

## Lesson 5. Introductions

### 5.1. Learning goals for year 1

- to memorize 7 conversations concerning introductions and personal interactions
- to be able to introduce oneself in Nuu-chah-nulth
- to be able to say who people are, and what they are called
- to recognize the past tense ending *-(m)it* when it refers to deceased people

### 5.2. Conversations

1A	ʔačaqłahak.	What's your name?
1B	ʔukłamaḥ __.	My name is __.
2A	ʔačaqḥak.	Who are you?
2B	histaqšičah __.	I'm from __.
2B	ʔuhuk <sup>w</sup> ah ʔumʔiiqsu __.	My mother is __.
2B	ʔuhuk <sup>w</sup> ah ḥuwiiqsu __.	My father is __.
3A	ʔačaqḥa yaa ḥuucsmeʔi.	Who is that woman?
3B	ʔuhmaa Joan.	She's Joan.
3B	łáčuučah.	I don't know her.
4A	ʔačaqłaha yaa čakupʔi.	What is that man's name?
4B	ʔukłama Peter.	His name is Peter.
4B	hayaaʔakah yaqłayii.	I don't know what he's called.
5A	čamułḥas hupii suwa.	Can I help you?
5B	łakšičiis hupii.	Please help me.
6A	łeekoo.	Thank you.
6A	ʔuušyakšičeʔic.	Thank you.
6B	ču.	Acknowledged.
7A	yaaʔakukḥak siya.	Do you love me?
7B	yaaʔakuk <sup>w</sup> ah suwa.	I love you.

### 5.3. Words

siyaaq .....	I, me (full)	ʔukłaa .....	called
siya .....	I, me (short)	ʔuh.....	be
suwaaq .....	you (full)	ʔuhuk.....	one's is
suwa .....	you (short)	histaqšič.....	come from
ʔačaq .....	who	hupii .....	help
ʔumʔiiqsu .....	mother	łakšič.....	please
ḥuwiiqsu.....	father	yaaʔakuk.....	love

#### 5.4. Notes on thank yous

This lesson introduces two thank yous (*ʔeekoo*, *ʔuušʔakšʔeʔic*). These are appropriate in different situations. For more information, see lesson 11 *Thanks*.

One does not say ‘You’re welcome’ in Nuu-chah-nulth. It is enough to say *čuu*.

#### 5.5. Notes on *ʔuh*

The word *ʔuh* means ‘be’.

- |     |                                |                    |
|-----|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| (1) | <i>ʔačaq̄ha yaa ʔuucsmeʔi.</i> | Who is that woman? |
|     | <i>ʔuh̄maa Joan.</i>           | She’s Joan.        |
|     | <i>ʔačaq̄hak.</i>              | Who are you?       |
|     | <i>ʔuhaah̄ Joseph.</i>         | I’m Joseph.        |

The full forms of *I* (*siʔaaq*) and *you* (*suw̄aaq*) are also used for ‘I am’ and ‘you are’.

- |     |                            |               |
|-----|----------------------------|---------------|
| (2) | <i>siʔaaq̄ha Joseph.</i>   | I’m Joseph.   |
|     | <i>suw̄aaq̄eʔic Sally.</i> | You’re Sally. |

∞ **Exercise 1.** With a partner, take turns asking who people in the room are. B can answer with *ʔuh*, or by saying ‘I don’t know him (or her).’

Example. A. *ʔačaq̄ha yaa čakupʔi.* ‘Who is that man?’ B. *ʔuh̄maa Ed.* ‘He’s Ed.’

Example. A. *ʔačaq̄hak.* ‘Who are you?’ B. *ʔuhaah̄ Jen.* B. *siʔaaq̄ha Jen.* ‘I’m Jen.’

#### 5.6. Notes on introducing yourself

Use *ʔuhuk* plus a relationship word (like *ʔumʔiiqsu*, *nuw̄iiqsu*), to describe how you are related to others. *ʔuhuk* is the word *ʔuh* ‘be’, plus the possessive ending *-uk*.

- |     |                                       |                              |
|-----|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| (3) | <i>ʔuhuk<sup>w</sup>ah̄ ʔumʔiiqsu</i> | Ellie. My mother is Ellie.   |
|     | <i>ʔuhuk<sup>w</sup>ah̄ nuw̄iiqsu</i> | Victor. My father is Victor. |

The possessive ending takes several forms, including *-ʔak*, *-ak*, and *-uk*. The form *-ak* can be added directly to relationship words.

- |     |                      |                              |
|-----|----------------------|------------------------------|
| (4) | <i>ʔumʔiiqsakah̄</i> | Ellie. My mother is Ellie.   |
|     | <i>nuw̄iiqsakah̄</i> | Victor. My father is Victor. |

### 5.7. Notes on the past tense

When discussing deceased people, it is proper to use the past tense *–(m)it*.

- |     |                                   |        |                           |
|-----|-----------------------------------|--------|---------------------------|
| (5) | ʔuḥuk <sup>w</sup> itaḥ ʔumʔiiqsu | Grace. | My late mother was Grace. |
|     | ʔumʔiiqsakitaḥ                    | Grace. | My late mother was Grace. |
|     | ʔuḥuk <sup>w</sup> itaḥ ḥuḥiiqsu  | Henry. | My late father was Henry. |
|     | ḥuḥiiqsakitaḥ                     | Henry. | My late father was Henry. |

### 5.8. Notes on tribal names

The ending *–!ath* means ‘live at’. It is used in the names of tribes.

- |     |                           |                |                           |               |
|-----|---------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| (6) | nuučaaḥuḥʔath             | Nuu-chah-nulth | ʔaʔuuk <sup>w</sup> iʔath | Tla-o-qui-aht |
|     | čiiqʔisʔath               | Checlesiht     | yuuḥuʔiʔath               | Ucluelet      |
|     | qaaʔyuuḥ <sup>w</sup> ath | Kyuquot        | tuḥ <sup>w</sup> aaʔath   | Toquaht       |
|     | ʔiiḥatisʔath              | Ehattesaht     | ḥuučuqʔisʔath             | Uchucklesaht  |
|     | nučaaḥʔath                | Nuchatlaht     | čišaaʔath                 | Tsesaht       |
|     | činoxintʔath              | Chinehkint     | huupačasʔath              | Hupacasath    |
|     | muwačath                  | Mowachaht      | huuʔiiʔath                | Huu-ay-aht    |
|     | mačlaath                  | Muchalaht      | niitiinaʔath              | Ditidaht      |
|     | ḥišk <sup>w</sup> iiʔath  | Hesquiaht      | paaciinaʔath              | Pacheedaht    |
|     | ʔaahuusʔath               | Ahousaht       | q <sup>w</sup> iniščaʔath | Makah         |

With any of these tribe names, the ending *–!ath* can be replaced by *–!aqsup*, making a word that refers to a woman or girl of that tribe.

- |     |                         |              |                           |                     |
|-----|-------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| (7) | yuuḥuʔiʔath             | Ucluelet     | yuuḥuʔiʔaqsup             | Ucluelet female     |
|     | tuḥ <sup>w</sup> aaʔath | Toquaht      | tuḥ <sup>w</sup> aaʔaqsup | Toquaht female      |
|     | ḥuučuqʔisʔath           | Uchucklesaht | ḥuučuqʔisʔaqsup           | Uchucklesaht female |
|     | huupačasʔath            | Hupacasath   | huupačasʔaqsup            | Hupacasath female   |

The endings *–!ath* and *–!aqsup* are hardening endings (signified by *!*). With some stems, these make the last sound of the stem hard (*–!ath*, *–!aqsup*). With other stems, the hardening is pronounced as a glottal stop (*–ʔath*, *–ʔaqsup*), or just disappears.

- |     |                             |                |            |                  |
|-----|-----------------------------|----------------|------------|------------------|
| (8) | qaaʔyuuḥ                    | Easy Inlet     | muwač      | deer             |
|     | qaaʔyuuḥ <sup>w</sup> ath   | Kyuquot person | muwačath   | Mowachaht person |
|     | qaaʔyuuḥ <sup>w</sup> aqsup | Kyuquot female | muwačaqsup | Mowachaht female |

You will learn more about hardening in later lessons.

∞ **Exercise 2.** Build the following tribal names. For each name, say the name alone, then with the ending *-!ath*, then with *-!aqsup*.

huuʔii, huupačas, čišaa, yuuʔuʔiʔ, ʔaʔuuk<sup>w</sup>i, ʔaʔuus, ʔišk<sup>w</sup>ii, muwač, qaaʔuuk

Example. huuʔii (name), huuʔiiʔath ‘Huu-ay-aht’, huuʔiiʔaqsup ‘Huu-ay-aht female’

To say what tribe you come from, use the word *histaqšič* ‘come from’, or add a mood ending directly to the name of your tribe.

- |     |                           |                               |
|-----|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (9) | histaqšičaʔ yuuʔuʔiʔʔath. | I am from the Ucluelet tribe. |
|     | histaqšičaʔ hitaču.       | I come from Hitacu.           |
|     | yuuʔuʔiʔʔath.             | I am Ucluelet.                |
|     | yuuʔuʔiʔʔaqsumah.         | I am a Ucluelet female.       |

Some speakers say *-ʔaqsumah*. Others say *-ʔaqsupah*.

∞ **Exercise 3.** With a group, take turns introducing yourselves. Say your name, your tribe, and your parents. Prompt the next person by asking *ʔačaʔhak* ‘Who are you?’

### 5.9. Test yourself

After finishing this lesson, you should be able to say these things in Nuuchahnulth.

- |                        |                                    |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. It's me!            | 9. My name is Samantha.            |
| 2. Can I help you?     | 10. Who is that man?               |
| 3. Please help me.     | 11. He's George.                   |
| 4. Who are you?        | 12. His name is George.            |
| 5. My mother is Mamie. | 13. I don't know what he's called. |
| 6. I'm from Ucluelet.  | 14. I don't know him.              |
| 7. I'm Hupacasath.     | 15. Thank you.                     |
| 8. What's your name?   | 16. I love you.                    |