11
qʷaqʷak̓uk̓ʷatii • What things look like

ʔuwii • Introduction

You will learn some basic {adjectives}. Adjectives are descriptive words like 'good', 'bad', 'big', 'small', and so on. You will use them to describe people, animals, things, and places.

In the advanced section, you will practise plural adjectives, and words for 'new' and 'old'. You will learn how Nuuchahnulth and English talk differently about colour, and to make comparative constructions, like 'Salmon are bigger than herring'.

huuḥtakšiƛaya • Beginning

Similar, different. Show your partner two objects. Discuss whether they are similar or different.

-     miiłḥii .... similar
-     kʷiishḥii .... different

1A.   ṅaši?i ?aḥkuu. .... Look at these.

1A.   miiłḥiiḥa ?aḥkuu. .... Are these similar?

1A.   kʷiishḥiiḥa ?aḥkuu. .... Are these different?

1B.   __–ma· ?aḥṅii. .... Those are __.

1B.   __–c̓kin–ma ?aḥṅii. .... Those are kind of __.

1A.   ?aqinakḥak. .... What do you have?

1A.   ḥimči?is. .... Show me.

▶ Note. The word {miiłḥii} means 'similar', but not 'the same'. When two concepts are exactly the same thing, they can be described as {ċawaak} 'one'.

- ċawaackʷimin. .... We come from the same root.
- ċaawaksamaʔał. .... They are one and the same.
- ċawaakukmaʔał ʔumʔiiqsu. .. They have the same mother.

Describing animals. Talk about some common animal species, or about your own pets. Are they are good or bad, big or small, fat or skinny? Use the words on the following pages.

2A. ʔiiḥḥaa čims, ʔanaḥʔisḥa. .. Is a bear big or small?

2B. __–maˑ................................ It's __.

2B. __–c̓kin–ma. .... It's kind of __.

2B. wikmaa __.......................... It isn't __.

2A. saštuupnakḥak. .... Do you have a pet?

2A. ʔačaqłaḥa. .... What's his, her name?

2B. ʔunaakaḥ ʕiniiƛ. .... I have a dog.

2B. ʔukłaama __........................ His, her name is __.

2B. wik̓iitukʷaḥ saštuup. .... I don't have a pet.

- ƛuɫ .... good
- p̓išaq.................................. bad
- ʔiiḥ .... big
- ʔanaḥʔis .... small
- y̓aaq .... long
- ʔaaneʔis............................. short in length
- ƛ̓ac .... fat
- ƛ̓iḥaqšiƛ............................. skinny
- ƛ̓ay̓ax .... fast
- ƛuuɫƛuuɫa .... slow
- ƛuƛuɫk̓uk .... good-looking
- p̓ip̓išk̓uk .... ugly

- ƛ̓iicaʕuk .... mouse, rat
- piišpiš .... cat
- ʕiniiƛ .... dog
- ʕaťuu .... beaver
- ʕaatuš .... deer
- saasin .... hummingbird
- čixʷatin .... eagle
- ʕinm̓i .... slug
- ḥiiyi .... snake
- ƛusmit .... herring
- suuḥaa .... spring salmon
- tukuuk .... sea lion
- ʔiiḥtuup .... whale

▸ Note. Some adjectives have only one syllable, like {ƛuł}, {ʔiiḥ}, {ẏaaq}, { x̌ac}. After these adjectives, some endings will have long vowels.

• ƛułḥaa, ƛułmaa, ẏaaqḥaa, ẏaaqmaa, x̌achaa, x̌acmaa

• p̓išaqḥa, p̓išaqma, x̌aẏaxḥa, x̌aẏaxma, ƛuułƛuułama

▸ Note. Some adjectives end in {–ʔis}. This ending comes after {–ck̓in}, {–ṫana}, but before mood endings.

• ƛuł, ƛułck̓in, ƛułck̓inma

• ʔaaneʔis, ʔaanack̓inʔis, ʔaanack̓inʔisma

• ʔanaḥʔis, ʔanaḥck̓inʔis, ʔanaḥck̓inʔisma

▸ Note. There are a few words for 'cute'. B {ʔapaasʔis} implies that something is cute in a small way. CT {ḥaałṁaḥiʔis}, Q {ḥaałṁaḥaʔs} implies that something is childlike. If you add the plural ending {–ṁinḥ}, it will come before {–ʔis}.

• ʔapaasʔis .... cute, small
• ʔapaasṁinḥʔis .... ~pl.

Near, far. Talk about how far away different towns are.

3A. ƛawaaḥa mituuni, sayaaḥa…Is Victoria nearby or far away?

3B. __ –ma·..................................... It's __.

• ƛawaa .... near

• sayaa .... far

• ńačiqs..................................... Tofino

• yuułuʔił.................................. Ucluelet

• ċuumaʕas .... Port Alberni

• ƛ̓amaataxʷ .... Campbell River

• naanaaymux......................... Nanaimo

• mituuni .... Victoria

• peenkuupa .... Vancouver

▸ Note. The N name {ƛ̓amaataxʷ} for Campbell River is not well established. It comes from Kwakwala {ƛ̓əmataxʷ}.

Describing people. You're looking for someone who you know by name, but don't know what they look like. Ask your partner to describe them. Use the words on the following pages.

4A.	ʔuṅaaḥaḥ __.	I'm looking for __.
4A.	ʔaʔaqiḱukḥa.	What do they look like?
4A.	ʔiiqḥuḱʷis qʷaayii.	Tell me what they're like.
4A.	čakupḥa, łuucsmaḥa.	Are they a man or woman?
4A.	__–ḥa·.	Is he, she __?
4B.	__–ma·.	He, she is __.
4B.	wikmaa __.	He, she isn't __.
4A.	čuu, hiinaƛaḥ.	Okay, I found him, her.

Here are some useful words for describing people.

- ẏaaqaańuł........................... tall
- ʔanaḥʔis .... short in height
- ʔiičim .... old person, elder
- čakup .... man
- łuucsma............................. woman
- ḥaakʷaaƛ .... young woman
- ḥaaẇiłaƛ .... young man
- ḥaakʷaaƛʔis .... small girl
- meʔiƛqacʔis .... small boy
- hapaksuł............................ having whiskers, beard
- pipiiḥẏaksuł .... wearing eyeglasses

- y̓aqsimł................................ having long hair
- ʔaniksimłʔis, ʔaanaqimłʔis. having short hair
- t̓ucimł.................................. having short, spiky hair
- ʕasqii.................................. bald on top
- tuupkik, tupkimł .... having dark hair
- ƛ̓iicxʷik, ƛ̓icxumł* .... having blond hair
- ƛ̓iiḥik, ƛ̓iḥimł..................... having red hair
- c̓aasik, c̓asimł..................... having grey hair
- ƛ̓iisik, ƛ̓isimł...................... having white hair
- tupkuuł.............................. having a dark face
- wašuuł............................... having a brown face
- ƛ̓isuuł................................ having a pale face

▸ Note. The preceding words describing hair and faces use several suffixes. At least three suffixes describe heads and hair. The suffix {–(q)uˑł} describes faces.

- –qiˑ .... 'at the top'
- –(q)imł, –(q)umł................. 'round, chunky'
- L–(w)ikʷ .... 'at the hair'
- –(q)uˑł .... 'at the face'

▸ Note. The word {wašuuł} is common for describing tanned faces, like Nuuchahnulth people have in summertime. But {tupkuuł}, {ƛ̓isuuł} are not well established.

naaneʔiičiƛaya • Advanced

Who's bigger, Adam or Bob?

- ʔuupi .... more, better
- ʔuupisa .... most, best
- waayaq .... which
- ʔuḥ .... be (the one)
- ʔuukʷiɫ .... do to, than

A. ʔačaqḥa ʔiiḥ, Adam ʔuḥʔiš Bob.

A. waayaqḥa ʔiiḥ, Adam ʔuḥʔiš Bob.

B. ʔuḥmaa Adam ʔiiḥ.

B. ʔuupima Adam ʔiiḥ ʔuukʷiɫ Bob.

Some adjectives have plural forms.

- ƛuɫ .... good
- ƛutƛuuɫ................................. good pl.
- ʔiiḥ .... big
- ʔeʔiiḥ................................. ~pl.
- ʔanaḥʔis .... small
- ʔeʔinḥʔis .... ~pl.
- ʔiič̓im .... old (person)
- ʔeʔiič̓im................................ elders
- ƛaʔuu .... other, more
- ƛaƛuu .... others

Words for 'new' and 'old':

- čušuk................................... new (thing)
- wik čušuk........................... old (thing)
- ʔiičim .... old (person)
- wik ʔiičim .... new (person)
- ʔiičimma Patrick. - P is an elder.
- meʔiƛqacʔisma Rhodes. wikmaa ʔiičim. - R is a small boy.
- čušuk ʔuyaqḥmis................ new news
- wik čušuk ʔuyaqḥmis......... old news

More words based on R–ḱuk:

ʔuʔuḱuk .... looking like it

ʔaʔaqiḱuk.................................... looking like what

ʔaʔačaḱuk .... looking like whom

qʷaqʷaḱuk................................... how it looks

mimiłḱuk .... looking similar

kʷikʷisḱuk.................................... looking different

ʔuʔumʔicḱuk................................. looking like one's mother

ṅuṅuẇicḱuk.................................. looking like one's father

nananicḱuk .... looking like one's grandparent