

## Part V Verb Forms

### ASPECT SUFFIXES

So far we have not paid too much attention to separating stems from suffixes, but some important grammatical information is carried in suffixes. Most verb stems occur with one of four basic suffixes. The forms and meanings of these suffixes are quite varied. The grammatical names of the four suffixes are: serial (also called habitual), punctual, imperative, and perfective (also called stative).

#### Serial

Typical forms of the serial are: **-he?**, **-ha?**, **-as**, **-s**, **-ʔse?**, **-hse?**

The **-e-** before the final glottal stop is epenthetic. Each verb stem selects one of these forms as its serial suffix. There is some patterning here, but it is probably easiest just to learn the selected form when you learn the verb stem.

There are two basic meanings of the serial. One is that the activity of the verb is habitual and ongoing. This is generally the meaning conveyed by the simple present tense in English. *I swim. He farms. She sings.* The other meaning of the serial is that the activity of the verb is happening at this time. This is generally the meaning conveyed by the present progressive tense in English. *I am swimming. He is farming. She is singing.* The first meaning is possible for all verbs that have a serial suffix. The second is possible for only some verbs. Which verbs they are is unfortunately not fully predictable from either the form or meaning of the verb stem.

Some of the verb stems you have already met have serial suffixes:

**-atuhkalyaks** consists of the stem **-atuhkalyak-** and the serial **-s**

**-atekhu·níhe?** consists of the stem **-atekhuni-** and the serial **-he?**

**-hnekíilha?** consists of the stem **-hnekil-** and the serial **-ha?**

the **-s** at the end of **kaw·naye·nás** is a serial suffix

the **-he?** at the end of **ká·túhe?** is a serial suffix

the **-hse?** at the end of **snú·wehse?** is a serial suffix

#### **-hkw-** and **-khw-** a sound rule

There are some verb stems that end with **-hkw-** that select the **-ha?** serial suffix. The combination of **hkw** + **ha?** becomes **-khwa?** when words follow and **-hkwa** when silence follows.

**kunolúkhwa?**  
**yehyatúkhwa?**

*I love you*  
*pen, pencil (one writes with it)*

**kunolúhkwa**  
**yehyatúhkwa**

### Punctual

The forms of the punctual suffix typically are: **-ʔ**, **-ʌʔ**, or **-neʔ**. The **-neʔ** is used for stems that end in a glottal stop. The choice between the other two has to be learned separately for each verb stem. Notice that if a stem ends in a consonant, an epenthetic **-e-** must be inserted before the glottal stop suffix.

The meanings of the punctual are dependent on the prepronominal prefixes. Among those prefixes are three modal prefixes called:

aorist (also called factual) which has several forms, most typically **-**

**waʔ-** or **wa-**

future which is always **ʌ-**

indefinite which is typically **a-**.

One of these prefixes occurs whenever there is a punctual suffix and a punctual suffix occurs whenever there is one of the three modal prefixes. Prefix and suffix are linked. The aorist has several meanings but its most typical meaning is simple past tense. It can also signal a current definiteness as in *I hereby tell you* or *I promise that ...* different from the use of the English present tense with a habitual meaning. The future prefix signals future tense. The indefinite prefix is usually used in complex sentences (see page 97), often with a meaning of *should* or *would*.

### Imperative

The most typical mark of the imperative aspect is the lack of a suffix although some stems ending in glottal stop use an **-n**. The meaning of the imperative is a command.

### Perfective

The forms here are: no suffix, **-ʔ**, **-u**, **-ʌ**, **-ʔu**, and **-nu** with the first three being the most common. The choices among them have to be learned for each stem.

There are three basic meanings of the perfective and they all suggest states more than actions. One is a kind of state that is usually translated by an adjective in English - *tired, happy, old, good*. A second is a kind of state that results from a previous action. In English this corresponds to the perfect tense - *has eaten, has planted, has learned*. The focus is on the result of the past action rather than on the past action itself. The third meaning of the perfective is a current activity. Notice this was also one of the meanings of the serial aspect. Which of the three meanings is used is dependent on the particular verb stem and unfortunately the choice has to be learned for each one. But if the serial suffix of a particular verb stem has the meaning of current activity, then the perfective suffix will not.

Some of the verbs you have already met have had perfective suffixes.

the **-u** on the end of **shukwayaʔtisu** is perfective (he has made our bodies)

the **-ʔ** on the end of **-atunháheleʔ** is perfective (the **-e-** before it is epenthetic)

the lack of suffix on the end of **-anúhte** signals the perfective

the lack of suffix on the end of **-yʌ** signals the perfective

One peculiarity of the perfective is that, except for a neuter subject, it does not tolerate subjective pronoun prefixes. That means even if a verb stem required subjective pronoun prefixes with all other aspect suffixes, they could not be used with the perfective aspect. Objective prefixes are substituted instead.

A neuter pronoun prefix **ka-** can be used on some verbs with perfective suffixes to indicate that an action has been done without identifying who did it, as in *it's been planted*, *it's been washed*, or *it's been harvested*.

A summary of the meanings of the aspect suffixes:

serial	<i>do/does</i> <i>is doing</i>
punctual with aorist	<i>did, hereby do/does</i>
punctual with future	<i>will do</i>
punctual with indefinite	<i>to do, should do, would do</i>
imperative	<i>do!</i>
perfective	<i>has done</i> <i>is doing</i> <i>is, has been done</i>

To learn a new verb stem you need to know the following:

1. the type of pronoun prefixes required (subjective, objective, or transitive)
2. the beginning sound of the stem (vowel stems, consonant stems)
3. the four aspect suffixes (serial, punctual, imperative, perfective)
4. which aspect suffix means current activity (serial or perfective)
5. the meaning and form of the verb stem

The material in 1, 3, and 4 is not predictable once you know 5, so it must be learned for each stem. It is the kind of material that a good dictionary should provide. From this base literally thousands of words can be built by the rules in these lessons.

Some examples:

*eat* stem: **-atekhuni-** (a-stem) subjective pronoun prefixes  
 serial suffix: **-he?** (serial expresses current activity)  
 punctual suffix: **-?**  
 imperative suffix: none  
 perfective suffix: none  
 samples:

<b>yutekhu·níhe?</b>	<i>she's eating</i>	serial
<b>wahatekhu·ní·</b>	<i>he ate</i>	aorist and punctual
<b>lotekhu·ní</b>	<i>he has eaten</i>	perfective
<b>satekhu·ní</b>	<i>eat!</i>	imperative
<b>Δkatekhu·ní·</b>	<i>I'll eat</i>	future and punctual

*look for words* stem: **-wΛnisak-** (c-stem) subjective pronoun prefixes

serial suffix: **-s** (serial expresses current activity)

punctual suffix: **-ʔ**

imperative suffix: none

perfective suffix: **-u**

samples:

<b>kwΛni·sáks</b>	<i>I look for words</i>	serial
<b>wayewΛni·sákeʔ</b>	<i>she looked for words</i>	aorist and punctual
<b>swΛni·sák</b>	<i>look for words!</i>	imperative
<b>lowΛnisa·kú</b>	<i>he has looked for words</i>	perfective
<b>lawΛni·sáks</b>	<i>he is looking for words</i>	serial

*read* stem: **-wΛnahnot-** (c-stem) subjective pronoun prefixes

serial: **-haʔ**

punctual: **-Λ**

imperative: none

perfective: **-ʔ** (perfective expresses current activity)

samples:

<b>wakwΛná·noteʔ</b>	<i>I am reading</i>	perfective
<b>lawΛnahnothaʔ</b>	<i>he reads</i>	serial
<b>ΛyewΛnahno·tÁ</b>	<i>she will read</i>	future and punctual
<b>wahawΛnahno·tÁ</b>	<i>he read</i>	aorist and punctual
<b>swΛná·not</b>	<i>read!</i>	imperative

*sing* stem: **-lihwahkw-** (c-stem) subjective pronoun prefixes; requires **te-** prefix

serial: **-haʔ**

punctual: **-ʔ**

imperative: none

perfective: **-Λ** (perfective expresses current activity)

samples:

<b>teyakolihwáhkwaΛ</b>	<i>she's singing</i>	perfective
<b>tehalihwákhwaʔ</b>	<i>he sings</i>	serial
<b>táklí·wahkweʔ</b>	<i>I will sing</i>	future and punctual
<b>táslí·wahkw</b>	<i>sing!</i>	imperative
<b>waʔthalí·wahkweʔ</b>	<i>he sang</i>	aorist and punctual

(Notice that prefixes before the pronouns fuse together in particular ways: **te-** + **Λ-** = **tΛ-** and **te-** + **waʔ-** = **waʔt-**. More on this on page 72)

<i>do</i>	stem: <b>-atyel-</b> (a-stem)	subjective pronoun prefixes; requires prefix <b>ni-</b>
	serial: <b>-ha?</b>	(serial expresses current activity)
	punctual: <b>-?</b>	
	imperative: none	
	perfective: <b>-u</b>	
	samples:	
	<b>náhte?</b> <b>nihsatyélha?</b>	<i>what are you doing?</i> serial
	<b>náhte?</b> <b>nahátyle?</b>	<i>what did he do?</i> aorist and punctual
	<b>náhte?</b> <b>niwakatye·lú</b>	<i>what have I done?</i> perfective
	<b>náhte?</b> <b>naýútyele?</b>	<i>what will she do?</i> future and punctual

## NOUN INCORPORATION

Many complex verb stems contain both a noun root and a verb root. We have already met some such stems:

<b>kwani·sáks</b>	<i>I look for words</i> contains <b>-wan-</b> word and <b>-isak-</b> look for
<b>kawanaye·nás</b>	<i>tape recorder</i> contains <b>-wan-</b> word and <b>-yena-</b> catch
<b>ka?slehtowa·nÁ</b>	<i>big car</i> contains <b>-?sleht-</b> car and <b>-owa·nÁ</b> big
<b>lohwístaya</b>	<i>he's got money</i> contains <b>-hwist-</b> money and <b>-ya-</b> possess

This process of combining noun roots and verb roots is called noun incorporation and it is a common way words are formed in Oneida. Some verb roots require an incorporated noun. Verb roots such as **-o?tÁ-**, **-owa·nÁ**, and the counting verbs **-at** and **-ake** do not exist without some noun to combine with. Other verb roots typically have an incorporated noun but can be used without one. The root **-ya-** is an example. It usually incorporates a noun, but it can be used without one:

<b>náhte?</b> <b>lo·yÁ·</b>	<i>what does he have?</i>
<b>sa·yÁ· kÁ</b>	<i>do you have it?</i>
<b>wáki</b> (isolation form of <b>wákyÁ</b> )	<i>I've got it</i>

There are other verb roots that do not permit incorporated nouns. The stems **-nú·wehse?** *like* and **-noluhkw-** *love* do not combine with nouns. There are two stems that mean *eat*. One of them **-k-** usually incorporates the particular food involved and the other one **-atekhuni-** never does (because it really means *to eat a meal* and already contains an incorporated general noun for food **-khw-**).

Learning which verbs incorporate nouns and which don't is another part of learning the language somewhat like learning in English that you can say *this saddens me* but not *this happies me*.

The verb **-isak-** is one that typically has an incorporated noun. For example:

<b>la?slehti·sáks</b>	<i>he looks for cars</i>
<b>yenuhsi·sáks</b>	<i>she looks for houses</i>
<b>khwisti·sáks</b>	<i>I look for money</i>

<b>lakhwi·sáks</b>	<i>he looks for food</i>
<b>yutanaʔtsli·sáks</b>	<i>she looks for groceries</i>
<b>yenuhkwatsli·sáks</b>	<i>she looks for medicine</i>
<b>lanaskwi·sáks</b>	<i>he looks for animals</i>
<b>slani·sáks</b>	<i>you look for songs</i>

Notice that these are all subjective pronoun prefixes because that is what the verb root **-isak-** requires, but one is an a-stem and the others are c-stems because that depends on the beginning sound of the incorporated noun (**-atanaʔtsli-** *groceries*). Notice also that if a noun root has an extender, then that extender is used when the noun is incorporated.

The verb **-isak-** does occur without an incorporated noun but it becomes an e-stem verb **-ehsak-**.

<b>kéhsaks</b>	<i>I'm looking for it</i>
<b>náhteʔ séhsaks</b>	<i>what are you looking for?</i>
<b>náhteʔ léhsaks</b>	<i>what is he looking for?</i>
<b>náhteʔ yakéhsaks</b>	<i>what is she looking for?</i>
<b>náhteʔ lanéhsaks</b>	<i>what are they looking for?</i>

Only noun stems can be incorporated, not whole words. To say *he looks for big cars* one would say *he looks for cars, big cars*:

**laʔslehti·sáks kaʔslehtowa·nÁ**

An incorporated noun is generally not specific as to number. **Laʔslehti·sáks** means *he is car-looking* and he may be looking for one or many cars.

There is not always a choice to use noun incorporation, but when there is, should you incorporate or not? For example, is there a difference between **kanáskwaʔ lo·yÁ** and **lonáskwayÁ** for *he has an animal* or between **kanáskwaʔ léhsaks** and **lanaskwi·sáks** for *he is looking for an animal*? It might be helpful here to think of noun incorporation not as a syntactic choice but as a vocabulary choice. If you were to say in English *she values the state of being wise* or *she values wisdom*, people might think you are covering for lacking (or forgetting) the word *wisdom* in your vocabulary. Similarly in Oneida using incorporation is often the sign of a more developed vocabulary.

Noun incorporation does, however, have an important classificatory function. It can remind speakers of the categories in the Oneida worldview. A dog is a kind of animal so if you can't incorporate the word for dog (because **é·lhal** is not a noun stem, it is a whole word noun), you can incorporate a noun that classifies dog. Thus:

<b>lanaskwi·sáks é·lhal</b>	<i>he's looking for a dog (he's animal-looking for a dog)</i>
<b>yeyaʔti·sáks laksótha</b>	<i>she's looking for my grandfather (she's person-looking for my grandfather)</i>
<b>kekhwi·sáks wá·yat</b>	<i>I'm looking for pie (I'm food-looking for pie)</i>

## VERB CONSTRUCTIONS

English uses auxiliary (helping) verbs and infinitives to express many common meanings such as necessity, possibility, obligation, desire, and ability. Oneida has neither but is still able to express the same meanings by other ways.

### Necessity

The expression **nok** **Λwa·tú** means *it has to be*. Literally it is made up of the particle **nok** which means *only* and **Λwa·tú** which means *it will become* or *it will be possible*. **Nok** **Λwa·tú** followed by a verb with the future tense (and therefore with the punctual aspect as well) is one way to express necessity:

<b>nok</b> <b>Λwa·tú</b> <b>Λkatekhu·ní</b>	<i>I have to eat (it has to be that I will eat)</i>
<b>nok</b> <b>Λwa·tú</b> <b>ΛswΛnahno·tÁ</b>	<i>you must read</i>
<b>nok</b> <b>Λwa·tú</b> <b>Λhanaskwi·sáke</b>	<i>he has to look for animals</i>
<b>nok</b> <b>Λwa·tú</b> <b>Λhsatekhu·ní</b>	<i>you've got to eat</i>
<b>nok</b> <b>Λwa·tú</b> <b>táyelí·wahkwe</b>	<i>she has to sing</i>

Another verb that can be used for necessity is **teyotuhutsyóhu** (**teyotuhwatsyóhu** is an alternative pronunciation).

<b>teyotuhutsyóhu</b> <b>Λkatekhu·ní</b>	<i>I have to eat (it is necessary I will eat)</i>
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### Possibility

One way to express possibility is to use the above construction for necessity without the particle **nok**. English translations include: *may*, *might*, *it is possible that...*, *can* (but not in the sense of ability), or *it is permitted that...*

<b>Λwa·tú</b> <b>Λkatekhu·ní</b>	<i>I might eat (it is possible that I will eat)</i>
<b>Λwa·tú</b> <b>ΛyewΛnahno·tÁ</b>	<i>she may read</i>
<b>Λwa·tú</b> <b>Λhahwisti·sáke</b>	<i>he might look for money</i>
<b>Λwa·tú</b> <b>taslí·wahkwe</b>	<i>you can sing</i>

### Impossibility

The negative form of **Λwa·tú** is **yah thau·tú** but the following verb tends to have the indefinite preix rather than the future.

<b>yah thau·tú</b> <b>akatekhu·ní</b>	<i>I may not eat</i>
<b>yah thau·tú</b> <b>ayewΛnahno·tÁ</b>	<i>she is not allowed to sing</i>
<b>yah thau·tú</b> <b>ahahwisti·sáks</b>	<i>he can't look for money</i>
<b>yah thau·tú</b> <b>taslí·wahkwe</b>	<i>you may not sing</i>

### Ability

The verb stem **-kweni-** is used in the future tense along with another verb to express ability (usually physical ability). The root **-kweni-** takes subjective pronoun prefixes and its punctual suffix is **-?**, which becomes a long falling tone through the accent rules.

<b>Λskwe·ní</b> <b>kΛ</b> <b>Λsnuhkwatsli·sáke</b>	<i>can you look for medicine?</i>
<b>Λyekwe·ní</b> <b>táyelí·wahkwe</b>	<i>she can sing</i>
<b>Λkkwe·ní</b> <b>Λkatekhu·ní</b>	<i>I can eat</i>
<b>Λhakwe·ní</b> <b>kΛ</b> <b>nΛhátyehle</b>	<i>can he do it?</i>

The negative form is as follows:

yah kΛ thaskwe·ní· ʌsnuhkwatsli·sáke	<i>can't you look for medicine?</i>
yah thayekwe·ní· tʌyeli·wahkwe	<i>she can't sing</i>
yah thakkwe·ní· ʌkatekhu·ni	<i>I can't eat</i>
yah kΛ thahakwe·ní· nʌhátyehle	<i>can't he do it?</i>

There is another word for ability and that is **-laʔnhaʔ-**. It is used in the perfective aspect (the suffix is **-u**) and therefore has objective pronoun prefixes. The verb following it has an indefinite tense prefix. The meaning of the two verbs is slightly different. The root **-laʔnhaʔ-** suggests an ability based on some learning or instruction while **-kweni-** is more a physical ability.

ʌkkwe·ní· taklí·wahkwe	<i>I can sing (my mouth works)</i>
waklaʔnhá·u taklí·wahkwe	<i>I can sing (I know how)</i>
yakolaʔnhá·u kΛ ayenuhkwatsli·sáke	<i>can she look for medicine?</i>
lolaʔnhá·u ahawʌnahno·tʌ	<i>he can read</i>
salaʔnhá·u kΛ nʌhsátyehle	<i>do you know how to do it?</i>

### Negative Commands

Oneida has a handy particle **táka** that means *don't*. It can be used by itself or with a verb in the future tense. Notice that, unlike positive commands, the negative commands do not use the imperative aspect suffix. Both types of commands do use pronoun prefixes.

satekhu·ni	<i>eat!</i>
táka ʌhsatekhu·ni	<i>don't eat!</i>
táka tʌslí·wahkwe	<i>don't sing!</i>
táka nʌhsátyehle	<i>don't do it!</i>

### Obligation

One way to express mild obligation is to use the indefinite tense.

ahatekhu·ni	<i>he should eat, he ought to eat</i>
tayeli·wahkwe	<i>she should sing</i>
akwʌnahno·tʌ	<i>I ought to read</i>



## NON-ACTION VERBS

There are quite a few verbs that do not have the expected set of four aspect suffixes. Many of these follow a different pattern. They are verbs that are either translated into English as adjectives such as *lucky* or *cold* or they are verbs that typically express a state rather than an action, e.g. *remember*, *know*, *hold*. They generally have no serial suffix but they do have a present or habitual meaning in a form with either no suffix or just a glottal stop. There is no punctual suffix but a past tense is formed by adding either a serial past (if the present form ends in -eʔ) or a perfective past (if the present form ends any other way). The serial past used is -(a)hkwe (the -a- is used if the final -e- is epenthetic). The perfective past used is -'hné (or sometimes -'ne).

A future tense is formed by adding the future prefix ʌ- and a suffix that is either -(a)keʔ (if the present form ends in -e) or -hakeʔ (otherwise).

An indefinite tense is formed exactly like the future except with the indefinite tense prefix instead of the future prefix.

An imperative is constructed from the future by taking off the ʌ- prefix from the front and the -eʔ suffix from the end.

Here are some examples:

lonúhteʔ	<i>he knows</i>
lonúhtehkwe	<i>he knew</i>
ʌhanúhtekeʔ	<i>he will know</i>
ahanúhtekeʔ	<i>for him to know</i>
ké'yaleʔ	<i>I remember</i>
kehyá'lahkweʔ	<i>I remembered</i>
ʌkehyá'lakeʔ	<i>I'll remember</i>
sehyá'lak	<i>remember!</i>
yako'yʌ	<i>she has it</i>
yakoyʌ'hné	<i>she had it</i>
ʌyakoyʌ'tákeʔ	<i>she will have it</i>
sayʌ'ták	<i>have it!</i>
tehoto'té	<i>he is quiet</i>
tehoto'téhkwe	<i>he was quiet</i>
tʌhoto'tékeʔ	<i>he will be quiet</i>
tesato'ték	<i>be quiet!</i>

wakatlaʔswi·yó	<i>I'm lucky</i>
wakatlaʔswiyo·hné·	<i>I was lucky</i>
Λwakatlaʔswiyóhakeʔ	<i>I will be lucky</i>
satlaʔswiyóhak	<i>be lucky!</i>

When the -ʔseʔ plural is added to certain adjectives, then the corresponding serial past form is -ʔskwe and the suffix for the future is -hsekeʔ as in this example:

kaʔslehti·yó·seʔ	<i>good cars</i>
kaʔslehti·yó·skwe	<i>the cars were good</i>
Λkaʔslehtiyóhsekeʔ	<i>the cars will be good</i>

## PAST TIME

Languages typically have multiple ways of expressing the past. Oneida has at least four verb forms. If you ask a native speaker to translate a generic past statement, the answer could be any one of the four, but there are differences among them. Two of the four we have already met: one is formed by putting an aorist prefix and a punctual suffix on a verb, and the other is formed by putting the perfective suffix on a verb stem. A third way to express the past is an extension of the serial suffix. The forms correspond to the regular serial suffix forms:

serial serial	past serial suffix
-s	-skwe?
-as	-askwe?
-he?	-hahkwe?
-ha?	-hahkwe?
-se?	-skwe?
-hse?	-skwe?
-?se?	-?skwe?

All the *e*'s before glottal stops are epenthetic. What makes this serial past different from the others is the sense that the action has been habitual in the past. The easiest way to capture that in English is with *used to*.

lawani·sákskwe?	<i>he used to look for words</i>
náhte? nihsatyélhahkwe?	<i>what did you used to do? / what were you doing?</i>
yewannahnothahkwe?	<i>she used to read</i>
katekhuníhahkwe?	<i>I used to eat / I was eating</i>

There is also a past perfective that is formed by adding *-hné·* to a perfective suffix ending in a vowel. This is an unusual form that violates the accent rules and is only possible with certain verbs. Its meaning is that the state represented by the perfective suffix continued in the past. The simplest English translation is either *used to* or *had done*.

teyakolihwahkw·hné	<i>she used to sing, she had sung</i>
shukwahloli·hné	<i>he used to tell us, he had told us</i>

The past perfective is also the usual way to indicate the past of an adjectival verb.

ka?slehti·yó	<i>good car</i>
ka?slehtiyo·hné·	<i>the car used to be good</i>
kanuhsowa·n	<i>big house</i>
kanuhsowan·hné	<i>the house used to be big</i>
ot nihaya?tó·ta	<i>how does he look?</i>
ot nihaya?to?ta·hné	<i>how did he used to look?</i>

## FUTURE TIME

English has multiple ways of expressing future time. Besides the simple future tense *I will sing* there is also a special expression *going to* as in *I'm going to sing* or you can use the present tense with a future adverb as in *I sing tomorrow night*. Oneida has a simple future tense using the future prefix with the punctual suffix (see p. 49), but it also has a suffix, called the dislocative, with a meaning very close to the English *going to*. *Going to* can mean either movement (to be on one's way) or intention (where informal English uses *gonna*). When the dislocative is used, a new set of aspect endings is used in place of the verb's regular aspect endings. With the dislocative the aspect endings are always: **-eʔ** for the serial when it means present time (this serial is called the purposive by many linguists) and **-ehseʔ** when it means habitual aspect; **-aʔ** for the punctual; **-a** for the imperative; and **-u** for perfective. There are several forms of the dislocative itself and when combined with the aspect endings, they fall into the following four sets:

serial (now)	<b>-heʔ</b>	<b>-hsleʔ</b>	<b>-neʔ</b>	<b>-hné·</b>
serial (usually)		<b>-ehseʔ</b>	<b>-hslehseʔ</b>	<b>-nehseʔ</b>
punctual	<b>-haʔ</b>	<b>-hsaʔ</b>	<b>-naʔ</b>	<b>-hná·</b>
imperative	<b>-ha</b>	<b>-hsa</b>	<b>-na</b>	<b>-hná</b>
perfective	<b>-hu</b>	<b>-hsu</b>	<b>-nu</b>	<b>-hnú</b>

The first set tends to be used with verb stems that end in consonants and all the others with stems ending with vowels. Some verbs add an **-a-** just before the dislocative. This means if you know the verb stem, you can't necessarily predict which dislocative (if any) is used, but you can make some reasonable guesses.

The meanings of the dislocative are usually translatable by some form of *go to* or *going to*. More specifically:

dislocative and serial means *going to* \_\_\_\_ or *gonna* \_\_\_\_\_. This expresses intention.

dislocative with a special serial suffix ending in **-seʔ** means *habitually goes to* \_\_\_\_ or *habitually going to* \_\_\_\_\_. This expresses movement.

dislocative and punctual with the aorist prefix means *going (elsewhere) to* \_\_\_\_

dislocative and punctual with the future prefix means *will go to* \_\_\_\_

dislocative and imperative means *go* \_\_\_\_\_!

dislocative and perfective means *gone to* \_\_\_\_ or *gone* \_\_\_\_\_ing

a special dislocative ending added to the perfective (**-hnu·né·**) means *gone to* \_\_\_\_ and come back.

Some examples:

-atolat-	verb stem meaning <i>hunt</i>
latoláthe?	<i>he's gonna hunt, he intends to hunt</i> (serial - intention)
latoláthehse?	<i>he's always going hunting</i> (serial - movement)
wahatolátha?	<i>he is going (away) to hunt</i> (punctual)
satolátha	<i>go hunt!</i> (imperative)
lotoláthu	<i>he's gone hunting</i> (perfective)
Λhato·láte?	<i>he will hunt</i> (without the dislocative)

-yΛtho-	verb stem meaning <i>plant</i>
yeyΛthóhsle?	<i>she's gonna plant, she intends to plant</i>
yeyΛthóhslehse?	<i>she's always goes planting</i>
wa?(y)eyΛthóhsa?	<i>she's going (away) to plant</i>
tsyΛthóhsa	<i>go plant!</i>
yakoyΛthóhsu	<i>she's gone to plant</i>
yakoyΛthohsuhnu·né·	<i>she's gone to plant and come back</i>
yeyΛthóhsles	<i>she goes planting</i>
ΛyeyΛtho?	<i>she will plant</i> (without the dislocative)

-atekhuni-	a verb stem meaning <i>eat</i>
katekhunyá·ne?	<i>I'm gonna eat, I intend to eat</i>
katekhunyá·nehse?	<i>I always go to eat</i>
wa?katekhunyá·na?	<i>I'm going (away) to eat</i>
satekhunyá·na	<i>go eat!</i>
wakatekhunyá·nu	<i>I've gone to eat</i>
Λkatekhu·ní·	<i>I will eat</i> (without the dislocative)

-atolishΛ-	a verb stem meaning <i>rest</i>
latolishΛ·ne?	<i>he's gonna rest, he intends to rest</i>
wahatolishΛ·na?	<i>he's going (away) to rest</i>
satolishΛ·na	<i>go rest!</i>
lotolishΛ·nu	<i>he's gone to rest</i>
lotolishΛhnu·né·	<i>he's gone and come back from a rest</i>
latolishΛ·nes	<i>he's habitually going to rest</i>
ΛhatolishΛ	<i>he will rest</i> (without the dislocative)

## CONVERSATIONAL VOCABULARY

## Telling time

to niyohwistá·e  
 úskah niyohwistá·e  
 oye·lí minit yotukóhtu tékni niyohwistá·e  
 wisk minit tsi? niyo·lé· áhsΛ niyohwistá·e  
 ÁtyΛ ni·káhle  
 astéhtsi  
 kwahsuté·ke  
 ahsúthΛ  
 the·tÁ  
 ΛyólhΛne

*what time is it?*  
*one o'clock*  
*ten minutes after two o'clock*  
*five minutes until three o'clock*  
*noon time*  
*morning*  
*night time*  
*midnight*  
*yesterday*  
*tomorrow*

## Commands

tasatá(w)yaht  
 ka·tsi  
 sátih  
 sátkwit  
 kÁ·tho sé·sek  
 háo satekhu·ní  
 ányo, ányo  
 tehsaslíh  
 satnúhtuht  
 atsyók  
 oskana?shú  
 tákΛ  
 satkÁ·lat  
 ísi yasa·tí  
 téhsek thi·kÁ  
 skó·na  
 kas thi·kÁ  
 ni·yót  
 tutahsátlatst  
 wahs ki? wah  
 satla?swiyóhak  
 se?nikú·lalak

*come in!*  
*come here!*  
*sit down!*  
*move over!*  
*stay here!*  
*come and eat!*  
*hurry, hurry!*  
*hurry up!*  
*wait!*  
*in a little while*  
*slow down!*  
*don't!*  
*stop it!*  
*throw it away!*  
*pick it up!*  
*go get it!*  
*hand me that!*  
*look!*  
*do it again!*  
*go on!*  
*have good luck!*  
*be careful!*