

10. Pronouns -II: Interrogatives

1. Interrogative Pronouns and Question Words

Examples of *interrogative* pronouns are:

... Telugu.....	...Pronunciation in RTS.....	..Example...
E ?	e-va-ru	Who? (neutral about gender and rank)
E ?	e-va-Du	Who is that man? (masculine, familiar)
E ?	e-va-Du-rA	Who is that man? (masculine, commanding /sneering)
E ఁ?	e-va-rte	Who is that woman? (feminine, sneering)
E ?	e-va-ra-ta-nu	Who is that man? (masculine, familiar)
E ?	e-va-rA-ya-na	Who is that man? (masculine, respectful)
E ?	e-va-rA-me	Who is that woman? (feminine, neutral)
E ?	e-va-rA-vi-Da	Who is that woman? (feminine, respectful)
E ?	e-va-ru-vA-ru	Who is that? (neutral about gender and rank)
E ఙ ?	e-va-ra-kka-Da	Who is there? (neutral about gender and rank)
E ?	e-va-ri	Whose? (singular or plural object)
E ?	e-va-ri-di	Whose? (singular object)
E ?	e-va-ri-vi	Whose? (plural object)
?	E-mi-Ti	What?
?	E-di	Which? (singular object)
?	E-vi	Which? (plural object)
E ధ?	eM-du-ku	Why?
E ?	e-ppu-Du	When?
E ఙ ?	e-kka-Da	Where?
E ?	e-lA	How?

Examples.

...Telugu.....	...Pronunciation in RTS.....	..Example...
l » E ?	I i-llu e-va-ri-di?	Whose house is this?
E l » l ?	e-va-ri i-llu i-di?	Whose house is this?
l » E ?	I i-llu e-va-ri-daM-DI?	Whose house is this, (sir/madam)? (gender neutral)
ఁ	? A pu-sta-kaM pE-ru E-mi-Ti?	What is the name of that book?
?	mI pE-ru E-mi-Ti?	What is your name? (respectful, gender neutral)
?	mI pE-ru E-mi-TaM-DI?	Who is that man? (respectful, gender neutral)
ఁ E ?	I pu-sta-ka-lu e-va-ri-vi?	Whose books are these?

E ఎ | ? e-va-ri-vi pu-sta-kA-lu i-vi? Whose books are these?

Some of the above interrogative pronouns can be converted into exclamatory expressions by suffixing them with an exclamatory (O) as shown below.

...Telugu.....	...Pronunciation in RTS.....	..Example...
E ?	E !	Wonder who!
E ప?	E !	Wonder why!
E ?	E !	Wonder, when!
?	!	Wonder, what?

Use of these expressions is illustrated below.

...Telugu.....	...Pronunciation in RTS.....	..Example...
E ఎ ?	e-va-ru va-ccE-ru?	Who came?
E ఎ	e-va-rO va-ccE-ru	Somebody (who I do not know or I do not care to tell) came
E ప ఎ ?	eM-du-ku va-ccE-ru	Why they came? = Why did they come?
E ఎ !	eM-du-kO va-ccE-ru	They came for some (undefined or unknown) purpose
E ఎ ?	e-ppu-Du va-ccE-vu	When came = When did you come?
E ఎ ?	e-ppu-DO va-ccE-nu	(1) I came long time ago (2) Why do you care when I came!

2. Indefinite Pronouns

A pronoun that does not fall in one of the above categories is an indefinite pronoun. Most indefinite pronouns express the idea of quantity: *all, few, none*. The most commonly used indefinite pronouns are:

...Telugu.....	...Pronunciation in RTS.....	..Example...
A °	a-nni	that many
A °	a-nnI	all
°	i-nni	this many
°	ko-nni	some (objects or animals)
°	ko-nnE	When came = only few (objects or animals)
	koM-da-ru	some people
ì	pra-ti	each
ì 0	pra-ti o-ka	each and every
ì 0	pra-ti o-ka-ru	each and everyone (reference to a person)
0	ma-ri o-ka	another

0	E-dO o-ka	some thing
E 0	e-va-rO o-ka-ru	some person
s p	cA-lA ma-TTu-ku	most of the extent
p	cA-lA va-ra-ku	most of the way
	cA-lA maM-di	many people
⊗	i-dda-ru	two people
⊗	i-dda-rU	both people
	reM-DU	both things

Examples of Usage

° ū» ㄣ = Some cars are new.

° ū» ㄣ = Only some cars are new.

° ㄣū» = Only a few are new cars.

ū» ㄣ = Both the cars are new.

| ⊗ = Both are men.

p A = The work is almost done.

☛ = Many people came.

Exercises

1. There is exactly one error in each of the following sentences. Locate it and correct it.

(a) ū **p** , vA-Di-ki reM-Du ko-Du-ku-lu

(b) ŷ ☛ ° , A-me kU-rcu-nnA-Du

(c) ū ° , kA-phI ti-nnA-nu

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