Lesson Eleven: Grammatical roles



Saba Urooj Center for Language Engineering (UET)

Grammatical roles in English

- In English, place determines the role and gives information about subject and object.
- Ali hits aslam.

ali	hits	aslam
noun	verb	noun
subject	verb	object

Grammatical roles in Urdu

- In Urdu, this information is not conveyed by place, then how to determine what is subject and what is object?
- Ali mara aslam.

ali	mara	aslam
noun	verb	noun
Subject/ Object?	verb	Subject/ Object?

Grammatical roles in Urdu

- In Urdu, we use case markers to convey this information
- Ali ney aslam ko mara.

ali	mara	aslam
noun	verb	noun
ali <mark>ney</mark>	mara	aslam ko
subject	verb	object

Order

 The order in Urdu is not fixed because it is the case marker which tells about subject and object and not the position.

ali <mark>ney</mark>	mara	aslam <mark>ko</mark>
mara	aslam ko	ali <mark>ney</mark>
mara	ali <mark>ney</mark>	aslam ko
aslam ko	mara	ali <mark>ney</mark>

Intransitive Verb

An intransitive verb is a verb that requires a subject

	Infinitive	Without 'na'	Sing. masc. Verb	Sing. fem. Verb
jaag- <mark>na</mark>	to wake up	jag	jag- <mark>a</mark>	jag- <mark>i</mark>
chal- <mark>na</mark>	to walk	chal	chal- <mark>a</mark>	chal-i
so- <mark>na</mark>	to sleep	SO	so- <mark>ya</mark>	so-i

If a vowel is left after taking out 'na' from the infinitive add 'ya' instead of just 'a' while making masculine verb

Practice

	Singular	Plural
1st person	Main jaag <mark>a</mark>	Hum jaag <mark>ey</mark>
2nd person	Tum chalo	Aap chal <mark>ain</mark>
3rd person	Voh soy <mark>a</mark>	Voh so <mark>ey</mark>

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Intransitive Verb

	Infinitive	Without 'na'	Sing. masc. Verb	Sing. fem. Verb
uth- <mark>na</mark>	<mark>to</mark> stand up	uth	uth- <mark>a</mark>	uth-i
aa- <mark>na</mark>	to come			
ur- <mark>na</mark>	to fly			

If a vowel is left after taking out 'na' from the infinitive add 'ya' instead of just 'a' while making masculine

Practice

	Singular	Plural
1st person	Main uth <mark>a</mark>	Hum uth <mark>ey</mark>
2nd person	Tum aa <mark>o</mark>	Aap aa <mark>ain</mark>
3rd person	Voh ur <mark>a</mark>	Voh ur <mark>ey</mark>

Transitive Verbs in Urdu

- A transitive verb is a verb that requires one subject and one object.
- In this case 'ney' is used after the subject e.g.
- Aslam ney darvazah khola.
- Aslam opened the door.



Transitive Verb

	Infinitive	Without 'na'	Sing. masc. Verb	Sing. fem. Verb
khol- <mark>na</mark>	to open	khol	khol- <mark>a</mark>	khol-i
parh- <mark>na</mark>	to read	parh	parh- <mark>a</mark>	parh-i
kha- <mark>na</mark>	to eat	kha	kha- <mark>ya</mark>	kha-i
pi- <mark>na</mark>	<mark>to</mark> drink	pi	pi- <mark>ya</mark>	pi-i

If a vowel is left after taking out 'na' from the infinitive add 'ya' instead of just 'a' while making masculine verb

Describing activities (Proper nouns)

Aslam ney phatak khola. (Aslam opened the gate.)

Abdullah ney mazmoon parha. (*Abdullah read the essay.*)

Allan ney amrood khaya. (*Allan ate the guava*.)

Henri ney juice piya. (*Henri drank the juice.*)

Grammar

Vocabulary

mazmoon (m)

amrood (m)

phatak (m)

gate

essay

quava

kholna

to open

parhna

to read

khana

to eat

to drink

pina

Noun (subject) + Ney + Noun (object) + Verb Aslam ney darvazah khola. *Aslam opened the door.*

Transitive Verb

	Infinitive	Without 'na'	Sing. masc. Verb	Sing. fem. Verb
dekh- <mark>na</mark>	<mark>to</mark> see, <mark>to</mark> watch	dekh	dekh- <mark>a</mark>	dekh-i
likh- <mark>na</mark>	to write			
bata- <mark>na</mark>	to tell			
keh- <mark>na</mark>	<mark>to</mark> say			

If a vowel is left after taking out 'na' from the infinitive add 'ya' instead of just 'a' while making masculine

Practice			Vocabulary
Yahya watched		Grammar	movie (m) film
<i>the movie.</i>		Noun (subject) + Ney + Noun (object)	kahanian (f) <i>stories</i>
Ayesha wrote		+ Verb Aslam ney darvazah khola.	masla (m) <i>problem</i>
<i>the stories.</i>		Aslam opened the door.	such (m) <i>truth</i>
Jordan told			daikhna <i>to watch</i>
<i>the problem.</i>			likhna <i>to write</i>
Yasir said	1		batana <i>to tell</i>
<i>the truth.</i>	truth		kehna <i>to say</i>

Common nouns take oblique form

 The Common Nouns in Urdu change to oblique form when they are followed by 'ney'

	Singular		Plural	
Masculine Nouns ending in vowels	'a' sound changes to 'ey'		'ey' sound changes to 'oon'	
	lark-a	boy	lark- <mark>ey</mark>	boys
	lark- <mark>ey</mark> ney	boy (sub.)	lark- <mark>oon</mark> ney	boys (sub.)

Describing activities (Common Nouns)

Larkey ney phatak khola. (*The boy opened the gate.*)

Larkoon ney mazmoon parha. (*The boys read the essay.*)

Larkey ney amrood khaya. (*The boy ate the guava*.)

Larkoon ney juice piya. (*The boys drank the juice*.)

Grammar

Noun (subject) + Ney + Noun (object) + Verb Larkey ney darvazah khola. *The boy opened the door.*

Vocabulary phatak (m) gate mazmoon (m) essay amrood (m) quava kholna to open parhna to read khana to eat pina to drink



Pra	Vocabulary	
The boys watched	Grammar	movie (m) film
the movie.	Noun (subject) + Ney + Noun (object)	kahanian (f) <i>stories</i>
The boy wrote	+ Verb Larkey ney darvazah khola. <i>The boy opened the</i> <i>door.</i>	masla (m) <i>problem</i>
the stories.		such (m) <i>truth</i>
The boy told		daikhna <i>to watch</i>
the problem.		likhna <i>to write</i>
The boys said		batana <i>to tell</i>
<i>the truth.</i> truth		kehna <i>to say</i>

Common nouns take oblique form

 The Common Nouns in Urdu change to oblique form when they are followed by 'ney'

	Singular		Plural	
Masculine Nouns ending in consonants	No change		we add 'oon'	
	ustaad	teacher		houses
	ustaad ney	teacher (subj.)	ustaad- <mark>oon</mark> ney	teachers (subj.)

Describing activities (Common Nouns)

Ustaad ney phatak khola. (The teacher opened the gate.)

ustaadoon ney mazmoon parha. (The teachers read the essay.)

Ustaad ney amrood khaya. (*The teacher ate the guava*.)

Ustaadoon ney juice piya. (*The teachers drank the juice.*)



Noun (subject) + Ney + Noun (object) + Verb Ustaad ney darvazah khola. *The teacher opened the door.*





Vocabulary phatak (m) gate mazmoon (m) essay amrood (m) quava kholna to open parhna to read khana to eat pina to drink



Practice		Vocabulary
The teacher	Grammar	movie (m) <i>film</i>
watched the movie.	Noun/Pronoun (subject) + Ney +	kahanian (f) <i>stories</i>
The teachers	Noun (object) + Verb Ustaad ney darvazah khola. <i>The teacher opened</i>	ghalti (m) <i>mistake</i>
wrote the stories.		such (m) <i>truth</i>
The teacher did	the door.	daikhna <i>to watch</i>
the mistake.		likhna <i>to write</i>
The teachers said		kerna <i>to do</i>
<i>the truth.</i> truth		kehna <i>to say</i>

Common nouns take oblique form

 The Common Nouns in Urdu change to oblique form when they are followed by 'ney'

	Singular		Plural	
Feminine Nouns ending in vowels	No change		'ian' sound change	es to 'ioon'
	lark-i	girl	lark-ian	girls
	lark-i ney	girl (subj.)	lark- <mark>ioon</mark> ney	girls (subj.)

Describing activities (Common Nouns)

Larki ney phatak khola. (The girl opened the gate.)

Larkioon ney mazmoon parha. (*The girls read the essay*.)

Larki ney amrood khaya. (*The girl ate the guava*.)

Larkioon ney juice piya. (The girls drank the juice.)

Grammar

Noun (subject) + Ney + Noun (object) + Verb Larki ney darvazah khola. *The girl opened the door.*



Vocabulary phatak (m) gate mazmoon (m) essay amrood (m) quava kholna to open parhna to read khana to eat pina to drink



Practice		Vocabulary
The girl watched	Grammar	movie (m) <i>film</i>
the movie.	Ney + Noun (object)	kahanian (f) <i>stories</i>
The girls wrote	 ☐ + Verb ☐ Larki ney darvazah ☐ khola. 	raaz (m) <i>secret</i>
the stories.	The girl opened the door.	such (m) <i>truth</i>
The girl told		daikhna <i>to watch</i>
the secret.		likhna <i>to write</i>
The girls said		batana <i>to tell</i>
<i>the truth.</i> truth		kehna <i>to say</i>

Common nouns take oblique form

 The Common Nouns in Urdu change to oblique form when they are followed by 'ney'

	Singular		Plural	
Feminine Nouns ending in consonants	No change		'ain' sound chan	ge to 'oon'
	behan	sister	behan- <mark>ain</mark>	sisters
	behan ney	sister (subj.)	behan- <mark>oon</mark> ney	sisters (subj.)

Describing activities (Common Nouns)

Behan ney phatak khola. (The sister opened the gate.)

behanoon ney mazmoon parha. (*The sisters read the essay*.)

Behan ney amrood khaya. (*The sister ate the guava*.)

Behanoon ney juice piya. (The sisters drank the juice.)





Grammar

Noun (subject) + Ney + Noun (object) + Verb Behan ney darvazah khola. *The sister opened the door.*





Vocabulary phatak (m) gate mazmoon (m) essay amrood (m) quava kholna to open parhna to read khana to eat pina to drink

Pra	Vocabulary	
The sister watched	Grammar	movie (m) <i>film</i>
the movie.	Noun (subject) + Ney + Noun (object)	kahanian (f) <i>stories</i>
The sisters wrote	+ Verb Behan ney darvazah khola.	raaz (m) <i>secret</i>
the stories.	The sister opened the door.	such (m) <i>truth</i>
The sister told		daikhna <i>to watch</i>
the secret.		likhna <i>to write</i>
The sisters said		batana <i>to tell</i>
<i>the truth.</i> truth		kehna <i>to say</i>