Part IX   More Affixes

DATIVE SUFFIX

Oneida has a suffix that occurs after the verb stem and before the aspect suffix that has the function of converting a nontransitive verb into a transitive one. It changes the meaning from *to do something* to *to do something for someone.* The technical label for this suffix is the *dative.* It has several forms. With either a serial suffix following it (the serial suffix itself is always -**heʔ**) or a perfective suffix following (the perfective suffix is zero) the dative can be any one of the following:

-**ʔse**-   or   -**ni**-   or   -**ʌni**-   or   -**ʔseni**-

With the punctual suffix following (the punctual suffix is -**ʔ**) the dative is:

-**hs**-   or   -**ʌ**-

Examples:

-uni-	*make*		
-unyʌni-	*make for*		

luˑníheʔ	he's making it	shakaunyʌˑníheʔ	*he's making it for her*
ʌhluˑní·	he'll make it	ʌshakaúnyahseʔ	*he'll make it for her*

-hninu-	*buy*
-hninuʔseni-	*buy for one*
shakohninuʔseˑníheʔ	*he buys for her* (serial)
ʌshakohniˑnú·seʔ	*he'll buy for her* (punctual)
shakohninuʔseˑní	*he has bought for her* (perfective)

-khuni-	*cook*
-khunyʌni-	*cook for one*
khekhunyʌˑníheʔ	*I cook for her* (serial)
waʔkhekhúnyʌ	*I cooked for her* (punctual)
(waʔkhekhúni in whispered form)	
khekhunyʌˑní	*I have cooked for her* (perfective)

-hyatu-	*write*
-hyatuʔseni-	*write to one*
shehyatuʔseˑníheʔ kʌ	*do you write to them?*
washehyaˑtú·seʔ kʌ	*did you write to them?*
shehyatuʔseˑní kʌ	*have you written to them?*

-atlʌnot-	*play music*
shukwatlʌnotha?se·níhe?	*he plays music for us*
washukwatlʌnóthahse? kʌ	*did he play music for us?*
shukwatlʌnotha?se·ní	*he's playing music for us*

-anuhtu-	*have one's way, decide things*
shakonuhtu·níhe?	*he forces them*
washakonúhtuhse? kʌ	*did he force them?*
shakonuhtu·ní	*he's forced them*

-?taliha?t-	*make it hot*
ku?taliha?tʌ·níhe?	*I'm warming it up for you*
wa?ku?talihá·tʌ?	*I warmed it up for you*
ku?taliha?tʌ·ní	*I've warmed it up for you*

-li?wanut-	*ask a question*
sheli?wanutʌ?se·níhe? kʌ	*are you asking them a question*
ʌsheli?wanu·tʌ́·se? kʌ	*will you ask them*
sheli?wanutʌ?se·ní kʌ	*have you asked them*

-kalatu-	*tell a story*
shukwakalatu·níhe?	*he's telling us a story*
ʌshukwakala·tú·se?	*he'll tell us a story*
shukwakalatu?se·ní	*he's told us a story*

-atewyʌ?tu-	*fix*
kuyatewyʌ?tʌ·níhe?	*I'm fixing it for you*
ʌkuyatewyʌ́·tuhse?	*I'll fix it for you*
kuyatewyʌ?tʌ·ní	*I've fixed it for you*

-lihwathe?t-	*explain*
shelihwathe?tʌ·níhe?	*you explain it to them*
washelihwathé·tʌ?	*you explained it to them*
shelihwathe?tʌ·ní	*you have explained it to them*

-atlihwahtʌtye?t-	*carry out a responsibility*
shukwatlihwahtʌtye?tʌ·níhe?	*he's carrying out a responsibility for us*
washukwatlihwahtʌtyé·tʌhse?	*he carried out a responsibility for us*
shukwatlihwahtʌtye?tʌ·ní	*he's carried out a responsibility for us*

-lihuni- — *be the cause*
shakolihunyʌ·níheʔ — *he teaches them, he is a teacher*
washakolihúnyʌʔ — *he taught them*
    (washakolihúni in whispered form)
shakolihunyʌ·ní — *he has taught them*

-kalyaʔk- — *pay*
lakályahks — *he pays for it*
shakokalyakʌ·níheʔ — *he pays them*
wahakályahkeʔ — *he paid for it*
washakokályahkseʔ — *he paid them*
lokalyá·ku — *he has paid for it*
shakokalyaʔkʌ·ní — *he has paid them*

-naktot- — *have a chance*
khenaktóthahseʔ — *I give them a chance*
waʔkhenaktóthahseʔ — *I gave them a chance*
khenaktotʌ·ní — *I have given them a chance*

-atati- — *speak*
shakotátyahseʔ — *he speaks for them   (a spokesman)*

INCHOATIVE SUFFIX

The inchoative suffix is attached to the end of stems of many adjectival verbs. Its form is mostly a single glottal stop, although there is some variation, and its meaning is to get into or become whatever condition the adjectival verb expresses.

-iyo	*be good*
-iyoʔ	*become good*
-atlaʔswiyo	*be lucky*
-atlaʔswiyoʔ	*get lucky*
-atʌlo	*be friends*
-atʌloʔ	*become friends*
-kstʌha	*be old*
-kstʌhaʔ	*become old*
-ʔslehtayʌ	*have a car*
-ʔslehtayʌtaʔ	*get a car*
-ʔnikuhlayʌ	have a thought
-ʔnikuhlayʌtaʔ	*get a thought, understand*

The verbs with the inchoative suffix take either the punctual aspect suffix **-neʔ** or the stative suffix **-u**. Some   examples:

wahatlaʔswi·yó·neʔ	*he got lucky*
wahyatʌ·ló·neʔ	*they (two) became friends*
ʌhokstʌ́haneʔ	*he'll get old*
akeʔslehtayʌ·tá·neʔ	*I should get a car*
waʔkeʔnikuhlayʌ·tá·neʔ	*I understood*
yakotlaʔswiyóu	*she has gotten lucky*
lokstʌháu	*he has become old*
yakoʔnikuhlayʌtá·u	*she has understood, she understands*

UNDOER SUFFIX

There is a suffix which, when added to a verb stem, creates a new verb stem whose meaning is the reverse of the first one. It has two forms -**kw**- (or -**akw**- after consonants) and -**sy**- (or -**ahsy**- after consonants). Some examples:

-khwah(e)l-	*set the table*	sekhwahél	*set the table!*
-khwahlakw-	*clear the table*	sekhwahlák	*clear the table!*
-nhotu-	*shut the door*	senho·t	*shut the door!*
-nhotukw-	*open the door*	senhotu·kw	*open the door!*
-atya?tal-	*join a group*		
-atya?talakw-	*drop out of a group*		
-o-	*immerse in water*		
-okw-	*take out of water*		
-yʌtho-	*plant*		
-yʌthokw-	*harvest*		
-atsluni-	*dress*	satslu·n	*get dressed!*
-atslunyahsy-	*undress*	satslunyáhs	*get undressed!*
-nutek-	*close*	snu·ték	*close it!*
-nuteksy-	*open*	snutéks	*open it!*
-yest-	*mix together*		
-yestahsy-	*sort out*		
-hwe?nuni-	*wrap up*		
-hwe?nunyahsy-	*unwrap*		
-tsihkwalut-	*tie a knot*		
-tsihkwalutahsy-	*untie a knot*		

The aspect suffixes for the undoer verbs are quite regular:

-ákwas	serial	-áhsyus
-a·kó·	punctual	-áhsi
-ákwʌ	stative	-áhsyu (-áhsi in whispered form)

Some examples:

latiyʌ́thos	*they are planting*
latiyʌthókwas	*they are harvesting*
lotyá·tale?	*he has joined*
lotya?talákwʌ	*he has resigned*
wa?thatsihkwalu·tʌ́	*he tied the knot*
wa?thatsihkwalutáhsi	*he untied the knot*
teyeyésta	*she mixes it*
teyeyestáhsyus	*she sorts it out*

CONTINUATIVES

The aspect suffixes of verbs cover many important meanings, but there are a few meanings not covered by them. For example, we know that a habitual action is expressed with a serial suffix, but what about a future habitual action. For that meaning and a few others an extension of the aspect suffixes known as the continuative is used. The form of the continuative is -**k**- and it is attached to either a serial or perfective suffix and then topped off with either a punctual suffix -**eʔ** or an imperative (no marking). Consider the following examples:

kyʌ́thos	*I plant* (serial)
ʌkyʌ́thoʔ	*I will plant* (punctual)
ʌkyʌthóhsekeʔ	*I will be planting, I'll keep planting* (serial-continuative-punctual)
akyʌthóhsekeʔ	*I should be planting* (serial-continuative-punctual)
swayʌthóhsek	*Keep on planting!* (serial-continuative-imperative)
lato·láts	*he hunts, he's a hunter* (serial)
ʌhato·láteʔ	*he will hunt* (punctual)
ʌhatolátsekeʔ	*he'll keep hunting* (serial-continuative-punctual)
ahatolátsekeʔ	*for him to keep hunting* (serial-continuative-punctual)
satolátsek	*Keep on hunting!* (serial-continuative-imperative)

Here is how the form of the serial suffixes changes when they are extended with the continuative:

serial	serial-continuative-punctual	
-s	-(h)sekeʔ	(the -**h**- occurs only after vowels)
-as	-ahsekeʔ	
-heʔ	-hekeʔ	
-haʔ	-hekeʔ	(notice this is not -**hakeʔ**)
-ʔseʔ	-ʔshekeʔ	

The continuative -**k**- is also added on verbs ending in a perfective suffix. Either a punctual or an imperative aspect can be added after that. When the punctual is used, only the future or indefinite tense prefixes can be used, never the aorist. The meaning with the future is *will be done* if subjective pronoun prefixes are used and *would have done* if objective or transitive pronouns are used. The meaning with the indefinite is *should be done* or *for it to be done* if subjective prefixes are used and *should have done* or *for one to have done* if objective or transitive prefixes are used. Some examples follow:

yoyʌ́thu	*it has been planted*	(perfective)
ʌkayʌ́thukeʔ	*it will be planted*	(perfective-continuative-punctual)
akayʌ́thukeʔ	*it should be planted*	(perfective-continuative-perfective)
kayʌ́thuk	*let it be planted!*	(perfective-continuative-imperative)

loyʌ́thu	*he has planted* (perfective)
ʌhayʌ́thukeʔ	*he would have planted* (perfective-continuative-punctual)
ahayʌ́thukeʔ	*he should have planted, for him to have planted*
lotola·tú	*he has hunted* (perfective)
ʌhotola·túkeʔ	*he would have hunted* (perfective-continuative-punctual)
ahotola·túkeʔ	*he should have hunted* (perfective-continuative-punctual)

There is also one more form of the continuative which is attached to verbs ending in a perfective suffix. Its form is -**hakeʔ** and it requires either a future or indefinite prefix. It means *would/should) have been doing*. There is also an imperative form -**hak**.

ʌhayʌthúhakeʔ	*he would have been planting*
ahatolatúhakeʔ	*he should have been hunting*
satlaʔswi·yó	*you have good luck*
satlaʔswiyóhak	*have good luck!*
tho ni·yót	*the way it is*
tho niyotúhakeʔ	*the way it should be*
tho niyotúhak	*let it be that way!*

This form is also the usual way to indicate the simple future of an adjectival verb.

kaʔslehti·yó	*good car*
ʌkaʔslehtiyóhake	*it will be a good car*
kanuhsowa·nʌ́	*big house*
ʌkanuhsowanʌ́hake	*it will be a big house*
ot nikalʌnó·tʌ	*what kind of song is it?*
ot nʌkalʌnoʔtʌ́hake	*what kind of song will it be?*

BODY PARTS

Noun roots that refer to parts of the body are used differently in Oneida from the way they are used in English. From a noun root such as -**kahl**- *eye* it is possible to construct a simple noun **okáhla**, but it is far more common for the root either to be incorporated into a verb or, if that is not possible, to be used with a possessive prefix. Body parts belong to people and that is reflected in the language. These noun roots are different, however, because they do not add the usual possessive prefixes for nouns. Instead, they use the subjective pronoun prefixes found with verbs. They also are typically used with locative suffixes.

	your	*my*	*his*	*her*
head	snutsí·ne	knutsí·ne	lanutsí·ne	yenutsí·ne
eye	skahlá·ke	kkahlá·ke	lakahlá·ke	yekahlá·ke
nose	se?nyú·ke	ke?nyú·ke	la?nyú·ke	ye?nyú·ke
ear	sahuhtá·ke	kahuhtá·ke	lahuhtá·ke	yuhuhtá·ke
neck	senyalá·ke	kenyalá·ke	lanyalá·ke	yenyalá·ke
arm	snʌtshá·ke	knʌtshá·ke	lanʌtshá·ke	yenʌtshá·ke
hand	sesnú·ke	kesnú·ke	lasnú·ke	yesnú·ke
leg	tshiná·ke	khsiná·ke	lahsiná·ke	yehsiná·ke
foot	sahsí·ke	kahsí·ke	lahsí·ke	yuhsí·ke
back	seshú·ne	keshú·ne	lashú·ne	yeshú·ne
teeth	snawí·ke	knawí·ke	lanawí·ke	yenawí·ke
belly	snikwʌ?té·ne	knikwʌ?té·ne	lanikwʌ?té·ne	yenikwʌ?té·ne

If you did put the usual noun possessive on one of these, e.g. **akwahúhta** for *my ear*, then you are referring not to your own ear but to some other ear you happen to have, say a fake ear or a toy ear. One exception to this is the word for hair, which takes the regular possessive prefixes.

hair **sanuhkwísne** **aknuhkwísne** **laonuhkwísne** **akonuhkwísne**

This distinction is known as alienable and inalienable possession. Since your body is normally part of you, you cannot separate it from yourself (inalienable possession) and that requires verb pronoun prefixes. Items you can separate from yourself (alienable possession) use the regular possessive prefixes.

The form of the noun for many body parts is a bit different (but not predictably so) when it is incorporated into a verb. For example:

waknutsistanú·waks	*I have a head ache*
wakkahlanú·waks	*I have an eye ache*
wake?nyuhsanú·waks	*I have a sore nose*
wakahuhtanú·waks	*I have an ear ache*
wakenyalanú·waks	*I have a pain in my neck*
wakahsi?tanú·waks	*I have a pain in my foot*
wakeswanú·waks	*I have a pain in my back*
waknawilanú·waks	*I have a toothache*
waknikwʌ?tanú·waks	*I have a stomachache*

PARTITIVE, COINCIDENT, AND CONTRASTIVE

We have already met the tense prefixes (future, aorist, and indefinite), the locative prefixes (translocative and cislocative), as well as the iterative, dualic, and negative prefixes that all occur before the pronoun prefixes on verbs. There are three more and each has a number of uses.

Partitive

One is the partitive prefix. Its form always contains an **n-**.

partitive	**ni-**	with dualic	**naʔte-**
partitive and aorist	**naʔ-**	with dualic	**naʔt-**
partitive and future	**nʌ-**	with dualic	**naʔtʌ-**
partitive and indefinite	**na-**	with dualic	**naʔta-**

We actually have already met one use of the partitive and that is in counting. The partitive prefix is used when counting three or more of anything:

áhsʌ nikaʔsléhtake	*three cars*
wisk niyukwé·take	*five persons*

The partitive is used most often when particles of time, place, or manner are also used. It is the particles that seem to require the use of the partitive.

katsaʔ nu nihatiyʌ́thos	*where are they planting?*
kʌh nu nʌhatiyʌ́thoʔ	*they will plant here*
ot ni·yót tsiʔ nihatiyʌ́thos	*how do they plant?*
ot nikaʔslehtó·tʌ	*what kind of car is it?*

In all of these the particular particles **katsaʔ nu** *where*, **kʌh nu** *here*, **ot ni·yót tsiʔ** *how*, and **ot** *what* require the partitive prefix.

There are also a few particular verbs that seem to require the partitive. One is the verb *happen*. The verb stem is **-ʌ-** and the few stems that begin with ʌ take the same pronoun prefixes as e-stems. Another verb stem **-yaʔtawʌ-** means *happen to someone*.

tho niya·wʌ́s	*it happens*
náhteʔ naʔa·wʌ́neʔ	*what happened?*
tho niyawʌ́u	*it happened*
náhteʔ nisayá·tawʌs	*what happened to you? what is wrong with you?*
náhteʔ nahoyá·tawʌneʔ	*what happened to him*

Coincident

Another of the prepronominal prefixes is the coincident. It is characterized by **tsh-** and it combines with other prefixes exactly as the partitive does (just substitute **tsh-** where the partitive forms have **n-**). The general meaning of the coincident is *same*. With verbs it generally means *same time* or *when*.

tshikeksá	*when I was a child, at the same time I was a child*

(**tshi-** coincident; **-k-** pronoun; **-e-** epenthetic vowel; **-ksa** *child*)

The coincident is frequently used with the dualic prefix.

The word for *same* by itself is **tsá·kat**.

né kʌ tsá·kat	*is it the same?*

Contrastive

The last prefix is called the contrastive and it is in some ways the opposite of the coincident. Its general meaning is *different*. It is characterized by **th-** and it combines with other prefixes just as the partitive does (just substitute **th-** for **n-**). It is generally used with some particles to emphasize that the action of the verb is particularly unusual. The contrastive also is used as a negative in places where the regular negative prefix (**te?-**) can not be used. The regular negative does not combine with the dualic or the tense prefixes.

The root -e-

The verb root **-e-** was introduced on page 95 as an example of an e-stem. It is frequently used with iterative, partitive, and locative prefixes as well as the tense prefixes. Here are some common constructions and the identification of their parts:

ka íske   *I'm back*
    (**í** short accent; **-s-** iterative; **-k-** pronoun; **-e-** root)

kanusku i·kéhse   *I'm in the house*
    (**í** short accent; **-k-** pronoun; **-e-** root; **-ehse** serial aspect)

atste nukwáh téhsehse   *you're outside*
    (**te-** cislocative; **-hs-** pronoun; **-e-** root; **-ehse** serial aspect)

katsa? níhsehse   *where are you?*
    (**ni-** partitive; **-hs-** pronoun; **-e-** root; **-ehse-** serial aspect)

katsa yéhseskwe   *where were you?*
    (**ye-** translocative; **-hs-** pronoun; **-e-** root; **-skwe** past habitual)

kanatá·ke ye·késkwe   *I was in Green Bay*
    (**ye-** translocative; **-k-** pronoun; **-e-** root; **-skwe** past habitual)

kanatá·ke kʌ nyehséskwe   *were you in Green Bay?*
    (**n-** partitive; **-ye-** translocative; **-hs-** pronoun; **-e-** root; **-skwe** past habitual)

í tho nyʌ́ke   *I'll go there*
    (**n-** partitive; **-ʌ-** future; **-k-** pronoun; **-e-** root)

kanatá·ke nyétowe   *let's go to Green Bay*
    (**n-** partitive; **-ye-** translocative; **-tw-** pronoun; **-e-** root)

kanatá·ke nyaháhse   *go to Green Bay!*
    (**n-** partitive; **-yaha-** translocative; **-hs-** pronoun; **-e-** root; imperative suffix)

oksa**ʔ** t**ʌ**tk<u>e</u>   *I'll be right back*
    (**t-** dualic (for iterative); **-ʌ-** future; **-t-** cislocative; **-k-** pronoun; **-e-** root)

kánhke t**ʌ**téhs<u>e</u>   *when will you be back?*
    (**t-** dualic (for iterative); **-ʌ-** future; **-te-** cislocative; **-hs-** pronoun; **-e-** root)

Ʌtne**ʔ** k**ʌ**   *are you coming?* (literally, *are we two going?*)
    (**ʌ-** future; **-tn-** pronoun; **-e-** root; **-ʔ** punctual suffix)

Ʌtwe**ʔ** k**ʌ**   *are you coming?* (literally, *are we all going?*)
    (**ʌ-** future; **-tw-** pronoun; **-e-** root; **-ʔ** punctual suffix)

íhselhe**ʔ** k**ʌ** aéten<u>e</u>   *do you want to come along?*
    (**ae-** indefinite tense; **-tn-** pronoun; **-e-** root)

kanatá·ke nyakawenu   *she's gone to Green Bay*
    (**n-** partitive; **-yakaw-** pronoun; **-e-** root; **-nu** perfective suffix)

uhka**ʔ** náhte**ʔ** tho i·y**ʌ́**   *who is that walking there?*
    (**i-** short accent; **-yʌ** pronoun; root vowel drops)

AN EXAMPLE VERB

Now that we've seen many of the parts that can go into an Oneida verb, let's look at what it might mean to learn a word. Suppose we wanted to learn the word meaning *clean* or *wash*. This is built on the verb root -**ohale**-. We have to learn the aspect suffixes for this verb.   They are:

serial	**-he?**
punctual	**-?**
imperative	(nothing)
perfective	(nothing)

Dummy Roots

One peculiarity of this verb root (and of quite a few others) is that it requires an incorporated noun to express the object (or type of object) that is being washed. Sometimes people want to talk about washing without any particular object in mind and for those cases the language provides a dummy noun root (for this verb root the dummy is just -**n**-), so you might want to think of the stem for *wash* as being -**nohale**-. Since it begins with a consonant, it will take the pronoun prefixes that go with c-stem verbs. The verb is regular in that it takes subjective pronoun prefixes (except, of course, with the perfective aspect where no verbs take subjective prefixes). With this information we can now construct some words:

knóhalehe?	*I wash, I'm washing it*
ʌknóhale?	*I'll wash it*
wa?knóhale?	*I washed it*
aknóhale?	*for me to wash it*
snóhale	*Wash it!*
waknóhale	*I have washed it*
kanóhale	*it has been washed, it's clean*
nok ʌwa·tú ʌyenóhale?	*she has to wash it*
i·kélhe? asnóhale?	*I want you to wash it*
ʌhakwe·ní· kʌ ahanóhale?	*can he wash it?*
twanóhale	*let's all wash it!*
sahanóhale?	*he washed it again*
katsa? nu nihanóhalehe?	*where is he washing it?*

We can also form new stems by incorporating any noun stems we may know.

-ksohale-	*wash dishes*	(-ks-	*dish*)
-?slehtohale-	*wash cars*	(-?sleht	*car*)
-nʌstohale-	*wash corn*	(-nʌst-	*corn*)
-kuhsohale-	*wash face*	(-kuhs-	*face*)
-nawilohale-	*brush teeth*	(-nawil-	*tooth*)
-ya?tohale-	*bathe*	(-ya?t-	*body*)
kanʌstóhale	*washed corn (corn bread)*	(-nʌst-	*corn*)

If you are washing someone else, you will use transitive pronoun prefixes. If you are washing yourself, then add a reflexive. Note that this makes the stem start with an -a- and therefore it will take the pronoun prefixes for a-stems.

-atkuhsohale-	*wash one's own face*
-atnawilohale-	*brush one's own teeth*
-atyaʔtohale-	*bathe (oneself), take a bath*

Since cleaning is often a repetitive action, many of these stems can be extended with a distributive suffix. In this case the stem with the distributive takes exactly the same aspect suffixes as the stem without the distributive.

-nohalenyu-	*wash several* (usually used for washing clothes)
-ksohalenyu-	*wash dishes*
-atyaʔtohalenyu-	*take baths*

It is also possible to wash for someone else, so dative suffixes are possible.

    ʌkheksohalényuhseʔ   *I'll wash dishes for her*

(**ʌ-** future; **-khe-** pronoun (*I-her*); **-ks-** incorporated noun *dish*; **-ohale-** *wash*; **-nyu-** distributive; **-hs-** dative; **-eʔ** punctual aspect suffix)

And since cleaning is something there are lots of tools for, there are plenty of opportunities to use instrumental suffixes.

-nohaleʔt-	*wash with it*
-nohaleʔtanyu-	*wash several with it* (with distributive)

The instrumental suffixes allow the creation of many specific tools by using the verb as a noun.

kanohalényuheʔ	*washing machine*
yeksohaleʔtakhwaʔ	*dish rag*
yeksohaléthaʔ	*dish rag*
yeksohaleʔtanyúkhwaʔ	*dish pan*
yutyaʔtohaleʔtákhwaʔ	*bath tub*
yenʌstohaléthaʔ	corn washing basket
yutnawilohaleʔtákhwaʔ	*tooth brush*
tyenohaléthaʔ	*washroom*
yenaktohaléthaʔ	*scrub brush*

EMPHATIC PRONOUNS

We have seen that whereas English uses pronouns as separate words *(I, me, you, him, she* etc.) Oneida in contrast uses complex prefixes on verbs. But in fact Oneida does have some pronouns as separate words. They have, however, specialized uses, most often for emphasis. The first person pronoun for both singular and plural is í·, ní, or ni?í. The first of these (í·) is typically used at the beginning of a sentence; the second one (ní) is used between particles and verbs; and the third one (ni?í) usually occurs at the ends of sentences. Some common uses are the following:

yah ni?í	*not me! (or not us!)*
í· kwi tyohʌ·tú	*I'm the boss*
yah ní tewakanúhte	*I don't know* (special emphasis on *I*)
yah tewakanúhte	*I don't know* (no special emphasis on *I*)
yah ní teyukwanúhte	*we don't know*
í· akwa·wʌ́	*it's mine; it belongs to me*

The second person pronoun is **i·sé**, **ni·sé**, or **ni?i·sé**. The three varieties are distributed just as the first person forms are. Some examples:

yah ni?i·sé	*not you!*
i·sé kʌ sa·wʌ́	*is it yours?*
ok ni?i·sé	*and you?*
yah ni·sé tesanúhte	*you don't know*
i·sé kʌ sanúhte	*are you the one who knows?*

The third person emphatic pronoun is not used as much as the other two and it only has a single form **né·**. When a specific gender or number is needed, there is another pronoun:

laulhá·	*he*
akaulhá·	*she*
aulhá·.	*she, it*
lonulhá·	*they*

COMPARATIVE AND SUPERLATIVE

English forms comparative adjectives by adding a suffix (-er) or by using the adverb *more*. Oneida simply uses the particle **sʌ́ha**. For the superlative degree English either adds the suffix -est or uses the adverb *most*. Oneida uses the particle **né·** and adds the cislocative (**t-**) prefix, even though this use has nothing to do with location or direction. Some examples:

sʌ́ha lotunháhehle	*he's happier*
né· thotunháhehle	*he's the happiest*
sʌ́ha kanaskwi·yó	*a better animal*
né· tkanaskwi·yó	*the best animal*
sʌ́ha kanuhsowa·nʌ́	*a bigger house*
né· tkanuhsowa·nʌ́	*the biggest house*
sʌ́ha yutuhkályahks	*she's hungrier*
né· tyutuhkályahks	*she's the hungriest*

CONVERSATIONAL VOCABULARY

Whereabouts

katsaʔ wáhse	*Where are you going?*
kanatá·ke wá·ke	*I'm going to Green Bay*
ukwehuwé·ne wá·ke	*I'm going to Oneida*
oksaʔ tʌ́tke	*I'll be right back*
katsaʔ ní·lehse	*Where is he?* (name can be added at the end)
katsaʔ ni·yʌ́·se	*Where is she?*
katsaʔ nu níhseskwe	*Where were you?*
kʌh nukwá	*right here*
kʌ́·tho	*here*
ísi nukwá	*over there*
aʔé nukwá	*far over there*