

Unit 11. ƧaaƧaatıqa • ƧaaƧaataq • Thanks

11.1. Overview

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

- to give thanks appropriately for gifts, food, and hospitality
- to make sentences with complex predicates and embedded clauses
- to use causative and passive endings in prayers and requests

Words

maa	Here you go.	Ƨuyii	give it to
Ƨeekoo	Thank you.	qaacii.....	give it to
maaƧtaqšıl T.....	do a good deed	hinata CT.....	invite it
Ƨaaphıisıla	do something kind	haıııı.....	invite it along
Ƨuušnaak	valuing it, grateful*	haaƧin.....	calling, inviting
ƧuušƧakšıl.....	be useful	haaƧawııqš	invite it to a meal
Ƨatıqšıl.....	thank, acknowledge	siqıııı	cooking
ƧatıƧaqƧ C	grateful	haƧum	food, CTQ delicious
čımqstup CQ.....	make it happy	čamas	sweet, B delicious
ƧuuƧaqstup	make it (m) happy	hinatšıl	come to
Ƨuuqsuuqstup	make it (f) happy	Ƨawııčıl.....	go close to
Ƨuı.....	good, beautiful	ƧaweƧii.....	go close to
Ƨuyačıl.....	become good	naaƧuuqsta	participating
hıınaqsti	spirit	ƧayaħuƧaı.....	Welcome!
hıııı.....	give it to	ƧuımaaƧa.....	welcome warmly

Conversations

- 1A maa..... Here you go.
 1B čuu..... Acknowledged.
 1B ƧuušƧakšılƧeƧıic..... Thank you.
 1B ƧaaphıisılameƧıic. Thank you.
 1B ƧuuƧaqstumeƧıic sıƧa. Thank you.
 1B ƧuuqsuuqstumeƧıic sıƧa. Thank you.
 1B Ƨeekoo waamaah suƧa. Thank you.
 2A ƧahkuuƧakeƧıic. Here you go.
 2A suƧaasƧaƧeƧıic Ƨah..... This is yours now.
 2A Ƨuyııııhsamaħ Ƨah suƧa..... I want to give you this.
 2A ƧatıqšılƧateƧıic Ƨahkuu..... You are acknowledged with this.

- 2B čuu.....Acknowledged.
 2B ʔuušʔakšileʔic hinii siya.* Thank you for giving me it.
 2B ʔatiqšilaḥ suwa.....I thank, acknowledge you.
 3A haʔukšifaʔi!.....Start eating!
 3B ʔuušʔakšileʔic haʔuk^wap siya. Thank you for feeding me.
 3B ʔeekoo waamaah yaqitiiʔaʔ siqiiḥ.I thank those who cooked.
 3B čamasuk^weʔic haʔum. Your food is delicious.
 4A ʔumaaʔateʔic! Welcome!
 4A ʔuyačiʔataḥ hiḥmaqsti ʔanik ʔawiičiʔisuk.* I'm happy that you've come.
 4B ʔuušʔakšileʔic hiʔap siya..... Thank you for having me.
 4B ʔuušʔakšileʔic haaʔinmit siya..... Thank you for inviting me.

Conversation 1 provides several ways to say 'thank you', from informal to formal, using a situation of giving as an example. One important lesson to learn is that we say 'thank you' a lot less in Nuuchahnulth than we do in English. But when we do, there are many ways to give thanks, depending on the situation.

Next, conversations 2 through 4 exemplify thanks for gifts, food, and hospitality. Some of these sentences are formal, especially those using BCT ʔatiqšila, Q ʔataqšila.

The word BCT ʔeekoo, Q ʔaakoo varies in formality across dialects. Roughly speaking, it is considered rather formal in the middle of the coast, but is a more everyday word in the north and south. Ask your elders how this word is used in your community.

If you want a safe thank you that is appropriate in most situations, we recommend B ʔuušʔakšileʔic, C ʔuuščakšilaʔick, T maaʔtaqšilaʔic, Q ʔaakoo.

When you are thanked in the Nuuchahnulth way, the most important thing is to listen. You do not need to say anything in response, but if you do respond, it is usually enough to say čuu. There is no Nuuchahnulth expression for 'you're welcome'.

11.2. Notes and exercises

The basic thanks in conversation 1 are more meaningful than English *thank you*.

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| Q | /maaʔtaq-šiʔa-ʔiʔc/ | maaʔtaqšilaʔic. | You have done a good deed. |
| T | /maaʔtaq-šiʔa-ʔiʔc/ | maaʔtaqšilaʔic. | You have done a good deed. |
| C | /ʔuuš-čak-šiʔa-ʔiʔck/ | ʔuuščakšilaʔick. | You have been useful. |
| B | /ʔuuš-ʔak-šiʔa-(m)eʔic/ | ʔuušʔakšileʔic. | You have been useful. |

- ∞ Analysis. Practise the basic thanks in conversation 1. Break them into their meaningful parts to understand what they are really saying. Some expressions are things that 'I' do to 'you', while others are the reverse. Which are which?

If your first language is English, then you probably say *thank you* many times a day. You may find that it takes time to break this habit. In Nuuchahnulth, the word *čuu*, or even silence, is often appropriate where you would say *thanks* in English.

- ∞ maa, čuu. Level 1. With a partner, practise handing things back and forth to each other, saying *maa, čuu* as appropriate. Level 2. Use sentences from conversation 2 to model various situations of giving. Partner B responds appropriately to A, with the proper level of formality.

The B side responses in conversation 3 are especially worth memorizing, because you will have many opportunities to use these, whenever someone feeds you. Do not be shy to give thanks for food! Our elders tell us that it is always appropriate to do so.

- ∞ Thanks for food. With a partner or alone, take turns standing up and giving thanks to those who feed you. Speak loudly. Don't be shy!