

**Unit 14. ʔuʔuk^wink ʔeʔiičim • ʔuʔuk^wink ʔaʔiičum •
ʔuʔuk^wink maʔiixtuk • ʔuʔuk^wink maʔiixtk^w • Talking to elders**

14.1. Overview

In this unit, learners will work towards mastering the following skills.

- to maintain immersion in Nuuchahnulth
- to memorize some useful sentences for this purpose (“lifelines”)
- to encourage and support less advanced speakers

Words

ʔaqičła.....called what	huhtakšił..... learn (how)
q ^w ičłaa.....called what (indirect)	huuhtakšiih..... learning (how)
ʔaʔaquu.....saying what	huuhtakšiihʔap.. teaching it (how)
waa.....say it	ħaahuupa..... teaching it
wawaa.....saying it	ħaahuupču..... taught, trained
ciiqciqa.....speaking	ʔapsčiik..... going the right way
ciiqciqasa.....speaking Nuuchahnulth	wiksčiik..... going the wrong way
quuquuʔaca*.....speaking Nuuchahnulth	łuu..... recalling it
maamaamaħniqa speaking English	łuučił..... recall, remember it
ʔiiʔiiniša*.....speaking English	łuuyaap..... remind it
nanaʔa.....understanding it	nučħak..... proud, happy
wiwikap.....not understanding it	katʔuk..... proud
ħamaʔap B.....knowing it	huʔaas..... again
ʔačik.....knowing how, skilled	łuułłuuł..... slow
huhtak.....knowing (how)	łułaatuk..... sounding good

Conversations

- 1A huʔaasʔi waa. Say it again.
- 1A łuułłuułʔi ciiqciqa..... Speak slowly.
- 1A ʔapsčiikhš. Am I saying it right?
- 1B čuu, huʔaasʔaqłs waa. Okay, I will say it again.
- 1B čuu, łuułłuułʔaqłs ciiqciqa. Okay, I will speak slowly.
- 1B ʔapsčiikʔick. You’re saying it right.
- 1B wiksčiikʔick. You’re saying it wrong.
- 2A ʔaqičłah __..... What is __ called?
- 2A ʔaʔaquuʔathʔaał __..... How does one say __?
- 2A ʔuʔumħihs __ waa. Can I say __?
- 2B __ waaʔii. Say __.
- 2B __ ʔukłaaʔiš. It’s called __.

- 2B __ waaʔatʔiʃʔaaʔ. One says __.
- 2B hayumʔhis waaʔatiiʔaaʔ. I don't know how it's said.
- 3A ciiqciqasaʔi. Speak Nuuchahnulth.
- 3A ciiqciqasaʔin. Let's speak Nuuchahnulth.
- 3A wikii maamaamaʔniqa. Don't speak English.
- 3B čuu, ciiqciqasačičiʔaqʔs.* Okay, I'll speak Nuuchahnulth.
- 3B ʔuuščakšičiʔick ʔuuʔaap siičiči.* Thank you for reminding me.
- 4A ʔaʔaquuk. What are you saying?
- 4A ʔaʔaquumahsək. What do you want to say?
- 4B __ waamits. I said __.
- 4B __ waamaʔsas. I want to say __.
- 5A nanaʔak wawaayiis. Do you understand what I'm saying?
- 5B nanaʔas wawaayiik. I understand what you're saying.
- 5B wiiwīkaps wawaayiik. I don't understand what you're saying.
- 5B wīkəpīs. Let me not. I pass.
- 5B wiṃaaqʔsiš. I can't.
- 5B huuxsʔatuʔin čaani. Let's take a break for a while.
- 6A ʔahʔaʔick! Good for you!
- 6A ʔuʔaatukʔick! You sound good!
- 6A ʔačičiʔaʔick! You got it!
- 6A nanaʔiičičiʔaʔick. You get it now.
- 6A nučhaksapʔick siičiči. You have made me proud.
- 6A čamiḥtaʔick ḥaḥuupču. You are properly taught.

The best way to learn a language is to be immersed in it—that is, to hear and speak only that language. But even advanced learners find it difficult to maintain immersion. This unit's conversations provide sentences that can make it a little easier.

Conversations 1 and 2 offer sentences to help beginners talk to stronger speakers, even when they feel that they have nothing to say. Conversation 1 is just for keeping up. Conversation 2 helps you to learn more Nuuchahnulth while speaking Nuuchahnulth.

The other conversations are for teachers, mentors, and advanced learners who are ready to support beginners. Conversation 3 will help you help others to stay in Nuuchahnulth. Conversations 4 and 5 enable you to discuss misunderstandings, as well as to gracefully pass. Last, conversation 6 gives you some ways to encourage others.

Conversation 5 includes the phrase BCT *wīkəpīs*, Q *wīkəpīs*. Although this is translated 'I pass', in fact it is stronger than this. Normally, it conveys polite but serious refusal, closer to 'I prefer not to', or even 'I refuse'. Nevertheless, we recommend it because it is

easier to say than the alternatives, which is important in a stressful situation like immersion. If you like, you can soften it by adding N čaani ‘for a while’.

14.2. Notes and exercises

Out of all the phrases in this unit’s conversations, the four lifelines below are most worth memorizing, and having ready to use as needed. Although can be used in various conversations, they are especially useful whenever you are starting to feel lost.

- 1. CMQ ʔaʔaquuk.
 I ʔaʔaquk. What are you saying?
 B ʔaʔaquuḥak.
2. Q huʔaasi waa.
 BCT huʔaasʔi waa. Say it again.
3. Q kukumss suutił.
 CT wiwikaps suutił. I don’t understand you.
 B wiwikapamah suwa.
4. Q wikaps.
 BCT wikapis. Let me not. Don’t make me.

∞ Conversation. With a partner, practise the four basic lifelines in order. Partner A can talk about anything, in Nuuchahnulth if possible. Partner B cycles through the four lifelines, from ‘What are you saying?’, to ‘Let me not.’

