

201



SWEDISH VERBS

fully conjugated in all the tenses

By Richard P. Auletta

Edited by Leif Sjöberg

General rules for the Swedish verb

Swedish verb classes

*Swedish verbs fully conjugated in all the tenses
alphabetically arranged*

Reference index of Swedish verbs with English translations

*Survey of changes taking place with regard to the verb in
current spoken Swedish*

Traditional and archaic verb forms

A short cut to Swedish strong verbs

Bibliography

Barron's Educational Series, Inc.

201 SWEDISH VERBS

FULLY CONJUGATED

IN ALL THE TENSES

Alphabetically arranged

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FOREWORD

ALTHOUGH FOREIGN LANGUAGE enrollments have declined somewhat in recent years, enrollments in less widely studied languages, including Swedish, have increased. This is due in large part to the increase in self-instructional, or independent-study, courses. Professor Auletta has been the Director of the Program in Critical Languages (which has offered fourteen languages) at C. W. Post College since 1968. He is on the Executive Board of the National Association of Self-Instructional Language Programs (NASILP), which has its headquarters at the State University of New York at Buffalo, and he is the Editor of that organization's journal, *The NASILP Bulletin*.

The verb, it may be said, is the core of language, in the sense that we tend to build complex linguistic structures around the verb. Indeed, Latin *verbum* means 'word', a further indication of the central importance of the part of speech which we call the 'verb'. We speak of one's "verbal ability" and refer to one's *linguistic* ability in general; one who is "verbose" is "wordy".

In a real sense, the verb is central to Swedish structure as well. Much of the vocabulary of Swedish is derived from verb roots. Swedish strong verbs are of particular interest, as many lexical items are derived from these verbs. In this respect, Swedish is quite similar to the other Germanic languages. The focus of this present volume falls principally on strong and irregular verbs and should prove valuable to beginning and advanced students of Swedish alike.

LEIF SJÖBERG

that the verb has but one form in each tense which is used with the first person, the second person, and the third person, singular as well as plural. This is a stage of levelling which has progressed beyond that evident in English which still has vestiges of a former set of person-number verb endings (note the third person singular *he walks*, as opposed to *I/you/we/they walk*). However, even in English, this vestigial ending is not totally consistent: *I must*; *he must*. In the past tense, the distinction is not made between the third person singular and other persons: *I walked*; *he walked*; *we walked*; *they walked*; *I spoke*; *he spoke*; *we spoke*; *they spoke*; etc. In studying Swedish, the beginning student can totally disregard person-number endings.

2. The subjunctive mood has all but disappeared from current Swedish. It has been replaced by the indicative mood or by periphrastic phrases which enable the speaker to avoid the subjunctive forms and endings completely. Again, this is also true in English, although in English (as in Swedish) there are certain set expressions where the subjunctive is retained.

3. Pronoun usage (especially in reference to the second person, “you”) is in a state of flux in current spoken Swedish. The former formal and plural form *I* is now totally archaic and no longer possible in spoken Swedish. The familiar form *du* is gaining currency, especially among younger age groups, but it is not generally acceptable for use between strangers or on a formal basis among older age groups, nor is *du* permissible in traditional or conservative settings. There is a growing tendency to “put aside titles” (*lägga bort titlarna* or *slänga titlarna*) which means, in effect, that two or more people agree to call each other by their first (Christian) names. This, in turn, opens the door for the mutual use of *du*. The formal substitute *ni* has not gained widespread currency in Sweden (although it is the standard form taught to foreigners learning Swedish there) and many Swedes avoid it by using a noun phrase referring to the person or persons being addressed, thus avoiding the equivalent of the word “you” altogether.

In addition to these major changes, certain pronunciations of verbal forms and endings are in a state of transition. Besides a change from [skal] (*skall*) to [ska] (*ska*) in the spoken language, the third person plural subject pronoun *de* 'they' is now usually pronounced [dɔm] (as though it were written *dom*); less frequently (and dialectally) it is pronounced [di] and only rarely as [de].

Accepting the premise that language constantly changes and the fact that the rate of the change is impossible to calculate, one may nevertheless rely on a common denominator in the study of linguistic evolution. This is that changes usually occur first in informal speech (often slang), gain respectability as their usage becomes more widespread and eventually become universally accepted, standard forms. Thus language, never static, progresses from one stage to another.

This volume, designed with the rapid linguistic evolution of the Swedish verbal system in mind, presents all possible variations of the verbs in a clear and concise manner which should prove useful to the beginning student who simply desires to learn the current colloquial usage, as well as to the more advanced student interested in mastering verb forms found in classical Swedish literature and those forms now restricted to legal, biblical, and very formal and traditional language. Beginning students can disregard the variations presented in parentheses and square brackets. The forms in parentheses are generally viable alternatives, but somewhat less common than the forms which precede them. Those forms in square brackets are either archaic, poetical, extremely formal, or very conservative. It is hoped that this method of presentation will provide special insight into the linguistic changes taking place in regard to the Swedish verb system and at the same time serve as a convenient reference source.

R. A.

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Guide to the use of this book

NOTE: Square brackets indicate older, archaic, obsolete, or less common forms; for example:

vi har [ha] [hava] bakat

indicates that the current form is *vi har bakat* and that the forms *vi ha bakat* and *vi hava bakat* are becoming more and more archaic, although they may be found in very formal style and in older literature.

Parentheses indicate alternate but less frequent forms; for example:

jag ska(ll) baka

indicates that the current form (especially in the spoken language, and especially among those born since World War II) is *jag ska baka*. This form will often be encountered in informal and colloquial written Swedish as well, such as in informal correspondence and in popular magazines. The former pronunciation [skal] is restricted to older speakers and very formal style; there are many people who pronounce [ska] and write *skall*; they are, in general, middle-aged people. In serious literature and in all formal writing, the preferred form is still very possibly *jag skall baka*, but the direction of change is clearly evident and it is just a matter of time before the longer form, *skall*, disappears from Swedish entirely. At present, students of Swedish can feel comfortable using either form in writing, but should use the pronunciation [ska]. In other cases where alternate forms are indicated in parentheses, the student should be familiar with both forms as far as passive recognition is concerned; he should actively learn the first form and use that in writing and speaking.

Square brackets and parentheses have been combined in certain cases to indicate a number of alternate forms. For example:

vi kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola] ha [hava] bakat indicates that the current spoken form is *vi kommer att ha bakat*. [The most formal older form would be *vi skola hava bakat*.] As can be seen, a number of intermediate forms might be encountered, such as:

vi kommer att hava bakat
vi ska ha bakat
vi skall ha bakat
vi skola ha bakat
vi skall hava bakat

While all of these are theoretically possible, some are rather unlikely. For example, **vi ska hava bakat* is unlikely, since *ska* is rather modern and *hava* rather old-fashioned; similarly **vi kommer att hava bakat* is another unlikely hybrid. The reader can easily perceive the state of flux in which the Swedish verb system presently finds itself, and therefore can perhaps excuse the author of this book for what at first glance might seem to be very cumbersome constructions: *vi kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] bakat* is, while a bit staggering at first glance, a very handy way of telescoping all of the possible variations in as short a manner as possible. Using this volume, the reader can assume that the simplest forms—those neither in parentheses nor in square brackets—are the current, colloquial spoken forms, and these forms appear to be gaining acceptance universally as standard Swedish. Conversely, the forms in square brackets are the most formal or least common forms, usually reserved for formal writing or encountered in older and very formal literature.

VOWEL QUALITY. The quality (long or short) of each vowel is not given. In general, however, a vowel preceding a single consonant is long in Swedish, and a vowel preceding a double consonant is short. This same rule applies in English, but it is far more consistent in Swedish than in English.

Thus, the verb *sprida* will have a long stem vowel *i*; the past tense *spredde* will have a short stem vowel *i* (note that the alternate past tense form *spred* has a long stem vowel *e*); the supine and past participle forms *spritt* and *spredd* have short vowels.

THE SWEDISH ALPHABET

ALL LISTS in this book have been alphabetized according to the SWEDISH alphabet, which has 29 letters. The first 26 are the 26 letters of the English alphabet, and the last three are å, ä and ö. The Swedish alphabet in full, capital and lower case, is as follows: A a, B b, C c, D d, E e, F f, G g, H h, I i, J j, K k, L l, M m, N n, O o, P p, Q q, R r, S s, T t, U u, V v, W w, X x, Y y, Z z, Å å, Ä ä, Ö ö. The consonants Q and W occur only in foreign words and in personal and place names. In Swedish dictionaries, and in telephone books, V and W are listed together without distinction; some dictionaries even respell words beginning with *w-* as words beginning with *v-*: *Wilhelm* appears as *Vilhelm*, etc. As a side note, some names beginning with the letter *c* are alphabetized under *k* in Swedish telephone directories; in dictionaries the two letters are kept distinct, and occur in the same positions as in the English alphabet. The letter *c* as an initial letter in Swedish is limited by and large to words of foreign origin, typically words of French, English or Italian origin.

I Some changes taking place in modern Swedish affecting the verb system

SUBJECT PRONOUNS

Survey

The first person singular subject pronoun is *jag* 'I'. It can be pronounced [jag] but is often pronounced [ja] in colloquial and informal speech. It is always written *jag*.

The second person singular subject pronoun is *du* [du] 'you'.

Du was formerly restricted to use among members of a family, in addressing God, between intimate friends, with young children in general, and with animals; this restriction concerning the second person singular pronoun is still in force in such languages as German, French and Spanish. But the usage of *du* in Swedish is widening, as Swedish moves in the direction of informality and less formal forms. Older speakers of Swedish may be surprised to hear shopkeepers and other strangers address them in the *du* form; yet precisely this has begun to happen in modern Swedish, especially among the younger generation. Foreigners learning Swedish should use *ni* 'you' when addressing strangers or casual acquaintances.

The third person singular has four possible subject pronouns: *han* [han] 'he', *hon* [hun] 'she', *den* [dɛn] 'it' (non-neuter, or "common gender") and *det* [dɛt] 'it' (neuter). The pronoun *det* is frequently pronounced [dɛ], as though it were spelled without a *t*. Often, especially among older speakers of Swedish, the third person singular construction is used to refer to "you" (singular, formal) by means of noun phrases. For example: *Vill herr Lundgren tala med mig?* is used to mean 'Do you want to speak with me, (Mr. Lundgren)?'; *Ska Fru Moberg läsa på svenska?* 'Will you read in Swedish, (Mrs. Moberg)?'; or *jag såg doktorn igår*, 'I saw you yesterday, (doctor).' [The preceding three examples could, under other circumstances, be translated as follows: 'Does Mr. Lundgren want to speak with me?'; 'Will Mrs. Moberg read in Swedish?'; and 'I saw the doctor yesterday.' This would be a normal third person construction, used in speaking to a person other than the person named in the sentence.]

The first person plural subject pronoun is *vi* [vi] 'we'.

The second person plural (and singular, formal) subject pronoun *I* is archaic. It is found in highly formal or poetic style, and in biblical language. It can no longer be employed in spoken Swedish. In its place, a new pronoun *ni* [ni] has emerged. Its origin is quite interesting. The verb ending corresponding to the now

archaic pronoun *I* was *-en*: *I älsken*, *I älskaden*, *I skolen älska*, *I skullen älska*, *I haven älskat*, *I haden älskat*, *I skolen hava älskat*, *I skullen hava älskat*. In a question, the subject and verb are inverted, yielding such phrases in the case of the pronoun *I* as *älsken I*, *haven I älskat*, etc. In time, these forms came to be felt as **älske ni* and **have ni älskat* (* denotes a hypothetical stage), especially since at the same time the special plural endings were falling into disuse. Thus the now archaic *haven I?* has undergone a succession of changes (perhaps via **have ni?* to **hava ni?*, conforming with the first and third person plural ending *-a*, to **ha ni?* and finally to *har ni?*, conforming with the singular ending. The pronoun *ni* can and should be used by students of Swedish both for the plural of 'you' and also for the singular 'you' when addressing a stranger or an acquaintance. [Between close friends, and more and more within the same age group (among students or fellow workers, for example,) one can safely use *du* in the singular.]

It is interesting to note that many Swedish speakers tend to avoid the use of *ni* as far as possible. For these speakers, in certain circumstances there is no second person plural subject pronoun which may be comfortably used, and their chosen alternative is to use a noun phrase as a circumlocution. The linguistic pressure is a reflection of the desire to conform to the mores of one's social peers. Examples of the resulting circumlocutions are provided under the third person singular and the third person plural.

The third person plural subject pronoun is *de*. *De* is usually pronounced [dɔm], as though it were written **dom* (which actually does occur in very informal style such as in comic strips); in some areas (especially in Southern Sweden), *de* is pronounced [di] (in the many dialects where the pronunciation [di] is used, [dɔm] is considered a curious feature of Stockholm Swedish); in a small number of dialects, *de* is pronounced as [dɛm] and even [de] (rarely), but these pronunciations will not conform with Stockholm — and therefore standard* — Swedish.

* Standard Swedish is generally considered to be the Swedish spoken by educated speakers in the general area between Stockholm and Söderhamn.

Again, it must be noted that speakers wishing to avoid *ni* in situations referring to “you” in the plural will use a noun phrase and the third person plural instead; e.g. *Skulle Fru Wedström och Fru Lundberg vilja ha en kopp kaffe med oss?* ‘Would *you* (i.e., Mrs. Wedström and Mrs. Lundberg) like to have a cup of coffee with us?’ This practice is sometimes applied to the point where the language becomes rather unnatural; for example: *Har professorskan Ström och doktorinnan Bergroth varit i Göteborg?* ‘Have *you* been in Göteborg, (Mrs. Ström [whose husband is a professor—or who is herself a professor]** and Mrs. Bergroth [whose husband is a doctor—or who is herself a doctor])?’ Of course the verb ending no longer defines any grammatical person, nor does it distinguish between singular and plural for that matter, but the use of *professorskan Ström och doktorinnan Bergroth* clearly marks this as a third person plural construction.

Verb endings corresponding to the archaic second person plural subject pronoun *I* ‘you’

The beginning student will not encounter the pronoun *I* in the course of his study, but for those wishing to become familiar with the endings used in conjunction with *I*, a sample set of endings is provided below. The formal plural and now archaic pronoun *I* ‘you’ is restricted to biblical usage and earlier literature. It is no longer found even in the most conservative and traditional current writings. The endings, by class, are as follows:

Class I: *I baken*, *I bakaden*, *I skolen* baka, *I skullen* baka, *I haven* bakat, *I haden* bakat, *I skolen* hava bakat, *I skullen* hava bakat.

Class II: *I ställen/köpen*, *I ställden/köpten*, *I skolen* ställa/köpa, *I skullen* ställa/köpa, *I haven* ställt/köpt, *I haden* ställt/köpt, *I skolen* hava ställt/köpt, *I skullen* hava ställt/köpt.

** More recently, in standard Swedish, *professorska* has come to refer only to the professor’s wife, and *professor* is now used in reference to both male and female professors; similarly, *doktorinna* means the ‘doctor’s wife’ in standard Swedish.

Class III: I bon/syn, I bodden/sydden, I skolen bo/sy, I skullen bo/sy, I haven bott/sytt, I haden bott/sytt, I skolen hava bott/sytt, I skullen hava bott/sytt.

Class IV: I skriven/ären, I skreven/voren, I skolen skriva/vara, I skullen skriva/vara, I haven skrivit/varit, I haden skrivit/varit, I skolen hava skrivit/varit, I skullen hava skrivit/varit.

The passive forms, while so highly elevated in style as to be almost theoretical, are as follows: I älskens, I älskadens; I ställens/täckens, I ställdens/täcktens; I trons, I troddens; I gripens, I grepens; etc.

PLURAL VERB FORMS AND ENDINGS

The special plural verb endings are no longer used in spoken Swedish, and, except for highly formal or biblical writings, rarely in written Swedish either. For those wishing to have a summary of these plural endings, however, the following guide is provided. The plural endings used in conjunction with the now archaic pronoun *I* will be found under that heading. The plural forms cited here correspond to the subject pronouns *vi*, *ni* and *de*.

PRESENT TENSE. The formal literary plural ending is the same as the infinitive: *vi baka*, *vi ställa*, *vi köpa*, *vi tro*, *vi skriva*. Exception: *vara*: *vi äro*.

PAST TENSE. Only the Class IV verbs have special plural forms. The strong verbs have the past plural ending *-o*. The past tense plural stem is sometimes the same as the past tense singular stem (*jag skrev*, *vi skrevo*) and sometimes the same as the supine stem (*jag fann*, *vi funno*); sometimes it is simply irregular: *jag gav*, *vi gävo*; *jag var*, *vi voro*; *jag gick*, *vi gingo*; *jag fick*, *vi fingo*. See **STRONG VERB CLASSES**. The past plural forms are of importance to those who wish to learn the subjunctive forms (q.v.) since the *subjunctive* is derived from the *past plural* stem! Most

students will find it more convenient to learn the relatively few subjunctive forms in common use simply as vocabulary items; see **SUBJUNCTIVE**.

FUTURE TENSE. Since the future is formed with *skola*, which is both the infinitive and the present plural form, the future plural forms are: *vi skola baka/ställa/köpa/tro/skriva/vara*, *ni skola baka/ställa/köpa/tro/skriva/vara*, *de skola baka/ställa/köpa/tro/skriva/vara*, etc.

CONDITIONAL. There is no special plural form for the conditional; it is the same as the singular: *skulle jag baka* (om *jag skulle baka*), *skulle vi baka* (om *vi skulle baka*), etc.

PRESENT PERFECT TENSE. The present perfect tense is formed with the present tense of *ha[va]* as an auxiliary verb plus the supine. The plural of *ha[va]* is identical with the infinitive. Thus: *vi ha [hava] bakat/ställt/köpt/trott/skrivit/varit*; etc.

PAST PERFECT TENSE. There are no special plural forms in the past perfect tense.

FUTURE PERFECT TENSE. *Skola* is used in the plural as an auxiliary verb in place of *ska(ll)*. Thus: *vi skola ha[va] bakat/ställt/köpt/trott/skrivit/varit*; etc.

CONDITIONAL PERFECT. There is no special plural form for the conditional perfect; it is the same as the singular: *skulle jag ha bakat* (om *jag skulle ha bakat*), *skulle vi ha bakat* (om *vi skulle ha bakat*), etc.

THE SUBJUNCTIVE Survey

The subjunctive mood as well as the special subjunctive endings have almost disappeared from modern Swedish. (See NOTE at the end of this section.) For this reason, it was decided not to include the subjunctive forms in the section entitled "201 SWEDISH VERBS fully conjugated in all tenses." It is not necessary to learn

the subjunctive forms, with few exceptions, and these exceptions can be learned as vocabulary items. For example, the subjunctive of *vara* is *vore*, and is still in common usage. English, like Swedish, has also all but discarded the subjunctive and, like Swedish, retains it only in a few set phrases. The vestigial uses of the subjunctive in Swedish and English are very nearly identical, so this poses no problem for the English-speaking student of Swedish.

The subjunctive will be found in older literature, and in very formal Swedish such as biblical and legal writings. For those who wish to learn the former subjunctive forms and uses, a brief but comprehensive guide is provided here.

The subjunctive is marked by the ending *-e*. The present tense of the subjunctive is formed by changing the infinitive ending *-a* to *-e* (Classes I, II and IV). Class III verbs, however, have the same form in the present subjunctive as in the infinitive; should the speaker wish to phrase his sentence clearly in the subjunctive, he would have to resort to periphrastic phrases such as *jag må* (or *måtte*) *tro*, etc.

The following table gives examples of the PRESENT SUBJUNCTIVE:

Class I:	<u>tale</u> , <u>älske</u> , <u>önske</u>
Class IIa:	<u>glömm<i>e</i></u> , <u>ställ<i>e</i></u> , <u>vände*</u>
Class IIb:	<u>köpe</u> , <u>läste*</u> , <u>tycke</u>
Class III:	<u>bo</u> , <u>sy</u> , <u>tro</u>
Class IV:	<u>bryte</u> , <u>finne</u> , <u>skrive</u> ; <u>have</u> , <u>blive</u> , <u>vare</u>

The PAST SUBJUNCTIVE of Class I, Class II and Class III verbs is identical with the past indicative, and it is the same for both singular and plural:

Class I:	<u>bakade</u> , <u>kallade</u> , <u>talade</u>
Class IIa:	<u>glömde</u> , <u>ställde</u> , <u>vände*</u>
Class IIb:	<u>köpte</u> , <u>läste*</u> , <u>tyckte</u>
Class III:	<u>bodde</u> , <u>sydde</u> , <u>trodde</u>

NOTE: The forms of the present subjunctive are the same for the singular and the plural.

* N.B.: In these cases, present and past subjunctive forms are identical!

The past subjunctive of strong Class IV verbs is derived from the special past indicative plural forms. [See STRONG VERB TYPES; see also PLURAL VERB FORMS AND ENDINGS.] The past subjunctive is formed by changing the *-o* of the PAST PLURAL indicative form to *-e*. [NOTE: Therefore, it would be necessary to first learn the special past plural forms before one could learn the past subjunctive!] The past subjunctive form so derived is used for both singular and plural: e.g.: *bryta* (past: *bröt*, past plural: *bröto*): past subjunctive: *jag bröte*, *vi bröte*; *finna* (past: *fann*, past plural: *funno*): past subjunctive: *jag funne*, *vi funne*; *skriva* (past: *skrev*, past plural: *skrevo*): past subjunctive: *jag skreve*, *vi skreve*; *vara* (past: *var*, past plural: *voro*): past subjunctive: *jag vore*, *vi vore*; etc.

Use of the Subjunctive

It is almost never necessary to use the subjunctive in Swedish. Its use is almost totally restricted to set phrases such as:

Leve konungen! 'Long live the king!'

Leve drottningen! 'Long live the queen!'

Note that these English sentences also employ the subjunctive form live (as opposed to the indicative *lives*: the king *lives*, the queen *lives*.) The following are further examples:

Gud vare med dig! 'God be with you!'

Gud välsigne dig! 'God bless you!'

Again, the English translations also show the subjunctive forms; the indicative forms would be: God *is* with you; God *blesses* you.

The above examples illustrate the vestigial uses of the present subjunctive. The past subjunctive is for all practical purposes limited to contrary-to-fact situations:

Jag önskar jag vore i India land! 'I wish I were in India land!'

[NOTE: While the subjunctive is fast disappearing from standard Swedish, it is often retained in certain dialects. Also, *finge*, *ginge*, *läge*, *såge*, *vore* and a few others persist even in current standard Swedish.]

Om jag finge, skulle jag resa till landet. 'If I were allowed to, I would travel to the country.'

Han önskar, att hon bleve kär i honom. 'He wishes that she would fall in love with him.'

Om inte pengar funnes, skulle vi inte kunna köpa någonting. 'If there were no money, we couldn't buy anything.'

Note that English, like Swedish, uses the subjunctive in these cases. In current spoken Swedish, however, one is more apt to hear *var* instead of *vore*, *fick* instead of *finge*, *blev* instead of *bleve* and *fanns* instead of *funnes*. One will still occasionally hear *vore* in spoken Swedish; for example: *Det vore roligt att resa till Sverige.* 'It would be nice to travel to Sweden.' Swedish is not as restrictive as English in this case; *var* would be an acceptable substitute for *vore* in current spoken Swedish, whereas *was* is not usually acceptable in English subjunctive situations. To cite another example illustrating that Swedish is a bit more permissive, Swedish allows the past tense *var* in the phrase *om jag var konung*, where one was formerly obliged to use the past subjunctive *vore* (*om jag vore konung*) 'if I were king.' English still requires the past subjunctive in this instance in standard cultivated speech. To be sure, one will hear many speakers say such sentences as *If I was king!* but educated speakers would find this unacceptable. In short, English has not yet progressed as far as Swedish with regard to the replacement of the subjunctive by the corresponding indicative forms. In the course of this century, both languages have continued to move towards this replacement, but it appears that Swedish will arrive at the point of total replacement (i.e., disappearance of the subjunctive) before English.

SHORTENED VERB FORMS

Swedish has a number of verb forms which are shortened from older forms. In some cases, the shortened form is now the preferred form; for example: *bli[va]* indicates that *bli* is by and large the

only form in current use, *bliva* having virtually disappeared from the spoken language and in the process of disappearing from the written language. In other cases, the shortened form coexists with the longer form, although the shortened form is almost always the preferred spoken form; for example: *ska*(*ll*) indicates that *ska* is preferred in the spoken language and common in the written language; *skall* is rare in the spoken language and less common than *ska* in popular written Swedish. A list of such forms follows:

<i>longer form</i>		<i>shortened form</i>
bedja	>	be
bedjer	>	ber
bliva	>	bli
bliver	>	blir
draga	>	dra
drager	>	drar
giva	>	ge
giver	>	ger
hava*	>	ha
kläda	>	klä
kläder	>	kläär
lade	>	la
sade	>	sa
skall	>	ska
taga	>	ta
tager	>	tar

II The Structure of the Swedish Verb

THE INFINITIVE

- Class I: -a (att) *baka*, (att) *kalla*, (att) *tala*
- Class IIa: -a (att) *glömma*, (att) *ställa*, (att) *vända*
- Class IIb: -a (att) *köpa*, (att) *läsa*, (att) *tycka*

* *haver* has totally disappeared from modern Swedish, having been replaced by *har*.

[Note the prayer which begins: "Gud som haver barnen kär . . ." "God, who loves children . . ."].

Class III: — (att) bo, (att) sy, (att) tro

Class IV: -a (att) bryta, (att) finna, (att) skriva, (att) vara

The infinitive is generally preceded by *att* in Swedish. When it is used to express intention, it is preceded by *för att* 'in order to ..., so that ..., so as to ...'; for example: *han reste till Sverige för att lära sig svenska* 'he travelled to Sweden in order to learn Swedish.' The infinitive is used without *att* after the modal verbs (q.v.), and after certain verbs of thinking, needing, wishing, hearing and seeing (among others.) Some verbs take an infinitive either preceded by *att* or without *att* (e.g.: *börja* 'to begin'). *Det börjar snöa* and *det börjar att snöa* 'it's beginning to snow' are interchangeable. A comprehensive grammar will be useful in determining when the use of *att* is precluded or optional; otherwise, as noted above, it is most likely that *att* precedes the infinitive.

THE IMPERATIVE

The imperative is provided in the upper right hand corner of the page in the case of the 201 verbs fully conjugated in all tenses.

Class I: -a baka! kalla! tala!

Class IIa: — glöm! ställ! vänd!

Class IIb: — köp! läs! tyck!

Class III: * bo! sy! tro!

Class IV: — bryt! finn! skriv! var!

*Class III imperatives are identical with the infinitive forms.

In archaic and highly formal Swedish (biblical language, for example) there are two additional imperative forms: a first person plural imperative which ends in *-om*, and a second person plural imperative ending which ends in *-en*; both are added to the present tense stem.

Examples of the first person plural imperative are:

Låtom oss bedja! ('Let us pray!')

Sjungom studentens lyckliga dag,

(‘Let’s sing about the student’s happy day,

Låtom oss fröjdas i ungdomens vår!

Let’s rejoice in the springtime of youth!’)

Tackom och lovom Herran! (‘Thank and praise the Lord!’)

Tänkom oss till exempel . . . (‘Let’s consider for example . . .’)

Examples of the second person plural imperative are:

Låten barnen komma till mig! (‘Let the children come to me!’)

Förmenen dem det icke! (‘Don’t deny them it!’)

Viken, tidens flyktiga minnen! (‘Give way, time’s fleeting memories!’)

So, for example, the verb *växa* would have these imperative forms: *väx!* [*växom!*] [*växen!*].

Växom! is now replaced by *låt oss växa!* and *växen!* is replaced by *väx!* For all practical purposes, only one imperative form survives.

An older and apparently even less frequent second person plural imperative ending in *-er* (*låter*, etc.) is now virtually extinct. It was used by Gustaf Fröding in his *Nya Dikter* [Bonniers], 1894, page 163 (*så låter . . .*).

PRINCIPAL PARTS

The principal parts of the Swedish verb are the *infinitive*, *past* (singular), *supine*, and *past participle* (common gender, singular). Occasionally other reference sources will give a fifth principal part, the *present* tense, between the infinitive and the past. Still less common is a sixth principal part, the *past (plural)* form, which is provided immediately following the past (singular). In this book, only four principal parts are given. The present tense can be determined by the *verb class* (which is provided after the infinitive) and the past plural form is now rarely used. Those who

wish to find past plural forms are urged to refer to the section on PLURAL VERB FORMS AND ENDINGS and the section on STRONG VERB TYPES.

PARTICIPLES

Swedish, like English, has two participles, the *present participle* and the *past participle*. The *past participle* in Swedish is used only after *bli* [*bliva*] and *vara* (to form the passive voice) and as an adjective. It cannot be used to form the “perfect” tenses as in English. [See the section entitled “The English Past Participle” in part II, section 4 for more details, and for the rules for the formation of the past participle for each of the Swedish verb classes.] It should be remembered, though, that there are three forms of the past participle in Swedish: a non-neuter (or common gender) singular, a neuter singular, and a plural form. The following table illustrates the use of these three forms:

jag är <i>kallad</i>
du är <i>kallad</i>
han är <i>kallad</i>
hon är <i>kallad</i>
den är <i>kallad</i>
det är <i>kallat</i>
vi är <i>kallade</i>
ni är <i>kallad/kallade</i>
de är <i>kallade</i>

The Swedish *present participle* can also be used as an adjective, in which case it is indeclinable:

<i>en skrattande fru</i> ‘a laughing woman’
<i>ett brinnande hus</i> ‘a burning house’
<i>den skinande solen</i> ‘the shining sun’
<i>det leende ansiktet</i> ‘the smiling face’
<i>de skrattande fruarna</i> ‘the laughing women’

The present participle can also be used as a Class V (fifth declension) noun: *en resande* ‘a traveler’; *en studerande* ‘a student’; *en gående* ‘a pedestrian.’

It should be noted that Swedish, unlike English, has no progressive (continuing) tenses composed of the verb ‘to be’ plus the present participle. There is therefore no similar Swedish construction corresponding to *he is reading*, *she is writing*, etc. (Swedish uses the simple present tense in such cases.) The Swedish present participle cannot be used in such progressive, or continuing, constructions; it can only be employed as an adjective or as a noun, as explained above, or (less frequently) as an adverb.

The present participle is formed as follows: Class I, II and IV* verbs have the ending *-ande* attached to the stem; Class III verbs have *-ende*. For example:

- Class I: *bakande, kallande, talande*
- Class IIa: *glömmande, ställande, vändande*
- Class IIb: *köpande, läsande, tyckande*
- Class III: *boende, syende, troende*
- Class IV: *brytande, finnande, skrivande, varande*

* NOTE: A few monosyllabic Class IV verbs add *-ende* to form the present participle: *gå: gående; le: leende; slå: slående*.

The English “Past Participle”

The English grammatical term “past participle” corresponds to two Swedish forms, the Swedish “past participle” and the Swedish “supine”. Seldom are the past participle and supine forms identical in Swedish; this happens regularly only in conjugation Class IIb, although the neuter form of the past participle is identical to the supine also in Classes I, IIa and III. In Class IV, the supine and the past participle almost never have identical forms. In this book, the terms “supine” and “past participle” are used in the Swedish sense.

The supine is used to form the so-called “perfect” tenses (present perfect, past perfect, future perfect, conditional perfect). It has

but one form: *jag har bakat*, *han har bakat*, *hon har bakat*, *vi har bakat*, *de har bakat*; *jag hade bakat*; *jag ska (ll) ha [va] bakat*; *jag skulle ha [va] bakat*; etc. The supine of Class I verbs ends in *-at*; of Class II verbs in *-t*; of Class III verbs in *-tt*; and of strong Class IV verbs (as well as some irregular verbs) in *-it*.

The *past participle* has potentially three different forms: a non-neuter (or common gender) singular form, a neuter singular form, and a plural form. The following chart gives an overview of the past participle forms:

<i>Verb Class</i>	<i>non-n. (common gender) sing.</i>	<i>neuter sing.</i>	<i>plural</i>
Class I:	bakad	bakat	bakade
Class IIa:	ställd	ställt	ställda
Class IIb:	köpt	köpt	köpta
Class III:	trodd	trott	trodda
Class IV:	dragen	draget	dragna

The past participle functions, in effect, as an adjective and is declined in the same manner as other adjectives in Swedish. The *past participle* is used in Swedish as follows:

1. After the auxiliary verb *vara* (denoting a permanent condition); for example: *jag är kallad*; *hon är älskad*; *de var älskade*.
2. After the auxiliary verb *bli* [*bliva*] (denoting a transitory action); for example: *jag blir kallad*; *hon blir älskad*; *de blev älskade*.
3. As an adjective; for example: *den skrivna boken*; *boken var skriven på tyska*; *böckerna var skrivna på tyska*; *ett talat språk*; *talade språk*.

TENSES

In Swedish as in English, there are only two “simple” tenses, the *present* and the *past*. All of the other “tenses” are formed by means of auxiliary verbs. We can speak of a *future* tense in English and in Swedish; in English it is formed using *shall* (or *will*) and in Swedish

it is formed by using *ska(ll)*. The *conditional* can be regarded as a tense (it is a kind of “past of the future”, what “would” happen if something else were to take place. In English we form the conditional with *should* (or *would*) and in Swedish the conditional is formed with *skulle*.

Both languages have a series of “perfect” (or “completed”) tenses, and both languages use the verb *have* (Swedish *ha(va)*) to form the perfect tenses. There is a perfect tense corresponding to each of the four tenses mentioned thus far.

There is a *present perfect* tense formed with the present of English *have* (Swedish *ha(va)*) and the past participle (Swedish supine): I have spoken, *jag har talat*. The *past perfect* tense, sometimes called the pluperfect, is composed of the past tense of *have (ha(va))* and the past participle (supine): I had spoken, *jag hade talat*. The *future perfect* tense is formed with the future of *have (ha(va))* plus the past participle (supine): I shall have spoken, *jag ska(ll) ha(va) talat*. The *conditional perfect* is similarly composed of the conditional of *have (ha(va))* and the past participle (supine): I would (should) have spoken, *jag skulle ha(va) talat*.

The simple conditional (*jag skulle tala*) is often referred to in Swedish as the *Conditional I*, and the conditional perfect (*jag skulle ha(va) talat*) is often called *Conditional II*. The terms “conditional” and “conditional perfect” are used in this book rather than “Conditional I” and “Conditional II”, since the tense system is then presented as totally symmetrical both in English and in Swedish; the tense structure appears then as follows:

present	present perfect
past	past perfect
future	future perfect
conditional	conditional perfect

Theoretically, each of these eight “indicative” tenses has a corresponding “subjunctive” tense, which would then double the number of tenses. But, as mentioned earlier, the subjunctive is

very nearly extinct in both languages as a function of verb inflection, and both languages prefer circumlocutions using periphrastic phrases. Both English and Swedish have vestigial present and past subjunctive tenses (see THE SUBJUNCTIVE) but the use of the subjunctive is so limited that the special subjunctive forms can best be learned as separate vocabulary items where they exist at all; in English, most subjunctive forms are identical with the corresponding indicative forms anyway. In Swedish, the subjunctive forms are more distinct than in English. The Swedish subjunctive forms are rarely used, so the beginning student may feel safe in not paying too much attention to them.

All of the tenses mentioned thus far have been *active* tenses; theoretically, a *passive* counterpart exists for every active tense, indicative and subjunctive. (See THE PASSIVE VOICE). In the following pairs, the first phrase is active and the second is passive: *I call, I am called; I called, I was called; I shall (will) call, I shall (will) be called*; etc. Since the passive construction in Swedish can be formed by the simple addition of an *-s* (or a substitution of *-s* for *-r*) to the active form, it was not considered necessary to provide complete passive conjugations for each of the 201 “fully-conjugated” verbs. Instead, a complete passive conjugation will be provided as a model under the heading THE PASSIVE VOICE.

This, then, is a summary of the tenses in English and Swedish; only the indicative tenses are included:

ACTIVE	ENGLISH	SWEDISH
Present	I call	jag kallar
Past	I called	jag kallade
Future	I shall (will) call	jag ska(ll) kalla
Conditional	I should (would) call	jag skulle kalla
Present perfect	I have called	jag har kallat
Past perfect	I had called	jag hade kallat
Future perfect	I shall (will) have called	jag ska(ll) ha[va] kallat
Conditional perfect	I should (would) have called	jag skulle ha[va] kallat

PASSIVE	ENGLISH	SWEDISH
Present	I am called	jag kallas
Past	I was called	jag kallades
Future	I shall (will) be called	jag ska(l)l kallas
Conditional	I should (would) be called	jag skulle kallas
Present Perfect	I have been called	jag har kallats
Past Perfect	I had been called	jag hade kallats
Future Perfect	I shall (will) have been called	jag ska(l)l ha[va] kallats
Conditional Perfect	I should (would) have been called	jag skulle ha[va] kallats

The following summary of the Swedish tense formation should prove helpful to the student.

The present tense is formed as follows:

Class I: -ar jag bakar, jag kallar, jag talar
 Class IIa: -er jag glömmer, jag ställer, jag vänder
 Class IIb: -er jag köper, jag läser, jag tycker
 Class III: -r jag bor, jag syr, jag tror
 Class IV: -er jag bryter, jag finner, jag skriver

For exceptions, see the sections pertaining to each CONJUGATION CLASS and the REMARKS following each class. The plural forms of the present tense, now restricted to formal literary style and no longer current in spoken Swedish, are the same as the infinitive (exception: vara: vi äro): *vi baka, vi kalla, vi tala, vi glömma, vi ställa, vi vända, vi köpa, vi släppa, vi tycka, vi bo, vi sy, vi tro, vi bryta, vi finna, vi skriva*; etc.

The past tense is formed as follows:

Class I: -ade jag bakade, jag kallade, jag talade
 Class IIa: -de jag glömde, jag ställde, jag vände
 Class IIb: -te jag köpte, jag läste, jag tyckte
 Class III: -dde jag bodde, jag sydde, jag trodde
 Class IV: see STRONG VERB TYPES; CONJUGATION CLASS IV.

The past tense plural forms of Classes I, II and III are the same as the corresponding singular forms, in formal literary style as well as in the colloquial spoken language: *vi bakade*, *vi ställde*, *vi köpte*, *vi bodde*. In Class IV, the plural forms end in *-o*: *vi bröto*, *vi funno*, *vi skrevo*. It should be emphasized that these special plural forms are not used in the spoken language, even in traditional settings or in formal situations. See **STRONG VERB TYPES**.

The future tense is formed with *ska* or *skall* (the former is more common in the spoken language and the latter possibly still more common in the written language) plus the infinitive: *jag ska(ll) baka*, *jag ska(ll) ställa*, *jag ska(ll) köpa*, *jag ska(ll) tro*, *jag ska(ll) skriva*. The formal plural form corresponding to *ska(ll)* is *skola*: *vi skola baka*, etc. This form no longer occurs in standard spoken Swedish. The future can also be formed colloquially with a form of *komma* plus *att*: *jag kommer att baka*, etc. See below for special mention of forms with *komma att*.

The conditional is formed with *skulle* plus the infinitive: *jag skulle baka*, *jag skulle ställa*, *jag skulle köpa*, *jag skulle tro*, *ja skulle skriva*, etc. There is no special plural form in the conditional. The conditional is also known as the “future in the past” and “Conditional I” in other reference works.

The four “perfect” tenses are formed with the auxiliary verb *have* in English and *ha [hava]* in Swedish. See the remarks on the English “Past Participle” in the section concerning participles.

The present perfect tense is formed with the present tense of *ha[va]* and the Swedish supine: *jag har bakat*, *jag har ställt*, *jag har köpt*, *jag har trott*, *jag har skrivit*, etc. The very formal literary plural would be: *vi ha (or hava) bakat*, etc.

The past perfect tense is formed with the past tense of *ha[va]* and the Swedish supine: *jag hade bakat*, *jag hade ställt*, *jag hade köpt*, *jag hade trott*, *jag hade skrivit*, etc. There is no special plural form.

The future perfect tense is formed with the future of *ha[va]* plus the Swedish supine: *jag ska(ll) ha[va] bakat*, *jag ska(ll) ha[va] ställt*,

jag ska(ll) ha[va] köpt, jag ska(ll) ha[va] trott, jag ska(ll) ha[va] skrivit, etc. It is more common to form the future perfect with *komma att* (see below). The formal literary plural would be: *vi skola ha[va] bakat*, etc.

The conditional perfect is formed with the conditional of *ha[va]* plus the Swedish supine: *jag skulle ha[va] bakat, jag skulle ha[va] ställt, jag skulle ha[va] köpt, jag skulle ha[va] trott, jag skulle ha[va] skrivit*, etc. There are no special plural forms of the conditional perfect. The conditional perfect is sometimes referred to as the “Conditional II.”

FUTURE WITH *Kommer att*

In modern colloquial Swedish there is a tendency to substitute *kommer att* for *ska(ll)*, both for the singular and the plural, to indicate simple futurity. (The formal literary plural **vi komma att baka* would be inconsistent with the otherwise colloquial, or informal, usage.) Thus *jag ska(ll) baka* can be rendered *jag kommer att baka* with no change in meaning.* Similarly, in the future perfect, one can substitute *jag kommer att ha [hava] bakat* for *jag ska(ll) ha [hava] bakat* with no change in meaning. In the spoken language, especially informally, *jag kommer att baka* is gaining currency at the expense of *jag ska(ll) baka* (although in the written language, the *ska(ll)* form clearly predominates). In any case, the student should be familiar with both constructions. For the simple future, the student can always employ *jag ska(ll) baka*; for the future perfect, it is recommended that the student use *jag kommer att ha bakat*. For this reason, in the case of the future perfect tense, both constructions have been included in the section entitled “201 Swedish Verbs fully conjugated in all the tenses.” It is possible that *jag kommer att baka* will someday become the standard future

* In precise cultivated Swedish, there is a distinction. *Jag ska(ll) baka* has an implication of intention, will, promise or threat; *jag kommer att baka* indicates simple futurity with no such implication. However, this distinction is becoming blurred even in cultivated Swedish, and in current everyday Swedish it is no longer felt.

form, replacing *jag ska(ll) baka*, which would reflect the present “cultivated” usage (see footnote below); but for the present, the forms with *ska(ll)* predominate.

MODAL AND OTHER AUXILIARY VERBS

A modal verb expresses a “mode” or a “mood” (such as necessity, obligation, permission, probability, possibility or desire) and is used with a complementary infinitive, without *att* ‘to’. The following table summarizes the forms of modal and other auxiliary verbs in Swedish:

INFINITIVE	PRESENT	PAST	SUPINE
bli [bliva]	blir [bliver]	blev	blivit
böra	bör	borde	bort
få	får	fick	fått
ha [hava]	har	hade	haft
kunna	kan	kunde	kunnat
läta	läter	lät	lätit
—	lär	—	—
—	må	mätte	—
—	*månne	—	—
**måsta	måste	måste	måst
orka	orkar	orkade	orkat
skola	ska (skall)	skulle	skolat
slippa	slipper	slapp	sluppit
—	—	torde	—
vara	är	var	varit
vilja	vill	ville	velat

BLI [BLIVA]. *Bli[va]* is used to form the passive (denoting a transitory state): *Boken blev köpt av en lärare*. *Bli[va]* can also be used without an accompanying infinitive to indicate a future happening: *Det blir sent, innan han kommer tillbaka*.

* primarily in Finland-Swedish (see note at end of this section); in standard Swedish *månne* (= *månntrö*) is an adverb.

** the infinitive *måsta* is restricted to a few dialects and to Finland-Swedish (see note at end of this section).

BÖRA. *Böra* has the English meaning ‘ought to’: *Du bör skriva till henne* ‘you ought to write to her’; *jag borde ha skrivit till min far* ‘I ought to have written to my father.’ In the first example, *bör* refers to an obligation in the present (hence the present tense form *bör*); in the second example, *borde* refers to an obligation in the past (hence the past tense form *borde*.)

FÅ. *Få*, while also a transitive verb meaning ‘to get, to receive’, can be used in another sense as an auxiliary: *Jag får göra det nu*. ‘I may do it now.’ *Han får inte göra det nu*. ‘He is not allowed to do it now.’ *De fick inte göra det då*. ‘They were not allowed to do it then.’ *Få* is sometimes used to mean ‘must, have to’, usually rendered in Swedish by *måste* (q.v.). *Få höra*, *få se*, *få veta* are fixed expressions meaning, respectively, ‘hear, learn about’, ‘see, discover, learn’, and ‘hear, find out about, learn.’ These expressions are often interchangeable. Finally, *få* has the meaning ‘to make’ in non-modal expressions such as: *Han får mig att göra det*. ‘He makes me do it.’

HA [HAVA]. Aside from its usual meaning ‘to have, possess’, *ha[va]*, as we have seen, is used in conjunction with the Swedish supine to form the “perfect” tenses (present perfect, past perfect, future perfect, conditional perfect): *vi har varit*, *vi hade varit*, *vi ska(ll) ha varit*, *vi skulle ha varit*. In the written language, the auxiliary verb *ha [hava]* is occasionally omitted in dependent (subordinate) clauses in the perfect tenses. Here are examples from *Anna Clara och hennes bröder*, by Hasse Z.:

“Han hade kommit på visit utan att någon * bett honom om det.”

“Tror man att barnen någonsin skulle * ställt till något sådant.”

“Läraren lägger ned benet, som * blivit trött, och säger: ...”

“Men då Anna-Clara * gått och * lagt sig på kvällen, ...”

* indicates the omission of the auxiliary verb *ha[va]* (either *har* or *hade*).

KUNNA. *Kunna* is a cognate of 'can' in English, and has the same meaning, 'to be able to': *Jag kan tala svenska*. 'I can speak Swedish.' *Han kunde inte göra det*. 'He could not do that.'

LÅTA. *Låta* and 'let' are cognates, and have the same meaning: *Låt mig göra det*. *Låta* also has the meaning *have* in the special construction 'to *have* someone do something, to make someone do something': *Han låter oss göra det*. 'He makes us do it; he has us do it.' *Jag måste låta måla dörren*. 'I must have the door painted.'

LÄR. *Lär* occurs only in the present tense and means 'is said to, is reputed to': *Han lär tala många språk*. 'He is said to speak many languages.' To express this idea in the past, another expression must be used (e.g.: ... *sades vara* '... was said to be'; *man sa(de)*, *att* ... 'they said that ...; it was said that ...').

MÅ. *Må* can be translated by 'may' in the sense of 'hope' or 'let': *må han leva* 'may he live, let him live, it is hoped that he live', etc. The past, *mätte*, means 'might': *mätte han leva* 'might he live, he was allowed to live, it was hoped that he (might) live.'

MÅNNE. In standard Swedish, *månne* is an adverb, and is the same as *månnstro*. *Månne han kommer?* (*Månnstro han kommer?*) 'I wonder if he'll come, do you think that he'll come?', etc. In Finland-Swedish, it may act as a modal auxiliary: *Var månne han vara?* 'I wonder where he is, where do you think he is?', but even in Finland-Swedish it is more commonly used adverbially with an inflected (finite) verb form.

MÅSTE. The infinitive *måsta* occurs only in some northern dialects and in Finland-Swedish (*finlandssvenska*). In standard Swedish there is no infinitive of this verb, just as there is no infinitive of the English equivalent cognate *must*. In Swedish, *vara tvungen* is used as an infinitive where *måsta* does not occur; in English, the infinitive is expressed by the phrase 'to have to.' The form *måste* is both present and past; *jag måste göra det nu*; *jag måste göra det igår*.

It can also refer to the future: *jag måste göra det i morgon*. It can be used in the perfect tenses: *Han hade måst göra det innan han kunde gå*. 'He had had to do it before he could go.'

ORKA. The verb *orka* means 'to manage (to)', 'to get by', 'to make it': *jag orkar göra det* 'I (can) manage to do it.'; *jag orkar inte göra det* 'I can't manage to do it.'

SKOLA. *Skola* is a cognate of *shall* and, like the English word *shall*, is used to form the future: *jag ska(ll) göra det senare* 'I shall (will) do it later.'

SLIPPA. The verb *slippa* means 'to be excused (from doing something)', 'not to have to (do something)': *jag slårslipper göra det* 'I don't have to do it'; *han slapp skriva brevet* 'he didn't have to write the letter.'

TORDE. The word *torde* occurs only in the past form in standard Swedish and has the meaning 'is probably, was probably, must have been, would have been', etc. *Det torde ha varit på tisdag* 'That was probably on Tuesday; that must have been on Tuesday.' It expresses supposition or likelihood. The present tense *tör* (and even an infinitive form *töra*) occur in some dialects: *Det tör vara sant*. 'It is likely to be true.' *Torde* can also have the passive meaning 'should be, ought to be' as in *anmälningar torde sändas* 'The reports should be sent.'

VARA. As we have seen, *vara* means 'to be.' It can also be used to denote a passive condition: *Huset var målat*. 'The house was painted.' The use of *vara* to form the passive indicates a permanent condition or the result of a completed action.

VILJA. Although *vilja* and English *will* are cognates, the meanings of the two words are not identical. *Vilja* can best be translated by the phrase 'to want (to)': *jag vill göra det* 'I want to do it'; *han ville tala svenska* 'he wanted to speak Swedish.' The expression *skulle vilja* is very common, meaning 'should like to, would like to' and is the

most common way of politely requesting something: *jag skulle vilja göra det* 'I would like to do it'; *jag skulle vilja ha den här boken* 'I would like to have this book.'

NOTE: Finland-Swedish is the Swedish spoken in Finland. In spite of Finland's political independence from Sweden, Swedish remains an official language in Finland along with Finnish. In Finland, Swedish is spoken by about 7% of the population (primarily in urban areas along Finland's coastline), but Swedish exerts an important cultural influence in Finland beyond what this small percentage might otherwise indicate. The Finnish language is not an Indo-European language nor is it closely related to any national language. (Its nearest relatives are Estonian and Hungarian, to which Finnish is only distantly related.) Swedish, on the other hand, being a Germanic tongue and very closely akin to Norwegian and Danish, serves as a cultural link between Finland and Northern and Western Europe.

THE REFLEXIVE VERB

In Swedish, certain verbs are *reflexive* verbs, in that the action by the subject is performed upon himself. In English, we use a reflexive pronoun ending in *-self* (*-selves*) to indicate that the action is reflexive:

I shave <i>myself</i> ;	I behave <i>myself</i>
you shave <i>yourself</i> ;	you behave <i>yourself</i>
he shaves <i>himself</i> ;	he behaves <i>himself</i> ; she behaves <i>herself</i> ; it behaves <i>itself</i>
we shave <i>ourselves</i> ;	we behave <i>ourselves</i>
you shave <i>yourselves</i> ;	you behave <i>yourselves</i>
they shave <i>themselves</i> ;	they behave <i>themselves</i>

The verb *förlova sig* 'to become engaged, to get engaged' is reflexive in Swedish (as indicated by the reflexive pronoun *sig* following the infinitive), although its English equivalent is not reflexive. Many common reflexive verbs in Swedish have English equivalents which are not reflexive.

The following full conjugation of *förlova sig* will serve as an example of a reflexive conjugation:

PRESENT: jag förlovar mig, du förlovar dig, han (hon) förlovar sig, vi förlovar [förlova] oss, ni förlovar [förlova] er, de förlovar [förlova] sig.

PAST: jag förlovade mig, du fölovade dig, han (hon) förlovade sig, vi förlovade oss, ni förlovade er, de förlovade sig.

FUTURE: jag ska(ll) [kommer att] förlova mig, du ska(ll) [kommer att] förlova dig, han (hon) ska(ll) [kommer att] förlova sig, vi ska(ll) [skola] [kommer att] förlova oss, ni ska(ll) [skola] [kommer att] förlova er, de ska(ll) [skola] [kommer att] förlova sig.

CONDITIONAL: jag skulle förlova mig, du skulle förlova dig, han (hon) skulle förlova sig, vi skulle förlova oss, ni skulle förlova er, de skulle förlova sig.

PRESENT PERFECT: jag har förlovat mig, du har förlovat dig, han (hon) har förlovat sig, vi har [ha] [hava] förlovat oss, ni har [ha] [hava] förlovat er, de har [ha] [hava] förlovat sig.

PAST PERFECT: jag hade förlovat mig, du hade förlovat dig, han (hon) hade förlovat sig, vi hade förlovat oss, ni hade förlovat er, de hade förlovat sig.

FUTURE PERFECT: jag ska(ll) [kommer att] ha [hava] förlovat mig, du ska(ll) [kommer att] ha [hava] förlovat dig, han (hon) ska(ll) [kommer att] ha [hava] förlovat sig, vi ska(ll) [skola] [kommer att] ha [hava] förlovat oss, ni ska(ll) [skola] [kommer att] ha [hava] förlovat er, de ska(ll) [skola] [kommer att] ha [hava] förlovat sig.

CONDITIONAL PERFECT: jag skulle ha [hava] förlovat mig, du skulle ha [hava] förlovat dig, han (hon) skulle ha [hava] förlovat sig, vi skulle ha [hava] förlovat oss, ni skulle ha [hava] förlovat er, de skulle ha [hava] förlovat sig.

The REFLEXIVE PRONOUNS are, in summary: *mig*, *dig*, *sig*, *oss*, *er**, *sig*; they constitute the last component of the reflexive verb or reflexive verb phrase. In current Swedish, *mig*, *dig* and *sig* are pronounced as though they were spelled *mej*, *dej* and *sej*. Indeed, the spellings *mej*, *dej* and *sej* do occur colloquially (as in comic strips.) Note further that *sej* (= *sig*) and *säj* (= *säg*) are homonyms.

* *er* is a shortened form of *eder*, which is now rarely used but was formerly the standard form.

THE PASSIVE VOICE

The passive voice indicates that the action of the verb is being performed upon the subject: I am called, he was beaten, they will be seen, etc.

The passive voice can be formed in two ways in modern Swedish:

1. The so-called “-s passive”. The passive indicator *-s* can be added to the active voice forms of the verb; if the active voice ends in *-r*, the *r* is dropped and *s* substituted; if the active voice ends in *-er*, the *r* can be dropped and *s* substituted or, alternatively, the *-er* can be dropped and *s* substituted. For example:

	ACTIVE	PASSIVE
Class I:	(han) bakar	(den) bakas
	(han) bakade	(den) bakades
	(han) ska(ll) [kommer att] baka	(den) ska(ll) [kommer att] bakas
	(han) skulle baka	(den) skulle bakas
	(han) har bakat	(den) har bakats
	(han) hade bakat	(den) hade bakats
	(han) ska(ll) [kommer att] ha [hava] bakat	(den) ska(ll) [kommer att] ha [hava] bakats
	(han) skulle ha [hava] bakat	(den) skulle ha [hava] bakats

Other forms of the passive derived from the active are as follows:

	ACTIVE	PASSIVE
Class II:	ställer	ställes, ställs
	ställde	ställdes
	köper	köpes, köps
	köpte	köptes
	ställt	ställts
	köpt	köpts

	ACTIVE	PASSIVE
Class III:	tro	tros* (* theoretical, but infrequently used)
	sy	sys
	trodde	troddes
	sydde	syddes
	trott	trotts
	sytt	sytts
	ACTIVE	PASSIVE
Class IV:	skriver	skrives, skribs
	skrev	skrevs
	skrivit	skrivits

2. The passive voice can be formed using the auxiliary verbs *bli* [*bliva*] (indicating a change of condition) and *vara* (indicating a permanent condition) along with the past participle of the main verb; for example:

Boken blev skriven.
De är omtyckta av alla.

Of the two ways to form the passive in Swedish, then, only the first requires a special set of endings. The “s-passive” and the “compound passive” (with *bli*[*va*] or *vara*) are usually interchangeable. The compound passive is somewhat more common in spoken Swedish and the “s-passive” is somewhat more common in written Swedish.

The “s-passive” can also be used to express a reciprocal action: *de sågs* *igår* ‘they saw each other yesterday’; *vi ska träffas i morgon på torget* ‘we shall meet (each other) tomorrow at the market.’

It is also possible to express a reciprocal action by means of the active voice plus the word *varandra* ‘each other.’

The following passive conjugation will serve as a model: *kalla*:
 (att) *kalla* ‘to call’; (att) *kallas* ‘to be called’:

<i>Present</i>	jag kallas du kallas han kallas	vi kallas ni kallas de kallas
<i>Past</i>	jag kallades du kallades han kallades	vi kallades ni kallades de kallades
<i>Future</i>	jag ska(ll) kallas du ska(ll) kallas han ska(ll) kallas	vi ska(ll) [skola] kallas ni ska(ll) [skola] kallas de ska(ll) [skola] kallas
<i>Conditional</i>	jag skulle kallas du skulle kallas han skulle kallas	vi skulle kallas ni skulle kallas de skulle kallas
<i>Present</i>	jag har kallats	vi har [ha] [hava] kallats
<i>Perfect</i>	du har kallats han har kallats	ni har [ha] [hava] kallats de har [ha] [hava] kallats
<i>Past Perfect</i>	jag hade kallats du hade kallats han hade kallats	vi hade kallats ni hade kallats de hade kallats
<i>Future</i>	jag ska(ll) [kommer att]	vi ska(ll) [skola] [kommer att]
<i>Perfect</i>	ha [hava] kallats du ska(ll) [kommer att]	ha [hava] kallats ni ska(ll) [skola] [kommer att]
	ha [hava] kallats	ha [hava] kallats
	han ska(ll) [kommer att]	de ska(ll) [skola] [kommer att]
	ha [hava] kallats	ha [hava] kallats
<i>Conditional</i>	jag skulle ha [hava] kallats	vi skulle ha [hava] kallats
<i>Perfect</i>	du skulle ha [hava] kallats han skulle ha [hava] kallats	ni skulle ha [hava] kallats de skulle ha [hava] kallats

DEPONENT VERBS

Certain verbs are active in meaning but passive in form; these verbs are called “deponent” verbs. The full conjugation of *hoppas* ‘to hope’, a typical deponent verb, can be found on page 62.

The following are among the most common deponent verbs in Swedish:

andas	(I)	'breathe'
avundas	(I)	'envy'
brottas	(I)	'wrestle'
brås	(III)	'take after, resemble'
envisas	(I)	'be obstinate'
faṭtas	(I)	'be missing, lack'
finnas	(IV)	'be, exist'
fröjdas	(I)	'rejoice (at), delight (in)'
förgås	(IV)	'perish, die'
hoppas	(I)	'hope'
hållas	(IV)	'keep on, have one's way'
hämñas	(I)	'take revenge, avenge'
kräkas	(IIb)	'vomit'
lyckas	(I)	'succeed'
lätsas	(I)	'pretend, make believe'
minnas	(IIa)	'remember, recall'
misslyckas	(I)	'fail'
mötas	(IIb)	'meet'
saknas	(I)	'be missing'
skiljas	(IIa or IV)	'part, divorce'
skämmas	(IIa)	'be ashamed'
slåss	(IV)	'fight'
svettas	(I)	'perspire, sweat'
synas	(IIb)	'seem'
sämjas	(IIa)	'agree'
trivas	(IIa)	'feel at home, get along'
träffas	(I)	'be at home, meet'
tyckas [<i>det tycks</i> 'it seems']	(IIb)	'seem'
töras	(IV or IIa)	'dare'
umgås	(IV)	'associate (with); frequent'
vistas	(I)	'stay, reside, sojourn'
vämjas	(IIa)	'feel ill, be nauseous, be disgusted'
väsnas	(I)	'be noisy, make noise'

THE COMPOUND VERB

A compound verb is a verb to which a *prefix*, a *noun*, an *adjective*, an *adverb* or a *preposition* has been attached. Some compound verbs are "inseparable"; the prefix always remains attached to these verbs. Other compound verbs are "separable"; this means that the prefix occurs as a separate word after the base verb in the sentence.

Inseparable verbs. Verbs formed with any of the following prefixes are *inseparable*: *an-*, *be-*, *bi-*, *er-*, *för-*, *här-*, *miss-*, *sam-*, *um-*, *und-*, *vän-* and *å-*. [NOTE: a few words beginning with the prefix *an-* are separable; for example: *anlägga*, ‘to build, erect, construct.’] With the exception of *be-* and *för-*, which are unstressed, these prefixes give to the verb the so-called “Tone II”, with the principal stress occurring on the prefix itself. Verbs prefixed with a noun or an adjective as the first element are also inseparable; for example: *godkänna* ‘to approve’; *rådfråga*, *rådgöra* ‘to consult.’

Separable verbs. As a rule, there are no verbs which occur only with the prefix separated; generally, separable verbs may occur *either* with the prefix attached *or* with the prefix as a separate word following the base verb. In this category, there are two sub-groups: I. Verbs which occur as separable and as inseparable verbs with no change in meaning; for example: *känna igen* or *igenkänna* both mean ‘to recognize.’ Similarly, both *stryka under* and *understryka* mean ‘to underline,’ and both *följa med* and *medfölja* mean ‘to accompany.’ It should be noted that the separated forms are preferred in informal speech and predominate in the spoken language. II. Verbs which occur both as separable and as inseparable verbs but with different meanings; for example: *bryta av* ‘to break off (literally speaking)’ as opposed to *avbryta* ‘to break off (figuratively speaking), to interrupt’; *gå under* means ‘to go under, to sink,’ whereas *undergå* has the figurative meaning ‘to undergo,’ as in English. In such cases where there are verb pairs with different meanings, one inseparable and one separable, it is usually the case that the inseparable verb has the figurative meaning and the separable verb has a literal significance. [Note: Students of German will recall that this occurs in that language as well in prefixes such as *über-* and *durch-*]. In Swedish, compound verbs formed with an adverb or a preposition have both a separable and an inseparable form, but there are exceptions to this guideline.

Some common inseparable verbs in Swedish are: *ansvara* ‘be

responsible (for)', *anklaga* 'accuse', *anhålla* 'take into custody, apprehend, arrest', *betala* 'pay (for)', *bestämma* 'determine', *bifoga* 'attach, annex', *bidra[ga]* 'contribute', *erbjuda* 'offer', *ersätta* 'compensate (for), make up (for)', *förlåta* 'forgive, excuse', *härleda* 'derive (from), deduce', *härstamma* 'be descended (from), originate', *missakta* 'look down (upon), despise', *misstänka* 'suspect, guess, be suspicious', *samarbeta* 'cooperate, work together', *samtala* 'converse, talk about, discuss', *umbära* 'go without, do without', *umgås* 'frequent, associate (with)', *undfly* 'avoid, keep away from', *undvika* 'avoid', *vansköta* 'mismanage, neglect', *vantolka* '(willfully) misconstrue, misinterpret', *ålägga* 'enjoin, impose', *åtala* 'prosecute, indict.'

Swedish, like English, has much less rigidity with regard to the use of prefixed verbs than does German, which has a very rigid set of rules regarding their usage. This lack of rigidity can best be perceived when one considers that, in English, "he shut the water off" and "he shut off the water" mean the same thing. Such is never the case in German, but often the case in Swedish. There is no difference in meaning, for example, between *han ville följa med* and *han ville medfölja*, or between *pojken stryker under meningen i boken* and *pojken understryker meningen i boken**. But there are occasions in English and in Swedish where there is, indeed, a distinction. For example: "the boy went under the water" has a literal meaning, whereas "the boy underwent an operation" is figurative. Similarly, in Swedish: *skeppet gick under* 'the ship went under' is literal, whereas *pojken undergick en operation* 'the boy underwent an operation' is figurative.

The topic of inseparable versus separable verbs is largely a matter of stylistics, and a much more detailed treatment of this subject can be found in any thorough grammar or style guide (for

* Some speakers of Swedish use the phrases *pojken stryker under meningen i boken* and *pojken understryker meningen i boken* interchangeably in the sense 'the boy underlines the sentence in the book'. Others assign this meaning exclusively to the former sentence (separated verb) and two meanings to the latter sentence (prefixed [unseparated] verb), namely 'the boy *underlines* the sentence in the book' and 'the boy *emphasizes* the sentence in the book.' A third group of speakers makes a consistent distinction, *stryker under* meaning 'underline' and *understryker* meaning 'emphasize.' The Swedish verb *betona* means 'emphasize, stress.'

example, in Erik Wellander's *Riktig Svenska*, Stockholm, 1963, pp. 304-307).

VERB DOUBLETS

In the Germanic languages (including therefore Swedish, English and German) there are often two verbs derived from the same source. One verb has a transitive meaning (i.e., takes a direct object) and the other has an intransitive meaning (i.e., it cannot take a direct object). It is often (but not always) the case in all three languages that the intransitive verb is a strong verb (with a vowel change in the past tense stem) and the transitive verb is a weak verb (with no vowel change in the past stem). In English, an example would be *fall*, which is intransitive and strong (*fall, fell, fallen*) and *fell* (as in “to fell a tree”) which is transitive and weak (*fell, felled, felled*).

The following is a list of common doublets in Swedish with their English counterparts:

TRANSITIVE	INTRANITIVE
bleka	‘bleach (something)’
bränna	‘burn (something)’
dränka	‘drown (someone or something)’
döda	‘kill’
fälla	‘fell’
fördröja	‘detain, delay (someone or something)’
förmörka	‘darken, obscure’
hetsa	‘inflame, heat up’
kyla	‘chill, cool’
lysa	‘light up, give light (to)’
lägga	‘put, place’
röka	‘smoke (something)’
sluta (I)	‘conclude (something)’
släcka	‘extinguish, put out’
spräcka	‘burst, crack, split (something)’
ställa	‘place, put’
blekna	‘turn pale’
brinna	‘burn up’
drunkna	‘drown, be drowned’
dö	‘die’
falla	‘fall’
dröja	‘be late’
mörkna	‘get dark, grow dark’
hetta	‘get hot, be hot’
kallna	‘get cold, grow cold’
ljusna	‘get light, grow light’
ligga	‘lie, be situated’
ryka	‘reek, steam, fume’
sluta (IV)	‘come to an end, close’
slockna	‘go out, become extinct’
spricka	‘break, burst (open)’
stå	‘stand, be, exist’

sänka	‘sink (something)’	sjunka	‘sink, go down, go under’
sätta	‘set’	sitta	‘sit’
söva	‘put to sleep, lull’	{ somna	‘fall asleep, go off to sleep’
trötta	‘tire (someone)’	{ sova	‘sleep, fall asleep’
tysta	‘silence (someone)’	tröttna	‘get tired, become tired’
väcka	‘awaken, wake (someone) up’	{ tystna	‘grow silent, stop speaking’
{ vätta	‘water, irrigate’	{ vaka	‘keep watch, keep vigil’
{ vätta	‘moisten, make wet’	{ vakna	‘wake up, awaken’
		väta	‘get wet’

The “inchoative” (or “inceptive”) form, the form indicating the initiation of an action or state, is often formed by adding *-n-* in Swedish; the inchoative form is intransitive. In the above list, the verbs *blekna*, *drunkna*, *mörkna*, *kallna*, *ljusna*, *slackna*, *tröttna*, *tystna* and *vakna* are typical inchoative verbs. In English, the suffix *-en* indicates that a verb is inchoative: “to redder, awaken, sweeten, frighten, lighten, darken, etc.”

III Conjugation Classes in Swedish

INTRODUCTION

There are four conjugation classes in Swedish. They can be classified according to the form of the *supine*:

- Class I: *-at* *baka* : *bakat*
- Class II: *-t* *köpa* : *köpt*
- Class III: *-tt* *tro* : *trott*
- Class IV: *-it* *skriva* : *skrivit*

They may also be classified according to the formation of the *past tense*:

- Class I: *-ade* *baka* : *bakade*
- Class IIa: *-de* *ställa* : *ställde*
- Class IIb: *-te* *köpa* : *köpte*
- Class III: *-dde* *tro* : *trodde*
- Class IV: internal vowel change (in stem) *skriva* : *skrev*

CONJUGATION CLASS I

(First Conjugation)

The present tense ending is *-ar*: *jag bakar*, *vi bakar*. (The formal literary plural ending *-a* is the same as the infinitive ending: *vi baka*.)

The past tense ending is *-ade*: *jag bakade*, *vi bakade*. (There is no special plural ending.)

The future and the conditional are formed using the infinitive, which ends in *-a*: *jag ska(ll) baka*; *jag skulle baka*.

The perfect tenses (present perfect, past perfect, future perfect, conditional perfect) are formed using the supine, which ends in *-at*: *jag har bakat*; *jag hade bakat*; *jag ska(ll) ha bakat*; *jag skulle ha bakat*.

The present participle ends in *-ande*: *bakande*.

The past participle ends in *-ad* (neuter: *-at*, plural: *-ade*): *bakad*/*bakat/bakade*.

The imperative ends in *-a*: *baka!*

Remarks on Conjugation Class I:

1. More Swedish verbs belong to Class I than to any other class.
2. Verbs of foreign origin (almost always from French) ending in *-era* belong to Class I: *garantera*, *gratulera*, *konservera*, *markera*, *presentera*, *telefonera*, etc. The accent is on the ending *éra*, and this *e* is a tense, close vowel, reflecting its French origin.
3. Most new Swedish verbs fall into Class I.

The following verbs are sometimes considered as irregular Class I verbs, since their supine ends in *-at*; in this book they are regarded simply as irregular verbs, and placed in Class IV:

heta*	(supine: <i>hetat</i>)
kunna	(supine: <i>kunnat</i>)
leva*	(supine: <i>levat</i>)
veta	(supine: <i>vetat</i>)
vilja	(supine: <i>velat</i>)

* *heta* and *leva* are sometimes called irregular Class II verbs, because of the form of the past tense: *hette* (IIb), *levde* (IIa). Clearly, these verbs can best be regarded as simply irregular.

CONJUGATION CLASS II (Second Conjugation)

The present tense ending is *-er*: *jag ställer*, *vi ställer*; *jag köper*, *vi köper*. (The formal literary plural ending *-a* is the same as the infinitive ending: *vi ställa*, *vi köpa*.)

The past tense ending is *-de* for Class IIa verbs and *-te* for Class IIb verbs: *jag ställde*, *vi ställde*; *jag köpte*, *vi köpte*.

The future and the conditional are formed using the infinitive, which ends in *-a*: *jag ska(ll) ställa*, *jag ska(ll) köpa*; *jag skulle ställa*; *jag skulle köpa*.

The perfect tenses (present perfect, past perfect, future perfect, conditional perfect) are formed using the supine, which ends in *-t*: *jag har ställt*, *jag hade ställt*, *jag ska(ll) ha ställt*, *jag skulle ha ställt*; *jag har köpt*, *jag hade köpt*, *jag ska(ll) ha köpt*, *jag skulle ha köpt*.

The present participle ends in *-ande*: *ställande*, *köpande*.

The past participle ends in *-d* (neuter: *-t*, plural: *-da*) in Class IIa verbs. It ends in *-t* (neuter: *-t*, plural: *-ta*) in Class IIb verbs. Examples: *ställd* (*ställt*, *ställda*); *köpt* (*köpt*, *köpta*).

The imperative consists of the stem alone (infinitive minus *-a*): *ställ!* *köp!*

Remarks on Conjugation Class II:

1. The first type (IIa) includes verbs whose stem (root) ends in a voiced consonant (i.e., any consonant except *-k*, *-p*, *-s*, *-t*): *vändla*, *glömma*.

2. The second type (IIb) includes verbs whose stem (root) ends in a voiceless consonant (*-k*, *-p*, *-s*, *-t*): *sökla*, *köpla*, *läsla*, *smärtlä*. There are a few exceptions (verbs whose stem [root] ends in a voiced consonant and yet belong to Class IIb or which have Class IIb conjugation patterns as alternate forms): *bryna*, *förläna*, *läna*, *mana*, *mena*, *röna*, *skona*, *syna*, *tjäna*, *tåla*. Virtually all of these exceptions are verbs whose stem (root) ends in *-n*.

3. When the stem (root) ends in *-nd* (Class IIa), the *-d* is dropped before the past tense ending *-d*, the supine ending *-t*, and the past participle ending *-d/-t/-da*:

e.g.: *vända*: past: *vände*; supine: *vänt*; past participle: *vänd/vänt/vända*.

4. When a verb stem ends in a *-d* preceded by a vowel (Class IIa), the *d* is changed to a *-t-* before the supine ending; e.g.: *betyda*: supine: *betytt*; *föda*: supine: *fött*.

5. When the stem (root) ends in *-mm* or *-nn* (Class IIa), this double consonant is reduced to a single consonant in the past tense, supine and past participle:

e.g.: *glömma*: past: *glömde*; supine: *glömt*; past participle: *glömd/glömt/glömda*; *känna*: past: *kände*; supine: *känt*; past participle: *känd/känt/kända*.

6. When the stem (root) ends in *-mm* (Class IIa), the imperative ends in *-m*. E.g.: *glömma*: *glöm!*; *drömma*: *dröm!* [Note that *-nn* is *not*, however, reduced to *-n* in the imperative: *känna*: *känn!*; *bränna*: *bränn!*]

7. When the stem (root) ends in *-r* (Class IIa), the present tense ending *-er* is lacking: *höra*: *jag hör*; *lära*: *jag lär*.

8. When the stem (root) ends in *-t* (Class IIb) preceded by a long vowel, this *t* is doubled in the past tense, supine and past participle (and the vowel thus becomes short): *möta*: past: *mötte*; supine: *mött*; past participle: *mött/mött/mötta*; *mäta*: past: *mätte*; supine: *mätt*; past participle: *mätt/mätt/mätta*.

9. With few exceptions, all of the verbs of the second conjugation class have a soft (or “front”) vowel (e, i, y, ä, ö) as the stem (root) vowel. Some exceptions are: *befalla*, *blåsa*, *gnaga*, *läsa*, *skava*, *åka*.

The following verbs are sometimes considered as irregular Class II verbs due to their *-de* (or *-te*) past ending. However, since all of these verbs also have a change in the stem vowel*, they are

* except *skilja* and *stödja* which, in any case, lose the *-j* of the infinitive stem in the past, supine and past participle forms.

considered as Class IV verbs in this book. The verbs are given in the infinitive and past forms:

bringa:	bragte
böra:	borde
dölja:	dolde
glädja:	gladde
göra:	gjorde
lägga:	lade (now often <i>la</i>)
skilja:	skilde
smörja:	smorde
spörja:	sporde
städja:	stadde
stödja:	stödde
säga:	sade (now often <i>sa</i>)
sälja:	sälde
sätta:	satte
töras:	tordes
välja:	valde
vänja:	vande

The verbs *heta* and *leva* are sometimes considered irregular Class II verbs; see the Remarks following Class I verbs for further details.

CONJUGATION CLASS III (Third Conjugation)

The present tense ending is *-r*: *jag tror*, *vi tror*. (The formal literary plural ending is the same as the infinitive: *vi tro*.)

The past tense ending is *-dde*: *jag trodde*, *vi trodde*.

The future and conditional are formed using the infinitive, which in Conjugation Class III is almost always a monosyllabic word and which ends in a vowel other than *-a*: *jag ska(ll) tro*,

jag skulle tro. [Exceptions are prefixed verbs based on monosyllabic verbs, such as: *bero, förebrå, förmå, försma, varska, åtrå.*]

The perfect tenses (present perfect, past perfect, future perfect, conditional perfect) are formed using the supine, which ends in *-tt*: *jag har trott, jag hade trott, jag ska(ll) ha trott, jag skulle ha trott.*

The present participle ends in *-ende*: *troende, flyende, syende.* This form is indeclinable; the plural is the same.

The past participle ends in *-dd* (neuter: *-tt*, plural: *-dda*): *trodd/trott/troddा.*

The imperative is identical with the infinitive: *tro! sy! fly!*

Remarks on Conjugation Class III.

1. Few verbs belong to the third conjugation class.
2. All verbs in this class are monosyllabic (i.e., one-syllable words) or are composed of a prefix and a monosyllabic word.
3. The infinitive ends in a vowel, but not in the usual *-a* found in the other three conjugation classes.
4. There is an alternate (formal literary) plural form in the present tense, but it is different from other present tense plural forms in that it lacks the ending *-a*. [In all verb conjugation classes, including most irregular verbs, the “special” plural present tense form is identical with the infinitive.]

The following verbs are sometimes considered as irregular Class III verbs due to the fact that the infinitive is a monosyllabic word ending in a vowel other than *-a*. However, since they all undergo a vowel change in the past tense, they are all classified as Class IV verbs in this book. These verbs are: *be* [*<bedja*], *dö, få, gå, le, se, slå* and *stå*.

CONJUGATION CLASS IV (Fourth Conjugation)

The present tense ending of all strong verbs—those with a change in the vowel of the stem (root)—is *-er*: *jag finner, vi finner;*

jag skriver, vi skriver. (The formal literary plural ending *-a* is the same as the infinitive ending: *vi finna, vi skriva*).

The past tense ending of all strong verbs is lacking, but the stem (root) undergoes a vowel change: *finna: jag fann; skriva: jag skrev.* [See *Remarks* (below) regarding the formation of the formal literary past plural forms.]

The future and the conditional are formed using the infinitive, which usually ends in *-a: jag ska(ll) finna, jag skulle finna; jag ska(ll) skriva, jag skulle skriva.*

The perfect tenses (present perfect, past perfect, future perfect, conditional perfect) are formed using the supine which, for the strong verbs, ends in *-it: jag har funnit, jag hade funnit, jag ska(ll) ha funnit, jag skulle ha funnit; jag har skrivit, jag hade skrivit, jag ska(ll) ha skrivit, jag skulle ha skrivit.*

The present participle ends in *-ande: brinnande, skrivande.* Some monosyllabic Class IV verbs form their present participle with *-ende.*

The past participle of virtually all of the strong verbs ends in *-en: funnen, skriven.* The neuter form ends in *-et: funnet, skrivet.* The plural form ends in *-na: funna, skrivna.* [Since Swedish does not permit triple consonants, the *-nn* of the stem *finn* must be reduced to *-n* before the plural past participle *-na*; thus *funn* plus *-na* is *funna*.]

The imperative consists of the stem alone (infinitive minus *-a*): *finn! skriv!* [Note: *-mm* is reduced to *-m* in the imperative: *kom!*].

Remarks on Conjugation Class IV:

1. All strong verbs (those with a vowel change in the stem—or root—from the infinitive to the past tense form) belong to Class IV. Many strong verbs have an additional vowel change from the past tense to the supine/past participle stem: *finna, fann, funnit.*

2. It is customary to include all other irregular verbs in Class IV. Some reference works include only the strong verbs in Class IV, adding an additional class for “Irregular Verbs.” In this book, both strong and irregular verbs will be included in Class IV. [See section on STRONG VERB TYPES and note 7 below.]

3. When a strong verb stem ends in *-r*, the present tense ending *-er* is lacking; e.g.: *bära*: jag bär; *fara*: jag far; *göra*: jag gör; *skära*: jag skär.

4. Strong verbs have a formal (or literary) past plural form ending in *-o*. The stem vowel for such special past plural forms sometimes corresponds to the past singular vowel and sometimes to the supine vowel. This depends on the type, or class, of strong verb, which is explained below. [See also section on PLURAL VERB FORMS AND ENDINGS].

5. There are some exceptions to the rule that strong verbs have past participles ending in *-en*. For example, the verb *sprida* has the form *spridd* as its past participle, thus showing a tendency towards becoming a Class IIa verb. The supine form *spritt* exhibits this same tendency. Similarly, the verb *ligga* has a past participle *-legad*, [*förlegad*, for example], (and supine *legat*), which shows a tendency towards movement into Class I, perhaps ultimately leading to a new infinitive **lega* which would be a back-formation from *legat*. Verbs do, occasionally, wander from one verb conjugation class into another. This process takes decades, and during the transition period, both forms (or forms from both conjugation classes) may exist side-by-side. This can be seen in the index, where a number of verbs are classified as belonging to two or more verb conjugation classes.

6. The verb *bringa* is a Class IV verb (past: *bragte*; supine: *bragt*; no corresponding past participle form). Prefixed verbs based on *bringa* (for example, *anbringa*) tend to follow Class I more often than Class IV (past: *anbringade*; supine *anbringat*; past participle: *anbringad/anbringat/anbringade*.)

7. Irregular verbs have largely unpredictable forms and should simply be memorized.

Strong Verb Types

Strong verbs can be classified according to the type of vowel change which characterizes the verb. The three forms whose

vowels determine this classification are the INFINITIVE, the PAST singular, and the SUPINE. The past participle has the same stem vowel as the supine. For example, the verb *skriva* follows the *i-e-i* pattern: *skriva* – *skrev* – *skrivit*.

STRONG VERB TYPE I: *i-ä-ü* pattern.

Example: *finna*, *fann*, *funnit*.

The formal literary past plural form has the same vowel as the supine: e.g., *vi funno*. (The modern spoken and written form is *vi fann*.)

Other verbs in this class: *binda*, *brinna*, *dricka*, *rinna*, *springa*, *vinna*.

STRONG VERB TYPE II: *i-e-i* pattern.

Example: *skriva*, *skrev*, *skrivit*.

The formal literary past plural form has the same vowel as the past singular: e.g., *vi skrevo*. (The modern spoken and written form is *vi skrev*.)

Other verbs in this class: *bita*, *bli* [bliva], *gripa*, *lida*, *rida*, *sprida*. [See note on *sprida* in *Remarks on Conjugation Class IV*].

STRONG VERB TYPE III: *y (or ju)-ö-(j)u* pattern.

Examples: *flyta*, *flöt*, *flutit*
bjuda, *bjöd*, *bjudit*

The formal literary past plural form has the same vowel as the past singular: *vi flöto*, *vi bjödo*. (The modern spoken and written forms are *vi flöt* and *vi bjöd*.)

Other verbs in this class: *flyga*, *frysa*, *krypa*, *sjunga*, *sjunka*, *skjuta*.

STRONG VERB TYPE IV: miscellaneous vowel patterns.

Sub-class a: *(j)ä-a-u*. Example: *bära*, *bar*, *burit*. The formal literary past plural form has the same vowel as the supine: *vi buro*. Other verbs of this type: *stjäla*, *skära*.

Sub-class b: *a-o-a*. Example: *fara*, *for*, *farit*. The formal literary

past plural form has the same vowel as the past singular: vi foro. Other verbs of this type: dra (draga), ta (taga). [Note: present participles: *dragande*, *tagande*, which are indeclinable.] Imperatives: *dra!* [*drag!*] *ta!* [*tag!*]

Sub-class c: other vowel patterns:

falla*, föll [föllo], fallit
ge [giva]**, gav [gåvo], givit (gett)
gråta, grät [gräto], gråtit
hålla, höll [höllo], hållit
komma, kom [kommo], kommit
slå***, slog [slogo], slagit
svära (svärja), svor [svuro], svurit
vara, var [voro], varit
äta, åt [åto], ätit

A Short Cut to Swedish Strong Verbs

GIVEN: A passive recognition of strong verbs (i.e., the student need only recognize whether or not a given verb is strong). If the verb is recognized as a strong verb, the following rules apply:

RULE 1: If the vowel of the infinitive stem is *-a-*, the verb follows the pattern *a-o-a* if the vowel precedes a single consonant, and the pattern *a-ö-a* if the vowel precedes a double consonant.

Example: fara-for-farit
falla-föll-fallit

RULE 2: If the vowel of the infinitive stem is *-i-*, the verb follows

* Note that *befalla* is a weak verb (Class IIa).

** present tense: *ger* (*giver*); present participle: *givande*; past participle: *given/givet/givna*; imperative: *ge!* [*giv!*]

*** present tense: *slår*.

the pattern *i-e-i* if the vowel precedes a single consonant, and the pattern *i-a-u* if the vowel precedes a double consonant. See note below.

Example: skriva-skrev-skrivit
finna-fann-funnit

RULE 3: If the vowel of the infinitive stem is *-o-*, the verb follows the pattern *o-o-o*.

Example: komma-kom-kommit

RULE 4: If the vowel of the infinitive stem is *-u-*, the verb follows the pattern *u-ö-u*.

Example: njuta-njöt-njutit.

RULE 5: If the vowel of the infinitive stem is *-y-*, the verb follows the pattern *y-ö-u* if the vowel precedes a single consonant, and the pattern *y-ö-y* if the vowel precedes a double consonant.

Example: smyga-smög-smugit
nysa-nös-nyst (supine has the double consonant)

RULE 6: If the vowel of the infinitive stem is a modified symbol (*å*, *ä* or *ö*), the verb must be memorized. The following chart may provide a somewhat systematic approach:

<i>å-i-å</i> :	få-fick-fått
	gå-gick-gått
<i>å-o-a</i> :	slå-slog-slagit
	slåss-slogs-slagits
<i>å-o-å</i> :	stå-stod-stått

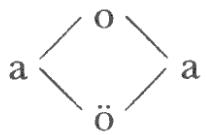
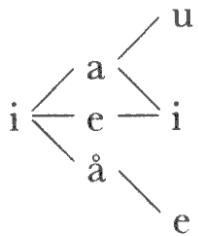
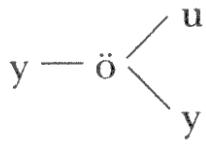
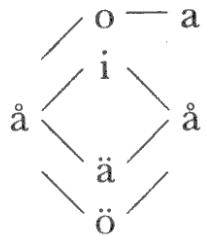
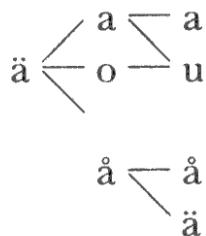
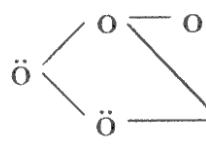
NOTE: The two exceptions to rule two are: *giva-gav-givit* and *ligga-läg-legat*. They must be memorized.

å-ä-å :	gråta-grät-gråtit låta-lät-låtit
å-ö-å :	hålla-höll-hållit
ä-a-a :	glädja-gladde-glatt lägga-la(de)-lagt säga-sa(de)-sagt sätta-satte-satt välja-valde-valt vänja-vande-vant
ä-a-u :	bära-bar-burit skära-skar-skurit stjäla-stal-stulit svälta-svalt-svultit
ä-o-u :	svär(j)a-svor-svurit
ä-å-å :	sälja-sålde-sålt
ä-å-ä :	äta-åt-ätit
ö-o-o :	böra-borde-bort dölja-dolde-dolt göra-gjorde-gjort töras-tordes-torts
ö-o-ö :	dö-dog-dött
ö-ö-ö :	stödja-stödde-stött

RULE 7: Some strong verbs are very irregular and should be memorized:

be(dja)-bad-bett
ge (giva)-gav-givit (gett)
heta-hette-hetat
le-log-lett
leva-levde-levat (levt)
ligga-låg-legat
se-såg-sett
veta-visste-vetat

Schematic Charts of Strong Verb Vowel Patterns:

Rule	Vowel Pattern	Example
RULE 1:		fara – for – farit falla – föll – fallit
RULE 2:		finna – fann – funnit giva – gav – givit skriva – skrev – skrivit ligga – låg – legat
RULE 3:		sova –sov – sovit
RULE 4:		njuta – njöt – njutit
RULE 5:		smyga – smög – smugit nysa – nös – nyst
RULE 6:		slå – slog – slagit få – fick – fått låta – lät – låtit hålla – höll – hållit
		glädja – gladde – glatt bära – bar – burit svär(j)a – svor – svurit sälja – sålde – sålt äta – åt – ätit
		göra – gjorde – gjort dö – dog – dött stödja – stödde – stött

How to Master Swedish Strong Verbs in One Hour or Less

1. Read the list of strong verbs aloud three to five times slowly and carefully. This list contains the most common strong verbs, those which you may expect to encounter in elementary and intermediate level studies. You do *not* have to memorize this list, but you should be able to say whether or not a verb is included on the list.
2. Read the preceding section, "A Short Cut to Swedish Strong Verbs." Again, you do not have to memorize its contents, but you should be sure that you have read it carefully and understand it.
3. **MEMORIZE THIS CHART AND APPLY IT WHEN YOU RECOGNIZE A STRONG VERB:**

	if infinitive stem vowel is:	preceding single consonant, the vowel pattern is:	preceding double consonant, the vowel pattern is:
(Rule 1.)	-a-	a-o-a	a-ö-a
(Rule 2.)	-i-	i-e-i	i-a-u
(Rule 3.)	-o-	o-o-o	o-o-o
(Rule 4.)	-u-	u-ö-u	u-ö-u
(Rule 5.)	-y-	y-ö-u	y-ö-y
(Rule 6.)	-å-, -ä-, -ö-	see preceding section for forms	

List of Common Swedish Strong Verbs

Verbs which have stems in **-a-**, **-i-**, **-o-**, **-u-**, and **-y-** and which can be learned using the above chart:

binda	gala	pipa	snyta
bita	gjuta	rida	sova
bjudा	glida	rinna	spinna
bli(va)	gnida	riva	spricka
brinna	gripa	ryta	sprida
brista	hinna	sitta	springa
bryta	hugga	sjuda	sticka
dra(ga)	kliva	sjunga	stiga
dricka	klyva	sjunka	strida
driva	knyta	skina	stryka
duga	komma	skjuta**	supa
falla	krypa	skrida	svida
fara	lida	skrika	svika
finna	ljuda	skriva	ta(ga)
finnas	ljuga	skryta	tiga
flyga	lyda*	slippa	tjuta
flyta	niga	slita	vina
frysa	njuta	sluta	vinna
försvinna	nysa*	smyga	vrida

* double consonant in supine: *lytt, nyst*.

** lacks *-j-* in past: *sköt*.

I have not included many of the actual verb lists here – just a sample so you can see the format. I simply can't be bothered to scan them all.

INDICATIVE			(att) <i>arbeta</i> (I)
<i>Present</i>	jag arbetar du arbetar han arbetar	vi arbetar [arbeta] ni arbetar [arbeta] de arbetar [arbeta]	<i>to work</i>
<i>Past</i>	jag arbetade du arbetade han arbetade	vi arbetade ni arbetade de arbetade	
<i>Future</i>	jag ska(ll) arbeta du ska(ll) arbeta han ska(ll) arbeta	vi ska(ll) [skola] arbeta ni ska(ll) [skola] arbeta de ska(ll) [skola] arbeta	
<i>Conditional</i>	jag skulle arbeta du skulle arbeta han skulle arbeta	vi skulle arbeta ni skulle arbeta de skulle arbeta	
<i>Present</i>	jag har arbetat du har arbetat han har arbetat	vi har [ha] [hava] arbetat ni har [ha] [hava] arbetat de har [ha] [hava] arbetat	
<i>Perfect</i>		vi hade arbetat ni hade arbetat de hade arbetat	
<i>Past Perfect</i>	jag hade arbetat du hade arbetat han hade arbetat	vi kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola] ha [hava] arbetat ni kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola] ha [hava] arbetat de kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola] ha [hava] arbetat	
<i>Future</i>	jag kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] arbetat du kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] arbetat han kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] arbetat	vi skulle ha [hava] arbetat ni skulle ha [hava] arbetat de skulle ha [hava] arbetat	
<i>Conditional</i>	jag skulle ha [hava] arbetat		
<i>Perfect</i>	du skulle ha [hava] arbetat han skulle ha [hava] arbetat		

	INDICATIVE	(att) <i>fara</i> (IV)
<i>Present</i>	jag far du far han far	vi far [fara] ni far [fara] de far [fara]
<i>Past</i>	jag for du for han for	vi for [foro] ni for [foro] de for [foro]
<i>Future</i>	jag ska(ll) fara du ska(ll) fara han ska(ll) fara	vi ska(ll) [skola] fara ni ska(ll) [skola] fara de ska(ll) [skola] fara
<i>Conditional</i>	jag skulle fara du skulle fara han skulle fara	vi skulle fara ni skulle fara de skulle fara
<i>Present</i>	jag har farit	vi har [ha] [hava] farit
<i>Perfect</i>	du har farit han har farit	ni har [ha] [hava] farit de har [ha] [hava] farit
<i>Past Perfect</i>	jag hade farit du hade farit han hade farit	vi hade farit ni hade farit de hade farit
<i>Future</i>	jag kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] farit	vi kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola]
<i>Perfect</i>	du kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] farit	ha [hava] farit
	han kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] farit	ni kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola]
		ha [hava] farit
<i>Conditional</i>	jag skulle ha [hava] farit	de kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola]
<i>Perfect</i>	du skulle ha [hava] farit	ha [hava] farit
	han skulle ha [hava] farit	vi skulle ha [hava] farit
		ni skulle ha [hava] farit
		de skulle ha [hava] farit

INDICATIVE			<i>(att) finna (IV)</i>
<i>Present</i>	jag finner du finner han finner	vi finner [finna] ni finner [finna] de finner [finna]	<i>to find</i>
<i>Past</i>	jag fann du fann han fann	vi fann [funno] ni fann [funno] de fann [funno]	
<i>Future</i>	jag ska(ll) finna du ska(ll) finna han ska(ll) finna	vi ska(ll) [skola] finna ni ska(ll) [skola] finna de ska(ll) [skola] finna	
<i>Conditional</i>	jag skulle finna du skulle finna han skulle finna	vi skulle finna ni skulle finna de skulle finna	
<i>Present</i>	jag har funnit	vi har [ha] [hava] funnit	
<i>Perfect</i>	du har funnit han har funnit	ni har [ha] [hava] funnit de har [ha] [hava] funnit	
<i>Past Perfect</i>	jag hade funnit du hade funnit han hade funnit	vi hade funnit ni hade funnit de hade funnit	
<i>Future</i>	jag kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] funnit	vi kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola]	
<i>Perfect</i>	du kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] funnit	ha [hava] funnit ni kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola]	
	han kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] funnit	ha [hava] funnit de kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola]	
<i>Conditional</i>	jag skulle ha [hava] funnit	vi skulle ha [hava] funnit	
<i>Perfect</i>	du skulle ha [hava] funnit han skulle ha [hava] funnit	ni skulle ha [hava] funnit de skulle ha [hava] funnit	

INDICATIVE			(att) <i>sluta*</i> (I)
<i>Present</i>	jag slutar du slutar han slutar	{	vi slutar [sluta] ni slutar [sluta] de slutar [sluta]
<i>Past</i>	jag slutade du slutade han slutade		vi slutade ni slutade de slutade
<i>Future</i>	jag ska(ll) sluta du ska(ll) sluta han ska(ll) sluta		vi ska(ll) [skola] sluta ni ska(ll) [skola] sluta de ska(ll) [skola] sluta
<i>Conditional</i>	jag skulle sluta du skulle sluta han skulle sluta		vi har [ha] [hava] slutat ni har [ha] [hava] slutat de har [ha] [hava] slutat
<i>Present</i>	jag har slutat		vi har [ha] [hava] slutat
<i>Perfect</i>	du har slutat han har slutat		ni har [ha] [hava] slutat de har [ha] [hava] slutat
<i>Past Perfect</i>	jag hade slutat du hade slutat han hade slutat		vi hade slutat ni hade slutat de hade slutat
<i>Future</i>	jag kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] slutat		vi kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola]
<i>Perfect</i>	du kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] slutat		ha [hava] slutat ni kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola]
	han kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] slutat		ha [hava] slutat de kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola]
<i>Conditional</i>	jag skulle ha [hava] slutat		vi skulle ha [hava] slutat
<i>Perfect</i>	du skulle ha [hava] slutat han skulle ha [hava] slutat		ni skulle ha [hava] slutat de skulle ha [hava] slutat

* *sluta* (I) is used where the subject submissively or unintentionally comes to a conclusion and tends therefore to be used only in the third person; for example: *filmen slutade* 'the movie ended'; *boken hade slutat med en överraskning* 'the book ended with a surprise'; etc. [NOTE: *sluta* (IV) is often replaced by *sluta* (I) – with a transitive meaning – in colloquial Swedish: *jag har slutat arbetet* 'I have finished the work'; also *jag har slutat arbeta* 'I have finished working'].

INDICATIVE			(att) <i>sluta*</i> (IV)
<i>Present</i>	jag sluter du sluter han sluter	vi sluter [sluta] ni sluter [sluta] de sluter [sluta]	(transitive) <i>to close,</i> <i>conclude,</i>
<i>Past</i>	jag slöt du slöt han slöt	vi slöt [slöto] ni slöt [slöto] de slöt [slöto]	<i>finish,</i> <i>bring to a</i> <i>conclusion</i>
<i>Future</i>	jag ska(ll) sluta du ska(ll) sluta han ska(ll) sluta	vi ska(ll) [skola] sluta ni ska(ll) [skola] sluta de ska(ll) [skola] sluta	
<i>Conditional</i>	jag skulle sluta du skulle sluta han skulle sluta	vi skulle sluta ni skulle sluta de skulle sluta	
<i>Present</i>	jag har slutit	vi har [ha] [hava] slutit	
<i>Perfect</i>	du har slutit han har slutit	ni har [ha] [hava] slutit de har [ha] [hava] slutit	
<i>Past Perfect</i>	jag hade slutit du hade slutit han hade slutit	vi hade slutit ni hade slutit de hade slutit	
<i>Future</i>	jag kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] slutit	vi kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola] ha [hava] slutit	
<i>Perfect</i>	du kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] slutit han kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] slutit	ni kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola] ha [hava] slutit de kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola] ha [hava] slutit	
<i>Conditional</i>	jag skulle ha [hava] slutit	vi skulle ha [hava] slutit	
<i>Perfect</i>	du skulle ha [hava] slutit han skulle ha [hava] slutit	ni skulle ha [hava] slutit de skulle ha [hava] slutit	

* *sluta* (IV) is used where the subject purposefully brings something to a conclusion, or intentionally closes something. It is used in all persons; for example: *jag slöt ögonen* 'I closed my eyes'; *han hade slutit ringen* 'he closed the circle'; *de slöt fred med fienden* 'they concluded peace with the enemy'; *kungen slöt förbund* 'the king concluded (i.e., formed) an alliance'; etc. [NOTE: *sluta* (IV) is often replaced by *sluta* (I) in colloquial Swedish; see NOTE on preceding page.]

INDICATIVE

(att) *slå* (IV)

<i>Present</i>	jag slår du slår han slår	vi slår [slå] ni slår [slå] de slår [slå]	<i>to beat, strike</i>
<i>Past</i>	jag slog du slog han slog	vi slog [slogo] ni slog [slogo] de slog [slogo]	
<i>Future</i>	jag ska(ll) slå du ska(ll) slå han ska(ll) slå	vi ska(ll) [skola] slå ni ska(ll) [skola] slå de ska(ll) [skola] slå	
<i>Conditional</i>	jag skulle slå du skulle slå han skulle slå	vi skulle slå ni skulle slå de skulle slå	
<i>Present Perfect</i>	jag har slagit du har slagit han har slagit	vi har [ha] [hava] slagit ni har [ha] [hava] slagit de har [ha] [hava] slagit	
<i>Past Perfect</i>	jag hade slagit du hade slagit han hade slagit	vi hade slagit ni hade slagit de hade slagit	
<i>Future Perfect</i>	jag kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] slagit du kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] slagit han kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] slagit	vi kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola] ha [hava] slagit ni kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola] ha [hava] slagit de kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola] ha [hava] slagit	
<i>Conditional Perfect</i>	jag skulle ha [hava] slagit du skulle ha [hava] slagit han skulle ha [hava] slagit	vi skulle ha [hava] slagit ni skulle ha [hava] slagit de skulle ha [hava] slagit	

INDICATIVE			(att) <i>svälta*</i> (IV)
<i>Present</i>	jag svälter du svälter han svälter	vi svälter [svälta] ni svälter [svälta] de svälter [svälta]	<i>(intransitive)</i> <i>to starve</i>
<i>Past</i>	jag svalt du svalt han svalt	vi svalt [svulto] ni svalt [svulto] de svalt [svulto]	
<i>Future</i>	jag ska(ll) svälta du ska(ll) svälta han ska(ll) svälta	vi ska(ll) [skola] svälta ni ska(ll) [skola] svälta de ska(ll) [skola] svälta	
<i>Conditional</i>	jag skulle svälta du skulle svälta han skulle svälta	vi skulle svälta ni skulle svälta de skulle svälta	
<i>Present</i>	jag har svultit	vi har [ha] [hava] svultit	
<i>Perfect</i>	du har svultit han har svultit	ni har [ha] [hava] svultit de har [ha] [hava] svultit	
<i>Past Perfect</i>	jag hade svultit du hade svultit han hade svultit	vi hade svultit ni hade svultit de hade svultit	
<i>Future</i>	jag kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] svultit	vi kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola] ha [hava] svultit	
<i>Perfect</i>	du kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] svultit han kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] svultit	ni kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola] ha [hava] svultit de kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola] ha [hava] svultit	
<i>Conditional</i>	jag skulle ha [hava] svultit	vi skulle ha [hava] svultit	
<i>Perfect</i>	du skulle ha [hava] svultit han skulle ha [hava] svultit	ni skulle ha [hava] svultit de skulle ha [hava] svultit	

* *svälta* (IV) means 'to starve' (involuntarily).

INDICATIVE			(att) <i>svälta (IIb or IV)*</i>
<i>Present</i>	jag svälter du svälter han svälter	vi svälter [svälta] ni svälter [svälta] de svälter [svälta]	(transitive) <i>to starve (out),</i> <i>starve (someone)</i>
<i>Past</i>	jag svälte (svalt) du svälte (svalt) han svälte (svalt)	vi svälte (svalt) ni svälte (svalt) de svälte (svalt)	
<i>Future</i>	jag ska(ll) svälta du ska(ll) svälta han ska(ll) svälta	vi ska(ll) [skola] svälta ni ska(ll) [skola] svälta de ska(ll) [skola] svälta	
<i>Conditional</i>	jag skulle svälta du skulle svälta han skulle svälta	vi skulle svälta ni skulle svälta de skulle svälta	
<i>Present</i>	jag har svält	vi har [ha] [hava] svält	
<i>Perfect</i>	du har svält han har svält	ni har [ha] [hava] svält de har [ha] [hava] svält	
<i>Past Perfect</i>	jag hade svält du hade svält han hade svält	vi hade svält ni hade svält de hade svält	
<i>Future</i>	jag kommer att [ska(ll)]	vi kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola]	
<i>Perfect</i>	ha [hava] svält du kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] svält han kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] svält	ha [hava] svält ni kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola] ha [hava] svält de kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola] ha [hava] svält	
<i>Conditional</i>	jag skulle ha [hava] svält	vi skulle ha [hava] svält	
<i>Perfect</i>	du skulle ha [hava] svält han skulle ha [hava] svält	ni skulle ha [hava] svält de skulle ha [hava] svält	

* *svälta* as a transitive verb is basically a Class IIb verb (note that the supine has only the regular IIb form: *svält*). However, the past form *svälte* co-exists with a strong form *svalt*, through contamination by confusion with the intransitive verb *svälta* (q.v.); *svälta sig* (IIb) means 'to starve oneself' (intentionally).

INDICATIVE			(att) <i>vara</i> (IV)
<i>Present</i>	jag är du är han är	vi är [äro] ni är [äro] de är [äro]	<i>to be</i>
<i>Past</i>	jag var du var han var	vi var [voro] ni var [voro] de var [voro]	
<i>Future</i>	jag ska(ll) vara du ska(ll) vara han ska(ll) vara	vi ska(ll) [skola] vara ni ska(ll) [skola] vara de ska(ll) [skola] vara	
<i>Conditional</i>	jag skulle vara du skulle vara han skulle vara	vi skulle vara ni skulle vara de skulle vara	
<i>Present</i>	jag har varit	vi har [ha] [hava] varit	
<i>Perfect</i>	du har varit han har varit	ni har [ha] [hava] varit de har [ha] [hava] varit	
<i>Past Perfect</i>	jag hade varit du hade varit han hade varit	vi hade varit ni hade varit de hade varit	
<i>Future</i>	jag kommer att [ska(ll)]	vi kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola]	
<i>Perfect</i>	ha [hava] varit du kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] varit han kommer att [ska(ll)] ha [hava] varit	ha [hava] varit ni kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola] ha [hava] varit de kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola] ha [hava] varit	
<i>Conditional</i>	jag skulle ha [hava] varit	vi skulle ha [hava] varit	
<i>Perfect</i>	du skulle ha [hava] varit han skulle ha [hava] varit	ni skulle ha [hava] varit de skulle ha [hava] varit	

INDICATIVE

(att) veta (IV)

<i>Present</i>	jag vet du vet han vet	vi vet [veta] ni vet [veta] de vet [veta]	<i>to know</i> <i>(something)</i>
<i>Past</i>	jag visste du visste han visste	vi visste ni visste de visste	
<i>Future</i>	jag ska(ll) veta du ska(ll) veta han ska(ll) veta	vi ska(ll) [skola] veta ni ska(ll) [skola] veta de ska(ll) [skola] veta	
<i>Conditional</i>	jag skulle veta du skulle veta han skulle veta	vi skulle veta ni skulle veta de skulle veta	
<i>Present</i>	jag har vetat	vi har [ha] [hava] vetat	
<i>Perfect</i>	du har vetat han har vetat	ni har [ha] [hava] vetat de har [ha] [hava] vetat	
<i>Past Perfect</i>	jag hade vetat du hade vetat han hade vetat	vi hade vetat ni hade vetat de hade vetat	
<i>Future</i>	jag kommer att [ska(ll)]	vi kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola]	
<i>Perfect</i>	ha [hava] vetat	ha [hava] vetat	
	du kommer att [ska(ll)]	ni kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola]	
	ha [hava] vetat	ha [hava] vetat	
	han kommer att [ska(ll)]	de kommer att [ska(ll)] [skola]	
	ha [hava] vetat	ha [hava] vetat	
<i>Conditional</i>	jag skulle ha [hava] vetat	vi skulle ha [hava] vetat	
<i>Perfect</i>	du skulle ha [hava] vetat	ni skulle ha [hava] vetat	
	han skulle ha [hava] vetat	de skulle ha [hava] vetat	