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Form an Esperanto Club

WOULD you like to be a leader of progress in your own home and community? Would you like to broaden your general horizon, enlarge your social influence and bring yourself into constant touch with the most progressive element of the world? Do you want to feel yourself growing, day by day, into a more cosmopolitan atmosphere and securing a firmer grasp on the bigness and breadth of life? If so, take up the simple international language, Esperanto, read its literature and know its people. Organize a home study group in your own locality and teach your friends and neighbors the language. All ages and both sexes are engaged in this fascinating and uplifting, broadening work. Hundreds who have passed the traditional mark of three score years and ten, thousands of young children, with hundreds of thousands in the intermediate periods of life, belong to Esperanto clubs, correspond with friends in all parts of the world and representing all nationalities, and derive much pleasure from the language. So many persons are writing to us for information as to forming local study clubs that we publish herewith some matter on that subject. Remember, however, that it is perfectly easy to learn Esperanto from a book, at home, and do not be deterred from the study by lack of associate students. The following treatise on "How to Start an Esperanto Club and Keep It Going" is adapted from a pamphlet by W. M. Page, of Edinburgh, Scotland, issued by the British Esperanto Association. A few changes have been made to adapt the article to American conditions.

HOW TO START

THERE seems to be a curious delusion abroad that without having a more or less expert Esperantist it is impossible to start an Esperanto Group at the head of it. Esperanto is, however, so unlike other languages that it is possible for persons of the slenderest attainments in the language to commence a group with the knowledge that in a few months they will be able to read, write and speak it in a manner that will be understood by foreigners.

We are all familiar with books which purport to give materials by means of which a foreign language may be learned without a master and in a few months. Although it is possible to acquire quickly considerable preliminary knowledge of a national language by such text-books, this can only be done by dint of great effort, and a thorough mastery of a language can only be gained after many years' persistent study and conversational practice with foreigners. In the case of Esperanto, on the other hand, Esperantists may assert with confidence that it is possible—in fact, it is continually being done—to acquire merely by self-tuition such mastery of the language as will enable one to read, write, and speak it with fluency and ease.

A week before the Cambridge Congress, a solitary student from a country town called on me to ask me whether I would advise him to go to the Congress. I was the first Esperantist to whom he had spoken. In a few minutes he had accustomed his ear to the language as spoken by me. Of course, I advised him to go to Cambridge. The first day of the Congress I saw him engaged in animated conversation with a Frenchman, and before the end of that memorable week he was endeavoring to make a record of the number of nationalities represented among the foreigners to whom he had spoken. I think he had managed fifteen.

Preliminaries

Arrange to meet in one another's houses at first, if the number is small. A small number in a hired room requires superhuman enthusiasm to keep up interest.

Study of the Language

Select a leader, who will work somewhat in advance of the others, and set the work to be studied for the future meetings. Let each member write something English into Esperanto for each meeting, and pass it on to another member of the group for criticism. We learn as much by other people's mistakes as we do from our own; and often we can spot other people's mistakes sooner than our own!

Thoroughly study one of the text-books based upon Dr. Zamenhof's *Ekzerco*, which is a law unto the Esperantist. Thorough study of the exercises—learning them by heart—well repays the student in the long run. Learn the Sixteen Rules, *Plena Gramatiko de Esperanto*, by heart, and get into the habit of referring every difficulty you meet with to these two foundation treatises for solution. Commit to memory "La Espero," "La Vojo," "Prego sub la verda Standardo," and learn the

inner meaning of Esperanto. Several groups open their meetings by singing "La Espero."

The members should also study some simple Esperanto literature, with the aid of an Esperanto-English dictionary. Members should take turns at reading aloud, slowly and distinctly, some passage prepared beforehand, which should be afterwards translated by the listeners, sentence by sentence, without the aid of a dictionary. Anecdotes containing conversational phrases are particularly valuable for this exercise. The *Anekdotaro*, price 10c, is an excellent first book for such practice. The meetings should be carried on with a purpose in view—viz., that every member should acquire the *Atesto pri Lernado de la Esperanto Association of North America*. This can be taken by correspondence, in the absence of a local diplomito.

Constitution of the Group

As soon as the group shows signs of permanent vitality, a constitution should be adopted, and officers—president, secretary, treasurer, librarian, consul, and committee—elected. The two principal rules should be: "The objects of the Society shall be the practice, propagation and spread of the auxiliary international language, Esperanto"; and "The Society shall be affiliated with the Esperanto Association of North America." A subscription should be fixed sufficient to cover the ordinary expenses of the Society, and the affiliation fee.

It is well to have influential honorary office-holders. Dr. Zamenhof should, of course, be the Honorary President, and the postcard from the *Majstro* accepting office will form one of the society's most treasured possessions and an object of veneration for all its future members. The Mayor, the Chairman of the Education Committee, and other eminent persons in the locality should be asked to be honorary vice-presidents. A polite letter should be written to them. They may never have heard of Esperanto before. If they give a favourable reply you may be sure of their influence when any thing concerning Esperanto comes before any of the public bodies with which they may be connected.

Write to the local newspapers a short report, stating that your society has been founded, and naming the officers. Lose no opportunity of sending paragraphs to the newspapers about Esperanto. When one of the members obtains an *Atesto* or Diploma, send the newspaper a short notice that "Miss A. B., of our town, has obtained the Diploma of the Esperanto Association of North America."

The Minutes

The secretary should keep minutes, written in Esperanto, of all the group meetings. The minute of the previous meeting should be read at the beginning of the meeting, and its adoption should be moved and seconded by some of the younger members. It gives them an opportunity of hearing the sound of their voices in Esperanto.

The Diploma

Meantime the enthusiastic leaders of the group should prepare themselves for the examination for the diploma, *Atesto pri Kapableco*, of the E. A. of N. A. This can be done by correspondence, and in many respects the examination by correspondence is the more valuable to the student. When the diploma has been gained, the secretary of the group should write to the secretary of the education committee, school board, or technical school, saying that Mr. X. Y. has received the diploma of the Esperanto Association of North America, and that in the event of it being decided to introduce Esperanto into the evening schools, he will be ready to offer himself as instructor. Probably an unfavourable reply will be received, but the newspapers may report the decision, and Esperanto will receive an advertisement.

Meeting Place

A very good place, perhaps the best place, for the meetings of the society in its early stages is a room in a technical school, or school where regular evening instruction in foreign languages is given. School boards in all parts of the country have given rooms for teaching free of charge, or at a nominal charge for heat and light.

The Second Term

In the second term of the society, the first hour of the evening of the weekly meeting should be devoted to the instruction of beginners; and during the second hour the group meeting should take place. The latter meeting is, of course, intended for the more or less adept members of the society, but the beginners should be invited to be present; and while the group should aim at conducting all its proceedings in Esperanto, sufficient English should at first be used to make the meeting interesting to learners. It is well to prepare a syllabus

of the topics of the group meetings for two or three months ahead.

Methods of Practice

In addition to essays, there should be debates on subjects in which most of the members can take part. Debates form an excellent opportunity for extempore speaking in Esperanto. The speeches of the openers should, of course, be written. There should be frequent opportunities for members contributing translations of short pieces of literature, or short original papers on current topics. A night should be devoted to the magazines, or the latest Esperanto publications. These should be exhibited, and their contents described.

Occasionally there should be a games night. Games form an excellent opportunity for everyone speaking or writing the language. An anecdote night or a conundrum night may help to bring out the talents of the younger members, and add to the gaiety of all.

World-Citizenship

There should, however, be a distinct aim in the selection of subjects to be discussed at the group meeting. It is a mistake to make the meeting a mere literary society, conducted in Esperanto. The subjects selected should be either concerned with the language and its literature, use and development, or with the great world of which the Esperantist is a citizen. It is a good idea to suggest to each member the study of a particular corner of the world—perhaps a country in which he has a correspondent. There is nothing better fitted for broadening one's mental horizon than thoughts of people of other lands where language and customs differ from ours.

Every effort should also be made to have descriptions of foreign travel, illustrated, if possible, by lantern slides. An occasional evening may be given to the exhibition of illustrated postcards. Every member should be induced to become a correspondent of a foreign Esperantist, and the picture postcard is an excellent means of beginning the correspondence. These postcards are excellent for a young Esperantist to produce to the sceptic as evidence that Esperanto has been proved by him to have been of use for international communications.

Visitors from Abroad

If a representative foreigner visits your town, present him with an address to be conveyed by him to Esperantists in the locality from which he has come. Arrange with the secretary of the group of the place from which he comes to inform him that he may expect to receive such an address. The newspapers will chronicle the fact. It will be a new evidence of the value of Esperanto. All these things tend to convince the public that there is "something in" Esperanto, and the next time you come to advertise the commencement of an Esperanto course, you will be surprised at the large number of persons who will respond to your advertisement.

The Group Social

The session should close with a social meeting, to which newspaper reporters and persons interested should be asked. All the songs and recitations must be in Esperanto, and the president or secretary should read a report on the progress of Esperanto generally during the year. The report should be typewritten, and a copy given to the journalists present.

The Library

The society should take and keep a file of as many of the Esperanto gazettes as possible. These should be loaned out in covers. No group can consider itself completely equipped without a well-stocked library, and the librarian should have a standing order with *Amerika Esperantisto*, official journal of the E. A. of N. A., for all new publications to be sent to him. In this way every member of the group will have access to all the Esperanto literature.

During Vacation

Interest in Esperanto should not be allowed to flag during the summer vacation. Rambling parties on Saturday afternoons are excellent opportunities for practice in conversation. During a fixed afternoon or evening in the week members should meet for tea or coffee in a well-known restaurant. They should never fail to wear the green star on these occasions and to observe the rule to speak Esperanto twice as loudly as they would English. Such means never fail to evoke interest, and often attract new members to the group.

The Central Idea

These are all tried methods, and methods which have proved successful in more than one flourishing Esperanto Society. But behind them there must be the driving power of enthusiastic devotion to the central idea of Esperantism—faith in Esperanto as an effective instrument for breaking down the barriers between the peoples of the world; hope that the day may speedily come when, thanks to Esperanto, the misunderstandings between the peoples will cease; and love to our fellow-men, of whatever race, nation or tongue, without which we cannot expect to realize the dream of the *Maĵstro*, of the peoples living together as *una granda rondo familia*.

Esperanto Association of North America

Every person in North America interested in the success of Esperanto and the Fifth World's Congress to be held next summer in America, should enroll as a member of the Esperanto Association of North America, sending to the secretary 25c for membership fee, giving full name, address, and names of any Esperanto clubs of which he is a member. A membership card will be sent him. Address, Edwin C. Reed, secretary, at the offices of the Association, 3981 Langley Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

The officers of the Association are:

Executive Committee

Benedict Papot, Chairman Executive Committee and Committee on Publication, 1038 Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Ill.

Edwin C. Reed, Chairman Committee on Statistics and Examinations, 3981 Langley Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Dr. Walter H. Fox, Chairman Committee on Propaganda, 92 State St., Suite 1210, Chicago, Ill.

Secretary

Edwin C. Reed, 3981 Langley Ave., Chicago.

Treasurer

Edward C. Harvey, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, Mass.

The Association is managed by a council representing eleven divisions of United States and Canada (See Article VII of Constitution).

Council

- 1—John Fogg Twombly, 34 Green St., Brookline, Mass.
- 2—Henry D. King, 287 De Kalb Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.
- 3—A. M. Grillon, 1221 S. 57th St., Philadelphia, Pa.
- 4—Chas. W. Stewart, 1211 Kenyon St., Washington, D. C.
- 5—W. B. Sterrett, Sewickley, Pa.
- 6—Herbert M. Scott, Moundville, W. Va.
- 7—Benedict Papot, 1038 Jackson Blvd., Chicago.
- 8—Prof. George Fracker, Storm Lake, Iowa.
- 9—E. C. Reed, 3981 Langley Ave., Chicago.
- 10—Prof. James Main Dixon, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, Cal.
- 11—R. M. Sangster, 110 Bellevue Ave., Toronto, Canada.

CONSTITUTION

Article I—Name

The name of this association shall be the Esperanto Association of North America.

Article II—Objects

The objects of this association shall be the furtherance of the study and use of the International Auxiliary Language, Esperanto, according to the *Fundamento Zamenhofa*, and in particular, the formation of a close union between and among all individuals and organizations studying or using Esperanto.

Article III—Membership

Any individual studying or being interested in Esperanto and any organization, club, society, or association interested in Esperanto or devoting a part or the whole of its time to the study or use of the same shall be eligible to membership in this association.

Article IV—Officers

Section 1.—The officers of this association shall be a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and general councilors.

Section 2.—The general council shall be composed of ten or more members who shall be elected annually by the voting members of the association, according to Article VII, Sections 3 and 4, each council casting one vote for each paying member in his division. It shall have full charge of the general policy of this association, and shall exercise general supervision over its work.

Section 3.—The general council shall elect annually the president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer of this association.

Section 4.—The general council shall appoint such committees as may be necessary for the proper management of the affairs of the association.

Section 5.—The president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer shall perform all such duties as usually appertain to their respective offices.

Article V—Committees

Section 1.—There shall be three standing committees of this association, the members of which shall continue in office at the pleasure of the general council. These committees shall be appointed annually by the general council, and shall be: Committee on Propaganda, Committee on Publication, and Committee on Statistics and Examinations. Each of said committees shall consist of five members of this association, one of whom shall be designated as the chairman.

Section 2.—The Propaganda committee shall have, subject to the general council and the executive council, full charge and control of the propaganda work of the association, and the organization of local societies and groups where no state organization has been formed.

Section 3.—The committee of Publication shall have, subject to the general council and the executive committee, full charge of all the publications of this association; the control of any journal issued by, or under the auspices of this association; the preparation of suitable Esperanto literature; and the maintenance of a book office where Esperanto publications may be kept for sale; and the supply of literary material for the propaganda committee.

Section 4.—The committee on Statistics and Examinations shall have, subject to the general council and the executive committee, full charge of all records and statistics pertaining to the spread of Esperanto in the United States and elsewhere, including full records and statistics concerning the members of this association. It shall have charge of all examinations conducted by this association, and of the granting of all Certificates of Proficiency and study. (atestoj.)

Section 5.—The chairman of the three standing committees shall form the executive committee. It shall have full charge and control, subject to the general council, of all the work of this association.

Article VI—Dues and Votes

Section 1.—Individual members of this association shall pay annually in advance to the treasurer the sum of twenty-five cents, and shall be entitled to one vote.

Section 2.—Organizations, clubs, societies, or associations shall pay annually, in advance, to the treasurer of this association the sum of twenty-five cents per capita for each enrolled member of such organization. Members of such organizations may vote as individuals or as a body through their duly elected representatives.

Article VII—Elections

Section 1.—Applicants for membership in this association shall be elected by the executive committee.

Section 2.—The general council shall be elected at the annual meeting of the association. Nominations signed by at least five members may be sent to the secretary at any time within three months prior thereto and shall be published by him in the official organ of the association in the issue immediately preceding the said meeting.

Section 3.—For the purpose of electing the general council, North America shall be arranged into the following territorial divisions:

1.—The states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut shall form the New England Division, and elect one councillor.

2.—The state of New York shall form the New York division and elect one councillor.

3.—The states of Pennsylvania and New Jersey shall form the Eastern division and elect one councillor.

4.—The states of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, and the District of Columbia shall form the Capitol division and elect one councillor.

5.—The states of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana, together with Porto Rico shall form the Southern division and elect one councillor.

6.—The states of Ohio, Indiana and West Virginia shall form the Ohio Valley division and elect one councillor.

7.—The states of Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin, shall form the Central division and elect one councillor.

8.—The states of Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska and Missouri shall form the Northern division and elect one councillor.

9.—The states of Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Texas shall form the Southwestern division and elect one councillor.

10.—The states of Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, Nevada, California, Oregon and Washington, together with New Mexico, Arizona, Alaska and Pacific possessions shall form the Western division and elect one councillor.

11.—The Dominion of Canada shall form the Canadian division and elect one councillor.

Section 4.—Divisions outside of the territories herein named, may be created by vote of the general council; each of such divisions shall elect one councillor.

Section 5.—If no nominations are made, or if no councillor is elected in any division, the general council, immediately after its organization, shall elect some member of the association to fill such vacancy until the next general election. Vacancies in the general council occurring during the year shall be filled at once by the remaining members of the council.

Section 6.—Whenever one-fifth of the members of any division shall petition the general council for the exercise of the right of recall the council shall order an election held after thirty days' notice; and if a majority of the members in such division shall vote for the recall of its councillor, he shall stand thereby removed from office, and a substitute, a resident in the same division, shall be elected by the council. He shall hold office until the general election, unless recalled by the division which he represents.

Section 7.—Immediately after its election the general council shall elect the remaining officers of the association and appoint the standing committees.

Article VIII—Meetings

Section 1.—The annual meeting of this association shall be held in the month of July or August in each year, at a time and place to be designated annually by the general council.

Section 2.—The general council shall meet annually for organization immediately after its election. It shall meet thereafter as often as it shall deem advisable, or at the call of its chairman.

Section 3.—The executive committee shall meet for organization immediately after the general council shall have appointed the standing committees. It shall thereafter meet, as often as it may deem necessary for the proper transaction of its business.

Section 4.—The standing committees shall meet at the call of their respective chairmen.

Section 5.—At all meetings of this association, and of the general council, representation and voting by proxy shall be permissible. All proxies to be valid, shall be in writing, duly signed and witnessed, and bearing the date of issuance, and the name of a chosen representative or substitute.

Article IX—Quorum

Section 1.—At any meeting of this association, a quorum shall consist of twenty-five persons, entitled to vote.

Section 2.—At any meeting of the general council, a quorum shall consist of five members.

Section 3.—At any meeting of the executive committee, a quorum shall consist of two members.

Section 4.—At any meeting of a standing committee, a quorum shall consist of three members.

Article X—Affiliation

Organizations other than those devoting their time principally to the study and propaganda of Esperanto, which are interested in the aims of this association, may become affiliated societies, upon vote of the general council. Such organizations shall be entitled to the privilege of conventions, and shall have a voice, but not a vote through a duly elected fraternal delegate in the annual meeting of the council.

Article XI

This constitution shall not be amended, except by a two-thirds vote at any annual meeting of the association. Notice of any proposed amendment shall be published in the official journal, or sent to each member of the association at least thirty days prior to the annual meeting, otherwise, such amendment shall not be considered.

Article XII—By-Laws

Section 1.—Immediately after their election, the general council shall cause to be prepared suitable by-laws, not repugnant to the provisions of this constitution, for the government of this association. When such by-laws have been adopted by the general council, they shall not be amended, or altered, or added to, except by a two-thirds vote of the members of the general council.

Section 2.—The by-laws of this association as adopted by any general council, shall be binding on any subsequent general council, except as amended, in the manner prescribed in the preceding section.

By a decision of the Executive Committee of the Esperanto Association of North America, an agreement was made with Amerika Esperantisto by which a certain portion of this publication becomes the official organ of the Association. Said portion, bearing the head "Oficjala Parto," will contain all the official news of the Association. It behooves therefore every Esperantist to become a subscriber to the paper, so as to keep in touch with the Association and help the propaganda which aims to make the Esperanto Association of North America the largest in the world.—Bénédict Papot, Chairman Executive Committee.

CONSTITUTION FOR LOCAL GROUP

The following constitution, adopted by the Pioneer Esperanto Club of Manchester, New Hampshire, is a good model for a local study organization. Many details, of course, can be changed to suit the preferences of the organizers:

Article I—Name

The name of this organization shall be the Pioneer Esperanto Club of Manchester, New Hampshire.

Article II—Objects

The objects of the Pioneer Esperanto Club shall be the improvement of its members in the use of the international auxiliary language, Esperanto, the promotion of good fellowship among its members, and the cultivation, so far as practicable, of acquaintance and friendly relations with samideanoj (others of the same tongue) throughout the world.

Article III—Membership

Membership in this club shall be restricted to ten persons, who have made some progress in Esperanto, or shall have expressed a willingness to do so. Applications for membership must be recommended by two members of the club, and must receive two-thirds of the votes of the members present and voting.

Article IV—Officers

The officers of this club shall be a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, librarian and an executive committee of three, of which the president shall be a member ex-officio and chairman. Their duties shall be those of corresponding positions in similar organizations.

Article V—Dues and Assessments

The annual dues shall be 25 cents in advance, to be applied to membership in the Esperanto Association of North America. The club may assess its members at any time, for purposes specifically stated in a motion adopted by majority vote at any regular meeting, or at a special meeting called for the purpose.

Article VI—Meetings

The regular meetings of the club shall be held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 o'clock p. m., at such place as the president may designate. Special meetings may be called by the president, or by the executive committee on the written request of three members.

Article VII—Elections

Election of officers shall be held annually on the first Tuesday of September, and the officers elected in any year shall hold office until their successors have been elected and qualified.

Article VIII—Quorum

Six members shall constitute a quorum for the election of officers and the transaction of any other business that may come before the club.

Article IX—Amendments

This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting, provided each member has been notified of the proposed change.

EXAMINATIONS AND DIPLOMAS

The granting of diplomas of proficiency in Esperanto is under the general supervision of the Committee on Statistics and Examinations. The chairman of this committee is Chief Examiner, and with him are associated two others chosen by the committee, the three constituting the Central Examining Board. All examinations are passed upon by one of the Central Examiners before the granting of any diploma.

There are two grades of examinations, the preliminary for the Atesto pri Lernado, and the advanced Atesto pri kapableco.

The preliminary examination is given by Boards of Local Examiners, by whom the papers are marked and forwarded to the Central Examiners for review, whose decision is final. A good knowledge of the grammar is required. Time allowed 1½ hours; fee, \$1.25. Location of nearest examiner will be furnished upon request to the Chief Examiner.

The advanced examination is given by the Central Examiners. Questions are sent upon receipt of registration fee of twenty-five cents by the Chief Examiner. Ability to read and write Esperanto fluently, and a thorough knowledge of the grammar is required. The candidate is allowed to consult books, but is not allowed any other assistance. Time, six weeks from date of registration. Examination fee to accompany papers is \$2.00. Second trial allowed three months after notification of failure for a second examination fee of \$1.50.

All correspondence regarding examinations should be addressed to the Chief Examiner, Esperanto Association of North America, 3981 Langley ave., Chicago, Ill.

AMERIKA ESPERANTISTO

Monthly magazine, printed in English and Esperanto, with stories, news, and articles on various subjects. Illustrated. Official journal of the Esperanto Association of North America. Per copy, 10 cents; six months, 50 cents; per year \$1.00.

AMERICAN ESPERANTO BOOK

Most complete text-book of Esperanto ever published. Well printed, large type, good paper. It has 76 pages on grammar and pronunciation, with examples; 114 pages lessons and exercises; 130 pages Esperanto-English and English-Esperanto vocabularies. See price list.

- ELEMENTS OF ESPERANTO, a 16-page pamphlet, 5 cents; ten copies, 10c; 100 postpaid.....\$.50
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- Given also with six months' subscription at..... .50
- ESPERANTO-ENGLISH DICTIONARY, by Motteau .60
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- RHODES ENGLISH-ESPERANTO DICTIONARY, large and complete, cloth bound..... 2.00
- UNUA LEGOLIBRO (First Reader)..... .55
- FUNDAMENTA KRESTOMATIO, 460 pages of graded Esperanto reading and literature; paper; postpaid..... 1.10
- Half leather binding, postpaid..... 1.50

AMERICAN ESPERANTO BOOK FREE

Cut out the subscription form below, paste or pin it to a blank sheet and get five of your friends to sign their names and give you ten cents for this little paper one year. Send us the list and the fifty cents and you'll get a copy of the American Esperanto Book, paper cover. Don't forget to ask for the book, and remember that if you write the other addresses instead of having the subscribers sign their names we don't send the book. Be extremely careful that address is plainly written. Cut or copy this form:

ESPERANTO BULLETIN SUBSCRIPTION

American Esperantist Company: I have paid your agent ten cents. Please send the Esperanto Bulletin to my address for one year, beginning with first number.

SYNOPSIS OF ESPERANTO

THE ALPHABET consists of twenty-eight letters: a b c ĉ d e f g ĝ h ĥ i j k l m n o p r r s ŝ t u ŭ v z. The sounds are as follows: a is like a in father. c is like ts in hats. ĉ is like ch in church. e is like a in fate, but not so long. g is like g in get. ĝ is like g in gem. ĥ is like ch in lock. i is like ee in see. j is like y in yet, boy. ĵ is like z in seizure. o is like o in roll. s is like s in so. ŝ is like sh in show.

u is like oo in soon. ŭ is like w in how. z is like z in zone, seize. r is slightly rolled or trilled. The remaining letters are pronounced exactly as in English: b d f h k l m n p t v.

PRONUNCIATION
Every word is pronounced exactly as spelled, and no letter is ever silent.

The Accent, stress or emphasis is placed on the syllable next to the last: BA-lo; ne-HE-la; di-li-GEN-ta.

Every vowel (a, e, i, o, u) adds a syllable: zo-o-lo-gi-o; tre-eg-e.

GRAMMATICAL SIGNS

- O the sign of the noun . . . amo=love
- A sign of the adjective . . . ama=affectionate
- E adverb . . . ame=affectionately
- I verb infinitive . . . skribi=to write
- AS verb present indicative . . . skribas=writes
- IS verb past . . . skribis=wrote
- OS verb future . . . skribos=will write
- U verb imperative . . . skribu=write
- US verb conditional . . . skribus=might write
- ANT participle, present act. . . skribanta=writing
- INT participle past active . . . skribinta=having written
- ONT participle future active . . . skribonta=about to write
- AT participle present passive . . . skribata=being written
- IT participle past passive . . . skribita=been written
- OT participle future passive . . . skribota=about to be written
- J, final, indicates plural in nouns and adjectives
- N, objective case

PREFIXES

ESPERANTO is equipped with a system of prefixes and suffixes, giving a wide range of expression to a very small vocabulary. Taking a root for the central thought, these are used to express the variations of the central idea. In Exercise 42, AMERICAN ESPERANTO BOOK, there are shown 53 words thus formed from one root. The only limit to such combinations is clearness.

- BO relationship by marriage; bopatro=father-in-law
- ĈEF chief or principal; ĉefkuiristo=head cook
- DE means from; depreni=to take from
- DIS dismemberment or separation; disŝiri=to tear apart
- EK to begin suddenly; ekkri=to cry out
- EKS same as English ex; eksprezidanto=ex-president
- EL out; ellabori=to work out; elpensu=to think out
- FOR away; foriri=to go away
- GE both sexes; gepatroj=parents
- MAL the direct opposite; bona=good; malbona=bad
- NE not, neutral; nebela=not beautiful, plain
- RE to repeat or reverse; reiri=to go back; rediri=repeat
- SEN without, -less; senhara=bald

SUFFIXES

- AD continued action; kanto=a song; kantado=singing
- Aĵ the concrete; bela=beautiful; belaĵo=a beautiful thing
- AR collection or group; vortaro=a dictionary
- ĈJ diminutive for masculine names; Vilĉjo=Willie
- AN inhabitant, partisan; kristano=a Christian
- EBL possibility; vidi=to see; videbla=visible
- EC abstract quality; bela=beautiful; beleco=beauty
- EG increased degree or size; grandega=immense
- EJ place of action; lerni=to learn; lernejo=school
- EM tendency, inclination; laborema=industrious
- ER a unit of a collection; mono=money; monero=a coin
- ESTR a leader or head; urbo=city; urbestro=mayor
- ET diminution of size or degree; vireto=a tiny man
- ID offspring; kato=a cat, katido=a kitten
- IG to cause to become; riĉa=rich; riĉigi=to enrich
- Iĝ to become; riĉigi=to "get rich"
- IL tool, means, instrument; kudri=sew; kudrilo=a needle
- IN the feminine; frato=brother; fratino=sister
- IND denotes worthiness; kredinda=worthy of belief
- ING holder for single article; cigaringo=cigar-holder
- IST a person occupied with; kantisto=a singer
- NJ diminutive for feminine names; panjo=mamma
- UJ that which contains; kremujo=a cream pitcher
- UL one having the quality of; grandulo=a large person