

Linguistic connections between Basques and Slavs (Veneti) in antiquity

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The publication of the monumental book *“Veneti, naši davni predniki“*, by Bor, Šavli, and Tomažič⁽¹⁾ can be compared to nothing less than the igniting of a bonfire to light the darkness, a darkness which correctly describes the written history of the Slovenian people up to that point. It is not so much that their major thesis, i.e., the aboriginal nature of Slovenes and Slavs in general, has not previously been considered (indeed, previous thinkers are well documented), it is that it has never been put together so logically, with so much compelling evidence, such coherence, and such boldness. For the first time, it appears, Slovenes are allowed to write their own history without foreign domination. It is not our purpose here to question or even supplement the main thesis – this we accept as now a given – but rather to look into some of the lesser aspects of their work to see if we, the eager and supportive amateurs, can fit together the small pieces which they left unattended.

One such small piece is the tantalizing suggestion that there appears to be a linguistic connection between the Slovenian and Basque languages (other languages are touched on as well, but we concentrate on the Basques). A few cursory examples are given in the book, enough to wet the appetite, but not enough to give strength to the argument. We have decided to look further into this question in the hope of shedding additional light on the matter. The tools at our disposal are meager, consisting primarily of the Basque,⁽²⁾ as well as Slovenian,⁽³⁾ and Czech⁽⁴⁾ dictionaries. We compare the modern Basque language with the modern Slovenian and Czech languages, which immediately suggests that we have eliminated a whole segment of the comparison. Without doubt knowledge of the more antique forms of each language would be very useful since similarities, if they ever existed, are slowly erased with time. Nonetheless we hoped that enough evidence has remained to this day to allow a definitive statement on any linguistic connection.

It may yet be, of course, that modern techniques of DNA analysis will either prove or disprove anything we say here. These techniques, while still in their early stages, have the potential of being model free and definitive. We do not believe that they have yet arrived at their full potential, so that there is still room for other techniques, such as linguistic comparisons, to answer some questions. Should it eventually be proven via DNA that there is no connection between Basques and Slav peoples, however, we will be left with the mystery of the linguistic similarities which we hope to show below, are far beyond accidental. Perhaps the similarities in that case stem from an intermixing or a trade language.

Before launching into a linguistic comparison, it is tantalizing to speculate about the very name Basques. The Roman appellation for these people was Vascones, sometimes written as Vascani. It is easy to see how the betatism has transformed the “V” into a “B” to result in the modern word. But the occasional writing of Vascones as Vascani is curious. It does not take much imagination to transform the word into Vaščani, which immediately provides a link to Slovenian, or Venetic, language. It should be remembered that one of the major themes of Bor et al.⁽¹⁾ is that the distinguishing feature of the Veneti is their basic cultural unit, the Village. Might it not be possible that the Basques originally called themselves “The Village People” or Vaščani?

[Allowing ourselves one more bit of speculation regarding Roman writing, we look at the word Druids, or the wood people who worshiped trees on the British Isles. Since the Romans generally used the printed letter V whenever a U is called-for, it is very likely that they wrote DRVIDES for Druides. But might it not be so that in this

particular case they really wanted to use the letter V? In that case we are talking about Drvides, which immediately suggests the word **drva** or **drevo**. The connection between the name Druids and the tree worship then becomes much more logical. Granted this is stretching things a bit, but it is food for thought.]

As we stated in our abstract, a cursory examination of the Basque language would suggest at most an accidental connection between Slavic and Basque. Indeed, we were prepared to abandon the project when one of us (PJ) noticed an unusually high correspondence among words, which surely would have already existed in antiquity. These include such words as relating to body parts, geographical features, agricultural terms, and the lexicon of hunters and gatherers in general. Our initial attention was particularly focused on the word *gori* and its combinations, which in Basque describe many items dealing with heat or burning, as well as items dealing with elevation, highest praise, high passion, and higher authority. Strangely enough, or perhaps not so strangely, this is identical to what is used in the Slovenian language. The indefinite verb “to burn” is in Basque actually *erraustu*, while words derived from *gori* refer perhaps more to heat. Nonetheless, the similarity is stunning. The word for flame is *gar*, which in Slovenian has been softened to **žar**. While *gori* is an adjective describing a burning item more correctly called **goreči** in Slovenian, the adjective *goren* has the Slovenian equivalent of **najgorjši** (supreme, exalted, most high), the indefinite verb *goritu* = **ogreti** (to heat), the adverb *gora* = **gori** (up or upward), etc., etc. In Slavic languages the word **gora** also refers to a mountain, which, like a fire, rises upward to the sky. This appears to have been altered in Basque to *mendi* (most likely Latinized from *montes*), but the word for an apex is *goraldi* (*vrh* in Slovenian) thus retaining the root. Further we find that to elevate = *goratu*, while elevation = *gorapen*. It would seem much more than pure accident that two apparently unrelated languages (according to linguists) would use the identical root word to form words with very different meaning, and have the meaning of these words correspond exactly in the two languages. This spurred on a further examination.

To a much lesser extent these relationships exist in English as well. Thus elevation (height) and exalted one (highness) derive from the same word, while high passion can be viewed as related to burning only as a metaphor, as in burning passion. But the use of the same root word for heat, burning, high status, mountains, heights and passion are nonexistent in English, while both Basque and Slavic describe all these with the root word *gori*. [Quite aside, in the course of this search the large number of English words with Slavic derivatives, which do not have Latin or Germanic roots, surprised us]. Nor are they found in the Latin language, which many might consider as the link in the similarities between Basque and Slavic. Thus in Latin, e.g., up = *sursum*, fire = *ignus*, mountains = *montes*, etc.

When comparing Basque and Slavic it would be most useful to have a strong command of several Slavic languages, both the ancient and modern forms, since it may be that some languages have retained the ancient forms while others were subject to change. At our disposal were only the Czech and Slovenian languages, but even with these the usefulness of a multi-language approach was evident, particularly when trying to unravel what appears to be only a vague connection in one language, but absolutely clear in another. The sum of our work is given in the Appendix with the words in alphabetical order. A few explanations of Basque are in order for a better appreciation of the comparisons. First of all, no Basque word begins with the letter R. Thus we find the word for river as *erreka* and not *reka*. The indefinite verbs have the *-tu* ending while in Slovenian they end in *-ti*. Thus we have *zoritu*, which means *zoriti* (to ripen). While in Slovenian the use of the article **ta**, as in **ta prvi**, is fading from use, it is still used in Basque except that it is postpositional, as in *mamata*, or *pivoto* (i.e., the mother and the beer). Postpositional articles are also found in Bulgarian and Macedonian languages. We also point out again the interchangeability of letters b and v due to betatism. With this prelude we welcome the reader to peruse the appendix.

Most of the comparisons in the appendix are self-explanatory. One could write a story about many of the words but it is not our intent to belabor these. We would include one, however, namely the word for knee (*belanue*), which bears only a slight resemblance to the Slovenian word *koleno*. The interesting fact is that in both Basque (*belaualdi*) and in Slavic (*pokolenje*) the word for generation stems from the root word for knee. While this occurs in Latin as well where *genu* (knee) and *genus* (ancestry) are related, one must ask just who borrowed what from whom. Ancient pre-Roman Venetic inscriptions clearly indicate that the word for wife (or woman) is *gena*, later softened into the Slovenian word *žena* (a clear reference to ancestry). We dare say the Romans did much borrowing. At the very least the knee connection indicates that the Basque language did not originate in a vacuum, as some would have us believe, but had contact with the rest of Europe from the beginning.

It is already clear from many of the words in the appendix that the Basque words consist of root a word to which one attaches adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, etc. to form new words. This is entirely similar to the way Slavic words are constructed. We gave an example in the abstract of *črešnja* (čer – ješnja, food with a rock), but we could give countless other examples, such as *iskra* (iz ker-a, from a rock). We are assured by Prof. Rozalyn Frank of the University of Iowa that this type of word formation is not common, but it does occur in both Basque and Slavic.

It would be most gratifying if one could determine a fingerprint, which would be a foolproof method of identifying a Slavic language. The problem, which exists now is that it is difficult to determine just who borrowed from whom in the course of language development. Such is the case, for example, with counting from one to ten. Nearly all languages have very similar words for these numbers. The knee-jerk reaction of historians is to give credit to the Romans or perhaps the Indus people. But is this really so? A careful scrutiny of the words for numbers reveals this interesting fact: In ALL Slavic languages there occurs a rhythm and rhyme (and reason) to the counting system. The numbers are paired thusly: ena-dva, tri-štiri, pet-šest, sedem-osem, devet-deset. If the wording is slightly changed, e.g., to sedem by the Primorci, the rhyme is maintained by also changing osem to osen. Indeed, the rhyme is even more pronounced if one realizes that the word for 5 (**pet**) comes from **pest** (i.e., fist, containing 5 fingers. Even in English the words five and fist are related). Thus we could say **pest-šest**. Perhaps **šest** comes from **še pest**, or, more than a fist. This would give meaning and reason to the words. No such reason exists in other languages.

Rhyme and reason in the numbering system are not found in English, Latin, Germanic, or any of the Romance languages. We are tempted to suggest that the counting originated among Slavic peoples, and that the Romans borrowed the words. The subtleties of the rhyme eluded the borrowers. Whatever the case, we suggest that the rhyme in the counting system may be perhaps the fingerprint we are looking for. It is found in Old Prussian so that we are confident in stating that these were a Slavic people. By contrast, the rhyme is not found in the Basque language, which at first glance would seem to negate their Slavic connection. However, in view of the many similar antique words, one can also reach a different conclusion, namely that the split, if such was the case, occurred even before the dawning of the numbering system. Or, perhaps, the two tribes mixed in antiquity due to trade, heavily borrowing words from each other. Whatever the case, the Basques do not appear as unique as some historians would have us believe.

As a final thought, there is no doubt that at the time of the Venetic era (say 1000 B.C.) the numbering system was already in existence. It would be most illuminating to get an idea of their words for numbers. We have not been able to find these in any books on the Veneti. If such can be found, and if a rhyme exists, we dare say that this would be a substantial contribution as proof of their Slavic origins.

References

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Povzetek

Številni učenjaki so poskušali pravilno uvrstiti baskovski jezik med ostale evropske jezike. Ti poskusi so bili v glavnem neuspešni. Nekateri so domnevali, da so Baski potomci nekdanjih kromanjoncev, ki so živeli tam pred trideset tisoč leti. V knjigi “Veneti, naši davni predniki” so Šavli, Bor in Tomažič opozorili na povezave med Baski in Veneti, našimi slovanskimi predniki. Navedli so nekaj primerov podobnih besed v obeh jezikih, niso pa tega globlje obdelali. Nepopustljivo prepričanje nekaterih zgodovinarjev, da so Slovani prišli v Evropo šele v 6. stoletju, za kar pa nimajo zadostnih dokazov, je preprečevalo raziskovanje povezav med Baski in Slovani. Midva sva globlje raziskala jezikovne povezave med tema ljudstvom in ugotovila zanimivo dejstvo. Medtem ko je na splošno videti zelo malo podobnosti med tema jezikoma (videti so skoraj naključne), pa opazimo, da so podobnosti številne, ko se omejimo na besede, ki so lahko obstajale v daljni preteklosti (morebiti že v kameni dobi). Podobnosti najdemo ne le v besedah, temveč tudi v besedni zgradbi. Na primer, kot v slovanskih jezikih tudi v baskovščini tvorimo nove besede iz osnovnih besed (primer: črešnja = čer ješnja = jed s koščico). Ali pa: baskovska pomanjševalna končnica -ška je podobna slovenski. Predstavila bova še številne druge primere, pa tudi povezave z drugimi jeziki. Nagibava se k temu, da bi dala prav Šavliju, Boru in Tomažiču, da so Baski in Veneti podobni ljudje, ki so se ločili že v davnini.

Appendix

(Examples of Basque – Slavic Linguistic Similarities)

We present below a comparative instrument designed to illustrate similarities between Basque and Slavic languages. The primary search was done by one of us (Petr Jandáček), a Czech, thus it often occurs that Czech words seem more in concert with Basque. However, as a rule, Slovenian words tend to retain a closer comparison.

We again point out that the letters B and V, as well as P and F are often interchangeable. M and N are often replaced with each other as are the velars H, K and G. The dentals C, Č, S, Š, Z, Ž are all mutually interchangeable. The letter X is pronounced as Š, while TX is equivalent to Č. While in Slavic languages the letter R often serves as the sixth vowel (pronounced “er”), to the point where some words contain no vowels at all, Basque words can never begin with the letter R nor even with a consonant cluster such as “sl”, “st”, “pr”. Thus, for example, roditi becomes erditu, while reka becomes *ereka*. In a similar vein, regarding consonant clusters, sredi becomes *asterdi*. The Basque indefinite verbs end in -tu, while in Slovenian they end in -ti.

A

Basque	Czech	Slovenian	English
abarka	obuv	obuvalo	Footwear (shoe)
abeltalde	stado	čreda	herd (animals)

aberastasun	bohastsvi	bogastvo	wealth
abere	zver	zver	animal, beast
abestu	pjet	peti	to sing
abesti	pjesem	pesem	song
abio, arabi, ahabi	jerabina	brusnica	cranberry
abian	aby	da bi	so that, consequently
abizen	zvan	naziv	name, appellation
ahalke	hanba (pohana)	sramota	shame
aharratu	hadati se, hudrat	karati	to argue, to reprimand
ahate	kachna	(raca)	duck (water fowl)
aho	huba	gobec	mouth
ahotz	hlas	glas	voice
ahuntz	koza	koza	goat
ahunzbizar	kozi bouz	kozja brada	goatee
ahunztalde	kozi stado	kozja čreda	herd of goats
ahuna	jehne	jagnje (kozliček)	a small goat (a goat lamb)
ahutz	lic	lice	cheek
angira	uhor	jegulja	eel
aipu	slava	slava	glory (SL not allowed in Basque)
aita	tata	ata	dad (father)
aitaxo	otecko	očka	daddy
aitxe	otec	oče	father
aizkora	sekyra	sekira	axe
akastu	kazni	pokvarjen	spoiled
akastu	kaziti	kvariti	to spoil
akais	kaz	hiba	fault, flaw
aketz	kanec	merjasec	wild boar
al	li	ali	perhaps used with questions
alabaina	ale bajo	al tako (seveda)	but of course
alatu	klyti	kleti	to curse
(Basque words may not start with a consonant cluster)			
albo	bok	bok	side (hip)
alboko	pobočnik	pobočniK	side kick, partner
aldapagora	pahorek	navzgorje	slope
aidaratu	edejiti	vandrati	to leave, to wander
aldiz	ale	ali	however, although, nevertheless
alor	role	izoralo polje	field prepared for sewing
ama	mama	mama	mother
anitz	moc	mnogo	much, many
aniztu	množiti	množiti	multiply
apal	police	polica	shelf
apar	para	para	steam
apez	papež	papež	high priest, pontiff
apo	žaba	žaba	frog, toad
apo	kopyto	kopito	hoof
arazo	prace	poklic, (garati?)	job, work, occupation
arbi	repa	repa	turnip

arlo	role	polje (za oralo)	farm field
arrakala	rokle	razpoka	crevice, canyon
arrama	ramus	rjojenje	loud animal noise
arrano	orel	orel	eagle
arrultza	vejce	jajce	egg
arrazoi	rozum	razum	reason, sense
arrazoldun	rozumny	razumni	rational
artalde	stado	čreda	flock of sheep
asaba	osoba	oseba	ancestor/person
ase	syty	sit	full, satisfied
asegabeki	sobecky	pohlepno	greedily
asekada	sytost	sitost	satiety, fullness
aska	jesle	jasli	manger, crib
askatu	pustiti	spustiti	to free, to liberate
aski	dosti	dosti	enough, plenty
askotan	častokrat	čestokrat	often, many times
astar	osel	osel	donkey
astredi	sreda	sreda	Wednesday
asti	časi-často	često	times, often, periodically
asto	osel	osel	ass, donkey
asturu	osud	usoda	fate, fortune
ata (ate)	vrata	vrata	gate, door
(Basque words cannot start with a consonant cluster)			
atexka	vratečka	vrata	small gate (Basq X = Š)
atoitu	chytiti	ujeti	to catch, grab
atzapar	škrabat	krempelj	claw
atzaparketa	škrabanina	krempljati (praskati)	scratching (noun)
atze, atzeko	zadek	zadaj	back part, bottom of body
atzealde	zada	odzadaj	posterior part, back
aulk	stolek	stolček	small chair
(Basque words cannot start with a consonant cluster)			
apa	hopla	hopla	exclamation used when lifting heavy weights
aurre	pred	pred	before
aurenik	prvni	najprej	first of all
ausiki	kousati	pokusiti	to bite
autzapez	knez	knez	mayor, lord
aza	zeli	zelje	cabbage
azken	končen	konec	conclusion, ending
aztore	jestrab	jastreb	hawk

B

Basque	Czech	Slovenian	English
ba	ba	ba	exclamation of irony
babespe	bespečnost	brezskrbnost	security, protection, refuge
bada	batak	potem	so, well, then
baietz	bajo	da tako	yes, so, yes indeed
baiezko	bajeto	da tako	affirmative consent

bainu	nanja	banja	bath
baizera	bažene	tak že ne	exclamation expressing doubt or hesitation
bake	pokoj	pokoj	peace, tranquility
bakeune	pokojne	pokojno	peaceful
balanka	paka	vzvod	lever, crowbar
balazta	uzda	uzda	bridle
bapateko	prutko	nenadno	sudden
barabil	varle	testicle	
baranda	zabradli	zabran?	banister
bare	mir	mir	calm
barne	vnitr	vnotraj	interior
barreka	rechatat se	režati	laughing
barrenbake	vnitrni pokoj	notranji mir (pokoj)	inner peace
basa	pusty, prosty	divji (prosti?)	wild, primitive, rustic
basabere	zputsia zver	divja (prosta) zver	wild beast
behi	bejk, byk,	bik	bull, cow, bovine
behiki	bejči (hovez)	goved	beef
behixka	kravička (samička od Bejčka)	kravca	little cow
belar	bylina (trava)	trava	grass
belaunue	koleno	koleno	knee
belaunaldi	pokoleni	pokolenje	generation
belaunikaketa	pokleknuti	poklekniti	genuflect
beretu	brati	grabiti	to take, seize
beretzakotu	zabrati	zagrabiti	to monopolize, seize
berga	palka	bergle	rod, club stick
berho	vedro	vroče	heat, hot
bertz	džber	čeber	bucket, pail
(Since Basque words cannot begin with a consonant cluster, the TZ is at the end)			
beste	ješte	še tako	another as much as
besuts	bosi	bos	naked arm, barefooted
bete	nabyjet	nabiti	to fill, to load -as a gun
beti	veky	veki	always, ages, eternity
betiko	vecne	večno	eternal perpetual
betikotu	zvečniti	poveličati	immortalize, perpetuate
beti-betiko	veky-veku	vekov veke	for ever and ever
bezpara	včera	včeraj	yesterday
biak	oba	oba	both
bide	vede	veda (vidnost?)	path, that leads to a solution
bidexka	cestička	cestica	path
biga	byk	bik	young cow – bull
bilo	vlas	las, dlaka	hair
biluzgorri	vlasoholi	plešast	bald
biratu	viriti	vrteti	to spin
birikatu	vrteti	vrteti	rotate
bizar	vouz	brada	beard
bizi-bizi	živo-živi	živi-živi ?	very lively
bizinahi	životni nehi	hrepenenje	life's desires

bizkar	višks	višek	high point, high location
bor-bor	var-var	vrenje	sound of boiling water
borda	bouda	koliba	hut
borobil	boulovi	okrogelj	round
boroka	bitva, bitka	borba	battle
bost	pet (from pest) pet	five	
bota	bota	škornji	boot
botatxo	botička	škornjiček	small boot
botila	butylka	butelka	bottle
brastada	prašteni	udarec	sudden blow
briska	broskev	breskev	peach
buru	vrch	vrh	top, summit
buruzabal	vrch zavaloty	širokoglav	broad headed
buruzorotz	vrch ostry	ostrovrh	having a pointed top

D

Basque	Czech	Slovenian	English
daratulu	vrtak	vrtalnik	drill
dardaratzu	trasti	tresti	to shake, vibrate
denen	denni	dnevni	common, daily
dexente	dost	dosti	enough
domagarri	domačneni	udomačeni	tamed

E

Basque	Czech	Slovenian	English
eden	jed	strup	poison, venom
edoski	dojiti	dojiti	to milk
egin	čin	stvar	action, creation
elekatu	kecati	klepetati	to chat
elkotu	lakotit	lakomen	to become a miser
emeki	mekky	mehko	softly
epelki	teply	toplo	warm
erabide	robota, vyroba		formula, method or process of getting something done
erdi	stred	sredi	center
erditu	rodit	rodit	to give birth
(Basque words cannot start with R)			
eritu	chorobiti	shrometi	to get sick
erpe	drap	krempelj	claw
erpekatu	drapati	praskati, krempljati	to scratch
erreka	reka	reka	river, creek
errekaxo	rička	rekica	riverlet
erroi	vrana	vrana	crow
erroitz	rokle	reža	fissure, precipice
eskulabur	skoupy	skopuh	stingy, niggardly
etxe (pronounced	hiša	house	house

etshe)

ez	bez	brez	prefix indicating exclusion
ezko	vosk	vosek	wax
ezpi	zub	zob	snake fang / tooth

F

Basque	Czech	Slovenian	English
futzegin	fučet, foukat	pihati	blow

G

Basque	Czech	Slovenian	English
gaban	kabat	suknja	overcoat
gabezia	bez	brez	without, lacking
gaita	dudy, gaida (Slovak)	dude	bagpipes
gaitz	kaz	poč	flaw
gako	hak	hakelj	hook
galda	hut	taliti	smelting
galeper	krepelka	prepelica	quail
galtza	gate	hlače (gate?)	pants, trousers
gar	žar	žar	flame, radiant heat
garaiago	horejši, horni	višji (gorjši?)	higher
garabi	jerab	žerjav	hoist, crane
garaitu	vyhrati	zmagati	to win, to triumph
garratz	horky	grenak	bitter
garun	razum	razum	brain, ration
gehiago	jinako	od tega	more, else
geruza	koža	koža	skin, crust
goi	horni	visoki (gorni)	high
gora	nahore	gori (z)	up with, upward, up
gorabehera	nahoru-dolu	gori-doli	up and down
gorago	višji (gorjši?)	higher	higher
goragoko	horni	gorni	higher
goragotu	nahoru	povišati	to elevate further
goraldi	horejši priliv	plima (zgorni priliv?)	high tide
goraldi	hory vrch	vrh gora	apogee of mountain
gori	hori	gori	ablaze, on fire
gori-goritu	hori-horeti	goreče	glowing with fire
gorantz	hornejši	navzgor	upward
gorantza	horejši	navzgor	towards the top
goranzko	horasko	gorato	regarding high things
gorati	hrdi	ohol	haughty, arrogant
goratu	zvednout nahoru	povišati	to elevate, to raise
gordeleku	hrad	grad	fortress, castle
gordin	hrozny, kruty, hruby	grozni, kruti, grobi	crude, cruel
gordindu	horšiti	hujšati	to get worse
gordintasun	hrubost	grobost	cruelty

goregi	priliš horejši	previsoko	too high
goren	horen, nejviši	najvišji (najgorši?)	highest
gori	hori	gori	burning
gori-gori	horiči (vašini)	goreči	glowing – ardently
garratz	horky	grenak	bitter
gorroto	hroziti	groziti	expressing hatred, ire
gorta	ohrada	ograda	stable, rink
gorte	hrad	grad	castle, palace
grausk	hryzat	grizati, hrustati	biting sound
guren	hrana, hranice	granica	limit, edge
gutizia	chut		desire, craving

H

Basque	Czech	Slovenian	English
han	tam	tam	there, over there
handi	hodne	izobilje	plenty, great quantity
handiarezko	hodne	vrednost	value > quality/quantity
hanka	hnata	ud	limb (leg or arm)
hari	haras	nit	thread
haritz	dub	hrast	oak
harizko	haraskom	(heklano?)	made of thread
harrapakin	chopit	zapleniti	to catch prey, capture
harrapakin	korist	plen	seizure of prey
harrapatu	hrabati, chopiti	grabiti	to grab, to rake
haur	harant	otrok	baby, infant, child, brat
haze	zelen	zelen	green
herre	chromi	hromi	cripple, lame
herrestari	ješter	plezač	reptile
hesohol	hol, hole	steber	stake, staff, post
hez	kost	kost	bone
higatu	hniti	gniti	to rot, decompose
hikatu	tykati	tikati	familiar form of “you”
hirino	rynek	mesto	small city, town
hiru	tri	tri	three
hizkera	jazyk	jezik	language, tongue
hizkuntza	jazyk	jezik	language
hoben	hanba	krivda	fault, blame, culpability
hobendun	hanebny	kriv	guilty, blamable
hobi	hrob	grob	grave, tomb
hobiratu	pohrbiti	pogrebiti	to bury, to inter
hortz	hryz, hrot	zob (griz?)	tooth, bite, point
horzkada	hryznuti	grizniti	bite, gnawing of teeth

I

Basque	Czech	Slovenian	English
ilar	hrach	grah	pea

inguratu	ohraditi	ograditi	to corral, surround
ipar	sever	sever	north
ipurdi	prdel	prda (slang)	buttocks, butt
irabazpide	robota	rabota	job, work
isats	ocas	sirc	broom plant, tail
ixo!	ticho!	tiho!	quiet!
izen	zvan	naziv	name, designata
izpitu	štípiti	cepiti	to splinter
izodura	strach	strah	fear, terror

J

Basque	Czech	Slovenian	English
jabal	slab	slab	weak
jalo	rojen	izvaljeno	hatched
jende	lide	ljudje	people
jedexka	lidičky	ljudstvo	common, simple people

K

Basque	Czech	Slovenian	English
kaj	pristav, molo	kej (Croatian)	dock, pier, port, harbor
kaka	kaka (trus)	kaka	excrement, feces
kako	hak	hakelj	hook
kalaka	klikaq, klatka	kljuka	latch
kanika	kulička	frnikula	marble (toy)
kapazu	kapsa	torba	pocket-bag, esp. of straw
karel	kraj	kraj	edge, rim, brim
karobi	krb	kamin	fireplace, lime oven
karraskatu	kousati	pokusiti	to bite
katar	kocour	maček	male cat, tomcat
kezulo	kozub – komin	kamin	chimney
kipula	cibule	čibula	onion
kiribilatu	kudrnatit	kodrati	to curl, to spiral
klera	krida	kreda	chalk
klinkada	polikani	pogolniti	swallowing
koitz	-krat	-krat	number suffix indicating multiplicity
kokada	krkat	kolcati	belch, burp
kokor	krk	vrat	throat, neck
kokorika	skrčeny	skrčen	squatting, crouching
kokot	krk	vrat	neck
kola	klih	lim	glue
kolatu	kližiti	limati	to glue
kolokatu	kolebati	kolebati	to waver, to teeter
kopalet	kopa	koš	peck, small basket
kordel	koudel	vrv, konopec	rope, twine
(Basque OR is often replaced by OU)			
korrok	kruh, kolo	krog	circle, wheel

koskegin	kousat	grizati (kavsanje?)	biting, sound of biting
koskor	kousek	košček	a piece, a bit
-kote	-krat	-krat	suffix in multiplication
kresal	sul-sol	razsol	salt water
kukula	chochola	greben	(perhaps rooster's crest deriving from kokoš)
kulukatu	kolebati	kolebati	to rock, to sway
kulska	klimbat	spanček	short nap

L

Basque	Czech	Slovenian	English
labainada	dlabanina	razpoka	gash, slash
labekari	pekar	pekar	baker
labexka	pečka	pečka	small oven
laido	lajdat	žaliti	to insult, to neglect
landa	lany	polje	field, prairie, plain, terrain
lapur	lupič	lopov	thief, robber
lasta	slamne (from slama)	slamno	of straw
lasto	slama	slama	straw
latoic	litina	bron (but to cast=litina)	brass
lauzkatu	lezti	plezati	to scale, climb
liho, linu	len	lan	flax
liska	lišejnik	lišaj	moss or algae on rocks or trees
listoi	lat	lata	strip of wood, lath
losintxa	lichotit	prilizniti	to flatter, flattery
lur	role	zemlja	earth, land, field
luza	dlouhe	dolžina	long
luze	dloužene	daljše	elongated

M

Basque	Czech	Slovenian	English
mailuka	mлатit	mлатiti	to hit with a hammer
maitagarri	mile, milovane	dragi	lovable, beloved, dear
makila	kyje	palice (palka)	cane, stick, baton
peka	piha	pega	freckle
maldagora	nahoru	navzgor	uphill, incline
marrantatu	maroditi	prehlajen	to be ill, sick with cold
maskor	mušle	školjka	sea shell
maskur	mozol	mazulj	callus
mataza	motouz	štrena	twine, hank, tangle
matazatu	zamotati	zamotiti	tangle, confuse
meheki	mekky	mehki	soft, weak
milikatu	malicherny	zbirčen	become spoiled, picky
min	milen	mili	dear, beloved
mixitxu	micka	mucka	cat (child talk)
mizkatu	mazleny, mazliti	razvajen	be spoiled, pampered
mortsa	mrož	mrož	walrus

moxkor	mit mužku	namočen	a little drunk
moga	mnoho	mnogo	extreme
musker	ješter(ka)	kuščar	lizard

N

Basque	Czech	Slovenian	English
nabari	napadny	navadni	obvious, evident, manifest
nabartu	nabarvit	nabarvati	to paint with many colors
nahastar	ješter	hujskar	agitator
nahi	nehy	naha	desire, will, wish, craving
negutsu	snežny	snežno	wintery, snowy
neurerra	mera	mera	measurement
nokatu	tykati	tikati	female familiar address
noIako?	no, jake?	kakšno?	what kind of?
nozitu	snašeti	nositi	to suffer, to bear

O

Basque	Czech	Slovenian	English
ogara	ohar	hrt	fast hound
ogaratxakur	ohar čokl	hrt	fast hound
orein	jelen	jelen	hart

P

Basque	Czech	Slovenian	English
papar	papat	prsa (papat for infants)	breast/suckle
peka	piha	pega	freckle

S

Basque	Czech	Slovenian	English
sakats	sukobity	grčevo	knotty (wood or tree)
soineko	sukno	suknja	cloth, garment

T

Basque	Czech	Slovenian	English
taula	stol	stol	stool
taxu	tvar	način	aspect, appearance
teilaxka	strižka	stržka	small roof
tiratu	tahati	tirati	to pull, yank, tug, goad into
tiro	strela	strel	shot
toka	tykat	tikati	address each other in familiar form
tualdi	plivati	pljuvati	to spit
txalupa	člun	čoln	a small boat
txanel	člun	čoln	a small boat
txantxa	švanda	čenča	fun, joke, jest, nonsense
txarto	čertiti	črtiti	to do evil, diabolical acts
txerren	čert	črt	imp, demon, fiend, devil

txiza egin	chčít, chcat	scati	to urinate
-txo	-čo	-čo	diminutive ending
txuri	čiry	čisto	white, clear (as wine)
txurru	čurat	curati	to urinate

U

Basque	Czech	Slovenian	English
ubil	vir	vrtnec (se ovijalec)	whirlpool
ufatu – ufaki	foukati	pihati	to blow air, puff
uharka	pohar(ek)	pehar	container
ukai	ruka	roka	hand, forearm
(Basque words cannot start with R)			
ukabil	ruka bil	rokoboj	punch with fist
ukondo	loket	laket	elbow
untzi	člun	čoln	boat
(Consonant cluster cannot start a word)			
ur, urra	orech	oreh	nut
urate	vrata	vrata	gate of canal, watergate
urdin	modry	modri	blue
usta	uzda	uzda	rein
utzi	pustit	pustiti	to let go

X

Basque	Czech	Slovenian	English
xabal	zavalitý	širok	wide, rotund
xora, xaro	čaro-	čaro-	pertainig to magic
xahar	star	star	old
xukadera	osuška	brisača (ki suši)	towel
xukatu	sušiti	sušiti	to dry

Z

Basque	Czech	Slovenian	English
zalexka	lžička	žlička	little spoon
zanga	noga	noga (šunka?)	leg
zantu	znak	znak	sign, mark
zapaburu	žabi pulec	žabji paglavec	tadpole
zapo	žaba	žaba	frog, toad
zatar	hadr	cunja	old cloth, rag
zati	část	kos	part, piece
zatixka	částička	košček	small part
zeinu	znak	znak	sign
zela	sedlo	sedlo	saddle
zerrakatu	režati	rezati (razrezati)	to slice into pieces
ziho	sadlo	saló	tallow, grease, fat
zikiro	rež (žito)	rž	rye
zikoizki	sobecky	skopuhi	miserly, stingily

zilar	stribro	srebro	silver
zilbot	život (archaic in Cz)	život	belly
zingira	jezero	jezero	lake
zirta	jiskra	iskra	spark
zitu	žito	žito	grain
zizarre	žizala	črv (žuželka?)	earthworm
zizalkaka	žizali kaka		worm feces
zizeilu	židle	klop	bench, chair
zizipaza	šišlavi	zezljati	lisp
-zko	-sko	-sko (suffix for derivation from general to specific, e.g. Ljublján-sko)	
zokondo	kout	kot	corner
zomorro	komar	komar	insect – mosquito
zoritu	zrati	zoriti	to ripen
zorizko	štistko	srečno	luck, lucky
zorrotz	ostrost	ostrost	sharpness, sharp
zozo	kos	kos	blackbird
zulatu	dolovati	kopati (zajemati?)	to dig a hole
zulo	dol, dul	jama (luknja)	hole
zulodno	dolu-dno	luknje dno	bottom of hole
zutitu	vstati	vstati	to stand up
zuzitu	zničiti	uničiti	to destroy
zuzstrertu	strustati	zrasti	to sprout, germinate

The most conspicuous constellation of words, which are similar in Basque and Slavic are the anatomical features of the paleolithic primitive Venuses (like the Venus of Vestrince). Examples:

Basque	Czech	Slovenian	English
kokor	krk	vrat	neck
papar	papat	prsa (papat for infants)	breast/suckle
zilbot	život	život	belly
motxin	močovod	močilnik?	genitalia/urethra
belaunue	koleno	koleno	knee
atzealde	zada	odzadaj	back
alboko	bok	bok	side/hip
ipurdi	prdel	prda (slang)	buttocks
hanka	hnata	ud	limb
zanga	noha	noga	leg
ukondo	loket	komolec (laket)	elbow

In addition, recall the cluster of words using the root word gori, discussed in the text.