

# THE LANGUAGE CONSTRUCTION KIT

## CORRIGENDA 1.0

*These have been corrected in edition 1.1, along with a host of typos. In addition the typography has been improved for flow and general appearance.*

*p. 11— A paragraph was added on glosses. The same material is already in the Kebreni grammar (p. 250), but it's easy to miss.*

Hyphens are used when a word can be separated into pieces: **khlyeb-** is “bread”, **-a** is the singular genitive suffix. Periods are used when the meanings can't be separated: e.g. **menya** is a 1<sup>st</sup> person singular genitive pronoun and can't be divided up.

*p. 42— “There's a strong tendency for front vowels to be unrounded, and back vowels to be unrounded”— rather, back vowels tend to be **rounded**.*

*p. 67— The first paragraph under **Ergativity** has been rewritten:*

Many languages have a different arrangement of cases. Consider these roles:

A: *subject* of TRANSITIVE sentences: **I broke the window**

B: *object* of TRANSITIVE sentences: **I broke *the window***

C: *subject* of INTRANSITIVE sentences: ***The window* broke**

English treats subjects (A and C) together as the NOMINATIVE, B as the ACCUSATIVE. But we could group B and C together instead as the ABSOLUTE case, leaving A in the ERGATIVE case.

*p. 76— The bullet point on **static/dynamic** verbs has been rewritten to reflect the fact that Arabic does not in fact distinguish these morphologically. Rather, English often does so lexically. (My conlang Cađinor has a morphological distinction.)*

- Whether the verb simply describes a state (STATIC) or reports a change in state (DYNAMIC). In English these

are often separate verbs; compare Arabic *rukūbun* which may mean static ‘ride’ or dynamic ‘mount’. In some languages these are distinguished morphologically.

*p. 115— A paragraph was added after the discussion of **grammaticalized metaphor**:*

Metaphors this basic are hard to do without or change, but trying to do so might make for an interesting conlang.

*p. 271— Under More to Read, the following plug was added:*

## **Conworlding**

A constructed world (a conworld) is more than just languages—you can work out its geology and biology, the history of its peoples, their culture and technology and belief systems. The companion volume to this book, *The Planet Construction Kit*, covers all of this.