

The Latvian Language

The Latvian language belongs to Baltic branch of Indo-European language family. The Baltic languages are divided into Eastern Baltic and Western Baltic languages. There are only two alive Baltic languages in nowadays - the Latvian and the Lithuanian language, both of them belong to Eastern Baltic languages. There are 3 dialects in the Latvian language - the Central dialect, Tamian and the High Latvian dialect and more than 500 separate languages or dialects (512). These separate dialects are influenced by standardization, social and culture historical factors and are subordinated to the process of improvement and accommodation to literary standard language. The literary standard language has been developed on the basis of the Central dialect, Zemgalian language (dialect).

The Latvian language has its written form for about 400 years. There have been two orthography traditions since the World War II: - orthography used by Latvians in Latvia; - orthography used by Latvians abroad. Besides, Latgalian orthography tradition exists in the Eastern part of Latvia.

In spite of various contacts with other languages, the inner system of Latvian survives its stability. Latvian is described by complex grammatical system and conservatism to a certain extent. As to structure, Latvian is synthetically inflected language.

The graphical pictures of Latvian letters:

Aa	Aa	Āā	Āā	Bb	Bb	Cc	Cc	Čč	Čč
Dd	Dd	Ee	Ee	Ēē	Ēē	Ff	Ff	Gg	Gg
Ģģ	Ģģ	Hh	Hh	Ii	Ii	Īī	Īī	Jj	Jj
Kk	Kk	Ķķ	Ķķ	Ll	Ll	Ļļ	Ļļ	Mm	Mm
Nn	Nn	Ņņ	Ņņ	Oo	Oo	Pp	Pp	Rr	Rr
Ss	Ss	Šš	Šš	Tt	Tt	Uu	Uu	Ūū	Ūū
		Vv	Vv	Zz	Zz	Žž	Žž		

For Latvian fonts visit:

<http://www.deksoft.com.au/>

Contents

- Latvian for foreigners by G. Pujāte., M. Sosāre.
Short general description of the Latvian language.
- Latvian, Introduction by T. Budiņa Lazdiņa.
Short general description of the Latvian language.
- The Latvian Alphabet by G. Pujāte., M. Sosāre.
The Latvian alphabet used in Latvia, examples in Latvian and English.
- The Latvian Alphabet by T. Budiņa Lazdiņa.
The Latvian alphabet used by Latvians abroad, examples in Latvian and English
- Notes on pronunciation by T. Budiņa Lazdiņa.
- A Grammar of Modern Latvian. Introduction by T.G. Fennell, H. Gelsen.
Notes on some problems and distinctions in Latvian grammar.



- Phonetics by T.G. Fennell, H. Gelsen.
Description of Latvian sounds and peculiarities of pronunciation. The correlation between sound and symbol in Latvian. Modifications of sounds: assimilation, vowel harmony, vocalisation, vowel weakening. Stress and intonations in Latvian.
- Open and closed e in Latvian. A Synchronic Approach by T.G. Fennell.
Usage of open and closed e, ē in different parts of speech and in different positions.
- Morphology of Baltic Languages. Introduction by Endzelīns.
Short information about the Latvian language history, dialects and Baltic languages, comparison of sounds pronunciations in Baltic languages and Baltic and Slavic languages.
- The Latvian language - Struggle for survival by A. Veisbergs.
Development of the Latvian language, ethnic problems and situation in Latvia and Riga during the century, Russification, the language Law, influence of the English language on Latvian.
- Processes determining. The future of the Latvian language by J.Valdmanis.
- Latvian on the Crossroads of History by J.Stradiņš.

VERBS

Verbs in Latvian are divided into three conjugations (alternative point of view is presented by A.Andronov from St.Petersburg State University). The first conjugation belong all monosyllabic infinitive verbs and their compounds. To the second conjugation belong verbs which are derived with suffixes *-ā, -ē, -o, -ī, -alē, -ajā, -elē, -uļo* and has lengthening syllable in imperfect and in present tenses. To the third conjugation belong verbs which are derived with suffixes *-ā, -ē, -ī, -inā* and has lengthening syllable in imperfect tense. Besides there are irregular verbs: *būt. iet, dot.*

There are three simple tenses: present tense, imperfect tense and future tense and three perfect tenses: present perfect, past perfect, future perfect. Latvian verbs are used into five moods: indicative, imperative, conditional, conjunctive and debitive mood. The relations between tenses and moods are shown into following table.

	Indicative	Imperative	Conditional	Conjunctive	Debitive
Simple present	+	-	+	+	+
Simple imperfect	+	-	-	-	+
Simple future	+	-	-	+	+
Present perfect	+	-	+	+	+
Past perfect	+	-	-	-	+
Future perfect	+	-	-	+	+

For verb conjugation the three base forms, i.e., infinitive form, present stem and past stem are used. The following table shows correspondence between base stem and tense/mood.

Stem	Modes and tenses, which are derived from the stem
Present stem	All modes of present tense, except conditional mood; imperative mood, debitive mood.
Past stem	Imperfect tense.
Infinitive stem	Future tense, present tense of conditional mood, present tense of conjunctive mood.

Passive is not very common in Latvian.

[Back to the grammar page](#)

FIRST CONJUGATION

To the first conjugation belong all monosyllabic infinitive verbs and their compounds. The verbs of the first conjugation are divided into 5 groups.

To the **first group** belongs verbs

- with the same infinitive, present and past stem, e.g., *augt-augu-augu*;
- with alternation between closed and opened *e*, *ē*, e.g., *bēgt-bēgu-bēgu*;
- with *ī* in infinitive stem and *in* in present and past stems, e.g., *mīt-minu-minu*;
- with *ie* in infinitive stem, *ej* in present stem and *ēj* in past stem, e.g., *liet-leju-lēju*;
- with *ī* in infinitive stem and *ij* in present and past stems, e.g., *vīst-viju-viju*;
- with consonant palatalization in the end of root, e.g., *nākt-nāku-nācu*;

To the **second group** belongs verbs with alternation of root vowels:

- *i-ē-i*, e.g., *cirpt-cērp-cirpu*;
- *i-e-i*, e.g., *krīst-kremtu-krīmtu*;
- *i-ie-i*, e.g., *likt-lieku-liku*.

To the **third group** belongs verbs

- with following alternations in infinitive and present roots: *a-o-a*, *i-ī-i*, *u-ū-u*, e.g., *rakt-roku-raku*, *krist-krītu-kritu*, *just-jūtu-jutu*.
- verb *tikt*;
- with *aun*, *ien* in present stem, e.g., *siet-sienu-sēju*.

To the **fourth group** belongs verbs

- which ends with *j* in present root, e.g., *glābt-glābju-glābu*;
- verbs with infinitive ending in *-kt* or *-gt* and *c* or *dz* in present and imperfect tenses, e.g., *braukt-braucu-braucu*;
- with consonant palatalization in the end of root: *s-š-t*, *s-ž-d*, *s-š-s*, *z-ž-z*, *l-ļ-l*, e.g., *pūst-pūšu-pūtu*, *laist-laižu-laidu*, *dzēst-dzēšu-dzēsu*, *lauzt-laužu-lauzu*, *celt-ceļū-cēlu*.
- verbs which ends with *r*, e.g., *bērt-beru-bēru*.

To the **fifth group** belongs verbs which ends with *st* in present root, e.g., *kļūt-kļūstu-kļuvu*.

The verbs of fourth group palatalise the final consonant of stem in present tense only, excepting second person singular.

Final consonant	Palatalization	Examples
s	š	dzēs - dzēš
t	š	cent - cenš
d	ž	svied - sviež
z	ž	griez - griež
l	ļ	smel - smeļ
p	pj	stiep - stiepj
b	bj	streb - strebj
m	mj	stum - stumj

Verbs which ends with *-k*, *-g* in infinitive the *-k* is palatalized to *-c* and *-g* is palatalized to *-dz* in second person

singular, e.g., *roc - rok*.

The form endings are given in following table

Verb	Tense	Singular first pers.	Singular second pers.	Singular third pers.	Plural first pers.	Plural second pers.	Plural third pers.
active	Present	-u	-	-	-am	-at	-
active	Present, 5 group, 3 group which ends with <i>p, t, d</i>	-u	-i	-	-am	-at	-
active	Imperfect	-u	-i	-a	-ām	-āt	-a
active	Future	-u	-i		-im	-it, -iet	
active	Imperative	-			-im	-iet	
reflexive	Present	-os	-ies	-as	-amies	-aties	-as
reflexive	Imperfect	-os	-ies	-ās	-āmies	-āties	-ās
reflexive	Future	-os	-ies	-ies	-imies	-ieties, -ities	-ies
reflexive	Imperative	-	-ies	-as	-imies	-ieties	-as

Examples

First group

	Present	Imperfect	Future
es	ēd-u	ēd-u	ēdīš-u
tu	ēd	ēd-i	ēdīs-i
viņš	ēd	ēd-a	ēdīs
mēs	ēd-am	ēd-ām	ēdīs-im
jūs	ēd-at	ēd-āt	ēdīs-iet, ēdīs-it
viņi	ēd	ēd-a	ēdīs

Second group

	Present	Imperfect	Future
es	velk-u	vilk-u	vilkš-u
tu	velc	vilk-i	vilks-i
viņš	velk	vilk-a	vilks
mēs	velk-am	vilk-ām	vilks-im
jūs	velk-at	vik-āt	vilks-iet, vilks-it
viņi	velk	vilk-a	vilks

Third group

	Present	Imperfect	Future
es	sien-u	sēj-u	sēs-u
tu	sien	sēj-i	sēs-i
viņš	sien	sēj-a	sēs
mēs	sien-am	sēj-ām	sēs-im
jūs	sien-at	sēj-āt	sēs-iet, sēs-it
viņi	sien	sēj-a	sēs

Fourth group

	Present	Imperfect	Future
es	kāpj-u	kāp-u	kāpš-u
tu	kāp	kāp-i	kāps-i
viņš	kāpj	kāp-a	kāps
mēs	kāpj-am	kāp-ām	kāps-im
jūs	kāpj-at	kāp-āt	kāps-iet, kāps-it
viņi	kāpj	kāp-a	kāps

Fifth group

	Present	Imperfect	Future
es	salst-u	sal-u	salš-u
tu	sals-i	sal-i	sals-i
viņš	salst	sal-a	sals
mēs	salst-am	sal-ām	sals-im
jūs	salst-at	sal-āt	sals-iet, sals-it
viņi	salst	sal-a	sals

[Back to verbs](#)

SECOND CONJUGATION

To the second conjugation belong verbs which are derived with suffixes *-ā, -ē, -o, -ī, -alē, -aļā, -elē, -uļo* and has lengthening syllable in imperfect and in present tenses.

The form endings are given in following table

Verb	Tense	Singular first pers.	Singular second pers.	Singular third pers.	Plural first pers.	Plural second pers.	Plural third pers.
active	Present	-u	-	-	-am	-at	-
active	Imperfect	-u	-i	-a	-ām	-āt	-a
active	Future	-u	-i		-im	-it, -iet	
active	Imperative	-			-im	-iet	
reflexive	Present	-os	-ies	-ās	-āmieš	-āt	-ās
reflexive	Imperfect	-os	-ies	-ās	-āmieš	-āties	-ās
reflexive	Future	-os	-ies	-ies	-imies	-ieties, -ities	-ies
reflexive	Imperative	-	-ies	-as	-imies	-ieties	-as

In present tense active verbs lose final *-j* in second person singular and third person singular, plural.

Examples

Active verbs

	Present	Imperfect	Future
es	ogoj-u	ogoj-u	ogoš-u
tu	ogo	ogoj-i	ogos-i
viņš	ogo	ogoj-a	ogos
mēs	ogoj-am	ogoj-ām	ogos-im
jūs	ogoj-at	ogoj-āt	ogos-iet, ogos-it
viņi	ogo	ogoj-a	ogos

Reflexive verbs

	Present	Imperfect	Future
es	kavēj-os	kavēj-os	kavēš-os
tu	kavēj-ies	kavēj-ies	kavēs-ies
viņš	kavēj-as	kavēj-ās	kavēs-ies
mēs	kavēj-amies	kavēj-āmieš	kavēs-imies
jūs	kavēj-aties	kavēj-āties	kavēs-ities, kavēs-ieties
viņi	kavēj-as	kavēj-ās	kavēs-ies

[Back to verbs](#)

THIRD CONJUGATION

To the third conjugation belong verbs which are derived with suffixes *-ā*, *-ē*, *-ī*, *-inā* and has lengthening syllable in imperfect tense.

These verbs are divided into three groups:

- to the first group belong verbs with suffix *-inā*;
- to the second group belong verbs with suffix *-ī*; verbs ending with *-cīt* (except *mācīt*, *mīcīt*) and *-dzīt* have *-k-* for *-c-* and *-g-* for *-dz-* throughout the present tense and imperative;
- to the third group belong verbs with suffix *-ā* or *-ē*; verbs *gulēt*, *sēdēt* has present palatalization (except in the second person singular of present and imperative and the second person plural imperative), verbs *tecēt*, *mācēt* has present depalatalization, except that *tecēt* retains the palatal *c* in the second person singular.

The form endings are given in following table. In present tense set of endings differs for first, second and third group.

Verb	Tense	Singular first pers.	Singular second pers.	Singular third pers.	Plural first pers.	Plural second pers.	Plural third pers.
active	Present, 1., 2. group	-u	-i	-	-ām	-āt	-
active	Present, 3. group	-u	-i	-	-am	-at	-
active	Imperfect	-u	-i	-a	-ām	-āt	-a
active	Future	-u	-i	-	-im	-it, -iet	-
active	Imperative, 1., 2. group	-	-i	-a	-im	-iet	-a
active	Imperative, 3. group	-	-i	-	-im	-iet	-
reflexive	Present, 1., 2. group	-os	-ies	-ās	-āmies	-āt	-ās
reflexive	Present, 3. group	-os	-ies	-as	-amies	-aties	-as
reflexive	Imperfect	-os	-ies	-ās	-āmies	-āties	-ās
reflexive	Future	-os	-ies	-ies	-imies	-ieties, -ities	-ies
reflexive	Imperative	-	-ies	-as	-imies	-ieties	-as

Examples

Present tense

	1.group, act.	1.group, refl.	2.group, act.	2.group, refl.	3.group, act.	3. group, refl.
es	māc-u	māc-os	audzin-u	pielabin-os	guļ-u	sūdz-os
tu	māc-i	māc-ies	audzin-i	pielabin-ies	gul-i	sūdz-ies
viņš	māc-a	māc-ās	audzin-a	pielabin-ās	guļ	sūdz-as
mēs	māc-ām	māc-āmies	audzin-ām	pielabin-āmies	guļ-am	sūdz-amies
jūs	māc-āt	māc-āties	audzin-āt	pielabin-āties	guļ-at	sūdz-aties
viņi	māc-a	māc-ās	audzin-a	pielabin-ās	guļ	sūdz-as

Imperfect

	1.group, act.	1.group, refl.	2.group, act.	2.group, refl.	3.group, act.	3. group, refl.
es	mācīj-u	mācīj-os	audzināj-u	pielabināj-os	sūdzēj-u	sūdzēj-os
tu	mācīj-i	mācīj-ies	audzināj-i	pielabināj-ies	sūdzēj-i	sūdzēj-ies
viņš	mācīj-a	mācīj-ās	audzināj-a	pielabin-ās	sūdzēj-a	sūdzēj-ās
mēs	mācīj-ām	mācīj-āties	audzināj-ām	pielabinājām-ies	sūdzēj-ām	sūdzēj-āties
jūs	mācīj-āt	mācīj-āties	audzināj-āt	pielabināj-āties	sūdzēj-āt	sūdzēj-āties
viņi	mācīj-a	mācīj-ās	audzināj-a	pielabināj-ās	sūdzēj-a	sūdzēj-ās

Future

	1.group, act.	1.group, refl.	2.group, act.	2.group, refl.	3.group, act.	3. group, refl.
es	mācīš-u	mācīš-os	audzināš-u	pielabināš-os	sūdzēš-u	sūdzēš-os
tu	mācīs-i	mācīs-ies	audzinās-i	pielabinās-ies	sūdzēs-i	sūdzēs-ies
viņš	mācīs	mācīs-ies	audzinās	pielabinās-ies	sūdzēs	sūdzēs-ies
mēs	mācīs-im	mācīs-imies	audzinās-im	pielabinās-imies	sūdzēs-im	sūdzēs-imies
jūs	mācīs-it, mācīsiet	mācīs-ities, mācīsieties	audzinās-it	pielabinās-ities, pielabinās-ieties	sūdzēs-it, sūdzēs-iet	sūdzēs-ities, sūdzēsieties
viņi	mācīs	mācīs-ies	audzinās	pielabinās-ies	sūdzēs	sūdzēs-ies

Back to verbs

IRREGULAR VERBS

There are three irregular verbs in Latvian : *būt*, *iet*, *dot*. This page contains full paradigm of these verbs.

Conjugation of *būt*

	Present	Past	Future
es	esm-u	bij-u	būš-u
tu	es-i	bij-i	būs-i
viņš	ir	bij-a	būs
mēs	es-am	bij-ām	būs-im
jūs	es-at	bij-āt	būs-iet, būs-it
viņi	ir	bij-a	būs

Conjugation of *iet*

	Present	Past	Future
es	ej-u	gāj-u	ieš-u
tu	ej	gāj-i	ies-i
viņš	iet	gāj-a	ies
mēs	ej-am	gāj-ām	ies-im
jūs	ej-at	gāj-āt	ies-iet, ies-it
viņi	iet	gāj-a	ies

Conjugation of *dot*

	Present	Past	Future
es	dod-u	dev-u	doš-u
tu	dod	dev-i	dos-i
viņš	dod	dev-a	dos
mēs	dod-am	dev-ām	dos-im
jūs	dod-at	dev-āt	dos-iet, dos-it
viņi	dod	dev-a	dos

[Back to verbs](#)

Present Tense

The present tense forms is generated from the present stem of verb by adding corresponding ending. Verbs of first conjugation palatalise the final consonant of stem in present tense only , excepting second person singular.

Final consonant	To be palatalized to	Examples
s	š	dzēs - dzēš
t	š	censt - cenš
d	ž	svied - sviež
z	ž	griez - griež
l	ļ	smel - smeļ
p	pj	stiep - stiepj
b	bj	streb - strebj
m	mj	stum - stumj

For verbs of first conjugation which ends with *-k*, *-g* in infinitive the *-k* is palatalized to *-c* and *-g* is palatalized to *-dz* in second person singular, e.g., *roc - rok*.

Verbs *gulēt*, *sēdēt* has palatalization, except in the second person singular), verb *tecēt* has present depalatalization, except that *tecēt* retains the palatal *c* in the second person singular.

The endings of present tense are given in following table

Verb	Conjugation, group	Singular first pers.	Singular second pers.	Singular third pers.	Plural first pers.	Plural second pers.	Plural third pers.
active		-u	-	-	-am	-at	-
active	1 conj. 5 group, 1 conj. 3 group which ends with <i>p, t, d</i> 3 conj. 3. group	-u	-i	-	-am	-at	-
active	3 conj, 1. and 2. group.	-u	-i	-a	-ām	-āt	-a
reflexive		-os	-ies	-as	-amies	-aties	-as
reflexive	3 conj. 1. and 2. group	-os	-ies	-ās	-āmies	-āties	-ās

Second conjugation active verbs lose final *-j* in second person singular and third person singular, plural.

Examples

	1 conj. active	1 conj. reflexive	2 conj. active	2 conj. reflexive	3 conj. active	3 conj. reflexive
es	ēd-u	smej-os	ogoj-u	sarunāj-os	tek-u	māc-os
tu	ēd	smej-ies	ogo	sarunāj-ies	tec-i	māc-ies
viņš	ēd	smej-as	ogo	sarunāj-as	tek	māc-ās
mēs	ēd-am	smej-amies	ogoj-am	sarunāj-amies	tek-am	māc-āmies
jūs	ēd-at	smej-aties	ogoj-at	sarunāj-aties	tek-at	māc-āties
viņi	ēd	smej-as	ogo	sarunāj-as	tek	māc-ās

[Back to verbs](#)

IMPERFECT TENSE

The imperfect tense forms is generated from the past stem of verb by adding corresponding ending. The endings of imperfect tense are given in following table.

Verb	Singular first pers.	Singular second pers.	Singular third pers.	Plural first pers.	Plural second pers.	Plural third pers.
active	-u	-i	-a	-ām	-āt	-a
reflexive	-os	-ies	-ās	-āties	-āties	-ās

Examples

	1 conj. active	1 conj. reflexive	2 conj. active	2 conj. reflexive	3 conj. active	3 conj. reflexive
es	ēd-u	smēj-os	ogoj-u	sarunāj-os	tecēj-u	mācīj-os
tu	ēd-l	smēj-ies	ogoj-i	sarunāj-ies	tecēj-i	mācīj-ies
viņš	ēd-a	smēj-ās	ogoj-a	sarunāj-ās	tecēj-a	mācīj-ās
mēs	ēd-ām	smēj-āties	ogoj-ām	sarunāj-āties	tecēj-ām	mācīj-āties
jūs	ēd-āt	smēj-āties	ogoj-āt	sarunāj-āties	tecēj-āt	mācīj-āties
viņi	ēd-a	smēj-ās	ogoj-a	sarunāj-ās	tecēj-a	mācīj-ās

[Back to verbs](#)

FUTURE TENSE

The future tense forms is generated from the infinitive stem of verb by adding suffix *š* for first person singular and *s* for other forms and by adding corresponding ending. For first conjugation verbs whose infinitive stem ends with *-s* or *-z* to the stem of imperfect the vowel *ī* is added and then *s* or *š* correspondingly. The endings of future tense are given in following table.

Verb	Singular first pers.	Singular second pers.	Singular third pers.	Plural first pers.	Plural second pers.	Plural third pers.
active	-u	-i	-	-im	-iet, -it	-
reflexive	-os	-ies	-ies	-imies	-ieties, -ities	-ies

Examples

	1 conj. active	1 conj. reflexive	2 conj. active	2 conj. reflexive	3 conj. active	3 conj. reflexive
es	ēdīš-u	smieš-os	ogoš-u	sarunāš-os	tecēš-u	mācīš-os
tu	ēdīs-i	smies-ies	ogos-i	sarunās-ies	tecēs-i	mācīs-ies
viņš	ēdīs	smies-ies	ogos	sarunās-ies	tecēs	mācījs-ies
mēs	ēdīs-im	smies-imies	ogos-im	sarunās-imies	tecēs-im	mācīs-imies
jūs	ēdīs-iet	smies-ieties	ogos-iet,	sarunās-ieties,	tecēs-iet,	mācīs-ieties,
	ēdīs-it	smies-ities	ogos-it	sarunās-ities	tecēs-it	mācīs-ities
viņi	ēdīs	smies-ies	ogos	sarunājs-ies	tecēs	mācījs-ies

Back to verbs

PERFECT TENSES

The perfect tenses in Latvian is made up of the verb *būt* in corresponding tense and past participle active.

Examples

	Present Perfect	Past Perfect	Future Perfect
es	esmu lasījis	biju lasījis	būšu lasīis
tu	esi lasījis	biji lasījis	būsi lasījis
viņš	ir lasījis	bija lasījis	būs lasījis
mēs	esam lasījuši	bijām lasījuši	būsim lasījuši
jūs	esat lasījuši	bijāt lasījuši	būsiet lasījuši
viņi	ir lasījuši	bijāt lasījuši	būs lasījuši

[Back to verbs](#)

IMPERATIVES

Imperatives mostly are generated from the present stem of verb, except 1st person plural which is similar to 1st person plural of simple future tense. The formation of imperatives is shown in following table.

	Active	Reflexive
1st sing.	-	-
2nd sing.	2nd sing. of present tense	2nd sing. of present stem
3rd sing.	<i>lai</i> + 3rd of present tense	<i>lai</i> + 3rd of present tense
1st plur.	1st plur. of future tense	1st plur. of future tense
2nd plur.	present stem + <i>-iet</i>	present stem + <i>-ieties</i>
3rd plur.	<i>lai</i> + 3rd of present tense	<i>lai</i> + 3rd of present tense

Examples

	1 conj. active	1 conj. reflexive	2 conj. active	2 conj. reflexive	3 conj. active	3 conj. reflexive
2nd sing.	ēd!	smej-ies!	ogo!	sarunāj-ies!	tec-i!	māc-ies!
3rd sing.	lai ēd!	lai smejas!	lai ogo!	lai sarunāj-as!	lai tek!	lai māc-ās!
1st plur.	ēd-am!	smej-amies!	ogoj-am!	sarunāj-amies!	tek-am!	māc-āmies!
2nd plur.	ēd-iet!	smej-ieties!	ogoj-iet!	sarunāj-ieties!	tek-iet!	māc-ieties!
3rd plur.	lai ēd!	lai smejas!	lai ogo!	lai sarunāj-as!	lai tek!	lai māc-ās!

[Back to verbs](#)

CONDITIONAL MOOD

This tense is formed by adding *-u* to infinitive for active verbs and adding *-os* to infinitive for reflexive verbs.

EXAMPLE

	Active	Reflexive
es	salt-u	mācīt-os
tu	salt-u	mācīt-os
viņš	salt-u	mācīt-os
mēs	salt-u	mācīt-os
jūs	salt-u	mācīt-os
viņi	salt-u	mācīt-os

Back to the verbs

CONJUNCTIVE MOOD

The conjunctive mood is used to imply some doubt in the mind of the speaker or writer as to the truth of a statement. The **present tense** of the conjunctive mood is identical with the indeclinable participle active in *-ot* or *-oties*. The **future tense** of the conjunctive mood is formed from the first person singular of the future indicative, substituting the ending *-ot* (*-oties*) in place of the *-u* (*-os*).

In **perfect tenses** the indicative auxiliaries *esmu*, *esi*, *ir*, etc. are replaced by corresponding *esot* and *būšu*, *būsi*, *būs* by the corresponding *būšot*. Similarly in **debitive mood** *ir* is replaced with *esot* and *būs* with *būšot*.

The **conjunctive passive** forms are simply derived from indicative passive by replacing *tieku*, *tiec*, *tie*, etc. with *tiekot* and *tiku*, *tiki*, *tika*, etc. with *tikšot*.

Examples

	Present active	Present reflexive	Future active	Future reflexive
es	vedot	mācoties	vedīšot	mācīšoties
tu	vedot	mācoties	vedīšot	mācīšoties
viņš	vedot	mācoties	vedīšot	mācīšoties
mēs	vedot	mācoties	vedīšot	mācīšoties
jūs	vedot	mācoties	vedīšot	mācīšoties
viņi	vedot	mācoties	vedīšot	mācīšoties

Perfect tenses

	Present Perfect	Future Perfect
es	esot lasījis	būšot lasīis
tu	esot lasījis	būšot lasījis
viņš	esot lasījis	būšot lasījis
mēs	esot lasījuši	būšot lasījuši
jūs	esot lasījuši	būšot lasījuši
viņi	esot lasījuši	būšot lasījuši

Conjunctive debitive

	Present	Future
man	esot jālasa	būšot jālasa
tev	esot jālasa	būšot jālasa
viņam	esot jālasa	būšot jālasa
mums	esot jālasa	būšot jālasa
jums	esot jālasa	būšot jālasa
viņiem	esot jālasa	būšot jālasa

Passive

	Present	Future
es	tiekot vests	tikšot vests
tu	tiekot vests	tikšot vests
viņš	tiekot vests	tikšot vests
mēs	tiekot vesti	tikšot vesti
jūs	tiekot vest	tikšot vesti
viņi	tiekot vesti	tikšot vesti

[Back to verbs](#)

DEBITIVE MOOD

The basic form of the debitive mood is formed from the third person of the present tense by adding prefix *jā-*. This basic form is then construed with the appropriate tense of the verb *būt* and the dative of the appropriate noun or pronoun. In present tense the *ir* is normally omitted.

Example

	Present	Imperfect	Future
man	ir jālasa	bija jālasa	būs jālasa
tev	ir jālasa	bija jālasa	būs jālasa
viņam	ir jālasa	bija jālasa	būs jālasa
mums	ir jālasa	bija jālasa	būs jālasa
jums	ir jālasa	bija jālasa	būs jālasa
viņiem	ir jālasa	bija jālasa	būs jālasa

[Back to the verbs](#)

PASSIVE VOICE

The passive constructions are quite rare in Latvian. The passive voice in Latvian is formed with the verb *tikt* and the past participle passive. In perfect tenses the perfect auxiliary (*ticis, tieku, etc.*) is normally omitted.

Example

	Present	Imperfect	Future
es	tieku vests	tiku vests	tikšu vests
tu	tiec vests	tiki vests	tiksi vests
viņš	tiek vests	tika vests	tiks vests
mēs	tiekam vesti	tikām vesti	tiksim vesti
jūs	tiekat vest	tikāt vesti	tiksiet vesti
viņi	tiek vesti	tika vesti	tiks vesti

Perfect tenses

	Present	Past	Future
es	esmu vests	biju vests	būs vests
tu	esi vests	biji vests	būs vests
viņš	ir vests	bija vests	būs vests
mēs	esam vesti	bijām vesti	būs vesti
jūs	esat vest	bijāt vesti	būs vesti
viņi	ir vesti	bija vesti	būs vesti

Debitive

	Present	Imperfect	Future
man	jātiek noķertam	bija jātiek noķertam	būs jātiek noķertam
tev	jātiek noķertam	bija jātiek noķertam	būs jātiek noķertam
viņam	jātiek noķertam	bija jātiek noķertam	būs jātiek noķertam
mums	jātiek noķertam	bija jātiek noķertiem	būs jātiek noķertiem
jums	jātiek noķertiem	bija jātiek noķertiem	būs jātiek noķertiem
viņiem	jātiek noķertiem	bija jātiek noķertiem	būs jātiek noķertiem

[Back to verbs](#)