

huuḥtakšiiḥyák • Lesson 3
q^waaʔaʔii kaʔḥak • Weather

ʔutwii • Introduction

We will learn to exchange polite comments about the weather, including questions and negative statements.

In the advanced section, we will learn to quantify the weather as ‘very’ versus ‘a little bit’, to use the ending *–!aʔ*, and to use weather words in the complete aspect.

If you learn only one conversation about the weather, let it be this one. It's friendly when you greet someone to say something about the weather, and to politely agree.

1A. ʔuuʔuuqukʔiš. It's a nice day.

1A. wiiwiiqukʔiš..... It's a dreary day.

1B. ʔaaniʔiš ʔuuʔuuquk..... It sure is nice.

1B. ʔaaniʔiš wiiwiiquk. It sure is dreary.

There is no Nuuchahnulth word for ‘weather’. Instead, we talk about how the day is, or the outdoors, or a place. Practise asking about the weather, describing it, and agreeing politely.

- ʔupaa hot weather
 - maʔaa cold weather
 - muuʔuk high tide
 - haayʔi low tide
- 2A. ʔaaqinʔaʔh kaʔhak How’s the day?
- 2A. ʔaaqinʔaʔh ʔaaʔaas How is it outdoors?
- 2A. ʔaaqinʔaʔh hitinqis How’s the beach?
- 2B. __-ʔiʔš. It’s __.
- 2A. ʔaaniʔiʔš __ It sure is __.

- ▶ Note. In most dialects, both hot weather and sunny weather are described as *ʔupaa*. Only in Kyuquot-Checleset, sunny weather is described as *ʔupin*.
- ∞ Exercise. Practise using conversation 2 to talk about the weather. Don't go on until you can perform it without reading.

Here are some more kinds of weather. Practise saying each word alone, then plus *-ʔiʃ*. Then use them in conversation 2.

- ʔuuqumḥi calm weather
- wiiqsii stormy weather
- ʔupaa hot weather
- maʔaa cold weather
- naasʔaak clear, not raining
- miʔaa raining
- k^wisaa snowing
- hiwaḥak cloudy
- ʔučqak foggy
- yuʔi windy

Advanced

The ending *–!aλ* means that things are different from before.

Build these words. Then talk about how the weather is now.

- λupaa, λupaaʔaλ, λupaaʔaλʔiš
- wiiqsii, wiiqsiiʔaλ, wiiqsiiʔaλʔiš
- ʔuuqumḥi, ʔuuqumḥiʔaλ, ʔuuqumḥiʔaλʔiš
- ḥiʔahak, ḥiʔahakaλ, ḥiʔahakaλʔiš
- ʔuuʔuuquk, ʔuuʔuuquk^waλ, ʔuuʔuuquk^waλʔiš
- muuḥuk, muuḥuk^waλ, muuḥuk^waλʔiš
- ḥaaʔi, ḥaaʔaaλ, ḥaaʔaaλʔiš

3A. ʔaaqinʔaλḥ kaλḥak..... How's the day now?

3B. __–!aλ–ʔi'š. It's __ now.

3A. ʔaanaaλʔiš __..... It sure is __ now.

To say ‘a little bit’, use *-tana*. This ending comes before *-!aλ*.

Build these words. Then talk about how the weather is now.

- λupaa, λupaatana, λupaatanaλ
- małaa, małaatana, małaatanaλ
- hiwahaḥak, hiwahaḥaktana, hiwahaḥaktanaλ
- k^wisaa, k^wisaatana, k^wisaatanaλ
- yuʔi, yuʔitana, yuʔitanaλ
- wiiqsii, wiiqsiiitana, wiiqsiiitanaλ
- ʔučqak, ʔučqaktana, ʔučqaktanaλ

3A. ʔaaqinʔaλh kaλhahak..... How’s the day now?

3B. __-tana-!aλ-ʔiš..... It’s a little __ now.

3A. ʔaanaaλʔiš __-tana..... It sure is a little __ now.

To say ‘very’, we usually use the ending *SS–(q)aq*.

- ʔupaa, ʔupaqaq, ʔupaqafaʔ
- maʔaa, maʔaqaq, maʔaqaafaʔ
- miʔaa, miʔaqaq, miʔaqaafaʔ
- yuʔi, yuʔiqaq, yuʔiqaafaʔ
- wiiqsii, wiqsiiqaq, wiqsiiqaafaʔ
- ʔučqak, ʔučqak^waq, ʔučqak^wafaʔ
- muuʔuk, muuʔuk^waq, muuʔuk^wafaʔ
- haay̓i, haay̓iqaq, haay̓iqaafaʔ

4A. ʔaaqinʔaʔh kaʔhak..... How’s the day?

4B. __–(q)aq–!aʔ–ʔiʔš..... It’s very __ now.

4A. ʔaanaaʔʔiʔ __–(q)aq. It sure is very __ now.

When the weather changes in a short time, we describe it using the complete aspect $-šičiλ$, $-čičiλ$, $-k^w iλ$ ‘become’, ‘start doing’.

- ʔuuʔuuquk, ʔuuʔuuqukšičiλ, ʔuuʔuuqukšičiʔaλ
- mīλaa, mīλšičiλ, mīλšičiʔaλ
- ńaasʔaak, ńaasʔačičiλ, ńaasʔačičiʔaλ
- λupaa, λupiičičiλ, λupiičičiʔaλ
- małaa, małiičičiλ, małiičičiʔaλ
- yuʔi, yuuk^wiλ, yuuk^wiʔaλ
- wiiqsii, wiiqsiičičiλ, wiiqsiičičiʔaλ

5A. ʔaaqinʔaλh kaλhak..... How’s the day?

5B. __-šičiλ-!aλ-ʔiš..... It has become __ now.

5A. ʔaanaaλʔiš __-šičiλ..... It sure has become __ now.

Note. We can also use *?iiḥ* to mean ‘very’, but this is less common.