

fimtii: _____

ñaas: _____

Conversation

A	?ačaqłk.	What's your name?
B	?ukłaaſ __.	My name is __.
A	wiikšahk.	Are you okay?
B	wiikšahs.	I'm okay.
A	?aaqinħ ḡnaas?ii.	How's the day?
B	?uu?uuqkʷiš.	The weather's nice.
B	wiiwiiqkʷiš.	The weather's bad.
A	kʷač?iihs.	Am I right?
B	kʷač?ii?c.	You're right.
A	?apciikhš.	Am I saying it right?
B	?apciikic.	You're saying it right.

Words

haa	<i>hah</i>	yes	wiikšah(a)	<i>week-shuhh</i>	okay
wik	<i>wick</i>	no, not	šahyit	<i>shuhh-yit</i>	okay
?ačaaq	<i>uh-chock</i>	who	ṅnaas	<i>noss</i>	day, Creator
?aqaaq	<i>uh-kock</i>	what	?uu?uuqkʷ	<i>oo-ook-kw</i>	nice weather
?aaqin	<i>ah-kin</i>	how	wiiwiiqkʷ	<i>wee-week-kw</i>	bad weather
?ukłaaſ	<i>ook-thlah</i>	called	kʷač?ii	<i>kwuch-ee</i>	right, correct
?ačaqł	<i>uh-chuck-lth</i>	called who	?apciik	<i>up-tseek</i>	say correctly

Grammar

A complete sentence in Nuu-chah-nulth usually requires a *mood ending* on the first word of the sentence. A mood ending indicates the *mood* and *subject* of the sentence. The mood is what the speaker is trying to accomplish, such as making a statement or asking a question. The *subject* is who the sentence is about.

Subject	Mood		
	Question	Strong	Weak
I	=hs	=s	=(y)iis
you	=k	=?ic	=(y)iik
he, she, it	=h	=?iš	=(y)ii

The *question* mood endings are used to ask questions:

šahýit	okay	šahýitk.	Are you okay?
?apciik	say correctly	?apciikh̄s.	Am I saying it right?
małaa	cold weather	małaah̄.	Is it cold weather?

The *strong* mood endings are used to make statements:

šahýit	okay	šahýits.	I'm okay.
?apciik	say correctly	?apciikic.	You're saying it right.
?uu?uuqkʷ	nice weather	?uu?uuqkʷiš	The weather's nice.

The *weak* mood endings are used for statements, and for *I wonder...* questions.

šahýit	okay	šahýitiis.	I'm okay.
?apciik	say right	?apciikiik.	You're saying it right.
qʷaa?ap	doing what	qʷaa?apiik.	(I wonder) what you're doing?

Exercises

1. Practise asking for and giving permission. Look for the mood endings.

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| A | ?u?umh̄hs ?uuḥwał šu?uļi. | Can I use the washroom? |
| B | ?u?umha?c. | You can. |
| B | wiṁaaqλic. | You can't. |

2. Practise talking about different kinds of weather. Look for the mood endings, and pay attention to how they are pronounced differently in different words.

- | | | |
|---|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| A | miλaaḥ λah̄ ḥaaś?ii. | Is it raining today? |
| B | haa, miλaa?š. | Yes, it's raining. |
| B | wik?iiš miλaa. λupiňš. | It isn't raining. It's sunny. |

Weather	Question	Statement	
małaa	małaah̄.	małaah̄?š.	cold weather
λupaa	λupaah̄.	λupaa?š.	hot weather
λupiň	λupiňh̄.	λupiňš.	sunny
ḥiwahya	ḥiwahyah̄.	ḥiwahya?š.	cloudy
miλaa	miλaaah̄.	miλaa?š.	raining
kʷisaa	kʷisaah̄.	kʷisaa?š.	snowing
yu?i	yu?ih̄.	yu?i?š.	windy
?učqak	?učqakh̄.	?učqakiš.	foggy