BASQUE PALINDROMES

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Recently, I've been looking through foreign language dictionaries in search of additions to Jeff Grant's The Palindromicon (Word Ways Monograph Series 3). I've found an unusual set of them in the Basque-English Dictionary by Gorky Aulestin which I would like to share with Word Ways readers.

First, the palindromes found without modification:

EDADE age
ELE-MLE chatter, gossip
EZ EZE except, but
EZTITZE act of sweetening
ISUSI place where furze grows (also used as a surname)
ITZEZTI sweet talk
IXI be quiet
OKERREKO wrong, mistaken
TURRUT joke
UJUJU aha
USTETSU ingenious
UXU cry of happiness

There were also two notable near-misses:

TTIPITTO tiny
TXEPETX wren

Not being satisfied with this list, I sought inflected forms within the language. The dictionary had a section in the front that described the grammar of Basque.

Basque, as most of you know, is the only non-Indo-European language spoken in western Europe. As you might expect, its grammar is much different from that of English, French or Spanish. For example, the definite article is the suffix "-a", the indefinite article is the word "ba til, and it follows the noun as do adjectives. Also, if a noun is modified, the definite article is usually added to the adjective but not to the noun.

These palindromes are a combination of articles with nouns and adjectives:

AOKOA the hit on the mouth
AUTATUA the elected (adjective)
AUTUA the conversation
TABU BAT a tabu

Like Indo-European languages, Basque reflects nouns to indicate case. There of which, to thermore, it and neuter is animate or whether it is animate and what are considered

Unless in the subject, are final case. For article; for

ARASARA to
IRAARI to
IRAKARI to
IRALARI to
IRARI to a
IRUZURI to
KAXAK box
KI KIKIKIK
KILIK-KILT
KIRARIK a,
KIRRIK sound
KITARRATIK
KOROK sound
KURRURUKIK
OKAKO sur
ZAMAZ load
ZANAZ vein
ZAPA-ZAPA
ZARRA-MARK
ZARRAPARK
ZATAZ cruel
ZEDEZ limit
ZEHEZ pale
ZIRIZ choose
ZOKOZ correct
ZIRIZZI correct
ZOKOZ correct
ZOROZ clear
ZOZOZ black
ZUKUZ sound
ZURURURU
ZURURURU
ZURUZ smooth

These are ones that a number of with the same, they will have with greater
dictionaries

In the Instrumental case. For animate nouns, the "-z" indicates the indefinite article; for inanimate nouns, the definite article.

ARASARA to the shelf (-ra = Allative case)
IRAARI to the fern (-ari = Dative case, definite article)
IRAKARI to a weed (-ri = Dative case, indefinite article)
IRALARI to a fern field (Dative, indefinite)
IRARI to a fern (Dative, indefinite)
IRUZURI to a fraud or trick (Dative, indefinite)
KAXAX box, chest
KIKIRIKIK cockle-doodle-do, crow of a young rooster
KILIK-KILIK tickling
KIRARIK age or season (-rik = Partative)
KIRRIK sound or sensation of grinding teeth
KITARRATIK guitar (-tik = Ablative)
KORROK sound of a belch
KUKURRUKUK cockle-doodle-doo, crow of a rooster
OKAKO surfeit, satiety (-ko = Locative)
ZAMAZ load or burden
ZANAZ vein or artery
ZAPA-ZAPAZ sound indicating abundance or continuous movement
ZARRA-MARRAZ residue, trash
ZARRAPARRAZ ruckus or clamor
ZATAZ crudely made sandal
ZEDEZ limit or boundary marker
ZEHED palm or hand
ZIRIZ chock, dowel or cotter pin
ZOKOX corner or secret place
ZIRRIZ petting (sexual touching)
ZOKOX corner or secret place
ZOROZ craziness (or a crazy person)
ZOOZO blackbird
ZUZUZ soup
ZUZURUBERRUZ murmuring
ZUZURUMURRUZ rumor
ZUZURUZ snoring

These are not the only Basque palindromes; rather, they are ones that are additions to the Palindromicon. I did not record a number of palindromes for which there was already an entry with the same spelling. I also did not look at verbal inflections; they will have to wait for later research or perhaps a researcher with greater fortitude.