

***-(i)jana²** Runic: (|)᛫ᛦᛦᛦᛦ Pronunciation: /i.ja.nã/

suffix · forms verbs · Weak class 3

Function

1. forms Weak class 3 stative and durative verbs, often with the sense ‘be X, have the quality of X, re-main in the state X’
2. forms a small number of deverbal duratives and denominative or deadjectival factitives

Etymology

From a pre-Germanic thematic renewal of the older Proto-Indo-European athematic stative suffix **-éh₁-*. In PIE, this suffix formed stative presents and appears to have been accented, non-ablauting, and athematic, as reflected by Latin second-conjugation statives such as *rubēre* < **h₁rudh-éh₁-* and *tacēre* < post-PIE **tak-éh₁-* (Ringe 2017: 157, 203–206). In Proto-Germanic, however, the inherited athematic stative was replaced by a new thematic suffix complex **-ǣ-yé/ó-* (Bennett 1962), apparently from **-h₁-yé/ó-*. According to Ringe, this arose when passive/resultative participles in **-h₁-tó-* were created beside the old stative presents; the suffix complex developed regularly to **-ǣ-tó-*, and new presents in **-ǣ-yé/ó-* were then back-formed from those participles (Ringe 2017: 157).

In PGmc this yielded the class 3 weak-verb alternation **-ai- ~ *-ja-*, with **-ai-* continuing the e-grade-like alternant and **-ja-* continuing the zero-grade/thematic alternant. This alternation is preserved most clearly in relics such as Old Norse *segja* and *þegja*, and is presupposed by northern West Germanic class 3 forms; Gothic and the majority Old Norse type later generalized or remodeled parts of the paradigm, while Old High German generalized *-ē-* < **-ai-* (Fulk 2018: 308–13; Ringe 2017: 158, 286–89). Ringe treats Weak class 3 as historically connected with PIE **ē* < **-eh₁-*, with or without a thematicizing suffix, and notes that a major PIE use was deadjectival statives meaning ‘have the quality of the adjective’, alongside deverbal duratives and some Gothic factitives.

Conjugation

The suffix varies as *-janə / *-ijanə based on Siever’s Law: the basic *-janə form is used after a “light” syllable (a short vowel followed by a single consonant), and otherwise, the form becomes *-ijanə.

Paradigm

Present active

Person	Indicative	Subjunctive	Imperative
1st singular	jō, -ijō	-jaʉ, -ijaʉ	-
2nd singular	-aisi, -aīsi	-jais, -ijais	-ai, -ai
3rd singular	-aiḅi, -aīḅi	-jai, -ijai	-jaḅau, -ijaḅau
1st dual	-jōs, -ijōs	-jaiw, -ijaiw	-
2nd dual	-jaḅiz, -ijaḅiz	-jaiḅiz, -ijaiḅiz	-jaḅiz, -ijaḅiz
1st plural	-jamaz, -ijamaz	-jaim, -ijaim	-
2nd plural	-aiḅ, -aiḅ	-jaiḅ, -ijaiḅ	-aiḅ, -aīḅ
3rd plural	-janḅi, -ijanḅi	-jain, -ijain	-janḅau, -ijanḅau

Present passive

Person	Indicative	Subjunctive
1st singular	-	-
2nd singular	-	-
3rd singular	-	-
1st dual	-	-
2nd dual	-	-
1st plural	-	-
2nd plural	-	-
3rd plural	-	-

Past

Person	Indicative	Subjunctive
1st singular	-dō	-dēdī
2nd singular	-dēz	-dēdīz
3rd singular	-dē	-dēdī
1st dual	-dēdū	-dēdīw
2nd dual	-dēdudiz	-dēdīdiz
1st plural	-dēdum	-dēdīm
2nd plural	-dēdud	-dēdīd
3rd plural	-dēdun	-dēdīn

Non-finite Forms

Infinitive	Present Participle	Past Participle
-(i)janā	-jandz, -ijandz	-daz

Descendants

- an (Old English)
- ēn (Old High German)
 - en (Middle High German)
 - en (German)
- ian (Old Saxon)
- ja (Old Norse)
 - ja (Faroese)
 - ja (Icelandic)
- 𐌶𐌵 (-an) (Gothic)

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Related Words

Entries that mention this word

- *abnijanā verb
- *aglijanā verb
- *ailijanā verb
- *aldijanā verb
- *algijanā verb
- *ambahtijanā verb