

Unit 8. ʔuušwaačak • Sentences

8.1. Learning goals

- to learn some common words for actions, people, animals, and vehicles
- to make simple sentences with a predicate, mood, and participants
- to use the article –ʔii, and the pointers ʔahkuu, ʔahñii, yaa, yee

8.2. Words

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| haawílaʔ | young man | kúmaa | pointing |
| haawíiḥaʔ | young men | ʔakiis | standing |
| haak ^w aaʔ | young woman | ʔakiiʔ | standing (indoors) |
| haathaak ^w aʔ | young women | ʔiḥaa | going by vehicle |
| čims | black bear | ʔiiḥak | paddling |
| čix ^w atin | eagle | mamuuk | working |
| čapac | canoe | mataa | flying |
| maʔakʔiʔ | speedboat | nunuuk | singing |
| huupuk ^w as | car, truck | naacsa | seeing |
| matuk | airplane | susaa | swimming |
| ciiqciqa | speaking | suu | holding |
| haʔuk | eating | yaacuk | walking |
| huyaaʔ | dancing | q ^w aaʔap | doing |
| kamitquk | running | ʔaaqinʔap | doing what |

8.3. Conversations

| | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1A | ʔaaqinʔapha čix ^w atinʔi. | What is the eagle doing? |
| 1B | mataama čix ^w atin. | The eagle is flying. |
| 1B | hayaaʔakah q ^w aaʔapii. | I don't know what it's doing. |
| 2A | ʔaaqinʔapha. | What is he, she, it doing? |
| 2B | kamitqukma haak ^w aaʔi. | The young woman is running. |
| 2B | susaama meʔiʔqacʔi. | The boy is swimming. |
| 2B | ʔiiḥakma huucsmeyi. | The woman is paddling. |
| 2B | weʔičma naʔyaqakʔi. | The baby is sleeping. |

8.4. Words for people

These are the singular and plural forms of some common words for people.

| | | | | |
|-----|-------------|----------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| (1) | čakup | man | ħaawílaλ | young man |
| | čaakup–iiħ | men | ħaaw–iiħ–aλ | young men |
| | ħuucsma | woman | ħaak ^w aaλ | young woman |
| | ħuucsam–iiħ | women | ħaa–t–ħaak ^w aλ | young women |
| | ʔańa | child | ʔańe–ʔis | little child |
| | ʔaa–t–ńa | children | ʔaa–t–ńe–ʔis | little children |

8.5. Sentence structure

A sentence is one or more words that convey a complete idea. A complete sentence in Nuuchahnulth requires a predicate and a mood ending. Participants are optional.

(2) sentence

| | | |
|-----------|-------|----------------|
| predicate | –mood | (participants) |
|-----------|-------|----------------|

- *Participants* are the people or things that a sentence is about.
- The *predicate* is the event or description that the participants are involved in.
- A *mood ending* completes a sentence. It says who the sentence is about, how good its information is, and whether it is a statement, question or command.

Here are some examples of how Nuuchahnulth sentences can be divided into predicates, mood, and participants.

| | | | | |
|-----|-----------|------|----------------|----------------------------|
| (3) | predicate | mood | participants | |
| | ʔaaqinʔap | –ħa. | | What is he, she, it doing? |
| | ńaacsá | –ma | čakupʔi čims. | The man sees a bear. |
| | naʔaa | –maħ | suwá. | I hear you. |
| | λuł | –maa | yaa řiniiλʔi.* | That's a good dog. |
| | čims | –maa | yee.* | That's a bear. |
| | yeeł | –maa | čims. | The bear is over there. |
| | hitinqis | –ma | nani. | Grandpa is at the beach. |
| | naʔaataħ | –ʔi | nani. | Listen to Grandma. |