

Unit 7. huksýak • Numbers

7.1. Learning goals

- to count from 1 to 20
- to say how many there are, using plural forms when appropriate
- to count dollars and chunky things using *-qimł*

7.2. Words

huksaa	counting	ʔaʔak ^w ał	eight
huksčił.....	start counting	ćawaak ^w ał.....	nine
ʔana.....	how many	ḥayu.....	ten
ʔaya.....	many	caqiic	twenty
kaḥaa.....	few	ʔiš	and
wikiit.....	none	quuʔas	person
ćawaak	one	quutquuʔas ...	people
ʔaʔa	two	ćakup.....	man
qacća	three	ćaakupiiḥ.....	men
muu	four	ḥuucsma	woman
suća	five	ḥuucsamiiḥ ..	women
ḥupu	six	ḥaḥa.....	child
ʔaʔpu	seven	ḥaatḥa	children

7.3. Conversations

1A	huksaaḥiḥasin. huksčiʔaʔi!	We're going to count. Start counting!
1B	ćawaak, ʔaʔa, qacća, muu, suća.	One, two, three, four, five.
2A	ʔanaḥa ḥaatḥeʔis.	How many children are there?
2B	sućama ḥaatḥeʔis.	There are five children.
2B	ʔayama ḥaatḥeʔis.	There are many children.
2B	wikiitma ḥaatḥeʔis.	There aren't any children.

7.4. Word families

There are words for the numbers from one to ten, and for twenty. Numbers from eleven to nineteen are formed by adding ten to the numbers one through nine.

(1)	ćawaak	one	ḥayu ʔiš ćawaak	eleven
	ʔaʔa	two	ḥayu ʔiš ʔaʔa	twelve
	ʔaʔpu	seven	ḥayu ʔiš ʔaʔpu	seventeen
	ʔaʔak ^w ał	eight	ḥayu ʔiš ʔaʔak ^w ał	eighteen
	ćawaak ^w ał	nine	ḥayu ʔiš ćawaak ^w ał	nineteen

The words for ‘seven’ and ‘eight’ contain *ʔaʔ*– ‘two’, because seven is two away from five, and eight is two from ten. ‘Nine’ contains *ćawaa*– ‘one’, because it is one from ten.

∞ **Exercise 1.** With a partner, count to twenty from memory. Your partner will tell you *huksčiʔaʔi!* ‘Start counting!’, and will correct you if necessary.

Words that refer to one thing are *singular*. Words that refer to two or more are *plural*. Plural words in Nuuchahnulth are sometimes different from their singular forms. Words for people (like *woman*, *child*) usually have special plural forms.

(2)	quuʔas	person	ćakup	man
	quu-t-quuʔas	people	ćaakup-iih	men
	ʔaṅa	child	huucsma	woman
	ʔaa-t-ṅa	children	huucsaaam-iih	women

But most words for non-human things (like *bird*, *desk*) do not have plural forms.

(3)	ćawaak ʔaṅa	one child	ʔaʔa ʔaatṅa	two children
	ćawaak qiicsaćim	one desk	ʔaʔa qiicsaćim	two desks

The ending *-ʔis* means ‘small’. It appears on descriptions of small things, like *child*, *small*, and *few*. But *-ʔis* is not used when speaking of someone’s adult child.

(4)	ʔanaḥ	small	ʔaṅa	child
	ʔanaḥ-ʔis	small	ʔaṅe-ʔis	small child
	kaṅaa	few	ʔaatṅa	children
	kaṅee-ʔis	few	ʔaatṅe-ʔis	small children

∞ **Exercise 2.** With a partner, say the singular and plural forms of ‘man’, ‘woman’, ‘child’, and ‘small child’ from memory. Your partner will correct you if necessary.

Answers. *ćakup*, *ćaakupiih*, *huucsma*, *huucsaaamiih*, *ʔaṅa*, *ʔaatṅa*, *ʔaṅeʔis*, *ʔaatṅeʔis*

7.5. Saying how many

To make a sentence out of words referring to quantities, just add a mood ending.

(5)	ʔana-ḥa ʔaḥiqs.	How many boxes are there?
	ʔaʔak ^w aḥ-ma ʔaḥiqs.	There are eight boxes.

The form of the ending *-maa*, *-ma* depends on the shape of its stem. If its stem is only one syllable long, then *-maa* has a long *aa*. Otherwise *-ma* has a short *a*.

- (6) *muu-maa*. There are four. *čawaak-ma*. There is one.
 ?iih-maa. He, she, it is big. *?aya-ma*. There are many.

∞ **Exercise 3.** With a partner, talk about how many of these things there are around you. B answers sometimes with a number, and sometimes with ‘many’ or ‘none’.

ħuucsma *čakup* *ńačaałʹyak* *k^waasaćus* *čiišuł*
łahiqs *qiicsaćim* *tańe?is* *qicʹyak* *haawacsacim*

Example. A. *?anaħa ħuucsaamiiħ*. ‘How many women are there?’ B. *muumaa ħuucsaamiiħ*. ‘There are four women.’

7.6. Advanced learning goals

- to learn the names of the days of the week
- to count things and days using the endings *-qimł*, *-čiił*, *-(?)at*

7.7. Words

<i>?aqaq</i> what	<i>qacćačil</i> three days, Wednesday
<i>ńaas</i> day	<i>muučiił</i> four days, Thursday
<i>kałħak?i ?ah..</i> today	<i>sućačil</i> five days, Friday
<i>ńupćiił</i> one day, Monday	<i>ńupučil</i> six days, Saturday
<i>?ałćiił</i> two days, Tuesday	<i>saantii</i> Sunday

7.8. Conversations

3A <i>?anačilwıtashaħ hił ?ahkuu.</i>	How many days will you be here?
3B <i>qacćačilwıtasaħ hił ?ahkuu.</i>	I’ll be here for three days.
4A <i>?anačil?ałħa.</i>	What day (of the week) is it?
4A <i>?aqaħałħańaas.</i>	What day (of the week) is it?
4B <i>ńupćiił?ałma.</i>	It’s Monday.
5A <i>?anačilal?ałħa.</i>	What day of the month is it?
5A <i>?aqaħałħańaasuk hupał.</i>	What day of the month is it?
5B <i>ńupćiiłal?ałma.</i>	It’s the first day of the month.
5B <i>ńupćiiłal?ałukma maamiiqsu.</i>	It’s the first day of January.

7.9. Word families

There are special word endings for counting. The ending *-qimł* is used to count things, especially round or chunky things. The ending *-čiił* is used to count days.

- (7) ʔaʎak^wał-qimł-ʔiš k^waasačus. There are eight chairs.
 muu-čiił-s hił ʔaḥkuu. I'm here for four days.

This is how *-qimł* and *-čiił* combine with the numbers one through seven. Words with *-čiił* also name the weekdays, except for Sunday, which is *saantii*.

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|-----|------------|----------|------------|-----------------------|
| (8) | ʔana-qimł | how many | ʔana-čiił | how many days |
| | ḥup-qimł | one | ḥup-čiił | one day, Monday |
| | ʔaʎ-qimł | two | ʔaʎ-čiił | two days, Tuesday |
| | qacča-qimł | three | qacča-čiił | three days, Wednesday |
| | muu-qumł | four | muu-čiił | four days, Thursday |
| | suča-qimł | five | suča-čiił | five days, Friday |
| | ḥupu-qumł | six | ḥupu-čiił | six days, Saturday |
| | ʔaʎpu-qumł | seven | ʔaʎpu-čiił | seven days |

There is a lot of variation in the use of *-qimł*. It is mostly used to count dollars and chunky things, but can be used to count almost anything that is not alive.

To ask what day of the week it is, use *ʔanačiił* or *ʔaqaq ḥaas*, plus a mood ending. When talking about the passage of time, it is normal to use *-!aʎ* as well.

- (9) ʔana-čiił-ʔaʎ-ḥa. What day (of the week) is it?
 ʔaqaq-!aʎ-ḥa ḥaas. What day (of the week) is it?
 muu-čiił-ʔaʎ-ma. It's Thursday.

To talk about the day of the month, use *-čiił* plus the ending *-(?)ał*. You can add the name of the month to the day using the possessive ending *-uk*.

- (10) ʔana-čiił-ał-ʔaʎ-ḥa. What day of the month is it?
 ʔaʎak^wał-čiił-ał-ʔaʎ-ma. It's the eighth day of the month.
 ʔaqaq-!aʎ-ḥa ḥaas-uk hupał. What day of the month is it?
 ʔaʎak^wał-čiił-ał-ʔaʎ-uk-ma ʔitimł. It's the eighth day of February.