

Basic Burmese Suffixes Cheatsheet

Copied from John Okell's BBE

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| Suffixes attached to sentences show whether the sentence is a statement or a question or a command | | | |
| 1 | [sentence]-ဝါ | [sentence]-ba/-pa | polite |
| 2 | [sentence]-လာ: | [sentence]-là | question: yes or no |
| 3 | [sentence]-လဲ | [sentence]-lèh | question: information |
| 4 | [statement]-နော် | [statement]-naw | It is so, isn't it? |
| 5 | [I'm going to ...]-နော် | [I'm going to ...]-naw | You don't mind if i do, do you? |
| 6 | [request]-နော် | [request]-naw | Please to it, if you don't mind |
| Suffixes attached to phrases carry meanings like "also", "however", and so on | | | |
| 1 | [phrase]-လဲ | [phrase]-lèh | also |
| 2 | [phrase]-တော့ | [phrase]-dáv/-táv | as for, however |
| 3 | [phrase]-ကော or ရော | [phrase]-gáv or yáv | how about? |
| 4 | [phrase]-ပဲ | [phrase]-bèh/-p'èh | just, only |
| 5 | [phrase]-ပဲ | [phrase]-bèh/-p'èh | emphatic |
| Suffixes attached to verbs indicate tense (did go, will go etc) | | | |
| 1 | [verb]-တယ် | [verb]-deh/-teh | statement (past or present) |
| 2 | [verb]-မယ် | [verb]-meh | statement (future, intention) |
| 3 | [verb]-ပြီ | [verb]-bi/-pi | statement (has now happened) |
| 4 | မ-[verb]-ဘူး | mǎ-[verb]-bù/-p'ù | statement (negative) |
| 5 | [verb]-ဝါ | [verb]-ba | request, command (positive) |
| 6 | မ-[verb]-နဲ့ | mǎ-[verb]-néh | request, command (negative) |
| Suffixes attached to verbs indicate modality (can do, may do, want to do, is doing, etc) | | | |
| 1 | [verb]-ဝါ- | [verb]-ba/-pa- | polite |
| 2 | [verb]-ချင်- | [verb]-jin-/c'in- | want to [verb] |
| 3 | [verb]-နိုင်- | [verb]-nain- | able to [verb] |
| 4 | [verb]-တတ်- | [verb]-daq/-taq- | know how to [verb], be able to [verb] |
| 5 | [verb]-ရ- | [verb]-yá- | can, may, must, have to [verb] |
| 6 | [verb]-နေ- | [verb]-ne- | be [verb]-ing |
| 7 | [verb]-ပေး- | [verb]-pè- | [verb] for someone's benefit |
| 8 | [verb]-တော့- | [verb]-dáv/-táv- | [verb] at last, finally |
| 9 | [verb]-သေး- [verb]-အုံး- | [verb]-dhè/-thè- [verb]-oùn | still [verb], [verb] more |
| 10 | မ-[verb]-တော့- | mǎ-[verb]-dáv/-táv- | not [verb] anymore, not after all |
| 11 | မ-[verb]-သေး- | mǎ-[verb]-dhè/-thè- | not [verb] yet |
| Suffixes attached to nouns signal relationships in the same way as English prepositions (went to Rangoon, go by car) | | | |
| 1 | [noun]-မှာ | [noun]-hma | in/at/on [noun] |
| 2 | [noun]-က or -ကနေ | [noun]-gá/-ká or -gá/-ká-ne | from [noun] |
| 3 | [noun] or [noun]-ကို | [noun] or [noun]-go/-ko | to [noun] |
| 4 | [noun]-နဲ့ | [noun]-néh | with/by means of [nouns] |
| 5 | [noun] or [noun]-က | [noun] or [noun]-gá/-ká | this noun is the subject of the verb |
| 6 | [noun] or [noun]-ကို | [noun] or [noun]-go/-ko | this noun is the object of the verb |
| 7 | [noun]-လို့ | [noun]-lò | suffix marking end of name / quotation; like a spoken (") |
| Suffixes attached to nouns for expansion (marking plurality, coordination, etc) | | | |
| 1 | [noun]-တို့ | [noun]-dó/-tó | [noun] and associated [noun]s |
| 2 | [noun]-တွေ | [noun]-dwe | [noun]s |
| 3 | [quantity]-လောက် | [noun]-lauq | approximately, about [quantity] |
| 4 | [noun1]-နဲ့ [noun2] | [noun1]-néh [noun2] | [noun1] and [noun2] |
| 5 | [N1] [N2] OR [N1]-ရဲ့ [N2] OR [N1]-creak [N2] | [N1] [N2] OR [N1]-yéh [N2] OR [N1]-creak [N2] | [noun1]'s [noun2] |
| Compound sentences. Another category of suffix subordinates one sentence to another | | | |
| 1 | [verb]-ဖို့ | [verb]-bó/-pó | in order to [verb], to [verb] |
| 2 | [verb]-တာ | [verb]-da/-ta | [verb]-ing (makes V into N) |
| 3 | [verb]-လို့ | [verb]-lò | [verb]-ing (makes V into N) |
| Verb paradigms : Statements and questions | | | |
| 1 | [someone] [verb]-ပါတယ်။ | [someone] [verb]-ba-deh. | [someone] does/did [verb] |
| 2 | [someone] [verb]-သလား။ | [someone] [verb]-dhǎlà? | does/did [someone] [verb]? |
| 3 | [ဘာ etc] [verb]-သလဲ။ | [ba etc] [verb]-dhǎlèh? | [who/what/which] does/did [verb]? |
| 4 | [someone] [verb]-မယ်။ | [someone] [verb]-meh. | [someone] will [verb] |
| 5 | [someone] [verb]-မလား။ | [someone] [verb]-mǎlà? | will [someone] [verb]? |
| 6 | [ဘာ etc] [verb]-မလဲ။ | [ba etc] [verb]-mǎlèh? | [who/what/which] will [verb]? |
| 7 | [someone] မ-[verb]-ပါဘူး။ | [someone] mǎ-[V]-ba-bù. | [someone] does/did not / will not [V] |
| 8 | [someone] [verb]-ရဲ့လား။ | [someone] [verb]-yéh-là? | does/did [someone] [verb]? — I find it hard to believe. |
| Verb paradigms : Requests and commands | | | |
| 1 | [verb]-ဝါ။ | [verb]-ba/-pa. | please do [verb] |
| 2 | မ-[verb]-ပါနဲ့။ | mǎ-[verb]-ba-néh. | please do not [verb] |
| Verb paradigms : Still and not yet | | | |
| 1 | [verb]-ပြီလား။ | [verb]-bi-là? | has it [verb]-ed yet? |
| 2 | မ-[verb]-သေးပါဘူး။ | mǎ-[verb]-dhè-ba-bù. | it hasn't [verb]-ed yet, isn't [verb] yet |
| 3 | [verb]-ပြီ။ | [verb]-bi. | it has [verb]-ed now |
| 4 | မ-[verb]-တော့ပါဘူး။ | mǎ-[verb]-dáv-ba-bù. | it's not going to [verb] after all |
| 5 | [verb]-တော့မယ်။ | [verb]-dáv-meh. | it is just about to [verb] (at last) |
| 6 | [verb]-နေပါသေးတယ်။ | [verb]-ne-ba-dhè-deh. | it is still [verb]-ing |
| 7 | [verb]-ပါအုံး။ | [verb]-ba-oùn. | please [verb] more, please continue [verb]-ing |
| 8 | [verb]-ပါအုံးလား။ | [verb]-ba-oùn-là. | how about [verb]-ing more, could you continue [verb]-ing? |
| Verb paradigms : Exclamations | | | |
| 1 | သိပ် [verb]-တာပဲ။ | Theiq [verb]-da-bèh! | it's really [verb]! |
| 2 | [verb]-လို့ကတာ။ | [verb]-laiq-ta! | wow! it's [verb]! |