

### Unit 3. Weather

#### Learning goals

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

- to ask about and describe the weather
- to make negative sentences using *wik* ‘not’
- to use the ending *-!aλ* ‘now, then’ when discussing the weather
- to give nuanced descriptions including ‘very’ and ‘a little bit’

#### Words

ʔuuqumḥi .....	calm weather	muuʔuk.....	high tide
wiiqsii.....	stormy weather	ḥaaȳi .....	low tide
ʔuuʔuuquk.....	nice surroundings	ḥaʃiλ .....	look at it
wiiwiiquk .....	dreary surroundings	ʔaaqin .....	how
ʔuḥpin Q.....	sunny	q <sup>w</sup> aa .....	how (indirect)
ʔupaa .....	hot weather	ḥaas.....	day, weather
maʔuk .....	cold weather	hitaas .....	outdoors
miʔaa .....	raining	ʔaḥ ʔuyi.....	now, today
k <sup>w</sup> isaa .....	snowing	kaʔḥakʔi ʔaḥ.....	today
hiwaḥak.....	cloudy	ʔaḥ ḥaasʔii CTQ....	today
ʔuʔqak .....	foggy	ʔiiḥ.....	big
yuʔi .....	windy	ʔanaḥʔis .....	small

Words based on the root *ʔuuq-* refer to pleasant feelings, surroundings, or weather. The opposites of these meanings are expressed with the root *wiiq-*.

()	ʔuuqmis N	fun, pleasure
	wiiqmis N	no fun, unpleasant
	ʔuuqumḥi BCT, Q ʔuuqumḥ(a)	calm weather
	wiiqsii N	stormy weather
	ʔuuʔuuquk BCT, Q ʔuuʔuuqk <sup>w</sup>	pleasant surroundings
	wiiwiiquk BCT, Q wiiwiiqk <sup>w</sup>	dreary surroundings

#### Conversations

- 1A ʔuuʔuuqukma. .... It's nice weather.  
 1B ʔaanima ʔuuʔuuquk..... It sure is nice weather.  
 2A wiiqsiiḥa. .... Is it stormy?  
 2B haaʔa, wiiqsiiima. .... Yes, it's stormy.  
 2B wikmaa wiiqsii. ʔuuqumḥima..... It isn't stormy. It's calm.  
 3A ʔaaqinʔaʔḥa ḥaas. .... How's the day?

- 3A ʔaaqinʔapaλha hitaas.....What's it doing outdoors?  
 3B hiwahaakma.....It's cloudy.  
 3B ʔučqakckinma.....It's a little foggy.  
 3B λupaqaqma!.....It's very hot!  
 3B hayaaʔakaha q<sup>w</sup>aaʔaλii hitaas.....I don't know how the weather is.

Weather is one of our first units because we can start with very simple sentences, and because weather is a very common topic. There is no Nuuchahnulth word for 'weather'. Instead, we talk about how the day is, or how it is outdoors. The usual word for 'day' is *naas*, but some Barkley Sound speakers prefer the alternative word *kaλhak*.

Using conversations 1-2, we will practise simple statements and questions, negative statements ('It isn't stormy'), and the proper placement of mood endings. Then in conversation 3, we will practise adding the meanings 'very' and 'a little bit' to weather sentences, as well as the important ending *-!aλ*.

- ∞ Exercise X: conversation. With a partner, practise and familiarize yourselves with all of this unit's conversations. Take turns speaking the (A) and (B) roles. Get at least three good repetitions before switching roles.

To ask about the weather, just add a question mood ending to a weather word. To say how the weather is, just add a real or strong mood ending.

- () ʔučqakha. B, CTQ ʔučqakh. Is it foggy?  
 ʔučqakma. B, CT ʔučqakʔiš. Q ʔučqakiš. It's foggy.

- ∞ Exercise X: With a partner, ask and answer about the weather using this unit's weather words. Use conversation 2 as a guide.

ex. (A) Is it \_\_? (B) It is \_\_.

- ∞ Exercise X: With a partner, practise mini-conversations where partner (A) describes the weather, and partner (B) politely agrees using *ʔaani*. Remember that the mood ending goes after the first word. Use conversation 1 as a model.

ex. (A) muuʔukma. B, CT muuʔukʔiš. Q muuʔuk<sup>w</sup>iš. 'The tide is high.'

ex. (B) ʔaanima muuʔuk. B, CT ʔaaniʔiš muuʔuk. Q ʔaaniʔš muuʔuk. 'It sure is high.'

Make negative sentences using *wik* 'not'.

- ∞ Exercise X: With a partner, practise mini-conversations where partner (A) describes the weather, and partner (B) contradicts (A). Use conversation 2 as a model.

The ending *-!aλ* is common in sentences about the weather.

The ending *-ckin* means 'a little bit'.

The ending *SS-(q)aq* means 'very'. It also imposes a short-short template on its stem.

- ∞ Exercise X: word-building. Add *-!aλ* and the real or strong mood to weather words.
- ∞ Exercise X: word-building. Add *SS-(q)aq, -!aλ*, and the real or strong mood to weather words.