фамилям = 'my last name'

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Менің 'my' is a possessive form of the personal pronoun мен 'I'. It may be omitted before a noun with a possessive suffix:

менің адым = 'my name'

A common type of sentence is that composed of a noun subject and a noun predicate:

SUBJECT		PREDICATE
Менің адым		Жан.
= 'My name	(is)	John'.
Мен		мугаллым.
= 'I	(am)	a teacher'.

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3. **COMPETENCY : To ask and respond about well-being**

SITUATION : Classroom

ROLES : Teacher & PCV

T: Салам! Ягдайларың нәхили?

PCV: Ягшы. Саг бол. Ишлериң говымы?

PCV: Хава. Гаты говы.

VOCABULARY:

салам	hi, hello
ягдай	situation, condition
ягдайлар	situations, conditions (plural)
нәхили	how
ягдайларың нәхили?	how are you doing?
ягшы	good, well
саг бол	thanks
иш	work, thing
ишлер	things (plural)
говы	good, well
ишлериң говымы?	are things good with you?
хава	yes
гаты	very; hard

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GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

Turkmen forms a plural of a noun with the suffix +лар, +лер.

мугаллым	'teacher'	мугаллым-лар	'teachers'
иш	'work'	иш-лер	'works, matters'

To ask a question, the particle +мы or +ми is added to the predicate of a sentence:

Говымы?	'Is it good?'
Сиз мугаллыммы?	'Are you a teacher?'

Turkmen has numerous phrases for use as greetings. Some are the more common are:

Гургунмысыңыз?	Are you well?
Ишлериңиз нәхили	How are things with you?
Кейпиңиз көкми?	Are you in good spirits?
Өй-ичерилер гургунчылыкмы?	Are your house and family well?

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4. **COMPETENCY : To say goodbye**

SITUATION : At a bus stop

ROLES : PCV & Acquaintance

PCV: Ынха, менинң автобусым. Мен гитмели.

A: Хош, саг болуң.

PCV: Боляр, хош галың.

VOCABULARY :

ынха	here (is)
автобус	bus
автобусым	my bus
гитмек	to leave, go
гитмели	should go, have to leave
хош	fine, well, all right, o.k.
саг болуң	so long, thank you, be healthy
боляр	all right, fine, o.k.
галмак	to stay, remain
галың	stay, remain (imperative)
хош галың	goodbye, stay well

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GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY EXPLANATIONS

One way to express obligation or necessity is by adding the suffix +малы or +мели to the stem of a verb:

Мен гитмели = 'I should, must go'.

Мен галмалы = 'I should, must stay'.

The root or stem of a Turkmen verb functions as a simple imperative with either a familiar or impolite sense:

гел-мек 'to come'.

гел! 'come on!, come here!'

гал-мек 'to stay'.

гал! 'stay then!, stay here!'

Aside from being used as 'thank you', the expression саг болуң also can mean 'goodbye', 'so long'.

Depending on the situation, Turkmen uses different expressions when saying goodbye. Several are prefaced with боляр 'all right', 'o.k.' or боляр онда 'all right then'.

The expression саг-аман барың "go safely' is used by the host or the person staying. The expression хош галың is used by the guest or the person leaving. Other expressions used when parting are:

боляр, гөрүшйәнчәк 'all right, until we see each other'

эртире ченли 'until tomorrow'

ёлуңыз ак болсун! 'good luck, have a safe trip'

гелип дуруң 'come again'

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PROVERB

Зәхмет соңы рәхнет.

'(First) labor then pleasure.'

= 'No pain, no gain.'

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Topic 2

CONVERSATIONS WITH HOSTS

Culture Note: The Turkmen Family

Competencies:

1. To ask and answer personal information questions
2. To exchange information about families
3. To make a polite request for privacy
4. To express gratitude

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Topic 2

THE TURKMEN FAMILY

Prior to Soviet rule, the extended family was the basic and most important social and economic unit among the Turkmen. Grouped according to clan, small bands of Turkmen families moved about in the desert usually consolidating only in time of war or celebration. In most cases, the families were entirely self-sufficient and subsisted on their livestock and at times on modest agricultural production. For some groups, raiding sedentary populations, especially the Iranians to the south, was an important economic activity.

Although Soviet power brought about fundamental and even drastic changes concerning the Turkmen family, many traditional aspects remain. Turkmen families continue to be close-knit and are often large (over five children). In rural areas, while no longer nomadic, families still are grouped according to clan or tribe and it is the rule rather than the exception for the inhabitants of a village to be of one lineage. Here also it is common for sons (and their wives) to remain with their parents and live in an extended one-story clay structure with courtyard and agricultural plot. In the cities, many Turkmen live in multi-storied apartment complexes called кай. Because urban space is limited, families often have only a few children. In some places housing shortages are acute.

Most Turkmen come from large families and they may consider it strange when they find out that someone has no brothers or sisters. Also, they may feel the same way about a woman (over age 22) who is unmarried. In much of Central Asia such things traditionally mean that the woman has some sort of health problem.

In both rural and urban areas respect for elders is great. While homes for the elderly do exist in Turkmenistan, Turkmen are conspicuously absent from them: it is almost unheard of for a Turkmen to commit his or her parent to such an institution, as grandparents are considered integral family members and sources of wisdom and spirituality.

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Life-cycle events and other family-oriented celebrations are of enormous importance in Turkmen society. Such events are usually referred to as той and often consist of a series of gatherings and complex customs. Many celebrations vary in detail according to geographic area, clan, or tribe. Along with customs connected with birth and death, the marriage celebration (дурмуш тойы) is a most important event. In rural areas especially, marriages are often arranged by special match-makers (савчылар). Aside from finding the right match in terms of social status, education, etc., the match-makers invariably must find couples of the same clan and locale. While such practices may seem strange to Americans, most couples have known each other before hand and freely consent to the marriage arrangement. Divorce among Turkmen is relatively rare.

One important custom connected with marriage that is still practiced in Turkmenistan is the brideprice (галын). Depending on region and a family's wealth, the bride's family may demand huge sums of money from the groom in return for the bride's hand in marriage.

Since Turkmenistan's independence, celebrations and observances connected with Islam have gained greater significance and status. Новруз (considered by Central Asians to be the Muslim New Year) is celebrated on March 21 (the spring equinox) with gatherings, feasts, and street festivals. Aside from this and other "universal" holidays, there are numerous localized celebrations in the country-side connected with tombs and other places of spiritual significance.

The circumcision rite (сүннет тойы) is common for all Turkmen boys and signifies their entering into Islam and taking on some adult responsibilities. Large sums of money may also be spent on the festivities accompanying this rite.

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1. **COMPETENCY:** **To ask and answer personal information questions**

SITUATION: **Host family home**

ROLES: **Host family member & PCV**

HFM: Сиз Түркменистанда нәче вагт ишлежек?

PCV: Мен шу ерде ики йыл ишлежек.

HFM: Сиз машгалаңыз билен гелдиңизми?

PCV: Ёк. Мен өйленемок.

VOCABULARY:

Түркменистан	Turkmenistan
нәче	how much, how many
вагт	time
нәче вагт	how long
ишлемек	to work
ишлежек	will work (definite future)
шу	this
ер	place
шу ерде	here
ики	two
йыл	year

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машгала	family
ёк	no
өйленмек	to marry (for males)
өйленемок	I am not married

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

Nouns preceded by a number do not take the plural suffix +лар:

ики йыл 'two years' **NOT** ики йыллар

Adding the suffix +жак, +жек to a verb stem expresses that an action will definitely occur. This definite future form can be used in any person:

Сиз Түркменистанда ишле-жек-ми?
You Turkmenistan-in work-will - ?

= 'Will you work in Turkmenistan?'

Мен шу ерде ишле-жек. = 'I will work here.'

There are several ways to express 'to marry' in Turkmen. The most common way distinguishes between male and female:

1. The verb өйленмек 'to marry' is used for the marriage of a male. Өйленмек is formed from the noun өй 'home' and means 'to make a home.'

Майк, сен өйлендиңми? 'Mike, are you married?'

Ёк. Мен өйленемок. 'No I'm not married'

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2. For the marriage of a female, the verb дурмуша чыкмак is used. It consists of the noun дурмуш 'life' plus the dative suffix +а and the verb чыкмак 'to exit, to go out'; thus, 'to go out into life.'

Гүлширин дурмуша чыкды. 'Gulshirin got married.'

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2. COMPETENCY: To exchange information about families

SITUATION: Host family home

ROLES: PCV & host family member

PCV: Сизиң машгалаңыз улыдыр.

HFM: Бизиң үч оглумыз ве дөрт гызымыз бар. Бизиң улы оглумыз өтен хепдеде Чәрҗеве гитди.

PCV: Ол хачан гелйәр?

HFM: Эртир гелер. Машгалаңыз хакында айдып беринң.

PCV: Мениң какам бизнесмен. Эҗем ишлемейәр. Мен еке.

VOCABULARY:

сизиң	your
улы	large, big
бизиң	our
үч	three
огул	son
оглумыз	our son
ве	and
дөрт	four
гыз	daughter, girl

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гызымыз	our daughter
бар	there are, there exists
гечен	last, past
хепде	week
гечен хепдеде	last week
Чәрҗев	Chardzhou (city)
Чәрҗеве	to Chardzhou (dative case)
гитди	he/she went
ол	he, she, it
хачан	when
гелер	(probably) will come
эртир	tomorrow
гелйәр	is coming
хакында	about
айтмак	to tell
бермек	to give
айдып бериң	tell (me)
кака	father
какам	my father
бизнесмен	businessman
эҗе	mother

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ишлемейэр he/she does not work

еке only child, sole, only, single

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

The word бар is used in the meaning of 'there is/are, 'has/have, exists'. Adding a possessive ending to a noun before бар creates the 'to have' construction:

Дөрт гыз-ымыз бар.
four daughter-our exist

= 'We have four daughters.'

Үч оглу-м бар. = 'I have three sons.'

The marker +дыр or +дир often expresses supposition, presumption, or uncertainty. English equivalents include 'suppose, think, seems':

Машгала-ңыз улы-дыр.
family-your large-seems

= 'It seems you have a large family.'

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In Turkmen, the suffix +ды or +ди is added to a verb stem to state that an action definitely has occurred:

гит-ди 'he/she/it has gone, left, went'

Person markers can be added to this suffix:

гел-ди-низ 'you have come, you came'

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3. **COMPETENCY:** **To make a polite request for privacy**

SITUATION: **Host family home**

ROLES: **PCV & Host family member**

PCV: Менің өе хат язасым гелйәр.

HFM: Сизе ручка, кагыз герекми?

PCV: Ёк. Саг болуң. Йөне, бир нәче сагатлык бош отаг алып болармы?

HFM: Элбетде. Кичи отага гечиң ве гапыны япың. Хич ким сизе азар бермез.

VOCABULARY:

өй	home, house
өе	to home (dative case)
хат	letter
язмак	to write
хат язасым	my writing a letter
гелйәр	comes (present tense)
хат язасым гелйәр	I would like to write a letter
сизе	to you (dative)
ручка	pen
кагыз	paper

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герек	necessary
йөне	however, but
бир	one, a
бир нәче	a few, several
сагатлык	hour, hour's worth
бош	free, unoccupied, empty
отаг	room
алмак	to get, take, receive
алып	getting (gerund)
болар	possible, can, 'will be'
элбетде	of course
кичи	small
гечмек	to pass
гечиң	go into, pass
гапы	door
гапыны	the door (acusative)
япмак	to close, cover
япың	close
хич	no, none, at all
ким	who
хич ким	no one

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азар	bother, trouble, pain
азар бермез	will not bother

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

The equivalent of English 'to, for' can be expressed in Turkmen by adding the dative case suffix to a noun. This suffix has the form +a, +e after nouns ending in consonants:

отаг	room	отага	'to the room'
сиз	you	сизе	'to, for you'
өй	home	өе	'to home'

To form the construction 'to need', Turkmen usually adds the dative suffix to the subject which needs something followed by the word герек '(it is) necessary':

сиз+е	герек
you-to	(it is) necessary

= 'you need'

In Turkmen the conjunction ве 'and' can be used to join two sentences together:

Кичи отага	гечиң	ве	гапыны	япың.
small room-to	pass-you	and	door-the	close-you

= "Go into the small room and close the door'.

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4. **COMPETENCY:** **To express gratitude**

SITUATION: **Host family home**

ROLES: **PCV & Host family member**

PCV: Мениң эшигими юваныңыза көп саг болуң.

HFM: Баш үстүне!

PCV: Индики сапар өзүм юварын.

HFM: Ёк, ёк! Сиз бизиң мыхманымыз ахырын!

PCV: Мен мыхмансөерлигиңизе миннетдар.

VOCABULARY:

эшик	clothes, clothing
эшигими	my clothes (accusative case)
ювмак	to wash
юван	washing
юваныңыза	for your washing (dative case)
көп	a lot, much
баш	head
үст	top
баш үстүне	you're welcome, at your service
индики	next

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сапар	time; journey
өз	self
өзүм	my self
мыхман	guest
мыхманымыз	our guest
ахырын	after all, finally
мыхмансөерлик	hospitality
миннетдар	grateful

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

The word эшигими contains the case suffix +ы, +и (after consonants), +ны, +ни (after vowels). This suffix is used to mark the definite object of a verb and often is equivalent to English 'the':

эшиг + им + и	юваныңыза	саг	болуң
clothes-my-the	wash-ing-your-for	healthy	be-you

= 'Thank you for washing my clothes'.

гапы + ны япың = 'Close the door'.

Turkmen expresses personal possession in several ways. Possessive suffixes may be added to a noun:

автобус + ым	мыхман + ымыз
bus-my	guest-our
ишлер + иң	машгала + ңыз
things-your	family-your

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Possessive pronouns may stand in front of such nouns without changing the meaning:

менің ад + ым	бизің ад + ымыз
my name-my	our name-our
сенің ад + ың	сизің ад + ыңыз
your name-your	your name-your

An exception may occur in the first person plural when the possessive suffix is omitted:

бизің машгала
our family

Some final consonants are pronounced with voicing when a suffix is added. This occurs because the unvoiced consonant now stands between two voiced vowels. These changes are reflected in writing:

эшик	эшигим
clothes	my clothes
ат	адым
name	my name

PROVERB

Хичден гич ягшы.

'Better late than never.'

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Topic 3

FOOD

Culture Note: Turkmen Food

Competencies:

1. To identify types of food
2. To order food at a restaurant
3. To refuse food or drink politely

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Topic 3

FOOD

TURKMEN FOOD

While Turkmen cuisine has much in common with that of other Central Asian peoples, the Turkmen are known for particular dishes and food preparation. A staple is flat, round bread (чөрек, нан) which is baked in a rounded oven (тамдыр) made from clay. In rural areas almost every household has a тамдыр and in cities, the yards between large housing projects are often dotted with "communal" ovens.

Milk products also form an important part of their diet. While cow's milk is common, drinks prepared from camel-milk (дүе сүйди, дүе чалы) are also favorites. Other important milk and dairy products include numerous types of butter (яг), yogurts (гатык), creams (гаймак), and a sour milk product (сүзме).

Meat serves as a basis for many Turkmen dishes. Beef and lamb are very common and can be boiled or fried. Young camel also is a favorite. Other dishes are made from chicken, goat, and even horse meats, as well as from eggs.

The most common drink by far is hot tea (чай). It is of the black (гара) or green (гөк) variety and is served liberally at every meal and on every occasion (even on extremely hot days). While milk beverages are common, many milk products must be eaten with a spoon or dipped in bread. Cold and iced drinks are rare and it is popularly believed that they may cause a sore throat. Pepsi and carbonated water are sold unrefrigerated in many shops. Alcohol such as vodka and cognac is consumed especially on festive occasions or when a guest is present. Males are expected to make toasts and drink -- symbolic sips and abstinence are permitted but only after one insists. Some Turkmen may consider it improper for women to drink alcohol.

While the availability of fruits and vegetables remains to a large extent seasonal, greenhouses, increased cold storage capabilities, and food imports have increased their availability year-round. Melons, grapes, apples, and apricots are just a few of the local fruits. Many fruits are dried and stored. Onions, carrots, cucumbers, tomatoes, and pumpkin are among the most used

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vegetables. Potatoes (usually fried) are very common, and dried and fresh fish are increasingly popular.

Turkmen generally eat three meals a day. Breakfast (эртирлик нахар) is usually light and consists of bread, dairy products, and tea. Cold-cuts also may be served. Because most of those who work do not go home for lunch (гүнортанлык нахар), they often eat at cafeterias located in the same building as their jobs. Whether it be at home or in a cafeteria, lunch (eaten from 2 to 3 pm) usually consists of bread, soup, milk products, and tea. In the cities street vendors sell shishkabobs (чишлик) of beef, lamb, and sometimes even pork. The main meal is eaten in the evening (агшамлык нахар) from around seven to eight. Again tea and bread are served. Meat, soup, fruit, and vegetables are also eaten.

The most popular Turkmen dishes include a variety of "soups" consisting of boiled noodles with meat, beans, and other vegetables (унаш) or of chunks of meat and potatoes mixed with vegetables and sometimes rice (чорба). Other favorite dishes are дограма (a boiled dish made from sliced up bits of bread, meat, onions), meat pies, rice pilav (палав), and ишлекли, a dish baked in the тамдыр consisting of a top and bottom crust of bread containing either meat, pumpkin, or mushrooms.

Turkmen are very hospitable and will go to much effort to entertain a guest. While tables and chairs may be used by urban Turkmen, almost all rural Turkmen take their meals sitting on the floor around a large cloth(сачык) on which the meal is placed. As a guest one is expected to eat a lot. The guest or the oldest male in the group is invariably seated at the place of honor (төр) which is usually located opposite or farthest away from the entrance to the room.

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1. **COMPETENCY:** **To identify types of food**

SITUATION: **Host family home**

ROLES: **PCV & Host**

PCV: Шу тагам маңа ярады. Ады нәме?

Н: Бу ишлекли. Ичинде эт, кәди, соган, кәшир бар.

PCV: Бу өрән тагамлы экен. Маңа шу чөрекден биразажык берсеңизләң.

Н: Совук экен. Тамдырдан гызгын чөрек алып гелейин.

VOCABULARY:

тагам	dish
маңа	to me (dative)
ярамак	to be pleasing
ярады	pleases, has pleased (past tense)
ады	its (his, her) name
нәме	what
бу	this
ишлекли	a flat baked dish with a top and bottom crust
ич	insides
ичинде	inside (of it)

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эт	meat
кәди	pumpkin
соган	onion
кәшир	carrot
өрән	very, extremely
тагамлы	tasty, delicious
экен	really, *is*
шу	that, this
чөрек	bread
биразаҗык	a little bit
берсеңизләң	would you please give
совук	cold
тамдыр	(clay) oven
гызгын	hot
алып гелейин	let me bring

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

The ablative case suffix +дан, +ден is added to the stem of a noun and indicates a part of a whole or motion out of or from a place:

Чөрек + ден	берсеңизләң.
Bread-some	give-if-you-please

= 'Would you please give me some bread'

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Тамдыр + дан чөрек алып гелейин.
oven-from bread take-ing come-let me

= 'Let me bring bread from the oven'

One way to express the idea 'to like' is to add the dative suffix to a personal pronoun before the verb ярамак:

Шу тагам маң - а ярады.
this dish me-to please-d

= 'I like this dish'

The word экен often is used when one finds out that something is true which one did not expect would be true. Thus, it can have various English equivalents, including 'really, it turns out that,' or simply an emphatic ***'is.'***

Бу тагамлы экен. 'This (really) *is* tasty'.

Совук экен. 'Aw, it's cold'.

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2. **COMPETENCY:** **To order food at a resturant**

SITUATION: **Restaurant**

ROLES: **PCV & Waiter**

PCV: Сизде гоюн этли нахар бармы?

W: Ёк. Шу гүн гоюн этли нахар ёк. Бизде чорба, балык, дограма бар.

PCV: Маңа чорба бериң.

W: Сизиң нәме ичесиңиз гелйәр?

PCV: Маңа гара чай бериң.

VOCABULARY:

сизде	(on) you (locative case)
гоюн	lamb, sheep
эт	meat
этли	meat (adjective)
нахар	dish, food, meal
гүн	day
шу гүн	today
бизде	(on) us
чорба	a thick soup
балык	fish
дограма	dish consisting of diced bread, meat, and onion

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берың	give (imperative)
ичмек	to drink
ичесиңиз	your drinking
ичесиңиз гелйәр	you would like to drink
гара	black
чай	tea

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

Another way of expressing 'to have' is by adding the locative case suffix +да, +де to any pronoun or noun, along with the word бар 'there is, there are; exists':

Сиз + де	гоюн	этли	нахар бармы?
you-on	sheep	meat-with	food there is-?

= 'Do you have any lamb dishes?'

Биз + де чорба бар. = 'We have soup.'

To express the imperative in a polite manner, the suffix -ың, -иң is added to a verb stem ending in a consonant and the suffix -ң to one ending in a vowel:

Гапыны	яп + ың
door-the	close-you

= 'Close the door.'

Хош гал + ың = 'Stay well; Goodbye.'

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A polite way to express the idea of wanting to do something is formed by adding the suffix -еси, -асы to the verb stem along with the verb гелмек (to come). Person is indicated by a possessive suffix on the first verb while tense is indicated in the second verb:

Хат	яз - асы + м	гелйэр.
letter	write-ing my	come-s

= 'I want to write a letter.'

Нәме ич - еси + иңиз гелйәр. = 'What would you like to drink?'

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3. COMPETENCY: To refuse food or drink politely

SITUATION: Host family home

ROLES: Host & PCV

Н: Саглык үчин ичелиң.

PCV: Саг болуң. Йөне, мен миве согыны ичәйин.

Н: Элбетде, достум. Мен сизе бираз арак хем гуяйын.

PCV: Ёк. Арагы ачмаң! Мен шу гүн агшам мундан артык ичип билжек дәл.

VOCABULARY:

саглык	health
үчин	for
ичелиң	let's drink
миве	fruit
сок	juice
миве согы	fruit juice
дост	friend
бираз	a little
арак	vodka
гуймак	to pour; to put

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гуяйын	let me pour
ачмак	to open
ачман	don't open
агшам	evening
шу гүн агшам	this evening
мундан	than this
артык	more
ичип билмек	to be able to drink
дәл	not, it is not

ичип билжек дәл will not be able to drink

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

Turkmen expresses the first person imperative with the suffixes -айын, -ейин (singular) and -алын, -елиң (plural):

Чөрек	алып	гел - ейин.
bread	take-ing	come-let me

= 'Let me bring bread'

Саглык үчин ич - елиң. = 'Let's drink to health'

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There is a special category of words in Turkmen called postpositions. These words stand after nouns and are translated as prepositions in English.

машгалаңыз хакында
family-your about

= 'about your family'

саглык үчин = 'for health'

PROVERB

Тамдыра гызгында яп.

'Put the bread in the oven when (the oven) is hot.'

= 'Strike while the iron is hot.'

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Topic 4

TRANSPORTATION

Culture Note: Getting Around in Turkmenistan

Competencies:

1. To find means of transportation and destination
2. To purchase a train ticket with local currency

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Topic 4

TRANSPORTATION

GETTING AROUND IN TURKMENISTAN

Public transportation is the most common form of transportation in Turkmenistan. In the cities, there are numerous bus routes and in some of the large cities, such as Ashgabat, there are trolley lines. The cost for a bus or trolley ride is two *manat*. Usually one must buy a sheet of five tickets on the bus itself -- the driver always has tickets and during peak hours a ticket seller comes around to sell and check tickets. One must validate a ticket by getting it punched in one of the ticket-punchers located on the bus. Buses and trolleys run often during the day and invariably are crowded. In the evening hours their number decreases to the point where one may have to wait a long time at a stop. Unfortunately there are no maps available showing transportation routes -- one must simply learn which bus goes where from experience and from asking others.

Relatively few people in Turkmenistan own a car. Taxis in the cities are plentiful but fairly expensive -- when a taxi stops one must ask the driver whether he will go to the required destination; sometimes the fare must be negotiated. Many people also simply stand on the side of the street and signal a passing car to stop by waving their hand. If the driver agrees to take the passenger, the passenger pays the driver the "going rate" upon arrival.

Bus routes connect all of Turkmenistan's cities and villages. Major cities in Turkmenistan are connected by rail. Fairly inexpensive, a train ride can be an exciting cultural experience, especially the common overnight trips. Overnight trains offer several types of accommodations. The most common are the купе (a closed cubicle of four bunks) and the плацкарт car which consists of open bunks in close quarters.

Each major city in Turkmenistan has an airport. In spite of a sharp rise in ticket prices, it still may be difficult to obtain tickets. They should be purchased well in advance.

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1. **COMPETENCY:** **To find means of transportation and destination**

SITUATION: **Ashgabat street**

ROLES: **PCV & passerby**

PCV: Багышлаң, ага. Шу ерден базара автобус гидйәрми?

P: Хава. Автобус дуралгасы көчәниң аңры тарапында.

PCV: Гөрдүм. Нәчелик базара гидйәр?

P: Он алтылыга мүнүң. Ол баряр.

PCV: Саг болуң, ага.

VOCABULARY:

багышламак	to excuse, forgive
ага	sir; older brother
базар	market
автобус	bus
гидйәр	leaves, goes
дуралга	stop
автобус дуралгасы	bus stop
көче	street
аңры	other, opposite
тарап	side

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көчәнең аңры тарапында	on the other side of the street
гөрмек	to see
гөрдүм	I see, saw
нәчелик	which (number)
он алтылык	(number) sixteen
мүнмек	to get on, mount
мүнүң	take, get on
бармак	to go
баряр	goes

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

A possessive relationship exists between the two nouns автобус дуралгасы. The first noun possesses the second noun, which is indicated by adding the third person possessive suffix -ы, -и (after consonants) or -сы, -си (after vowels) to the second noun:

автобус дуралга + сы
bus stop-its

= 'bus stop'

Unless the two nouns are perceived as a unit, the genitive case suffix -ың, -иң (after consonants) or -ның, -ниң (after vowels) may be added to the first noun:

көчә + ниң аңры тарап + ы + нда
street-of other side-its-on

= 'on the other side of the street'

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To express action that takes place habitually or expectedly in the present or future, Turkmen adds -яр, -йэр to the verb stem:

Шу ерден	автобус	гид - йэр.
this place-from	bus	go-es

= 'The bus leaves from here.'

Ол эртир гел - йэр. = 'He's coming tomorrow'

To negate this verb tense, the marker -ма, -ме is inserted after the verb stem and before the tense suffix:

Эжем	ишле - ме - йэр.
mother-my	work-not-s

= 'My mother doesn't work'

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2. **COMPETENCY:** **To purchase a train ticket with local currency**

SITUATION: **Train station**

ROLES: **PCV & Ticket Seller**

PCV: Мара индики отлы сагат нәчеде уграр?

TS: Сагат он бирде уграп бәшиң ярына барар.

PCV: Болар. Мен билет сатын алжакдым. Бахасы нәче?

TS: Мүң ярым манат.

VOCABULARY:

Мары	Mary (city)
Мара	to Mary (dative case)
отлы	train
сагат	hour; watch
сагат нәчеде	at what time
уграмак	to set off, to leave
уграр	will leave
он бир	eleven
уграп	leaving
бәш	five

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яры	half
бәшиң ярына	around four-thirty
барар	will arrive, will go
билет	ticket
сатын алмак	to buy
сатын алжакдым	I would like to buy
баха	price; grade
бахасы нәче	how much does it cost
мүң	thousand
ярым	half
манат	manat (Turkmen currency)
мүң ярым манат	one thousand five hundred manat

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

When the dative suffix -a is added to a noun ending in a vowel, the suffix replaces that vowel even if it is the same vowel:

Мары	Мар - а
Mary	Mary-to

When the noun ends in the vowels -е or -и, however, the dative suffix -ә replaces these:

көче	көч - ә
street	street-to

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To indicate an action that should occur in the future, Turkmen adds the suffix -ap, -ep (after consonants) or -p (after vowels) to the verb stem:

Отлы сагат нәчеде угра-р?
train hour what-at leave-will

= 'What time does the train leave.'

Personal endings may be added directly to this suffix:

Эшигими юв-ар-ын.
clothes-my-the wash-will-I

= 'I will wash my clothes.'

The most common means of joining two sentences together involves adding the suffix -ып, -ип (after consonants) or -п (after vowels) to the verb stem of the first sentence. It is understood that the tense or mood and person of the first sentence will be expressed in the verb of the second sentence:

Сагат он бирде уграр. Бәшиң ярына барар.

= Сагат он бирде уграп бәшиң ярына барар.

hour ten one-at leave-will five-of half-about go-will

= 'It will leave at 11 o'clock and arrive about 4:30.'

PROVERB

Баша бела дилден гелер.

'Trouble to the head comes from the tongue.'

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Topic 5

DIRECTIONS

Culture Note: On Turkmenistan's Streets

Competencies:

1. To ask for and give locations of buildings
2. To express lack of understanding of directions

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Topic 5

DIRECTIONS

ON TURKMENISTAN'S STREETS

Prior to the coming of the Russians in the late 19th century, there were very few urban areas in Turkmenistan, and many of the large towns and cities that exist today were developed after the 1930's. Ashgabat, the capital and largest city in Turkmenistan, has a population of about 420,000. Other major cities are Krasnovodsk on the Caspian Sea coast, Mary in the Southeast, Chardzhou on the Amu Darya in the East, and Dashkhovuz in the Northeast. Because much of the Russian population only came to Turkmenistan in the Soviet period, separate Russian quarters or neighborhoods never developed in Turkmenistan's cities as they did elsewhere in Central Asia. This, combined with a relatively small Slavic population, has led to Slavs and Turkmen living in the same neighborhoods and housing projects.

Since Turkmenistan's independence, the names of many streets, institutions, collective farms, etc. have been changed to reflect Turkmen heroes, culture, and national aspirations. As a result, some confusion has arisen concerning addresses and directions.

In 1948 Ashgabat suffered a tremendous earthquake and even today the facts concerning the number of dead and amount of damage are unclear. Many of the older buildings were destroyed and an extensive rebuilding project was undertaken. A simple mass grave of earthquake victims is located near Turkmen State University. Many cities, especially Ashgabat, are continuing to grow and numerous large housing projects are under construction.

Most cities have paved streets, electricity, plumbing, and natural gas. In rural areas such may not be the case. The difference between living conditions and standards in the city (шəхер) versus the village (оба) is immense. Aside from the material differences, there are also many disparities in terms of culture and way of life. Thanks to the rebirth of national culture, the village has assumed a more prominent role in Turkmen society as it is considered a valuable repository of Turkmen language and traditional culture.

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1. **COMPETENCY:** **To ask for and give locations of buiidings**

SITUATION: **Ashgabat street**

ROLES: **PCV, Passerby 1 and Passerby 2**

PCV: Дайза, Американың бирлешен штатларының илчиханасы ниреде ерлешен?

P1: Гынансам-да, билемок оглум. Гызым, сен биленокмы?

P2: Хава, билйән. Эгер сиз ботаника багына тарап йөресеңиз, илчихананы көчәниң сагында гөрерсиңиз.

VOCABULARY:

дайза	ma'am; aunt
Америка	America
бирлешмек	to be united
бирлешен	united
штат	state
Американың бирлешен штатлары (АБШ)	United States of America
илчихана	embassy
ниреде	where? (locative case)
ерлешмек	to be located
ерлешен	located

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гынансам-да	unfortunately
билмек	to know
билемок	I don't know
билеңокмы	do you (not) know?
эгер	if
ботаника	botany
баг	garden
ботаника багы	botanical garden
тарап	toward
йөремек	to walk
йөресеңиз	if you walk
саг	right (side)
гөрерсиңиз	you will see, should see

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

The verb form билйән 'I know' is the short form in -я, -йə of the standard present tense in -яр, -йəр. Both are widely used without any difference in grammatical meaning:

бил-йəн
} 'I know'
бил-йəрин

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Turkmen forms the negative of the present-past tense (no affirmative form exists) by adding a contraction of a verbal form combined with personal suffixes (-ам, -аң, etc.) followed by a negating element -ок. Use of this form implies that an action has never taken place:

бил-ем-ок
know-I-not

= 'I do not know'
(I have not known before, and I don't know now)

бил-ең-ок-мы
know-you-not?

= 'do you (not) know?'

The conditional mood of the verb is formed by means of the suffix -са, -се plus one of the personal endings:

йөре-се-ңиз
walk-if-you

= 'if you walk'

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2. **COMPETENCY:** **To express lack of understanding of directions**

SITUATION: **Ashgabat street**

ROLES: **PCV & Passerby**

PCV: Мен дуралгамы ялңышдым өйдйән. Бу ер нире?

P: Бу меркез. Сен нирә барярсың?

PCV: Мениң достум Магтымгулы көчесиниң етмишинҗи җайында яшаяр. Бу Магтымгулы көчесими?

P: Бу Магтымгулы көчеси дәл. Йөне, сен ялңышмадың. Шу ёл билен гөни гидибер. Индики көче Магтымгулы көчеси.

PCV: Мен дүшүнмедим. Сиз ене-де гайталасаңызлаң.

VOCABULARY:

ялңышмак	to mistake, to make a mistake
ялңышдым	I made a mistake about, I have the wrong (stop)
өйтмек	to think
өйдйән	I think
нире	where
меркез	center (of city)
сен	you (informal, singular)
нирә	(to) where? (dative case)

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барярсың	you are going
Магтымгулы	Magtumguly (famous 19th century Turkmen poet)
етмиш	seventy
етмишинҗи	(number) seventy, seventieth
җай	building, house, place
яшамак	to live
ялңышмадың	you were not mistaken
бӥлен	along, with
ёл	street, road, way
гөни	straight
гидибер	keep going
дүшүнмек	to understand
дүшүнмедим	I did not understand
ене-де	again
гайталамак	to repeat
гайталасаңызлаң	would you please repeat (that)?

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

Two nouns that stand in possessive relationship may possess another noun with the addition of the genitive suffix -ның, -ниң:

Магтымгулы	көче + си
Magtymguly	street-his

= 'Magtymguly Street'

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Магтымгулы	көче + си + ниң	етишинҗи	җай + ы + нда
Magtymguly	street-his-of	seventieth	place-its-at

= 'at building 70 of Magtymguly Street'

The definite past tense is negated by inserting the suffix -ма, -ме between the verb stem and the tense marker:

дүшүндим	'I understand'
дүшүнмедим	'I don't understand'
ялңышдым	'I was mistaken'
ялңышмадым	'you weren't mistaken'

A common way to make a polite request is to add the suffix -саңызлаң, -сеңизләң to a verb stem:

гайталасаңызлаң	'(would you) please repeat (that)?'

чөрекден биразаҗык берсеңизләң
'(would you) please give me a little bit of bread?'

PROVERB

Еди өлчеп, бир кес.

'Measure seven times and cut once.'

= 'Look before you leap.'

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Topic 6

SHOPPING

Culture Note: Markets and Stores in Turkmenistan

Competencies:

1. To ask for items, prices and quantities
2. To bargain for items
3. To shop at a state store

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Topic 6

SHOPPING

MARKETS AND STORES IN TURKMENISTAN

While the economic situation has deteriorated somewhat in Turkmenistan in recent years, the overall standard of living has not dropped as dramatically as it has in other former Soviet republics. Economic reforms have been modest and the majority of businesses remain state-owned. Thanks to government subsidies and price controls, basic food products continue to be fairly affordable. One of the most important modifications in economic policy took effect in early 1993 when President Niyazov decreed that natural gas, water, and electricity would be supplied virtually free of charge to all homes in Turkmenistan for an indefinite period. Gasoline and other fuels are also very cheap, especially compared to neighboring republics. The primary reasons for such economic stability stem from the fact that Turkmenistan has a relatively small population and is rich in important resources such as natural gas and oil.

In spite of such favorable economic conditions, there is a noticeable lack of affordable consumer goods. Quality clothing and shoes are especially hard to get. State stores often are almost bare while the items offered by the numerous small privately owned stores lack variety and are prohibitively expensive to the average citizen. There is no equivalent to a supermarket; instead there are specialty stores labeled "milk store," "bread store," and the like. In the state stores it is still sometimes necessary to get a ticket with the price of the item, go pay for the item at a different cash register, and then return the receipt to the clerk to receive the item.

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An important alternative to the state and private stores is the private market (bazaar). Throughout Turkmenistan there are generally three types of markets. The first type sells spices, produce and other food products. These markets are open daily and consist of stalls or booths from which the sellers, usually farmers from the countryside, offer their products. Another type of bazaar, often open only on weekends, is a kind of flea market, where individuals come to sell everything from old clothing, used household appliances, or even cars to sweets, vegetables, cooked products and a variety of traditional Turkmen cultural items. These include antique silver jewelry, traditional women's clothing, men's sheepskin hats, and the beautiful, world-famous carpets. Here bargaining skills are very important. The third type of market deals in livestock such as cattle, sheep, goats, horses, and camels. It too is usually open only on weekends. All markets draw large crowds of both city and village folk and are colorful and extremely interesting to foreign visitors. The largest markets are in Ashgabat.

The basic monetary unit in Turkmenistan continues to be the Soviet-Russian rouble which is called *manat* (МАНАТ) in Turkmen. There has been talk of introducing a local Turkmen currency, but government officials say that such plans are in the preliminary stages of development.

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1. **COMPETENCY:** **To ask for items, prices and quantities**

   SITUATION: **Market**

   ROLES: **PCV & Seller**

PCV: Ага, бу нирәниң гавунлары?

S: Бу Дашховуз гавунлары. Булар иң сүйҗи гавунлар. Килосы секиз йүз манат.

PCV: Бу гаты гыммат-да! Үзүм нәчеден?

S: Үзүм - ики йүз эллиден. Көп алсаң, мен арзанрак берҗек.

VOCABULARY:

нирәниң	from where, of where
гавун	melon
Дашховуз	Dashkhowuz (city in northeastern Turkmenistan)
иң	most
сүйҗи	sweet
иң сүйҗи	sweetest
кило	kilo (kilogram)
килосы	kilo (of it)
секиз	eight

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йүз	hundred
гыммат	expensive
үзүм	grape(s)
элли	fifty
алсаң	if you buy
көп	a lot, many, much
арзан	cheap, inexpensive
арзанрак	cheaper
бержек	(I) will give

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

When a word contains the third person possessive suffix +ы, +и (after consonants) +сы, +си (after vowels), this indicates that the word is possessed by the preceding noun. The preceding noun may or may not have the genitive suffix +ның, +ниң:

миве сок+ы
fruit juice-its = 'fruit juice'

көчә+ниң саг+ы+нда
street-of right-its-on = 'on the right side of the street'

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The possessing noun may be omitted:

Булар	иң	сүйҗи	гавунлар.	Кило+сы...
these	most	sweet	melons.	Kilo-its...

= 'These are the sweetest melons. A kilo...

Килосы in this sentence is possessed by гавунлар:

(гавунлар)	кило+сы
(melon-s)	kilo-their

There are several ways to indicate the comparative in Turkmen.

1. addition of the suffix +рак, +рек to a noun:

арзан	'cheap'
арзанрак	'cheaper'
сүйҗи	'sweet'
сүйҗирек	'sweeter'

2. addition of the ablative +дан, +ден to the noun being compared:

Бу гавунлар арзан.	'These melons are cheap.'
Бу гавунлар үзүмден арзан.	'These melons are cheaper than the grapes'

Turkmen forms the superlative by placing the word иң 'most' before an adjective:

арзан	'cheap'
иң арзан	'cheapest'
сүйҗи	'sweet'
иң сүйҗи	'sweetest'

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2. COMPETENCY: To bargain for items

SITUATION: Market

ROLES: PCV & Seller

PCV: Дайза, шу халыны йигрими бәш мүңе берип билжекми?

S: Ёк, бу мүмкин дәл. Бу халы элде докалан, ахырын! Кыркдан бәри берип билжек дәл.

PCV: Бу теке гөлими? Көнеми?

S: Хава. Теке гөли, көне. Сен мыхман ялы-ла. Сениң үчин отуз бәш мүңе берҗек.

VOCABULARY:

халы	carpet
берип билжекми	can (you) give?
мүмкин	possible
эл	hand
докалмак	to be woven
кырк	forty
бәри	less (than), this side (of)
теке	Teke (Turkmen tribe)
гөл	ornamental design on Turkmen carpet

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көне	old, ancient
ялы	like
сениң	your
-ла	(emphatic particle)
ялы-ла	it seems, evidently, as though
отуз	thirty

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

The suffix +да, +де forms the locative case in Turkmen and usually is equivalent to English 'in, on, at':

Мен	Түркменистан+да	ики йыл	ишлежек
I	Turkmenistan-in	two years	work-will

= 'I will work in Turkmenistan for two years.'

Илчихана нире+де ерлешен?= 'Where is the embassy located'

This suffix also has an instrumental function equivalent to 'by':

эл+де	докалан
hand-in	woven

= 'woven by hand, hand-woven'

A common and polite way to address elders is to use kinship terms. The word ага 'older brother' is equivalent to 'sir' in English while дайза 'aunt' is like 'ma'am.'

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3. **COMPETENCY:** **To shop at a state store**

SITUATION: **State store**

ROLES: **PCV & Salesperson**

PCV: Гелнеже, көйнек хайсы бөлүмде сатыляр?

S: Сизе нәме герекди?

PCV: Мен пагтадан эдилен ак көйнек алжакдым.

S: Бизде сизиң размериңизде диңе гөк көйнек бар. Гейип гөржекми?

PCV: Бу маңа лайык. Реңкини хем халадым. Оны кагыза долап берсеңизлең.

VOCABULARY:

гелнеже	form of address to older or senior woman, ma'am
көйнек	shirt
хайсы	which
бөлүм	department, section
сатылмак	to be sold
герекди	needed
пагта	cotton
эдилмек	to be made

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эдилен	made
ак	white
алжакдым	I would like to buy
размер	size
диңе	only
гөк	blue, green
геймек	to wear
гейип гөржек	will (you) try it on
лайык	fit, appropriate
реңк	color
халамак	to like
халадым	I like (past tense)
оны	it, him, her (accusative case)
доламак	to wrap
долап берсеңизлән	please wrap it up (for me)

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

Turkmen adds the suffix -ан, -ен, -ән to verb stems to form relative clauses equivalent to English 'which (is), that (is).' This suffix denotes a completed action:

пагтадан	эдил-ен	ак	көйнек
cotton-from	made-which was	white	shirt

= 'a white shirt made of cotton'

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Such formations also function as predicates of sentences:

АБШның	илчиханасы	нирεде	ерлеш-ен?
USA-of	embassy-its	where-at	locate-d

= 'Where is the USA embassy located?'

Бу	халы	элде	докалан.
this	carpet	hand-by	wove-n

= 'This carpet is woven by hand'

In the sentence Сизе ниме герекди?, the suffix +ди is a past tense form that can be added to words. The sentence translates as 'What did you need?'

The suffix -жакдым, -жекдим is a first person form that expresses an existing intention or wish to be completed in the future. Usually its English equivalents are 'would, would like to, want':

Мен	билет	сатын	ал-жак-ды-м.
I	ticket	selling	buy-will-have-I

= 'I would like to buy a ticket.'

Көйнек ал-жак-ды-м. = 'I would like to buy a shirt.'

PROVERB

Гадаган миве сүйжи.

'Forbidden fruit is sweet.'

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Topic 7

COMMUNICATIONS

Culture Note: Communications in Turkmenistan

Competencies:

1. To mail a letter or parcel
2. To get one's party on the line
3. To leave a phone message
4. To order and make an international phone call

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Topic 7

COMMUNICATIONS IN TURKMENISTAN

Turkmenistan is experiencing many problems concerning communications technology. The telephone network is poorly developed and many homes and villages lack telephone service. Although there are phone booths in cities, coins for them are very hard to find, and there are virtually no telephone books.

A call to the United States may be ordered at a telephone and telegraph office. Many times this requires going to the office, ordering and paying for the call, and then waiting up to an hour until the call is placed. The quality of the connection for both international calls and internal calls is often poor.

Recently fax machines and electronic mail systems have begun to appear in Turkmenistan. However, these are often expensive and unreliable. Apparently, it is not possible to wire money to Turkmenistan, and traveler's checks and credit cards are not accepted.

The postal system is slow and letters are sometimes lost. The Ministry of Culture must approve international shipment of all items except books.

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1. **COMPETENCY:** **To mail a letter or parcel**

   SITUATION: **At the post office**

   ROLES: **PCV & Postal Clerk**

PCV: Америка посылка ибермек мүмкинми?

PC: Сиз нәме ибермекчи?

PCV: Мен телпек, дон, китап ибермекчи

PC: Сиз китаплары иберип билерсиңиз. Эмме, башга зат ибермек үчин ругсат алмалы. Степан Разин көчесиниң единжи жая барың.

VOCABULARY:

Америка	to America (dative)
посылка	parcel
ибермек	to send
ибермекчи	intend to send
телпек	hat (traditional Turkmen sheep skin hat)
дон	robe
китап	book
эмме	but, however
башга	other
зат	thing

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ругсат	permission
Степан Разин	Stepan Razin (famous 18th century Cossack)
единҗи	(number) seven, seventh

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

Adding the suffix -макчы, -мекчи to a verb stem expresses an intention or wish to do something:

Сиз нәме ибер-мекчи?
you what send-intend

= 'What do you want to send?'

Turkmen distinguishes between indefinite and definite ('the') objects. An indefinite object is unmarked, while a definite object has the accusative suffix +ы, +и:

Мен телпек, дон, китап ибермекчи.
I hat robe book send-intend

= 'I want to send hats, robes, and books.'

Сиз китаблар+ы иберип билерсиңиз.
you book-s-the send-and know how-will-you

= 'You can send the books.'

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The suffix -мак, -мек can serve not only as the infinitive marker in Turkmen (ибермек 'to send'), but also can make a verb into a noun ('sending'):

башга	зат	ибер-мек	үчин
other	thing	send-to	in order to

= 'in order to send other things'

Посылка	ибер-мек	мүмкин.
parcel	send-ing	possible

= 'Sending parcels is possible.'

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2. COMPETENCY: To get one's party on the line

SITUATION: On the telephone

ROLES: Receiver & PCV

R: Алло. Сизи диңлейәрин.

PCV: Алло. Бу Дурдыевлерми?

R: Хава. Бу ким. Сизе ким герек?

PCV: Мениң адым Бренда. Мехри билен геплешмек мүмкинми?

R: Ол энтегем ишде. Сагат алтыларда гелер.

VOCABULARY:

сизи	you (accusative)
алло	hello
диңлемек	to listen
Дурдыев	Durdyyev (family name)
Бренда	Brenda
Мехри	Mekhri ('compassion' - female name)
геплешмек	to speak to, converse with
энтегем	still
алты	six

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GRAMMAR AND VOCABULAY NOTES

Besides making a word plural, the suffix +лар, +лер can mean 'house or family of' when added to a last name, just as in English:

Дурдыев	'Durdyyev'
Дурдыевлер	'the Durdyyevs'

Adding this suffix to the numeral for an hour indicates an approximate time after that hour:

сагат	алты-лар-да
hour	six-es-at

= 'at sometime after six o'clock (but before seven)'

The word ол serves both as a demonstrative pronoun ('that') and as the third person personal pronoun. In the third person, ол is used for all three genders: 'he, she, it'. However, context nearly always makes clear who is meant by ол:

Мехри	өйдеми?	Ёк, ол		энтегем	ишде.
Mekhri	home-at-?	no	she/he/it	still	work-at

= 'Is Mekhri home? No, she is still at work.'

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3. **COMPETENCY:** **To leave a phone message**

SITUATION: **On the telephone**

ROLES: **PCV & Receiver**

PCV: Алло. Бу ким?

R: Мен Җерен - Бердиниң аялы.

PCV: Берди нирәдә?

R: Берди концертә гидипдир. Онуң өе хачан гелҗегини билмедем.

PCV: Мен йигриминҗи мекдепде мугаллым. Сиз оңа биринҗи гүн сагат едиде мекдепде йыгнак барлыгыны айдармысыңыз?

VOCABULARY:

Җерен	Jeren ('antelope' - female name)
Берди	Berdi ('He (God) gave' - male name)
аял	wife, woman
концерт	concert
гидипдир	he has gone, went
онуң	his, her, its
гелҗегини	his coming (accusative)
йигриминҗи	(number) twenty, twentieth
мекдеп	elementary-secondary school

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она	him, her, it (dative)
биринжи	first
биринжи гүн	Monday, first day
йыгнак	meeting, gathering
барлык	being
йыгнак бардыгыны	that there is a meeting (being held)

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

The past subjective tense is formed by adding the suffix -ыпдыр, -ипдир (plus personal endings) to the verb stem. This tense indicates, among other things, an action completed in the past which was not witnessed by the speaker. In English it may be translated using the simple past or past perfect tense:

Берди	концете	гид-ипдир.
Berdi	concert-to	go-has gone

= 'Berdi has gone to a concert (but I was not there when he went)'.

Besides indicating future tense at the end of a sentence, a verb with the suffix -жак, -жек also functions as a noun and can be the object of a verb:

Онун	ее	хачан	гел-жег-и-ни	билмедим.
his	home-to	when	coming-will-his-the	know-not-I

= 'I don't know when he will come home'.

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Many Turkmen do not use the specific words such as дүшенбе 'Monday,' сешенбе 'Tuesday,' etc., for the days of the week. Instead, they use the numerals 1-7 with the ordinal suffix -ынҗы, -инҗи (after consonants), -нҗы, -иҗи (after vowels), before the word гүн day:

биринҗи гүн 'first day (=Monday)'

икинҗи гүн 'second day (=Tuesday)'

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4. **COMPETENCY:** **To order and make an international phone call**

SITUATION: **At the telephone and telegraph office**

ROLES: **PCV & Operator**

PCV: Мен Америка телефон этмекчи.

Q Ыĭнха. Шу кагызы долдурың. Бир минут мүң алты йүз манат.

PCV: Хәзир төлемелими?

Q Хава. Сиз отырыберің. Йигрими минутлаб гарашмалы. Вагт болса, өзүм чагырарын.

VOCABULARY:

телефон этмек	to phone, make a call
ынха	here
кагыз	form, paper
долдурмак	to fill out, fill up
минут	minute
хәзир	now
төлемек	to pay
отырмак	to sit
отырыберің	have a seat, go ahead and sit down
минутлаб	for (x number of) minutes

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гарашмак	to wait
чагырмак	to call, invite

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

Besides forming conditional verbs with the meaning 'if,' the suffix -са, -се also can indicate 'when':

вагт бол-са = 'when it's time'

One way to form verbs in Turkmen is by combining a noun and the auxiliary verb этмек 'to do, to make.'

телефон этмек	'to telephone'
жан этмек	'to ring up, call'

PROVERB

Ёрганына гөрә аяк узат.

'Stretch your legs according to the length of your blanket.'

= 'Don't bite off more than you can chew.'

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Topic 8

MEDICAL

Culture Note: Health care in Turkmenistan

Competencies:

1. To ask and respond to questions about illness
2. To report an emergency

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Topic 8

HEALTH CARE IN TURKMENISTAN

The health care system inherited from the Soviet regime is fraught with deficiencies. On the whole, physicians are poorly trained, modern medical technologies are almost unheard of, and many basic medicines are in short supply. As a result, treatment is often primitive. The care, however, which does exist, is in principle free and accessible to most urban residents. Only recently have medical professionals begun to (legally) offer their services for a price.

Most citizens are registered at a clinic to which they must go when care is needed. The registration may be based on one's geographic location or place of employment. Ambulance service, where it exists at all, is unreliable.

In the countryside medical care is often deplorable, at least by Western standards. Here, as in the urban areas, many medical problems stem from and are exacerbated by poor diet, polluted drinking water, and industrial wastes and pesticides. Such problems are especially acute in the northeast areas of the country near the Amu Darya River and Aral Sea. Children and women in their child bearing years seem to be in the poorest health and the most susceptible to disease and sickness.

Perhaps for all the reasons described above, many people in Turkmenistan have once again turned to "traditional" medicine. Healers employing herbs and prayer are common, and in some rural areas this type "medicine" may be the only type readily available.

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1. **COMPETENCY:** **To ask and respond to questions about illness**

SITUATION: **At school**

ROLES: **Co-worker & PCV**

C: Жан. Йүзиң нәхош гөрүнйәр. Ягдайлариң нәхили?

PCV: Эрбет. Келләм агыряр. Ашгазанымда хем бир кем бар ялы.

C: Сен врача йүз тутмалы.

PCV: Сен мамла. Шу гүн мениң ериме сапак гечирип билермисиң?

C: Өтен йылдан бәри мен иңлис дилини окатмадым, йөне мен сынанып гөрейин. Өтен сапакда хайсы теманы гечдиңиз.

VOCABULARY:

йүз	face
нәхош	unwell, unhealthy
гөрүнмек	to appear
йүзиң нәхош гөрүнйәр	you don't look well
эрбет	bad
келле	head
агырмак	to hurt
ашгазан	stomach
кем	problem, flaw

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бир кем	something wrong, a problem
врач	doctor
йүз тутмак	to see (present one's face)
мамла	right, correct
ериме	for me, in my place
сапак	lesson
гечирмек	to conduct
йыл	year
иңлис	English
дил	language, tongue
окатмак	to teach
сынанмак	to try
сынанып гөрейин	let me give it a try
тема	subject, theme
гечмек	to cover, pass

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GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

Turkmen makes frequent use of a special construction to express the manner in which an action is completed. This construction consists of two verbs. The first verb indicates the main action and has the suffix -ып, -ип (after consonants) -п (after vowels). The second verb is one of a limited number of common verbs, each of which expresses, in combination with the first verb, some nuance:

гөрмек 'to see' > 'to try'

Гейип	гөржекми?
wear-and	see-will-?

= 'Will you try it on?'

Мен	сынанып	гөрейин.
I	try-and	see-let me

= 'Let me give it a try'

билмек 'to know, know how' > 'to be able, can'

Сиз	китаплары	иберип	билерсиңиз
you	book-s-the	send-and	know how-will-you

= 'You will be able to send the books'

бермек 'to give' > 'to do something *for* someone'

Оны	кагыза	долап	берсеңизлән.
it-the	paper-in	wrap-and	give-you-please

= 'Please wrap it up for me.'

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As a rule, the question particle +мы, +ми is added to the end of nouns and most verb forms:

Көнеми?	'Is (it) old?'
Сен биленокми?	'Do you (not) know?'

However, the particle can be added directly to tense suffixes before personal endings:

Менің	ериме	сапак	гечирип	билер-ми-сиң?
my	place-my-for	lesson	conduct-and	know how-will-?-you

= 'Can you conduct lessons in my place?'

Сиз оңа	йыгнак	барлыгыны	айдар-мы-сыңыз?
you him-to	meeting	be-ing-its-the	tell-will-?-you

= 'Will you tell him there will be a meeting?'

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2. **COMPETENCY:** **To report an emergency**

SITUATION: **At school**

ROLES: **Administrator & PCV**

A: Нәме болды? Нәме үчин ылгаярсыңыз?

PCV: Бетбагытлык болупдыр. Мырат басганчакдан йыкылып келлесини агырдыпдыр.

A: Сиз гидиберің. Мен духтор Чарыеве жаң эдерин.

VOCABULARY:

нәме болды	what happened?
нәме үчин	why?
ылгамак	to run
бетбагытлык	accident, misfortune
Мырат	Myrat ('object of desire' - male name)
басганчак	step(s), stairs
йыкылмак	to fall
агыртмак	to hurt, to cause to hurt
духтор	doctor
Чарыев	Charyyev (family name)
жаң	ring, bell
жаң этмек	to ring up, call

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GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

A verb with the suffix -ып, -ип (after consonants) -п (after vowels) usually must precede a verb that has tense and person suffixes. The two verbs may combine to express aspects of action:

гейип гөрейин 'let me try it on'

Or the two verbs may serve as the main verbs of two sentences formed together:

Мырат басганчакдан йыкылып, келлесини агырдыпдыр.

Myrat steps-from fall-and head-his-the hurt-made-has done

= 'Myrat has fallen from the steps and hurt his head.'

The addition of certain suffixes (+нин, +м, etc.) to a noun ending in the vowel -е cause that vowel to change into the vowel -э:

көче	'street'
көчэнин	'of the street'
келле	'head'
келлэм	'my head'

PROVERB

От болмадык ерде түссе болмаз.

= 'In a place where there was no fire there will be no smoke.'

= 'Where there's smoke there's fire.'

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Topic 9

SOCIAL SITUATIONS

Culture Note: Life in Turkmenistan

Competencies:

1. To converse about the weather
2. To invite and respond to invitations
3. To give and respond to compliments
4. To describe one's emotional state

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Topic 9

LIFE IN TURKMENISTAN

In some respects, life in Turkmenistan differs quite noticeably from that in the other Central Asian republics. There has been relatively little economic, political, or social upheaval in Turkmenistan and a general sense of calm reigns. The religious and ethnic problems that seem to plague the rest of the former Soviet Union seemingly are absent in Turkmenistan. Some attribute this to the so-called unobtrusive and kind nature of the Turkmen. Others see this as stemming from the sometimes oppressive climate.

The summers in Turkmenistan are dry and long (May - late September) and may be unbearably hot to Westerners (over 110 degrees). Air conditioners are available in the cities. In the summer the pace of everyday life slows and during the early to mid-afternoon people generally stay indoors and shops and businesses are usually closed. Winters may be cold and damp, especially in the north, but in most areas snowfall is limited.

The desert areas which comprise the vast majority of Turkmenistan's territory contain large sand dunes and various rare species of flora and fauna. Here there are several large, popular national parks. In the desert, strong winds blow year-round and may bring dust into the urban areas. In fact, all that separates cities and towns from the desert are the large and extensive canals which bring water for both drinking and irrigation. The largest canal, the Kara Kum Canal, stretches west from the Amu Darya river some 800 kilometers to Ashgabat.

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1. **COMPETENCY:** **To converse about the weather**

   SITUATION: **Workplace**

   ROLES: **PCV & Colleague**

C: Аризонада томусда хова гызгынмы?

PCV: Хава. Эмме, мен халыс өвренишип гидипдирин. Шу тайда гыш нәхили гечйәр?

C: Худай билсин. Бир нәче йыл мундан өң, мениң Ашгабатда илкинҗи болан гүнлеримде, гар кән ягыпды.

PCV: Бу йыл гыш ончаклы совук болмазмыка дийип умыт эдйән.

C: Эншалла.

VOCABULARY:

Аризона	Arizona
томус	summer
хова	weather, air
халыс	totally, completely
өвренмек	to become used to, accustomed; to study
тай	place
шу тайда	here
гыш	winter

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худай	God
худай билсин	God knows
өң	before, previously
мундан өң	ago
болан гүнлеримде	in the days when I was
Ашгабат	Ashgabat
илкинҗи	first, initial
гар	snow
кән	a lot, much
ягмак	to precipitate
гар ягмак	to snow
гар ягыпды	it (had) snowed
ончаклы	so, so much
болмазмыка	it won't turn out to be
диймек	to say
дийип	that, saying
умыт	hope
умыт этмек	to hope
эншалла	God willing

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GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARTY NOTES

Actions that occurred long ago in the past or before or during other past actions are indicated by adding the suffixes -ыпды, -ипди to the verb stem:

Бир нәче йыл мундан өң гар кән яг-ыпды.
one how many year this-from before snow a lot fall-had done

= 'Several years ago it (had) snowed a lot.'

Sentences that begin with expressions like 'I hope that,' 'I think that' often require дийип 'saying' as equivalent to 'that':

Бу йыл гыш ончаклы совук болмазмыка
дийип умыт эдйән.

This year winter so (much) cold be-will not-?
say-and hope do-I

= 'I hope that this year winter will not be so cold.'

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2. **COMPETENCY:** **To invite and respond to invitations**

SITUATION: **Workplace**

ROLES: **Colleague & PCV**

C: Сиз өтен агшам ниреде болдуныз? Ресторана гелмединиз - ә!

PCV: Ишли болдум -- сапак тайярламалыдым.

C: Биз сизи бәшинҗи майда болҗак тойымыза чагырярыс.

PCV: Нәхили той?

C: Мениң оглумың сүннет тойы. Сиз гелсеңиз, өрән говы боларды.

PCV: Хөвес билен.

VOCABULARY:

өтен	last, past
өтен агшам	last night
ресторан	restaurant
-ә	emphatic particle
ишли	busy
тайярламак	to prepare
тайярламалыдым	I had to prepare
май	May

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той	feast, celebration
сүннет	circumcision
боларды	would be
хөвес	enthusiasm, interest, desire
хөвес билен	with pleasure

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

Certain suffixes used to express tense (-ан, -ен; -жак, -жек, etc.) can also serve to form relative clauses:

1. as the predicate of a sentence;

Ашгабатда	ерлешен.
Ashgabat-in	located

= 'It is located in Ashgabat.'

Мен	сизе	берҗек.
I	you-to	give-will

= 'I will give to you.'

2. as the verb of relative clause meaning 'which, that, when.'

Менин	Ашгабатда	илкинжи	болан	гүнлеримде...
my	Ashgabat-in	first	be-when	day-s-my-in

= 'in the days when I was first in Ashgabat...'

Бәшинжи	майда	болжак	тойымыз
fifth	May-on	be-which will	feast-our

= 'our feast which will be on May 5th.'

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3. **COMPETENCY:** **To give and respond to compliments**

SITUATION: **Workplace**

ROLES: **PCV & Colleague**

PCV: Мерген, бир студент маңа сизиң сапакларыңыздан кән зат өвренйәндигини айтды.

C: Шейлими? Мен хем сизиң сапакларыңыз хакында говы затлар эшидйән.

PCV: Сизиң диййәниңиз якымлы. Йөне, мен энтек ишими говулашдырмалы.

VOCABULARY:

Мерген	Mergen ('sharpshooter' - male name)
студент	student (university)
өвренмек	to learn
өвренйәндиги	his learning
шейли	such, so
шейлими	is that so?
эшитмек	to hear
якымлы	pleasant, nice
говулашдырмак	to improve

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GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

Adding the suffix -ян, -йән to a verb stem can produce a noun:

Сизиң дий-йән+иңиз якымлы.
your say-ing-your nice

= 'What you say is nice'.

One should take care to distinguish this suffix from the short form of the present tense suffix in the first person:

Мен	сизиң	хакыңызда	говы	затлар	эшидйән.
I_	your	part-your-on	good	thing-s	hear-I

= 'I hear good things about you'.

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4. **COMPETENCY:** **To describe one's emotional state**

SITUATION: **Host family home**

ROLES: **Colleague & PCV**

C: Шу гүн кейпиң көк ялы-ла.

PCV: Башлыгымыз мениң соран зәхмет ругсадыма гол чекди.

C: Сен окув йылының ортасында дынч алжакмы?

PCV: Ёк. Парахатчылык корпусы индики айда мугаллымларың семинар-маслахатыны гечирмекчи. Мен шол ерде достларым билен душарын.

VOCABULARY:

кейп	spirit(s), mood
көк	root
кейпиң көк	you're in good spirits
башлык	head, boss
сорамак	to ask
соран	requested
зәхмет	work, labor
зәхмет ругсат	work leave
гол	arm
чекмек	to pull, draw

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гол чекмек	to sign
окув	academic, school
ортасында	in the middle of
дынч	rest
дынч алмак	to take a vacation
парахатчылык	peace
корпус	corps
ай	month, moon
семинар	seminar
маслахат	council, advice
семинар-маслахат	workshop
шол	that
душмак	to meet

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

The word ялы-ла 'it seems, evidently' consists of the postposition ялы 'like, as' and the particle -ла (-ле) which is separated by a hyphen in writing. The particle adds nuances ranging from 'it seems', 'well, now' to an exclamation:

Сен	мыхман	ялы-ла.
you	guest	it seems

= 'You seem to be a guest (foreigner).'

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Шу гүн кейпиң көк ялы-ла.

= 'You seem to be in high spirits today.'

PROVERB

Горкак йүрекли адам гөзел гызы еңип билмез.

'A faint hearted man will not be able to win the beautiful girl.'

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Topic 10

AT THE WORKPLACE

Culture Note: EDUCATION IN TURKMENISTAN

Competencies:

1. To identify self and describe Peace Corps assignment
2. To apologize for coming late
3. To ask about job-related functions
4. To decline a request to loan books or materials

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Topic 10

AT THE WORKPLACE

EDUCATION IN TURKMENISTAN

While the education system in Turkmenistan possesses many traits of the old Soviet system, there are significant modifications underway. In large part, these changes are a response to both a national cultural rebirth and factors connected with the government's attempts to produce a highly skilled work force capable of assisting Turkmenistan's participation in international business and trade activities.

Formal schooling begins with the kindergarten (багча) and primary school (мекдеп). The school year begins on September 1 with classes six days per week beginning at 9 am and ending at 2 pm, except Saturdays when the hours are shorter. In areas where school facilities are insuficient, there are two shifts (смена): one in the morning (эртир) and the other in the afternoon (өйлэн). Pupils generally graduate after completing the tenth grade; some, however, opt for leaving in the ninth grade so that they may enter a trade or technical school. Students may also continue their education at one of the dozens of specialized institutes or at Turkmen State University in Ashgabat. Here the course of study may take up to five years. Graduate study (аспирантура) is an option for outstanding students. Study and research in graduate school can be carried out at the university or in one of the many Academy of Science's research institutes.

Admittance into higher education institutions is often extremely competitive, and contacts and connections may play a role in gaining entry and later advancement. Prospective students must pass a pressure-packed entrance examination (гириш экзамени) which stretches over two weeks in August. This exam, as all other tests and evaluations in the Turkmen educational system, consists of both written and oral parts.

The curriculum followed by schools is standardized with little variation among the country's school "districts." One class which has been added recently to both primary and higher education curriculums is эдеп which can be translated as 'proper (social) behavior/conduct.' In this class young people

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are taught Turkmen cultural norms, including religious (Islamic) history and principles.

While education generally is free of charge, some institutions are changing this policy. Other recent developments include the sending of large numbers of university and institute students abroad, especially to Turkey. Attempts are being made to decrease the number of years one must study so that girls may finish their higher education by their 20th or 21st birthday -- by this time girls are expected to be married.

Two languages which have gained increasing importance in the curriculum are Turkmen and English. There is pressure on non-Turkmen residents to learn Turkmen, and many adults study Turkmen in special courses or at their workplace. English has been declared the "third state language" after Turkmen and Russian, and there have been serious efforts made to improve English language capabilities. The Latin alphabet is scheduled to replace the Cyrillic in the mid-1990's.

In spite of some improvements and changes, severe shortages of school supplies such as textbooks, technology such as computers, school buildings, and qualified teachers continue to hinder success. The schools which cater to the Slavic population (those schools in which instruction is in Russian) are considered better than the much more numerous Turkmen-language schools.

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1. **COMPETENCY:** **To identify self and describe Peace Corps assignment**

SITUATION: **Government office**

ROLES: **Colleague & PVC**

C: Салам. Сиз Америкадан тәзеликде гелен иңлис дили мугаллымы болмалы.

PCV: Шейли. Мен Парахатчылык корпусының агзасы. Адым Марк. Фалмилиям Карлсон.

C: Ягшы. Мен Аман Кадыров. Мен Түркменистаның тарыхыдан окадырын. Сиз шу тайда еке-тәк америкалымы?

PCV: Ёк. Бу шәхере бәш саны мугаллым гелдилер. Ене-де йигрими саны мугаллым Түркменистаның дүрли ерлеринде ишлйәрлер.

VOCABULARY:

тәзеликде	newly
тәзеликде гелен	newly arrived
агза	member
Аман	Aman ('safe' - male name)
Кадыров	Kadyrov (family name)
тарых	history
еке-тәк	only

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шәхер	city
сан	number, item (counting word)
ене-де	still (more), another
дүрли	various

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

The ablative suffix +дан, +ден is used in the following phrase to indicate teaching 'from' or topics from Turkmenistan's history rather than all of Turkmenistan's history:

Мен	Түркменистаның	тарыхы+дан	окадырын.
I	Turkmenistan-of	history-its-from	teach-I

= 'I teach Turkmenistan's history'.

When placed after a numeral, the word сан 'number' counts the number of following items and as a rule is not expressed in English:

бәш	саны	мугаллым
five	number-its	teacher

= 'five teachers'

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2. **COMPETENCY:** **To apologize for coming late**

SITUATION: **Workplace**

ROLES: **PCV & Director of school**

PCV: Гич геленим үчин багышлаң. Автобуса етишмедим.

D: Ай, хичле. Зыян ёк. Биз окувчыларың өзүни алып барышлары хакында гүррүң эдип отурдык. Бу хакында кынчылыгыңыз бармы?

PCV: Рахман өй ишини ерине етирмән гелйәр.

D: Сиз оны тертибе чагырдыңызмы?

PCV: Оңа диймели зады дийдим. Эмме, ол энтәгем өй ишини этмән гелйәр.

VOCABULARY:

гич	late
етишмек	to make, succeed
ай	oh
хичле	nothing
зыян	harm
зыян ёк	no harm done
окувчы	pupil
өзүни алып барыш	behavior, conduct
гүррүң	discussion

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гүррүң этмек	to discuss
кынчылык	difficulty
Рахман	Rakhman (from 'compassion' - male name)
өй иши	homework
ерине етирмек	to complete, fulfill
тертип	order
тертибе чагырмак	to discipline
дийимели зады	what one should say

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

The negative of the suffix -ып, -ип is formed with -ман, -мән

Рахман	өй	ишини	ерине
Rakhman	home	work-its-the	place-its-to

етир+мән	гелйәр.
reach-not-and	come-s

= 'Rakhman has not been completing his homework'.

The verbs гелмек 'to come' and отурмак 'to sit' both add the nuance of continuous action to a main verb:

Биз	Рахман	хакында
We	Rakhman	part-his-on

гүррүң	эдип	отурдык.
discussion	make-and	sit-was-we

= 'We were discussing Rakhman'.

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Ол	әнтәгем	өй	ишини	этмән	гелйәр.
He	still	home	work-its-the	do-not-and	come-s

= 'He still has not been doing his homework'.

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3. COMPETENCY: To ask about job-related functions

SITUATION: Workplace

ROLES: PCV & colleague

PCV: Мен биринҗи гүн барлаг иш алмакчы. Сиз сорагларыны гөрҗекми?

C: Барлаг ишде сораг кән болмалы.

PCV: Сизиң баха системаңыз нәхили?

D: Бизде бахалар санлар билен гоюляр, меселем: бәшлик (5) -- иң говы баха, соңра дөртлүк (4), үчлүк (3), икилик (2). Иң эрбет баха -- бирлик (1).

VOCABULARY:

барлаг иш	quiz, evaluation
барлаг иш алмак	to give a quiz
сораг	question
баха	grade
система	system
баха система	grading system
сан	number
гоюлмак	to be placed, given
меселем	for example

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GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

When added to a numeral, the suffix -лык, -лик adds the meaning 'number' to that numeral:

Он	алтылига	мүнүң.
ten	six-number-on	get on-you

= 'Get on number sixteen.'

Бәшлик	--	ин	говы баха.
five-number	(is)	most	good grade

= 'A number five is the best grade.'

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4. **COMPETENCY:** **To decline a request to loan books or materials**

SITUATION: **Workplace**

ROLES: **Colleague & PCV**

C: Сизден ИСЛ методикасы боюнча китабы алып болармы?

PCV: Мен эййәм оны Гүлнара бердим.

C: Ол сизе китабы гетирип берсе, маңа айтсаңызлаң, болармы?

PCV: Сиз шу китабы сораян үчүнҗи киши. Биз оны көпелдип билерисми?

VOCABULARY:

ИСЛ	ESL (English as a Second Language)
методика	methodology
боюнча	on, along
эййәм	already
Гүлнар	Gulnar ('pomegranate flower' - female name)
гетирмек	to return, bring
үчүнҗи	third
киши	person
көпелтмек	to duplicate

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GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY NOTES

When the form болармы 'will it be?' appears after a verb ending in -ып, -ип it adds the meaning 'can one, may one (do something)':

Сизден	китабы	алып	болармы?
you-from	book-the	take-ing	be-will-?

= 'Can I get the book from you?'

PROVERB

Эрбет усса гуралыны айыплар.

'A bad master (craftsman) blames his tools.'

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APPENDIX 1:

THE COMPETENCIES IN ENGLISH

Topic 1: Personal Identification

Competency 1: To express initial greetings

PCV: How do you do!

T: How do you do! Welcome! Please, come in!

PCV: Thank you!

Competency 2: To identify and introduce oneself

PCV: My name is John. My family name is Martin. I am an American.

T: My name is Gozel. My family name is Meredova. I am a teacher. I'm glad to meet you.

PCV: I'm also glad.

Competency 3: To ask and respond about well-being

T: Hello. How are you doing?

PCV: Fine, thanks. Are things good with you?

T: Yes. Very good.

Competency 4: To say goodbye

PCV: Here is my bus. I have to go.

A: All right, so long.

PCV: O.K., goodbye!

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Topic 2: Conversations with Hosts

Competency 1: To ask and answer personal information questions

HFM: How long will you work in Turkmenistan?

PCV: I will work here for two years.

HFM: Did you come with your family?

PCV: No, I'm not married.

Competency 2: To exchange information about families

PCV: It seems you have a large family.

HFM: We have three sons and four daughters? Our oldest son went to Chardzhou last week.

PCV: When will he come back?

HFM: He'll come back tomorrow. Tell me about your family.

PCV: My father is a businessman. My mother doesn't work. I'm an only child.

Competency 3: To make a polite request for privacy

PCV: I would like to write a letter home.

HFM: Do you need a pen and paper?

PCV: No, thank you. However, can I get a free room for a few hours?

HFM: Of course. Go into the small room and close the door. No one will bother you.

Competency 4: To express gratitude

PCV: Thank you for washing my clothes.

HFM: You're welcome.

PCV: Next time I'll wash them myself.

HFM: No, no! You're our guest, after all.

PCV: I'm grateful for your hospitality.

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Topic 3: Food

Competency 1: To identify types of food

PCV: I like this dish. What's its name?

H: This is *ishlekli*. It contains meat, pumpkin, onion, and carrots.

PCV: This really is very tasty. Please give me a little bit of that bread.

H: Aw, it's cold. Let me bring you some hot bread from the oven.

Competency 2: To order food at a restaurant

PCV: Do you have any dishes with lamb?

W: No. Today there are no lamb dishes. We have soup, fish and *dograma*.

PCV: Give me some soup.

W: What would you like to drink?

PCV: Give me some black tea.

Competency 3: To refuse food or drink politely

H: Let's drink to health!

PCV: Thank you, but let me drink fruit juice.

H: Of course, my friend. I'll also pour you a little vodka.

PCV: No. Don't open the vodka. I can't drink any more tonight.

Topic 4: Transportation

Competency 1: To find means of transportation and destination

PCV: Excuse me, sir. Does a bus go to the bazaar from here?

P: Yes. The bus stop is on the other side of the street.

PCV: I see it. Which number bus goes to the bazaar?

P: Get on number sixteen. It goes there.

PCV: Thank you, sir.

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Competency 2: To purchase a train ticket with local currency

PCV: What time will the next train leave for Mary?

TS: It leaves at 11 o'clock and arrives about 4:30.

PCV: Fine. I would like to buy a ticket. How much is it?

TS: Fifteen hundred *manat*.

Topic 5: Directions

Competency 1: To ask for and give locations of buildings

PCV: Ma'am, where is the United States Embassy located?

P1: Unfortunately, I don't know, young man. Young lady, do you know?

P2: Yes, I know. If you walk toward the botanical gardens, you will see the embassy on the right side of the street.

Competency 2: To express lack of understanding of directions

PCV: I think I have the wrong stop. Where is this?

P: This is the center of town. Where are you going?

PCV: My friend lives at building 70 of Magtymguly Street.

P: This is not Magtymguly Street. But you didn't make a mistake. Just go straight along this street. The next street is Magtymguly Street.

PCV: I don't understand. Please repeat that again.

Topic 6: Shopping

Competency 1: To ask for items, prices and quantities

PCV: Sir, where are these melons from?

S: These are Dashkhowuz melons. These are the sweetest melons. One kilo is 800 manat.

PCV: That's really expensive! How much are the grapes?

S: The grapes are 250. If you buy a lot, I'll give them to you cheaper.

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Competency 2: To bargain for items

PCV: Ma'am, can you give me this carpet for 25,000?

S: No, this is not possible. After all, this carpet is hand-woven. I can't give it to you for less than 40,000.

PCV: Is this a Teke pattern? Is it old?

S: Yes, it's a Teke pattern and old. It seems you're a guest. For you, I'll sell it for 35,000.

Competency 3: To shop at a state store

PCV: Madam, in which department are shirts sold?

S: What did you need?

PCV: I would like to buy a white shirt made of cotton.

S: We only have blue shirts in your size. Will you try it on?

PCV: This fits me. I like the color, too. Please wrap it up for me.

Topic 7: Communications

Competency 1: To mail a letter or parcel

PCV: Is it possible to send a parcel to America?

PC: What do you want to send?

PCV: I want to send hats, robes, and books.

PC: You can send the books. But you have to get permission to send the other things. Go to building 7 on Stepan Razin Street.

Competency 2: To get one's party on the line.

R: Hello. I hear you.

PCV: Hello. Is this the Durdyyevs?

R: Yes. Who is this? Who do you want?

PCV: My name Brenda. Can I talk to Mekhri?

R: She's still at work. She'll be back sometime after six.

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Competency 3: To leave a phone message

PCV: Hello. Who is this?

R: I'm Jeren -- Berdi's wife.

PCV: Where is Berdi?

R: He's gone to a concert. I don't know when he'll come home.

PCV: I'm a teacher at school 20. Will you tell him that there is a meeting at school at seven o'clock on Monday?

Competency 4: To order and make an international phone call

PCV: I want to make a call to America.

Q: Here, fill out this form. It's 1,600 manat per minute.

PCV: Should I pay now?

Q: Yes. Go ahead and sit down. You'll have to wait for 20 minutes or so. I'll call you when its time.

Topic 8: Medical

Competency 1: To ask and respond to questions about illness

C: John, you don't look well. How do you feel?

PCV: Bad. My head aches and it feels like there's something wrong with my stomach.

C: You should see a doctor.

PCV: You're right. Can you conduct lessons for me today?

C: I haven't taught English since last year, but let me give it a try. What subject did you cover last lesson?

Competency 2: To report an emergency

A: What happened? Why are you running?

PCV: There's been an accident. Myrat fell on the steps and hurt his head.

A: You go ahead. I'll call Doctor Charyyev.

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Topic 9: Social Situations

Competency 1: To converse about the weather

C: Is it hot in the summer in Arizona?

PCV: Yes, but I've gotten used to it. How will the winter be here?

C: God knows. A few years ago, in my first days in Ashgabat, it snowed a lot.

PCV: I hope that winter won't turn out to be so cold this year.

C: God willing.

Competency 2: To invite and respond to invitations

C: Where were you last evening? You didn't come to the restaurant! Why?

PCV: I was busy. I had to prepare lessons.

C: We're inviting you to our celebration which will be on May 5th.

PCV: What kind of celebration?

C: My son's circumcision celebration. It would be really great if you came.

PCV: I'd be delighted.

Competency 3: To give and respond to compliments

PCV: Mergen, a student told me that she is learning a lot of things from your lessons.

C: Is that so? I hear good things about your lessons too.

PCV: What you say is nice. But I still have to improve my work.

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Competency 4: To describe one's emotional state

C: You seem to be in high spirits today.

PCV: Our boss signed the work-leave that I requested.

C: You're taking a vacation in the middle of the school year?

PCV: No. Next month Peace Corps plans to conduct a teacher workshop. I'll meet my friends there.

Topic 10: At the workplace

Competency 1: To identify self and describe Peace Corps assignment

C: Hello. You must be the newly arrived English teacher from America.

PCV: That's right. I'm a Peace Corps member. My first name is Mark. My last name is Carlson.

C: Good. I'm Aman Kadyrov. I teach the history of Turkmenistan. Are you the only American here?

PCV: No. Five teachers have come to this city. Twenty more teachers are working in various places in Turkmenistan.

Competency 2: To apologize for coming late

PCV: Excuse me for coming late. I did not make the bus.

D: Oh, it's nothing. No harm done. We were discussing student behavior. Do you have any difficulties with this?

PCV: Rakhman has not been completing his home work.

D: Have you disciplined him?

PCV: I told him what I should tell him. But he still has not been doing his homework.

Competency 3: To ask about job-related functions

PCV: I intend to give a quiz on Monday. Will you look at the quiz questions?

C: There should be more questions on a quiz.

PCV: What kind of grading system do you have?

C: We grade using numbers. For example, a 5 is the best grade; then comes 4, 3, and 2; the worst grade is 1.

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Competency 4. To decline a request to loan books or materials

C: Can I get the book on ESL methodology from you?

PCV: I already gave it to Gulnar.

C: Please tell me when she returns it to you, will you?

PCV: You are the third person who has asked for this book. Can we get it duplicated?

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APPENDIX 2:

CALENDAR

Days of the week

екшенбе	Sunday	пеншенбе	Thursday
душенбе	Monday	анна	Friday
сишенбе	Tuesday	шенбе	Saturday
чаршенбе	Wednesday		

Another very common way to express days of the week is to use ordinal numbers with the word гүн 'day':

биринҗи гүн	Monday	бәшинҗи гүн	Friday
икинҗи гүн	Tuesday	алтынҗы гүн	Saturday
үчүнҗи гүн	Wednesday	единҗи гүн	Sunday
дөрдүнҗи гүн	Thursday		

Months of the year

январь	January	июль	July
февраль	Februray	август	August
март	March	сентябь	September
апрель	April	октябрь	October
май	May	ноябрь	November
июнь	June	декабрь	December

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Seasons

яз / бахар	spring	томус	summer
гүйз	fall	гыш	winter

In the eastern areas of Turkmenistan where there are large Uzbek populations, яз can also mean 'summer.'

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APPENDIX 3

NUMERALS

Cardinal		Ordinal*
бир	1	биринҗи
ики	2	икинҗи
үч	3	үчүнҗи
дөрт	4	дөрдүнҗи
бәш	5	бәшинҗи
алты	6	алтынҗы
еди	7	единҗи
секиз	8	секизинҗи
докуз	9	докузынҗы
он	10	онунҗы
он бир	11	он биринҗи
он ики	12	он икинҗи
он үч	13	он үчүнҗи
он дөрт	14	он дөрдүнҗи
он бәш	15	он бәшинҗи
он алты	16	он алтынҗы
он еди	17	он единҗи
он секиз	18	он секизинҗи
он докуз	19	он докузынҗы
йигрими	20	йигриминҗи
йигрими бир	21	йигрими биринҗи
йигрими ики	22	йигрими икинҗи
отуз	30	отузынҗи
кырк	40	кыркынҗы
элли	50	эллинҗи
алтмыш	60	алтмышынҗы
етмиш	70	етмишинҗи
сегсен	80	сегсенинҗи
тогсан	90	тогсанынҗы
йүз	100	йүзүнҗи
(бир) йүз бир	101	(бир) йүз биринҗи
(бир) йүз кырк бәш	145	(бир) йүз кырк бәшинҗи
ики йүз	200	ики йүзүнҗи
үч йүз	300	үч йүзүнҗи

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дөрт йүз	400	дөрт йүзүнҗи
бәш йүз	500	бәш йүзүнҗи
алты йүз	600	алты йүзүнҗи
еди йүз	700	еди йүзүнҗи
секиз йүз	800	секиз йүзүнҗи
докуз йүз	900	докуз йүзүнҗи
(бир) мүң	1,000	(бир) мүңүнҗи
(бир) мүң үч йүз отуз ики	1,332	(бир) мүң үч йүз отуз икинҗи
миллион	1,000,000	миллионынҗы
миллиард	1,000,000,000	миллиардынҗы

*Ordinal numbers are often written in an abbreviated form: 1-нҗи, 5-нҗи, 124-нҗи, etc.

A common way to refer to numbered buses, trolleys, etc. is to add the suffix +лык to a number:

1	бирлик
2	икилик
3	үчлүк
4	дөртлүк
5	бәшлик
6	алтылык
7	едилик
8	секизлик
9	докузлук
10	онлук
11	он бирлик
12	он икилик

Дөртлүк базара боряр. '(Bus) number four goes to the market'.

Fractions

When writing out fractions, the denominator comes first and is formed with the ablative case. The numerator follows in the nominative case:

1/3	үчден бир	2/3	үчден ики
4/10	ондан дөрт	1/2 (half)	ярым
1/4 (quarter)	чәрьек		

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APPENDIX 4:

TERMS OF RELATIONSHIP

The kinship terms listed first below are recognized as the literary and most common, especially in Ashgabat. Terms may vary according to geographic area and tribal dialect. Words in parentheses designate regional or tribal variants.

mother	эже, эне (Чәржев: Әрсары), опа (Салыр)
father	кака, ата (Чәржев: Әрсары), дәде (Дашховуз)
son	огул
daughter	гыз
brother	доган
older brother	ага, (улы) доган
younger brother	ини, (кичи) доган
sister	уя, бажы
older sister	улы аял доган
younger sister	кичи аял доган, гыз жиги
grandfather, father's father	ата
grandfather mother's father	баба
grandmother, father's mother	эне
grandmother, mother's mother	мама

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uncle, father's brother	ага
uncle, mother's brother	дайы
aunt, father's sister	биби
aunt, mother's sister	дайза
cousin (male)	доганоглан/чыкан
cousin (female)	доганоглан гыз/чыкан
mother-in-law	гайын эне
father-in-law	гайын ата
grandson	(огул) агтык
granddaughter	(гыз) агтык
relative	гарындаш

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APPENDIX 5:

FORMS OF ADDRESS

The following forms of address are commonly used when people are not acquainted. They are used in stores, on the street, and on public transportation. Some are possessed by the first person 'my' (+ым, +м) without менің. This is most often the case when a person addresses someone younger than him/herself.

To younger male:	иним, жигим	'my younger brother'
To older male:	ага, яшулы	'older brother, elder'
To elderly male:	яшулы, ата, баба	'elder, grandfather'
To younger female:	гыз, жигим, уям	'daughter, my sister'
To older female:	дайза, гелнеже	'aunt, auntie'
To elderly female:	дайза, эне, мама	'aunt, mother, grandmother'
To children:	жигим	'my younger sibling'

Male to male (approximately same age): достум, гардаш, ёлдаш

'my friend, brother, comrade'

Female to female (approximately same age): уям 'my sister'

Sometimes a husband and wife will address each other as какасы and энеси ('his/her father, his/her mother), especially when guests or older people are present.

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APPENDIX 6:

ANATOMY AND HEALTH

arm	гол
back	арка
cheek	яңак
chest	күкрек, дөш
ear	гулак
elbow	тирсек
eye	гөз
face	йүз
finger	бармак
hair	сач
hand	эл
head	баш, келле
heart	йүрек
intestine	ич
kidney	бөврек
knee	дыз
leg	аяк
lip	додак
liver	багыр

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mouth	ағыз
neck	боюн
nose	бурун
shoulder	эгин
skin	дери, хам
stomach	ашгазан, гарын
thigh	бут
throat	богаз
toe	аягың бармагы
tooth	диш
tongue	дил
underarm	голтук
waist	бил

I'm sick.	Мен ярамок/мен кеселледим.
Call for an ambulance/first aid.	Тиз көмеги чагырың.
My stomache hurts.	Ашгазаным/гарным азыряр.
mM head aches.	Келлем азыряр.
I hurt my leg/hand	Аягымы/элими агыртдым.
I broke my arm.	Голумы дөвдүм.
I have diarrhea.	Ичим гечйәр

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APPENDIX 7:

SCHOOL TERMINOLOGY

book	китап
chalk	хек
chalk board	тагта
grade (1st, 2nd, etc)	клас
grade (A,B,C, etc.)	баха
grades	бахалар:
A	бәшлик (5)
B	дөртлүк (4)
C	үчлүк (3)
D	икилик (2)
F	бирлик (1)
give a test/quiz	экзамен/барлаг иш алмак
graduate student	аспирант
institute	институт
kindergarden	чагалар багы
lesson	сапак
notebook	депдер
paper	кагыз

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pen	ручка
pencil	галам
pupil (grade school)	окувчы
preschool, day care	яслы, чагалар яслысы
quiz	барлаг иш
read	окамак
school	мекдеп
student (university, institute)	студент
study (in general)	окамак
study (a particular subject)	өвренмек
take a test/quiz	экзамен/барлаг иш тапшырмак
teach	дерс бермак, сапак бермек, өвретмек, окатмак
teacher	мугаллым
test	экзамен
university	университет
write	язмак

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APPENDIX 8:

VERB CONJUGATION

Comprehensive present tense
(verb stem + яр or йәр + personal endings)

язмак "to write"

мен язярын 'I write/am writing'	сен язярсың 'you write/are writing'	ол язяр 'he/she writes/is writing'
биз язярыс 'we write/are writing'	сиз язярсыңыз 'you write/are writing'	олар язярлар 'they write/are writing'

To negate, insert ма after the stem: мен язмаярын 'I do not write', etc.

гелмек "to come"

мен гелйәрин 'I come/am coming'	сен гелйәрсин 'you come/are coming'	ол гелйәр 'he/she comes/is coming'
биз гелйәрис 'we come/are coming'	сиз гелйәрсиниз 'you come/are coming'	олар гелйәрлер 'they come/are coming'

To negate, insert ме after the stem: мен гелмейәрин 'I do not come', etc.

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Comprehensive present tense (contracted form)
(verb stem + я or йә + personal endings)

дурмак "to stand"

мен дурян 'I stand/am standing'	сен дурың 'you stand/are standing'	ол дуря 'he/she stands/is standing'
биз дуряс 'we stand/are standing'	сиз дуряңыз 'you stand/are standing'	олар дурялар 'they stand/are standing'

To negate, insert ма after the stem: мен дурмаян 'I do not stand', etc.

гүлмек "to laugh"

мен гүлйән 'I laugh/am laughing'	сен гүлйәң 'you laugh/are laughing'	ол гүлйә 'he/she laughs/is laughing'
биз гүлйәс 'we laugh/are laughing'	сиз гүлйәңиз 'you laugh/are laughing'	олар гүлйәлер 'they laugh/are laughing'

To negate, insert ме after the stem: мен гүлмейән 'I do not laugh', etc.

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Definite future tense
(verb stem + жак or жек)

алмак "to take"

мен алжак 'I will take'	сен алжак 'you will take'	ол алжак 'he/she will take'
биз алжак 'we will take'	сиз алжак 'you will take'	олар алжак 'they will take'

To negate, insert дәл after the verb: мен алжак дәл 'I will not take', etc.

гөрмек "to see"

мен гөржек 'I will see'	сен гөржек 'you will see'	ол гөржек 'he/she will see'
биз гөржек 'we will see'	сиз гөржек 'you will see'	олар гөржек 'they will see'

To negate, insert дәл after the verb: мен гөржек дәл 'I will not see', etc.

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Indefinite future tense
(verb stem + ap or ep + personal possessive endings)

ятмак "to lie (down)"

мен ятарын
'I (probably) will lie down'

сен ятарсын
'you (probably) will lie down'

ол ятар
'he/she (probably) will lie down'

биз ятарыс
'we (probably) will lie down'

сиз ятарсыңыз
'you (probably) will lie down'

олар ятарлар
'they (probably) will lie down'

To negate, insert м after the verb stem: мен ятмарын 'I will not lie down', etc. When the third person is negated, however, маз is often used: ол ятмаз, олар ятмазлар.

гирмек "to enter"

мен гирерин
'I (probably) will enter'

сен гирерсиң
'you (probably) will enter'

ол гирер
'he/she (probably) will enter'

биз гиреріс
'we (probably) will enter'

сиз гирерсиниз
'you (probably) will enter'

олар гирерлер
'they (probably) will enter'

To negate, insert м after the verb stem: мен гирмерин 'I will not enter', etc. When the third person is negated, however, мез is often used: ол гирмез, олар гирмезлер.

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Definite past tense
(verb stem + ды or ди + personal possessive endings)

язмак "to write"

мен яздым	сен яздың	ол язды
'I wrote'	'you wrote'	'he/she wrote'
биз яздык	сиз яздыңыз	олар яздылар
'we wrote'	'you wrote'	'they wrote'

To negate, insert after ма the stem: мен язмадым 'I did not write', etc.

гелмек "to come"

мен гелдим	сен гелдиң	ол гелди
'I came'	'you came'	'he/she came'
биз гелдик	сиз гелдиниз	олар гелдилер
'we came'	'you came'	'they came'

To negate, insert ме after the stem: мен гелмедим 'I did not come', etc.

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Indefinite continuous past tense ('used to' or 'would')
(verb stem + арды or е/әрди + personal possessive endings)

язмак "to write"

мен язардым 'I used to write'	сен язардың 'you used to write'	ол язарды 'he/she used to write'
биз язардык 'we used to write'	сиз язардыңыз 'you used to write'	олар язардылар 'they used to write'

To negate, insert маз after the stem: мен язмаздым 'I did not used to write', etc.

гелмек "to come"

мен гелердим 'I used to come'	сен гелердин 'you used to come'	ол гелерди 'he/she used to come'
биз гелердик 'we used to come'	сиз гелердиниз 'you used to come'	олар гелердилер 'they used to come'

To negate, insert мез after the stem: мен гелмездим 'I did not used to come', etc.

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The negative present perfect tense
(verb stem + personal infixes + ок)

алмак "to take"

мен аламок 'I do not/have not take/n'	сен аланок 'you do not/have not take/n'	ол аланок 'he/she does not/has not take/n'
биз аламызок 'we do not/have not take/n'	сиз аланызок 'you do not/have not take/n'	олар аланоклар 'they do not/have not take/n'

гелмек "to come"

мен гелемок 'I do not/have not come'	сен геленок 'you do not/have not come'	ол геленок 'he/she does not/has not come'
биз гелемизок 'we do not/have not come'	сиз геленизок 'you do not/have not come'	олар геленоклар 'they do not/have not come'

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The conditional
(verb stem + ca or ce + personal possessive endings)

алмак "to take"

мен алсам 'if I take'	сен алсаң 'if you take'	ол алса 'if he/she takes'
биз алсак 'if we take'	сиз алсаңыз 'if you take'	олар алсалар 'if they take'

To negate, insert ма after the stem: мен алмасам 'if I do not take', etc.

гелмек "to come"

мен гелсем 'if I come'	сен гелсең 'if you come'	ол гелсе 'if he/she comes'
биз гелсек 'if we come'	сиз гелсеңиз 'if you come'	олар гелселар 'if they come'

To negate, insert ме after the stem: мен гелмесем 'if I do not come', etc.

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There is no single verb in Turkmen that means "to be able." In order to render this meaning, the verb билмек "to know" is used in conjunction with another verb in gerund form:

Verb stem + п or ып, ип + the verb билмек in the appropriate conjugated form

Мен сизин хатыңызы оңа **берип билерин.**
'I will be able to/can give your letter to her.'

Мен сурат **чекип билмейәрин.**
'I don't know how/am not able to/can't draw a picture.'

Мен сизе вада **берип билжек** дәл.
'I will not be able to promise you.'

Мен шу гүн **ишләп билемок.**
'I am not able to/can't work today.'

Мен бу китабыа **окап билмейәрин.**
'I can't read this book.'

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APPENDIX 9

GLOSSARY OF WORDS IN DIALOGS

автобус	bus
автобус дуралгасы	bus stop
ага	'sir'; older brother
агза	member
агшам	evening
агырмак	to hurt
агыртмак	to hurt, to cause to hurt
азар	bother, trouble, pain
азар бермек	to bother, trouble
ай	month, moon
ай	oh
айтмак	to tell
ак	white
алло	hello
алмак	to get, take, receive
алты	six
алып гелмек	to bring
Аман	Aman ('safe' - male name)

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Америка	America
американы	American
Американың бирлешен штатлары	United States of America
аңры	other, opposite
арак	vodka
арзан	cheap, inexpensive
Аризона	Arizona
артык	more, extra
ат	first name
ахырын	after all, finally
ачмак	to open
Ашгабат	Ashgabat
ашгазан	stomach
аял	wife, woman
баг	garden
багышламак	to excuse, forgive
базар	market
балык	fish
бар	there is, there exists
барлаг иш	quiz, evaluation

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барлаг иш алмак	to give a quiz
барлык	being
бармак	to go
басганчак	step(s)
баха	price; grade
баха система	grading system
баш	head
башга	other
башлык	head, boss
баш үстүне	you're welcome, at your service
Берди	Berdi ('He (God) gave' - male name)
бермек	to give
бетбагытлык	accident, misfortune
биз	we
бизиң	our
бизнесмен	businessman
билен	with, along
билет	ticket
билмек	to know
бир	one, a
бир нәче	a few, several

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бираз	a little
биразажык	a little bit
биринжи	first
биринжи гүн	Monday, first day
бирлешмек	to be united
болмак	to be, become
боляр	all right, fine, o.k.
ботаника	botany
ботаника багы	botanical garden
бош	free, unoccupied, empty
боюнча	on, along
бөлүм	department, section
Бренда	Brenda
бу	this
бәри	less (than), this side (of); since
бәш	five
вагт	time
валейкимессалам	how do you do?
ве	and
врач	doctor

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гавун	melon
гайталамак	to repeat
галмак	to stay, remain
гапы	door
гар	snow
гар ягмак	to snow
гара	black
гарашмак	to wait
гаты	very; hard
геймек	to wear
гелмек	to come
гелнеже	form of address to older or senior woman
геплешмек	to speak to, converse with
герек	necessary
гетирмек	to return, bring
гечен	last, past
гечирмек	to conduct
гечмек	to pass
гитмек	to leave, go
гич	late

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говулашдырмак	to improve
говы	good, well
гол	arm
гол чекмек	to sign
гоюлмак	to be placed, given
гоюн	lamb, sheep
Гөзел	Gozel ('beautiful' - female name)
гөк	blue, green
гөл	carpet design
гөни	straight
гөрмек	to see
гөрүнмек	to appear
гуймак	to pour; to put
Гүлнар	Gulnar ('pomegranate flower' - female name)
гүн	day
гүррүң	discussion
гүррүң этмек	to discuss
гыз	girl, daughter
гызгын	hot
гыммат	expensive

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гынансам-да	unfortunately
гыш	winter
дайза	aunt; ma'am
Дашховуз	Dashkhowuz (city in northeastern Turkmenistan)
диймек	to say
дил	language, tongue
диңе	only
диңлемек	to listen
дограма	dish consisting of diced bread, meat, and onion
докалмак	to be woven
доламак	to wrap
долдурмак	to fill out, fill up
дон	robe
дост	friend
дөрт	four
дуралга	stop
Дурдыев	Durdyyev (family name)
духтор	doctor
душмак	to meet
дүрли	various

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дүшүнмек	to understand
дынч	rest
дынч алмак	to take a rest, vacation
дәл	not, is not
еди	seven
единжи	(number) seven, seventh
еке	sole, only, single
еке-тәк	only
ене-де	again, still (more), another
ер	place
ерине етирмек	to complete, fulfill
ерлешмек	to be located
етишмек	to make, succeed
етмиш	seventy
етмишинжи	(number) seventy, seventieth
ёк	no, there is not, does not exist
ёл	street, road, way
жай	building, house, place
Жан	John

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жаң	ring, bell
жаң этмек	to ring up, call
Жерен	Jeren ('antelope' - female name)
зат	thing
зыян	harm
зәхмет	work, labor
зәхмет ругсат	work leave
ибермек	to send
ики	two
илкинҗи	first, initial
илчихана	embassy
индики	next
иң	most
иңлис	English
ИСЛ	ESL (English as a Second Language)
ич	insides
ичинде	inside (of)
ичмек	to drink
иш	work, thing

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ишлекли	a flat baked dish with a top and bottom crust which can contain either meat, pumpkin, or mushrooms
ишлемек	to work (infinitive)
ишли	busy
йигрими	twenty
йигриминҗи	(number) twenty, twentieth
йөне	however, but
йөремек	to walk
йүз	hundred
йүз	face
йүз тутмак	to see (present one's face)
йыгнак	meeting, gathering
йыкылмак	to fall
йыл	year
кагыз	paper
Кадыров	Kadyrov (family name)
кака	father
кейп	spirit(s), mood
келле	head
кем	flaw, problem

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кило	kilo
ким	who
китап	book
кичи	small
киши	person
концерт	concert
корпус	corps
көйнек	shirt
көк	root
көне	old, ancient
көп	a lot, many, much
көпелтмек	to duplicate
көче	street
кынчылык	difficulty
кырк	forty
кәди	pumpkin
кән	a lot, much
кәшир	carrot
лайык	fit, appropriate
-ла	emphatic particle

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Магтымгулы	Magtymguly (famous 19th century Turkmen poet)
май	May
мамла	right, correct
манат	manat (Turkmen currency)
Мара	to Mary (the city)
Мартин	Martin
Мары	Mary (city in southeastern Turkmenistan))
маслахат	council, advice
машгала	family
мекдеп	elementary-secondary school
мен	I
менинң	my
Мерген	Mergen ('sharpshooter' - male name)
Мередова	Meredova (family name)
меркез	center (of city)
меселем	for example
методика	methodology
Мехри	Mekhri ('compassion' - female name)
миве	fruit
миве согы	fruit juice

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миннетдар	greateful
минут	minute
минутлаб	for (x number of) minutes
мугаллым	teacher
мундан өң	ago
мүмкин	possible
мүнмек	to get on, mount
мүң	thousand
Мырат	Myrat ('object of desire' - male name)
мыхман	guest
мыхмансөерлик	hospitality
нахар	dish, food, meal
нире	where?
нireде	where?
нәме	what?
нәме үчин	why?
нәхили	how?
нәхош	unwell, unhealthy
нәче	how much?, how many?
нәчелик	which (number)?

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огул	son
окатмак	to teach
окув	academic, school
окувчы	pupil
ол	she, he, it, that
он бир	eleven
ончаклы	so, so much
ортасында	in the middle of
отаг	room
отлы	train
отуз	thirty
отырмак	to sit
өвренмек	to learn, to study
өвренмек	to become accustomed, used to
өз	self
өзүм	I, myself
өзүни алып барыш	behavior, conduct
өй	home, house
өй иши	homework

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өйленмек	to marry (for males)
өйтмек	to think
өң	before, previously
өрән	very, extremely
өтен	last, past
өтен агшам	last night
пагта	cotton
парахатчылык	peace
посылка	parcel
размер	size
Рахман	Rakhman (from'compassion' - male name)
реңк	color
ресторан	restaurant
ругсат	permission
ручка	pen
саг	right side
саг	health
саг бол(уң)	thank you; good bye ('be healthy')
сагат	o'clock, hour, watch

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сагатлык	hour, hour's worth
саглык	health
салам	hi, hello
сан	number, item (counting word)
сапак	lesson
сапар	time; journey
сатылмак	to be sold
сатын алмак	to buy
секиз	eight
семинар	seminar
семинар-маслахат	workshop
сен	you (singular, familiar)
сенинң	your
сиз	you (polite or plural)
сизинң	your
система	system
совук	cold
соган	onion
сок	juice
сораг	question
сорамак	to ask

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Степан Разин	Stepan Razin (famous 18th century Cossack)
студент	student (university)
сүйжи	sweet
сүннет	circumcision
сынанмак	to try
тагам	dish
тагамлы	tasty, delicious
тай	place
тайярламак	to prepare
тамдыр	(clay) oven
танышмак	to become acquainted
тарап	side; toward
тарых	history
Теке	Teke (Turkmen tribe)
телпек	hat (Traditional Turkmen wool hat)
телефон этмек	to phone
тема	subject, theme
тертибе чагырмак	to discipline
тертип	order
той	feast, celebration

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томус	summer
төлемек	to pay
Түркменистан	Turkmenistan
тәзеликде	newly
уграмак	to set off, to leave
улы	large, big
умыт	hope
умыт этмек	to hope
үзүм	grape(s)
үст	top
үч	three
үчин	for, (in order) to
үчүнжи	third
фамилия	last name
хава	yes
хайсы	which?
хакында	about
халамак	to like

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халы	carpet
халыс	totally, completely
хат	letter
хачан	when?
хем	too, also
хепде	week
хич	no, none, at all
хич ким	no one
хичле	nothing
хова	weather, air
хош	fine, well, all right, o.k.
хош галың	goodbye ('stay well')
хош гелдиңиз	welcome
хөвес	enthusiasm, interest, desire
худай	God
худай билсин	God knows
хәзир	now
чагырмак	to invite, to call
чай	tea
Чарыев	Charyyev (family name)

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чекмек	to pull, draw
чорба	a thick soup
чөрек	bread
Чәржев	Chardzhou (city)
шат	glad, happy
шейли	such, so
шол	that
штат	state
шу	this
шу гүн	today
шу гүн агшам	this evening
шу ерде	here
шу тайда	here
шәхер	city
ылгамак	to run
ынха	here
эгер	if
эдилмек	to be made
эже	mother

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эййэм	already
экен	really, *is*
эл	hand
элбетде	of course
элли	fifty
эмме	but, however
энтегем	still
эншалла	God willing
эрбет	bad
эртир	tomorrow
эссалавмалейким	how do you do?
эт	meat
этли	meat (adjective)
эшик	clothes, clothing
эшитмек	to hear
-э	emphatic particle
ювмак	to wash
ягдай	situation, condition
ягмак	to precipitate

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ягшы	good, well
язмак	to write
якымлы	pleasant, nice
ялңышмак	to mistake, to make a mistake
ялы	like
ялы-ла	it seems, evidently, as though
япмак	to close, cover
ярамак	to be pleasing
яры	half
ярым	half
яшамак	to live

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