

The KVerbos Handbook

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The KVerbos Handbook

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Abstract

KVerbos is an application specially designed to study Spanish verbforms.

Chapter 1

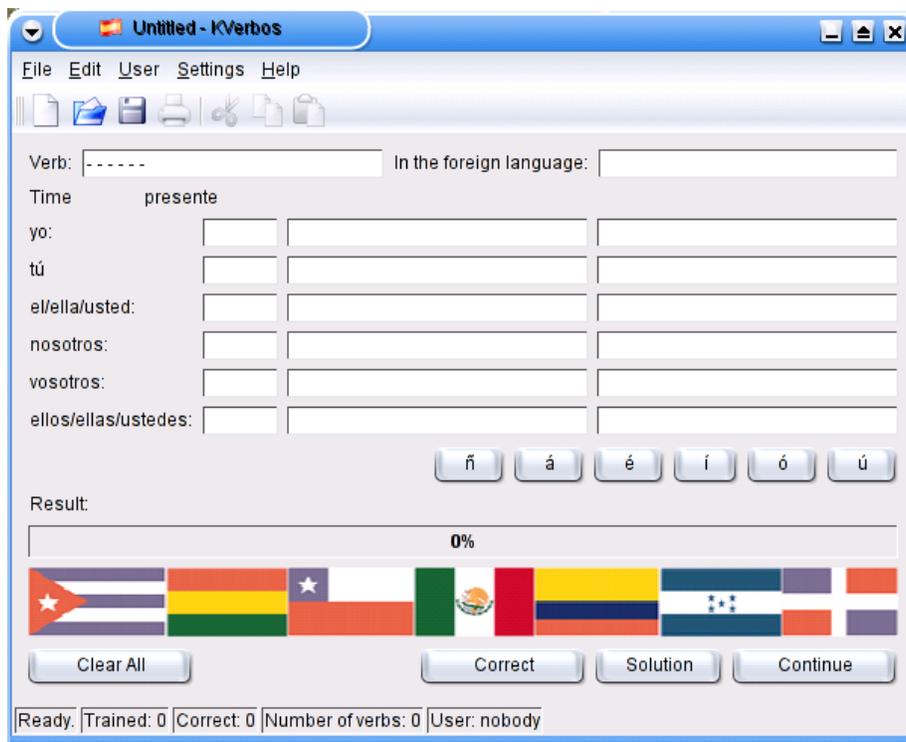
Introduction

With KVerbos the user can learn the forms of Spanish verbs. The program suggests a verb and a time and the user enters the different forms. The program corrects the user input and gives a feedback. The user can edit the list of the verbs that can be studied. The program can built regular verb forms by itself. Irregular verb forms have to be entered by the user. If a form of a verb is uncertain then the internet offers good sources: <http://csgrs6k1.uwaterloo.ca/~dmg/lando/verbos/con-jugador.html>

The most interesting feature in the recent release is the use of KFeeder. This is a separate program that the user has to install separately if he wants to use it. If it is installed then the learning progress will be shown in the KFeeder application. A dog is running around and will be fed with bones if you are a good learner. Otherwise he will be lying around most of the time.

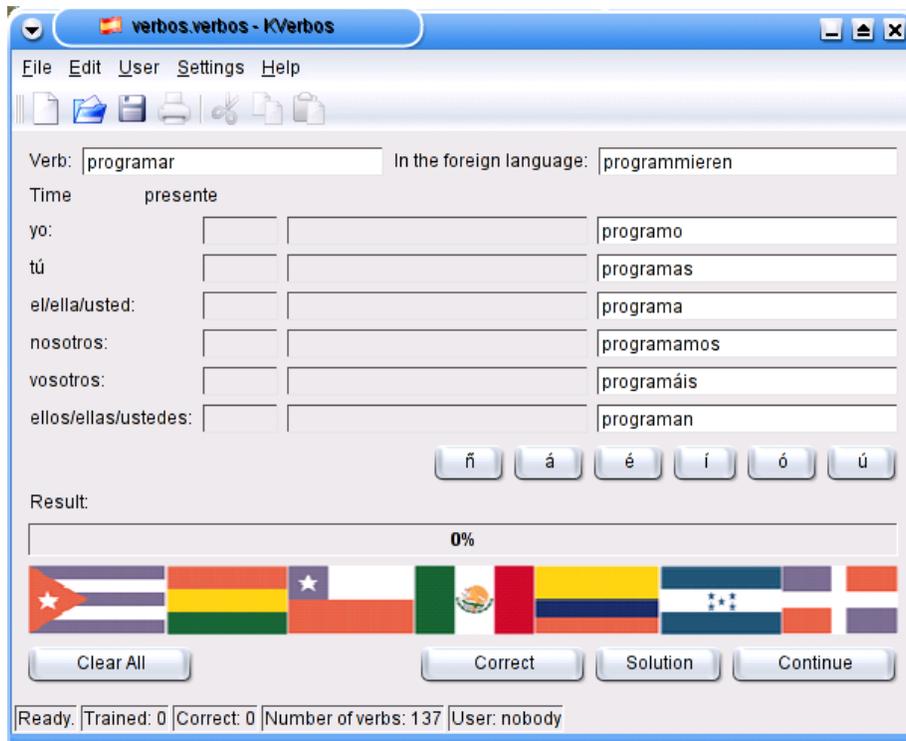
Chapter 2

Using KVerbos



When the user starts the program he can see this window. This is the main window of the application where the user can train verb forms. At the moment no verb file is loaded. So the program cannot suggest a verb. First the user has to open a file either with the menu File → Open or with the menubar or he has to enter some verbs with Edit → Enternew verb.

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Once the user has opened a file with verbs the program suggests one of them and a time. The user can type the solution into the textboxes.

limpiar todo

This button wipes out all user input.

corregir

The user can test his input with this button. Incorrect forms will be underlined. Then the user has the chance to do it better and correct the forms another time. If one of the forms wasn't correct the verb cannot be counted as correct anymore.

ver solución

If the user wants to see the solution he can use show solution. Then the correct solution is displayed in the editboxes. If the user uses this button the verb cannot be counted as correct anymore.

continuar

The last button in this row can have two functions.

If the user presses this button and the verb forms haven't been corrected yet the button behaves like the 'corregir' button. The verb forms are cor-

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rected and the user can see if his input was correct. If the user wants to go on he has to press the button again.

If the button is pressed and the verbs already have been corrected the program goes on to the next verb. That means another verb is selected and presented to the user.



A second line of buttons allows the user enter special spanish characters which probably cannot be entered by keyboard.

In the status bar of the program the user gets information about his work. He can see how many verbs he has trained and how many of them have been correct. He can see how many verbs are stored in the opened file and which username has been entered, too.

The progress bar is another feedback for the user. He can see his correct answers as a percentage of trained verbs.

Chapter 3

Command Reference

3.1 The main KVerbos window



3.1.1 The File Menu

- File** → **New (Ctrl+N)** Creates a new document. That means that the verbs in the actual list are deleted. The number of verbs is set to 0.
- File** → **Open (Ctrl+O)** Opens a verb file. The file dialog opens and the user can select one of the verb files. The user has to make sure, that it is a verb file. There isn't a default verb file that comes with the program. The user has to enter his own verbs or he has to download a verb file from the KVerbos website.
- File** → **Open Standard Verb File** Opens a verb file that is delivered with KVerbos. The user can use this file if he doesn't want to enter his own verbs.
- File** → **Save (Ctrl+S)** Saves the document. The file name dialog opens and the user can choose a name for the verb file. If the file name end with `.htm` or `.html` the verb list is saved as a HTML file.
- File** → **Save As** Saves the document. The file name dialog opens and the user can choose a name for the verb file. If the file name end with `.htm` or `.html` the verb list is saved as a HTML file.
- File** → **Close (Ctrl+W)** Terminates the program.
- File** → **New Window** Starts a new instance of the program.
- File** → **Quit (Ctrl+Q)** Quits KVerbos

3.1.2 The Edit Menu

- Edit** → **Enter new verb** Opens the dialog new verbs where you can add new verbs to the verb list. This dialog is described in another chapter of this documentation.
- Edit** → **Edit verblist** Opens a dialog with a list of all the verbs that are in the actual verb list. You can edit this verb list. This dialog is described in another chapter of this documentation.

3.1.3 The User Menu

- User** → **username** Opens a small dialog where you can enter your username.
- User** → **results** Opens a dialog where a user can see the number of training sessions he has done with the program and the latest ten results.

3.1.4 The Settings Menu

- Settings** → **Show toolbar** The user can decide whether he wants to see the toolbar or not. He can set it here.
- Settings** → **Show statusbar** The user can decide whether he wants to see the status bar or not. In the status bar are shown information like the number of trained verbs and the user name.

Settings → **options** Opens a dialog where a user can select the times he wants to train and the correction mode. More details see the chapter about this dialog.

3.1.5 The Help Menu

Help → **KVerbos Handbook (F1)** Invokes the KDE Help system starting at the KVerbos help pages. (this document).

Help → **What's This? (Shift+F1)** Changes the mouse cursor to a combination arrow and question mark. Clicking on items within KVerbos will open a help window (if one exists for the particular item) explaining the item's function.

Help → **Report Bug...** Opens the Bug report dialog where you can report a bug or request a 'wishlist' feature.

Help → **About KVerbos** This will display version and author information.

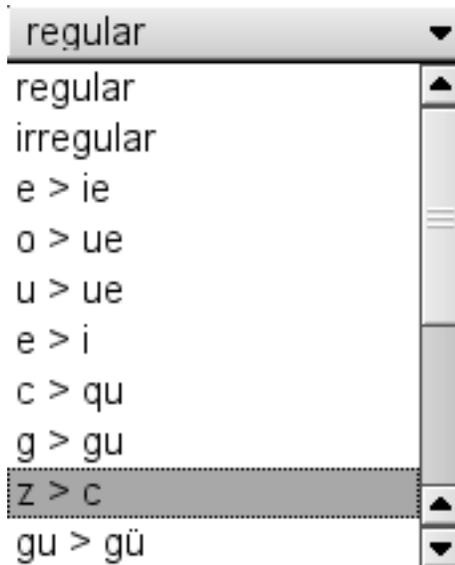
Help → **About KDE** This displays the KDE version and other basic information.

3.2 The New Verb Dialog

Use this dialog if you want to make your own verb list or if you want to append some new verbs to an existing verb list. Here you can enter the infinitive of the spanish verb and its meaning in a foreign language. Important is, that you tell the program if it is a regular verb or one of the spanish group verbs or an irregular one. If it is irregular you have to enter the irregular forms, too. Be careful with this dialog and the verb forms you enter because the program uses this data to generate forms automatically.

verbo	servir	en Aleman	servieren
-------	--------	-----------	-----------

Some of the Edit boxes where you can enter the verb information. There are similar Edit Boxes for the gerund and participle form and all the other forms if needed.



With this Combo Box you select which type of verb you have entered. Do this carefully because it is important information for the program to do its work properly.

The Spanish language knows three types of regular conjugation. These are the conjugation pattern for the verbs ending on -er, -ar, and -ir. A lot of verbs are not regular in all forms but they aren't completely irregular. These verbs are called group verbs and can be divided in several groups. The program can generate the forms for the regular verbs and the ones for the group verbs itself. It only needs the information to which group the verb belongs. Other verbs are irregular and the irregular forms have to be entered. Select the group in the Combo Box.

regular Chose this if it is a completely regular verb of one of the patterns -ar, -er or -ir.

irregular Select this if the verbs doesn't belong to one of the groups described below. The Tab View will be activated and you can enter all the irregular forms.

e > ie Chose this for stem changing verbs where the e in the stem changes to ie.

o > ue Chose this for stem changing verbs where the o in the stem changes to ue.

u > ue Chose this for stem changing verbs where the u in the stem changes to ue.

e > i Chose this for stem changing verbs where the e in the stem changes to i.

c > qu A verb with orthographic irregularity. If a 'c' comes before an 'e' the 'c' changes to 'qu'. Examples: colocar, atacar

g > gu A verb with orthographic irregularity. If a 'g' comes before an 'e' the 'g' changes to 'gu'. Example: pagar

z > c A verb with orthographic irregularity. If a 'z' comes before an 'e' the 'z' changes to 'c'. Examples: cazar, alzar

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gu > gu A verb with orthografic irregularity. If a 'gu' comes before an 'e' the 'gu' changes to 'gu'. Example: averiguar

c > z A verb with orthografic irregularity. If a 'c' comes before an 'o' or 'a' the 'c' changes to 'z'. Examples: vencer, zurcir

g > j A verb with orthografic irregularity. If a 'g' comes before an 'o' or 'a' the 'g' changes to 'j'. Examples: coger, dirigir

gu > g A verb with orthografic irregularity. If 'gu' comes before an 'o' or 'a' the 'gu' changes to 'g'. Example: distinguir

qu > c A verb with orthografic irregularity. If 'qu' comes before an 'o' or 'a' the 'qu' changes to 'c'. Example: delinquir

accent like 'enviar' A verb where the accent changes in some forms. Example: enviar

accent like 'continuar' A verb where the accent changes in some forms. Example: continuar

missing i Some verbs lose the instressed 'i' in some forms. Examples: taner, grunir, bullir



If you enter an irregular verb the tab view will be activated and you can select the tab with the irregular forms.



You have entered some incorrect information and want to delete them. With this button you can wipe out the data in the Edit box of one single tab.



This buttons insert the displayed spanish characters to the Edit box that has the focus. Often these characters cannot be entered with the keyboard.



You want to wipe out all information in all Edit Boxes on all tabs. Then use this button.



Selects the verb before the actual verb in the verb list into the dialog. You can read an change the information for this verb. If the actual verb is the first one then the last one is loaded into the dialog.

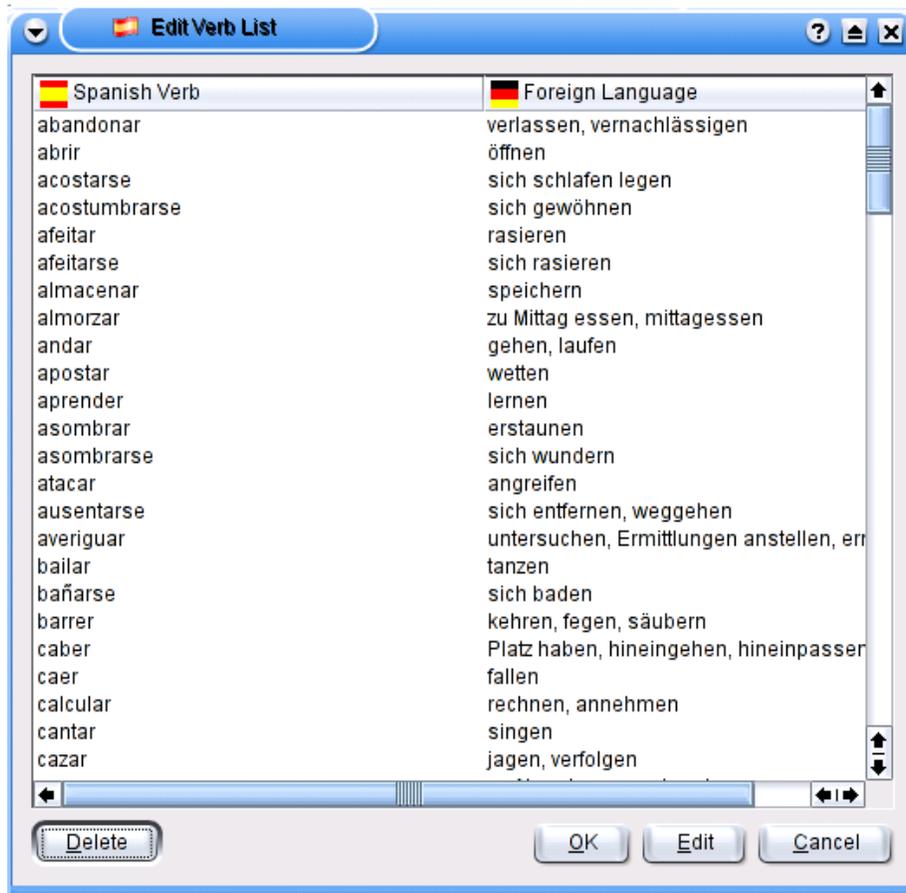


Selects the verb behind the actual verb in the verb list into the dialog. You can read an change the information for this verb. If the actual verb is the last one then the first one is loaded.



Closes the dialog and returns to the main program or the Edit Verblast Dialog depending from where the dialog was opened.

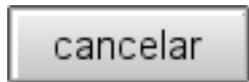
3.3 The Edit Verblast Dialog



In the list view of this dialog you can see all the verbs of the opened verb file. If there aren't any verbs in the file or if there isn't a file open the list view will be empty. You can select a verb from the list and edit this verb or you select and delete one of them.



This button deletes the selected verb from the list of verbs.



With this button you can leave the dialog. All changes that have been made until this moment will not affect the verb list of the main program. That means that the list of the main program will be unchanged.



The selected verb will be edited. The new verb dialog opens and the selected verb is loaded to the edit boxes. You can make your changes. If you make a double click on a verb this has the same effect than this button.



With this button you can close the dialog. The changes that have been made are stored in the verb list of the main program.

3.4 The Username Dialog

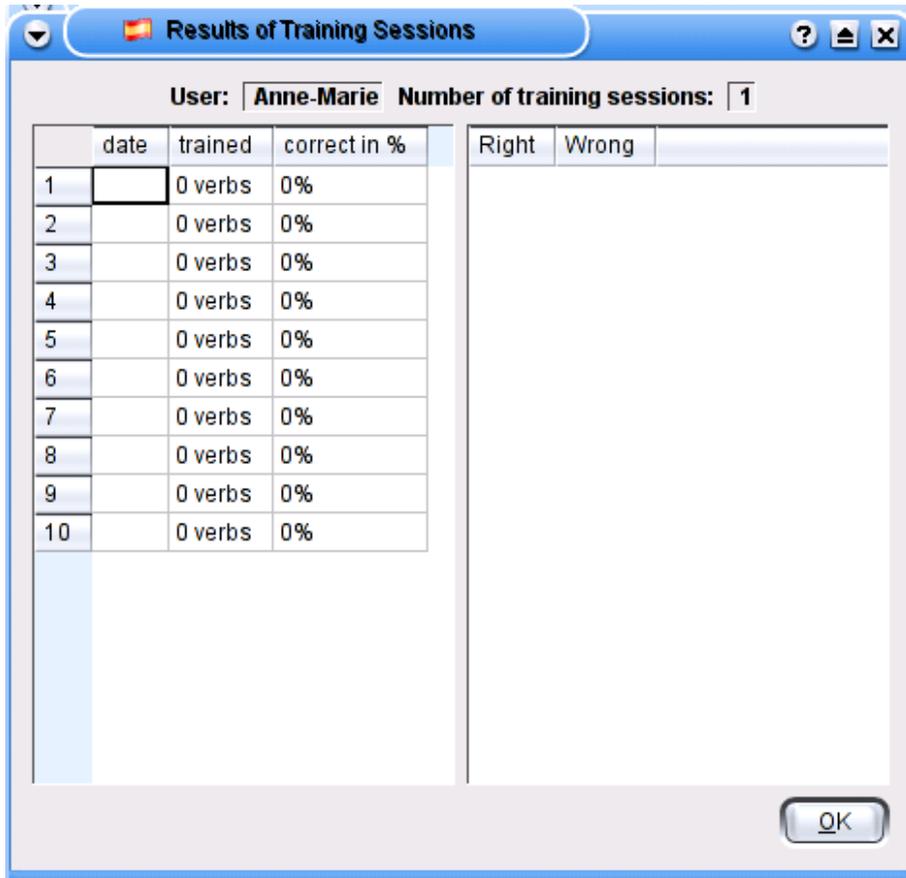


Enter your name here. The name is set as the new username of the program. It will be displayed in the programs status bar. Use the OK Button to confirm your input. The Cancel button leaves the user name unchanged.

The program will store some information about your learning progress. The number of training sessions, the result of the last ten sessions and lists with the verbs that you entered right or wrong recently.

You can have a look at this information in the User → Results dialog.

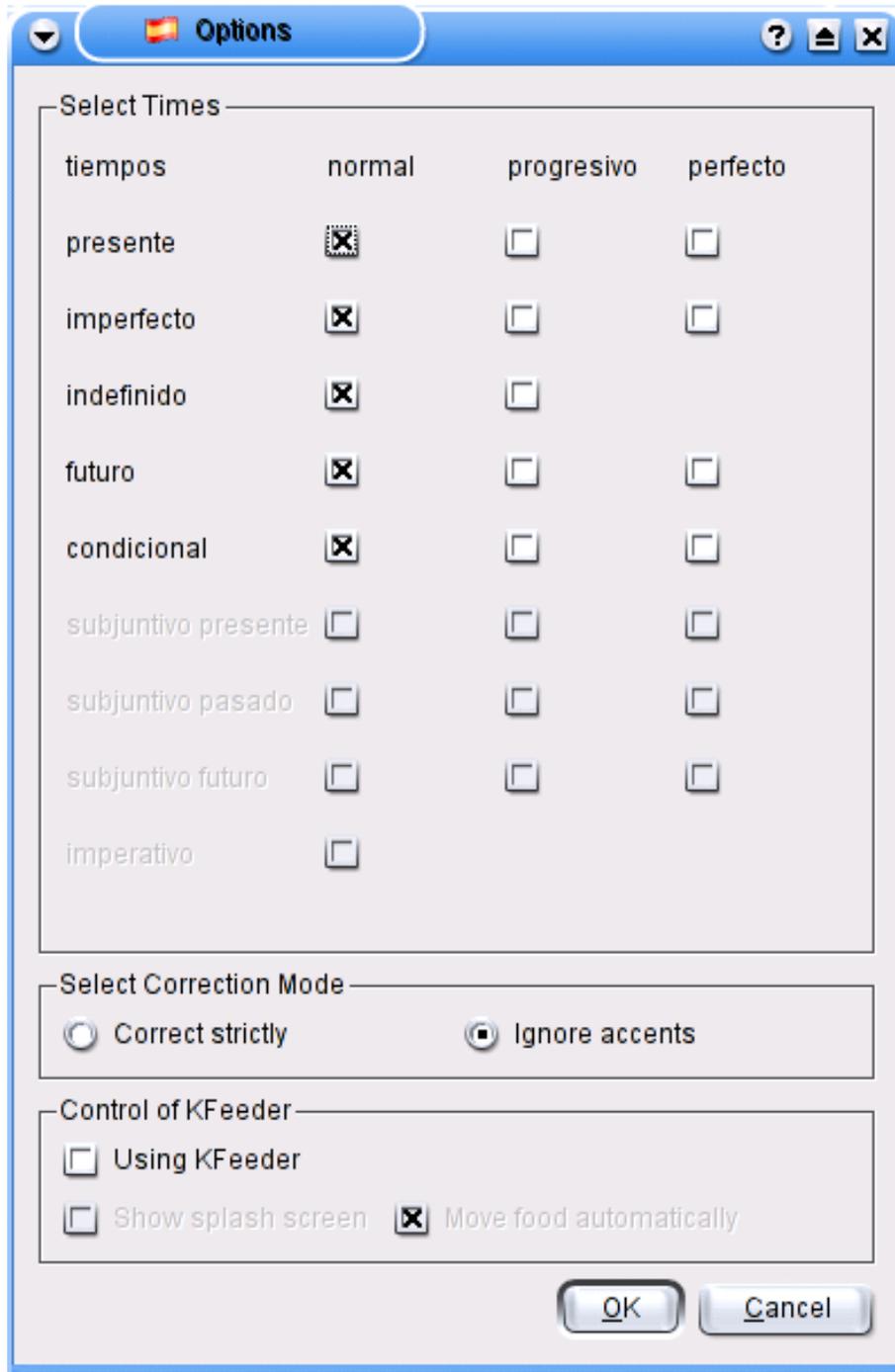
3.5 The User Result Dialog



In this dialog you can see the information that the program stores about you under your username. On the left you can see the results of the latest ten sessions and on the right are lists with the word that you entered right or wrong recently. A verb remains in the list of the right verbs for some time then it changes to the status unlearned again. The verbs that are in the wrong list will appear more frequently. They stay in the list until you enter them correctly. Then they will return to the list of the unlearned verbs.

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3.6 The Settings Options Dialog



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In this dialog you can select the tenses that should be trained. So if you want to study a specific tense or if you haven't learned how to build the forms of a specific tense yet so you can select or deselect the tenses here. Your selection is stored to the properties file of the program.

You can select a correction mode too. If you select correct strictly then every missing accent is regarded as an error. You can make it easier with ignore accent then a missing accent isn't an error.

At last you can control the use of KFeeder if this application is installed. You can decide if the learning results will be shown with KFeeder, if the splash screen can be seen when the program is starting and what type of food animations are used. The last points needs a further explanation. KFeeder displays an animal that is running around. When you enter a correct solution your points will be send to KFeeder. The dog gets bones for each point. If you chose move food automatically then the bones move down from the ceiling and one point is one bone. Otherwise every point is only a move for a bone. So you will need more points until the dog can reach the bone. Really the option move food automatically is more interesting.

Chapter 4

Developer's Guide to KVerbos

At the moment it is not possible to program any plugins for KVerbos.

Chapter 5

Questions and Answers

This document may have been updated since your installation. You can find the latest version at <http://docs.kde.org/development/en/kdeedu/> .

Until now nobody had a question that could be answered here.

Chapter 6

Credits and License

KVerbos

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Appendix A

Installation

A.1 How to obtain KVerbos

KVerbos is part of the KDE project <http://www.kde.org/> .

KVerbos can be found in the kdedu package on <ftp://ftp.kde.org/pub/kde/> , the main FTP site of the KDE project.

A.2 Requirements

In order to successfully use KVerbos, you need KDE 3.x.x. The program is distributed without a verblist file. So you have to enter the verbs yourself or you can download a verbfile.

A verblist file and KVerbos itself can be found on [The KVerbos home page](#).

You can find a list of changes at <http://edu.kde.org/kverbos/> .

A.3 Compilation and Installation

In order to compile and install KVerbos on your system, type the following in the base directory of the KVerbos distribution:

```
% ./configure
% make
% make install
```

Since KVerbos uses **autoconf** and **automake** you should have no trouble compiling it. Should you run into problems please report them to the KDE mailing lists.