

Contents

Preface	7
A Introduction – Frisian: the second official language of the Netherlands	8
A1. Frisian as a Germanic language	8
A2. North-Frisian, East-Frisian and West-Frisian	9
A3. Frisian throughout time	11
A4. Fryslân: a bilingual province	12
B Sound and spelling	14
B1 Consonants	14
B2 Vowels	16
B2.1. Short vowels	16
B2.2. Long vowels	18
B2.3. Diphthongs	20
B3 Some important rules of pronunciation	22
B3.1. Final <i>-(e)n</i> .	22
B3.2. Nasal vowels	24
B3.3. Breaking and shortening	26
B4 Some spelling rules	30
C Linguistic rules	32
C1. Verbs	34
C1.1. Forms of the verb	34
C1.2. The infinitive; the stem of the verb.	36
C1.3. The finite form	38
C1.4. The imperative	40
C1.5. Regular and irregular verbs: main forms.	42
C1.6. The conjugation of the regular verbs in <i>-e</i>	44
C1.7. The conjugation of the regular verbs in <i>-je</i>	48
C1.8. Irregular verbs	52
C1.9. Verbs combined into verb clusters	54
C1.9.1. Main verb – auxiliary	54
C1.9.2. Frisian perfect participle – Dutch infinitive	58
C1.9.3. The order of the verbs and the position of the finite form.	60
C1.9.4. The <i>n</i> -form: the use of some auxiliaries.	62
C1.9.5. Compound verbs and (in)separability.	64
C1.10. Frisian grammatical tenses	66
C2 Nouns	68
C2.1. Plurals	68
C2.2. Diminutives	70
C2.3. <i>De-</i> and <i>it-</i> words	72
C2.4. The ending <i>-s</i>	72
C2.5. Compounds and linking letters	74

C3 Articles	76
C4 Adjectives	78
C4.1. The degrees of comparison	78
C4.2. Inflection of adjectives	80
C5 Numerals	82
C6 Pronouns	86
C6.1. Personal pronouns	86
C6.2. Reflexive pronouns	90
C6.3. Reciprocal pronouns	90
C6.4. Possessive pronouns	92
C6.5. Demonstrative pronouns	94
C6.6. Interrogative pronouns	96
C6.7. Indefinite pronouns	98
C6.8. Relative pronouns	98
C7 Prepositions and postpositions	100
C8 Adverbs	102
C9 Conjunctions / linking words	106
C9.1. Coordinating conjunctions	106
C9.2. Subordinating conjunctions	108
C9.3. Other linking words: relative words	112
C10 Interjections	116
Appendices	118
Appendix 1 - Alphabetical list of irregular verbs	118
Appendix 2 - List of irregular plurals	126
Appendix 3 - Keys to the exercises	127
Appendix 4 - Useful addresses	139
Appendix 5 - Register	140