Part XI Summaries

ADJECTIVE SUMMARY

English adjectives correspond to several types in Oneida. Here is a summary of them.

Some English adjectives correspond to simple non-action verb stems in Oneida and, like all verb stems, need pronominal prefixes to make complete words. *Difficult* and *old* (when describing people) are in this type.

wato·lé it is difficult (-atole-) lokstáha he is old (-kstaha-)

A second type is a verb stem that typically requires an incorporated noun. Good, big, and old (when describing objects) are in this category.

kawani'yó good word (-iyo-)
kawanowa'ná big word (-owana-)
owanaka'yú old word (-akayu-)
kawa'nés long word (-es)

Using an incorporated noun is certainly most typical for these but some of them are occasionally used without any affixes at all:

a·sé new (-ase-) aka·yú old (-akayu-)

Some of the others are slightly modified when used without an incorporated noun as in:

kwa·n λ big (-owan λ -)

And the rest use entirely different stems when there is no incorporated noun.

yoyánle? good (-iyo-) i·yús long (-es-)

For a few English adjectives the Oneida counterpart is a regular action verb stem, which requires one of the four aspect suffixes. It is usually the serial form that corresponds to the adjective. *Hungry* is in this class.

katuhkályaks I am hungry (-atuhkalyak-)

Both English and Oneida have a way of converting most action verbs into adjectives that express the state that results from the action of the verb. In English this is the past participle (having been) washed, (having been) planted and in Oneida these correspond to verbs with a perfective aspect suffix.

kaylthu it is planted (-yltho- + -u) kanohale it is clean, washed (-ohale- + zero) Finally there is a small set of suffixes that convert all sorts of stems into adjectives. Examples of four such suffixes are given here.

-(a)t creates impersonal stative adjectives yonolú·set it is boring (-nolu?se*lazy*) yonehlákwat it is amazing (-nehlakwamaze) yauwéskwat it is fun (-uweskwenjoy) yotétsat it is scary (-atetsafrighten) teyowiskwat it is slippery (-wiskwslip) yonyehe sát it is dependable (-nyehesdepend on) yolihwaye nát it is reasonable (-lihwayenatrust, accept)

-tskwa describes someone who does an action easily

lo?nikulh^.tskw^ he's forgetful (-?nikulh^?- forget)
thotu?nétskw^ he is easily frightened (-atu?ne- frighten)
tehote?tuhkwalátskw^ (-ate?tuhkwal- sweat)

ósku converts nouns into adjectives meaning full of the noun

onikwahsósku bloody (-nikw^hsblood) o?k^hlósku dirty $(-a^{2}khl$ dirt, soil) onavósku full of stone (-n_Nystone) osnuhsósku bare handed (-snuhshand)

-o'lú converts nouns (or verbs with nominalizers) to adjectives meaning looking or appearing some way

yotetsatslo·lú scary looking (-atetsa- scare + -tsl-)
lotli²waksahslo·lú he's mean looking (-atli²waksa- mean + hsl-)
yo²swa²to·lú it looks black (-a²swat- black)

awelu⁹usketslo·lú looking like a witch (-awelu⁹uske- witch + tsl-) tehonahalawalyetslo·lú he looks foolish (-nahalawalye- crazy + -tsl-)

NOUN SUMMARY

Words that are nouns in English fall into several categories in Oneida as partly described on page 27. Three types were described there. We can summarize those three and add a fourth.

The simplest type is a noun in which there are no separable stems or affixes. Most of these are animals and concrete objects.

é·lhal	dog
takos	cat
kitkit	chicken
ato·k/	axe
u·ték	bucket
átsi	dish
atókwat	spoon

The second and most common type is a simple noun root which becomes a word by adding a prefix (usually **ka-** or **o-**) and often a suffix (usually a vowel plus a glottal stop). A-stem noun roots typically have no prefix. These noun roots are basic building blocks in many more complex words.

o·n\ste?	corn	(- n \(\delta\)t-)
kanáskwa?	animal	(-naskw-)
á·shale?	knife	(-a ⁹ shal-)
kaná talok	bread	(-na ⁹ tal-)
onúhkwat	medicine	(-nuhkwat-)

The third type of noun is really a description built out of a verb stem. There are many ways this can be done but the two most common are to use a verb stem with an instrumental suffix or a verb stem with a serial aspect suffix. In the first case the noun is described by its use. In the second it is described by its characteristic activity. Some a-stem verbs can be used as nouns without the pronoun prefixes normally required in verbs.

```
vehvatúkhwa?
                          pen, pencil (-hyatu- write + -hkw-)
shakonawilahslu nihe?
                                                      clean teeth)
                          dentist
                                      (-nawilahsluni-
la?swátha?
                          fireman
                                      (-?swat-
                                               burn)
layAthos
                          farmer
                                     (-yxtho-
                                                plant)
lah Ata?kehlo·lú
                                     (-hata?ke- in the field)
                          farmer
yelihwaskénhas
                          attorney
                                      (-lihwaskenh- argue)
atslunyákhwa?
                                      (-atsluny- dress + -hkw-)
                          clothes
atekhwahlákhwa?
                                      (-atekhwahl- put food on + hkw-)
                          table
```

The fourth type of noun is created directly from a verb stem by adding a nominalizer suffix, typically -hsl- but there are others. This converts the verb into the corresponding noun as in the following examples:

kaya?takenháhsla?	help	(-ya ⁹ takenha- help)
ona?khw\hsla?	anger	(-na?khwa- angry)
kahyatúhsli?	paper	(-hyatu- write)
ateh\hsla?	shame	(-ateha- ashamed)
atholáhsla?	a cold	(-athole- cold)
atuhkalyá·ksla?	diet	(-atuhkalyak- hungry)
ahlukhá·tsla?	language	(-ahluk- speak)
atliyóhsla?	war	(-atliyo- <i>fight</i>)
atunhétsla?	life	(-atunhe- live)
atyelúhsla?	accident	(-atyelu- trick)
wehyahlá·ksla [?]	remembrance	(-ehyahl- remember)
kanoluhkwá·tsla?	love	(-noluhkw- <i>love</i>)

VERB SUMMARY

In learning new verbs the key problem is figuring out which prefixes and suffixes can be put on the verb. To solve that problem one needs to know the following:

```
1. does the verb require any prepronominal prefix?

-awalye- stir requires the dualic prefix
```

-htati- go home requires the iterative prefix

-atahsawa- start requires the cislocative prefix

- 2. does the verb have subjective, objective, or transitive pronominal prefixes?
 - -atekhuni- eat takes subjective pronouns
 - -anulte- know takes ojective pronouns
 - -hloli- tell takes transitive pronouns
- 3. what is the beginning sound of the verb stem: c-stem (see page 24), a-stem (see page 24), i-stem (see page 92), e-stem (see page 95), o-stem (see page 93)?
- 4. what type of verb is it for suffixes
 - a. non-action verbs (adjectives and statives) (see page 62)

-anuhte- know

-ya- have

5. is past expressed by the serial past (-skwe or -hkwe) or perfective past (-hne)?

b. motion verbs (see page 77)

-e- go -takhe- run

c. going to verbs - dislocatives (see page 65)

-atolath- go hunt -atekhunya⁹n- go eat

d. regular verbs

- 6. is current activity expressed by the serial or perfective? (see page 54f)
- 7. what are the forms for the serial, punctual, and perfective? (see page 54f)
- 8. is there a derivational suffix?

distributive (see page 83) dative (see page 107) instrumental (see page 81) causative (see page 82) inchoative (see page 110) undoer (see page 111)

- 9. does the verb incorporate nouns always, sometimes, or never? (see page 58)
- 10. does the verb have a reflexive and if so how does it change the meaning? (see page 79)

The answers to these questions will establish the pattern of prefixes and suffixes for each verb. One way to become comfortable with new verbs is to learn an example verb for each pattern - for example, a sample subjective a-stem, a transitive c-stem, a motion verb, a non-action verb, etc. Then new vocabulary is learned in relation to the samples you have already learned. Another way is to know the rules described in this work for

composing words from stems, prefixes, and suffixes. Then new vocabulary is learned by following those rules.

Here are a couple of examples:

```
have
-yv-
```

- 1. no required prepronominal prefixes
- 2. takes ojective pronouns
- 3. c-stem (y is a consonant)
- 4. non-action verb (stative)
- 5. past is expressed with -hne

6.

7.

8. distributive is -y_{\times}tudative is -yniinstrumental is -yatahkwa kalihwayatáhkwa causative is -y_\ta?inchoative is -yAta?undoer: none

wake?slehtay.vtú shakotlihwaya.nihe? tekalihwayAtá·u waho?slehtaya.tá.ne?

I have cars he makes them responsible it is appointed it is agreed he got a car

- 9. typically incorporated the noun possessed
- 10. reflexive changes meaning from have to place

he has a car lo?sléhtayA

lote?sléhtayA he has parked a car

lohu·wáy_A he has a boat

lothu·wáyA he has anchored a boat

-uni- make, create

- 1. no prepronominal prefix required
- 2. subjective pronouns
- 3. u-stem
- 4. regular (can be made into a *going to* verb by adding a suffix -unya?n-)

- 6. serial expresses current activity
- 7. serial suffix is -he?; punctual suffix is -?; and stative suffix is -?
- -unyanyu- make several 8. distributive

make for dative -uny^ni--unya?tmake out of instrumental

causative none inchoative none undoer none

- 9. often incorporated the object created
- 10. reflexive changes meaning to grow or make for self

-atunigrow -atn_^stunigrow corn

-atnuhsunibuild a house for self

POSSESSION SUMMARY

Oneida has several ways to indicate possession, some of which have already been described. For simple nouns there is a special set of possessive prefixes. The complete set is given in the summary charts (see page 152).

aké·slehtmy carsá·slehtyour carakó·slehther caraknáskwamy animalsanáskwayour animallaonáskwahis animal

For inalienable nouns, like most parts of the body, the pronoun prefixes for subjective verbs indicate the possessor:

knutsí·ne my head snutsí·ne your head yenutsí·ne her head kahuhtá·ke my ear sahuhtá·ke your ear lahuhtá·ke his ear

For nouns with adjectival or orientational verbs, the pronoun prefixes for objective verbs usually indicate the possessor:

waknúhsote? my house (house standing for me)

sanúhsote? your house yakonúhsote? her house

waknaskwi·yó my good animal sanaskwi·yó your good animal lonaskwi·yó his good animal

There are also two verbs for indicating possession. One is $-y_{\Lambda}$ which takes objective pronoun prefixes and means *have*.

wáky I have it (wáki in the isolation form)

sa·y\u00e1. k\u00e1 do you have it?

lo·γλ· he has it (lo·γλ in the isolation form)

úhka náhte? yako·y\(\) who has it?

For this verb the object possessed is typically incorporated:

wanáskwaya I have an animal wake?sléhtaya I have a car

The other verb is -awn which requires the possessive prefixes usually found on nouns and is translated as a possessive pronoun. An emphatic pronoun is almost always used along with it:

 \mathbf{i} akwa·w \mathbf{k} it's mine (isolation form = \mathbf{i} akwa·w \mathbf{k})

i'sé ka sa'wá is it yours? né· lao'wá it's his úhka náhte? ako'wá whose is it?

LOCATION SUMMARY

Location and direction are expressed by the following means:

1. locative suffixes on noun stems (see page 37)

-akta near -aktúti alongside -á·ke on

-a⁹késhu all over -aku in -akúshu through

-o·kú under -ke at -ne at

2. locative prepronominal prefixes on verbs (see page 75)

cislocative **-t-** translocative **ye-**

3. particles

kaló before ohn'tú ahead ohná'ka behind é nike above, over ná'ku beneath ákte elsewhere tsi? (nu) at kh'tho here tho (nu) there

4. nukwá direction

ot nukwá which direction?
kah nukwá this direction, here
tho nukwá that direction, there
otholé·ke nukwá north (cold direction)
tkaké·thohse nukwá east (it rises direction)

λtyλ nukwá south

ya?tewatsh\(\lambda\)thohse nukw\(\alpha\) west (it sets direction)

PREPOSITIONS

Oneida has no prepositions. Instead it uses other resources to express the meanings that English prepositions have. Because the common English prepositions not only have multiple meanings but also often function as other parts of speech, especially particles and adverbs, it is useful to organize this discussion by functions.

1. location (including place, direction, and source)

Oneida uses noun suffixes, verb prefixes, and particles to express location (see Summary of Location page 135). Here are some correspondences:

é·nike (particle) above tsi? plus cislocative t- prefix at tsi? nu -ne (noun suffix) -aktúti (noun suffix) along ohn tú (particle) before ohná·k (particle) behind by-akta (noun suffix) -aku (noun suffix) in -akta (noun suffix) near é·nike (particle) over -a?késhu (noun suffix) through nukwá (particle) toward under -o·kú (noun suffix) ná·ku (particle)

2. time

English time prepositions are mostly used in phrases with nouns of time and those phrases function as adverbs (at night, during the day, for a week, until spring, etc.). Since the time words in Oneida are as likely to be verbs as nouns, the correspondences are less predictable. Here are some of the more predictable ones:

after yotukóhtu
before tsi? niyo·lé
during tsi? ni- noun root -es
until tsi? niyo·lé

3. comparison

The English prepositions as, like, and than are expressed in Oneida by the comparative phrase tsi? ni yót tsi? the way that or by the coincident verb prefix ts- the same as.

4. accompaniment

The English preposition of accompaniment is with. Accompaniment in Oneida is usually reflected in the verb's pronoun prefixes. Instead of *I did something with them* Oneida would say we did something. When there is need to be more specific an additional noun is just added to the sentence without any preposition, so *I went to town with my father* would be wa?ákne? kanatá·ke ya?níha we two went to town my father.

5. instrument

The English prepositions for instruments and tools are with and by, but in Oneida the idea is expressed through the verb -atst- use or by verbs with an instrumental suffix.

6. purpose

The English prepositions for purpose are *for* and *to* and these correspond to dative suffixes on verbs.

7. partition

The English preposition for partition is of and it corresponds to the partitive ni- prefix on verbs.

8. possession

Possession in English is expressed by the preposition of (as well as by the possessive suffix -'s, possessive adjectives and pronouns, and subjects of possessive verbs like own, possess, and have). For the Oneida resources see the Summary of Possession (see page 134).

CONVERSATIONAL VOCABULARY

People Descriptions

yekhowa·n<u>√</u> she's a big eater

yehna·yés she's tall ka? niyehnayésha she's short

yeyá·tase she's good looking

lanikáhtehlu he's good looking (lanikáhtlu context form) wakatakali té I'm active, lively (wakatakali té context form)

wakníu I'm stingy wakniskóu I'm late

wakniskouháti I'm late (on my way)
tewakewyʌnhaláu I'm busy (now)
teyewyʌnha·lás she's busy (always)
wakatya⁹tahslu·ní· I'm all dressed up

yehétka she's ugly
tewaknahalawalyéu I'm crazy
lotlihwatyéni he's talkative
wakesláhtalase I'm sleepy
yuttokha? she's smart
waknuhwáktanihe? I'm sick
katuhkályahks I'm hungry

wakatunháhehle I'm happy (wakatunháhele? context form)

ya?teholí·wake? he's comical

lukwe?ti·yó he's a good person

lotla?swi·yóhe's luckylotla?swáksahe's unlucky

Summary of Grammatical Terms

adjective In English adjectives are descriptive words that modify nouns but in Oneida adjectives are a type of verb. See the summary of adjectives page 128.

affix Prefixes and suffixes collectively are known as affixes. They are attachments to verb roots and stems.

alienable possession The objects of possession come in two sorts, those that can be given away such as cars and tools and those that cannot such as legs and necks. Different pronominal prefixes are used for each type. Alienable possession is the term for objects that can be given away.

aorist This is one of the prepronominal prefixes. In form it is usually wa?- although it has quite a few other forms when it combines with other prepronominal prefixes. Its most usual meaning is simple past tense, but there are exceptions with certain verb stems. It can only be used when the verb has a punctual aspect suffix.

aspect suffix Every Oneida verb ends with one of four possible suffixes that indicate the type of action involved. The four suffixes are serial, punctual, imperative, and perfective.

a-stem Any verb stem that begins with -a- before pronominal prefixes are attached.

causative A derivational suffix added to verb stems that creates new verb stems with the additional meaning of causing or making something happen. Its form is identical to the instrumental suffix.

cislocative This is one of the prepronominal prefixes. Its usual form is -t-. It is most often used to indicate the location of an action. If the verb stem implies motion, then the cislocative suggest the motion is towards the speaker. But it has other uses as well.

coincident This is one of the prepronominal prefixes. Its form is **ts**- and its meaning involves some notion of sameness.

comparative A form of the adjective with either the suffix -er or the additional word more. The meaning of the comparative in Oneida is expressed by the particle sha.

context form The pronunciation of a word that does not occur at the end of a sentence is its context form. This form does not have any whispered parts.

continuative A derivational suffix usually containing a -k- that expresses a number of meaning modification of a verb. See page 112.

contrastive This is one of the prepronominal prefixes. Its form is th- and its meaning involves some notion of difference or unusualness. It sometimes is used as the negative.

c-stem Any verb or noun stem that begins with a consonant.

dative This is a derivational suffix. Among its forms are -hs-, -A-, and -Ani-. Its function is often to make a transitive verb out of an intransitive one, usually with the meaning of doing something on behalf of or for someone else.

derivation The prefixes and suffixes that alter the meaning of a stem in sometimes unpredictable ways, or that sometimes occur and sometimes do not, are derivations of that stem. Derivations are patterned but less regular than inflections.

derivational suffix After the main verb root and before the aspect suffix a number of derivational suffixes can be added to modify the meaning of the stem in partly predictable ways. There are about half a dozen such suffixes. Among them are: instrumental, distributive, dative, and causative.

dislocative This is a derivational suffix that addes the meaning of *going to* to the verb. It is also used with a particular aspect suffix to express intention.

distributive This is one of the derivational suffixes. Among its many forms are -nyuand -u-. It adds some kind of severalness to the action of the verb: several participants, several times, several places, several ways.

dual This is one of the grammatical numbers and means exactly two. It applies to pronouns and pronominal prefixes.

dualic This is one of the prepronominal prefixes. Its usual form is either -t- or -te-like the cislocative but because of the way it combines with other prefixes, it can always be distinguished from the cislocative. Many stems require this prefix with no special addition to the meaning. Sometimes it adds the meaning of two.

dummy root Many verb roots that are used most typically with incorporated nouns can be used in a generic sense as well. In such cases a dummy noun root (with each verb root having its own specific dummy root) is used.

epenthesis A sound process of adding additional sounds into a word. In Oneida when assembling parts of a word would otherwise create a cluster of consonants that would not be pronouncable in Oneida.

epenthetic vowel The vowel **-e-** is used to break up impossible clusters of consonants. It adds no additional meaning.

e-stem Any stem beginning with either -e- or -A- before pronominal prefixes are attached.

exclusive This refers to a kind of plural we that excludes the person spoken to, a we that means me and them but not you.

extender A suffix (often **-hsl-** or **-tsl-**) that is attached to noun roots when they are used in more complex stems. It adds no additional meaning. Since each noun root has a preferred extender (many noun roots require none at all), the extender can be thought of as an extension of the noun root itself.

factual An alternative name for the agrist prefix.

feminine indefinite One of the two feminine genders in Oneida. See page 91. It is called indefinite because it is used whenever the gender is unknown.

feminine zoic One of the two feminine genders in Oneida. See page 91. This one is also used for most animals.

first person The grammatical term for pronouns that include the person speaking, such as *I*, me, we, or us.

full reflexive A grammatical prefix that attaches to the beginning of verb stems. Its form is -atat(e)- and it adds the meaning of doing the action on oneself.

future tense One of the prepronominal prefixes that indicates future time. Its form is consistently -A- and it is only used on verbs that have punctual aspect suffixes.

habitual Any verb form that has the meaning of an action being done routinely or extended over time whether past, present, or future is called habitual. It is the opposite of punctual and both punctual and habitual are known as grammatical aspects.

imperative Imperatives are commands.

inalienable possession The objects of possession come in two sorts, those that can be given away such as cars and tools and those that cannot such as legs and necks. Different pronominal prefixes are used for each type. Inalienable possession is the term for objects that cannot be given away, primarily parts of the body.

inchoative This is a derivational suffix. It attaches to verb stems that mean states or conditions and it adds the meaning of getting into that state or condition.

inclusive This term is used for pronouns or pronominal prefixes that include both the speaker and the listener, a kind of we or us.

incorporated noun Oneida verb stems can be quite complex and some contain noun roots within the verb stem itself. If a noun root is not a separate word but part of a complex verb, then it is called incorporated.

indefinite tense One of the three tense prefixes, its most typically form is -a- and its meaning is either a mild kind of obligation (should, ought) or it is used to indicate various kinds of subordination in a sentence. For example, it is used on verbs after the verb want to indicate what action is wanted.

inflection This is a class of prefixes or suffixes noted for their regularity and predictaility of meaning. In English nouns are inflected for number and verbs are inflected for tense. In Oneida verbs are typically inflected for aspect.

instrumental This is part of a complex verb stem. It is a derivational suffix added to a verb root to give the extra meaning of using something to do the action or doing the action with something (typically a tool but sometimes a place).

isolation form The form of pronunciation used when a word is spoken alone or at the end of a sentence. It often involves some whispering or alternation from the context form. Although their pronunciations may be different, their meanings are the same.

i-stem Any noun or verb stem that begins with -i-.

iterative This is one of the prepronominal prefixes. Its usual form is -s- and it adds several meanings such as *again*, *back*, or *one*.

lexicalization The process of a composed expression acting as a single integrated word (lexical item). The process usually involves some unpredicted specialization in meaning. The components in **kawnaye**:nás predict it means *it catches words*, but it actually has become lexicalized to mean just *tape recorder*.

locative This refers to location. There are two locative prepronominal prefixes: cislocative and translocative.

masculine The grammatical term for pronouns and pronominal prefixes that indicate males.

negative The grammatical term for any particles and prefixes that express negation. There is one prefix that used most typically and it is known as the negative prefix te(?)-.

nominalizer A suffix (often **-hsl-** or **-tsl-**) that is attached to verb roots when they are used as noun stems in more complex stems.

noun In English nouns are identified by their form (the kinds of suffixes, such as plural, they can have) and by their role (such as subject) in a sentence. In Oneida nouns can be identified by their forms (words built from noun roots with noun affixes) or by their uses so that even words constructed as verbs can be used as nouns.

number The grammatical category for singluar, dual, and plural. It is a feature of pronoun prefixes.

objective This is the name for a class of intransitive pronoun prefixes on verbs. It is the opposite of subjective, which is the other class. Learning verbs in Oneida involves learning whether they are in the objective or subjective class and in general it cannot be predicted from the English translation.

orientation verb This is a verb root expressing a physical orientation such as standing, lying, stuck on the end of, or attached to. They are often used with incorporated noun roots to indicate whether the noun is in its expected orientation or not.

o-stem Any stem that begins with -o- or -u- before pronoun prefixes are attached.

particle This term is used in Oneida for any word that is neither a noun or a verb. They are usually one or two syllables and cannot be broken down into parts. They are used to express all sorts of syntactic and discourse meanings.

participle In English participles are verbs turned into adjectives such as *falling leaves* (present participle) or *fallen leaves* (past participle). Oneida has no specific participles. Such meanings are conveyed by the different aspects of the verb.

partitive This is one of the eleven pre-pronominal prefixes. Its form always includes an **n** and it has a variety of meanings in counting and questions as well as being required by some particular verb stems.

past perfective This is one of the ways of indicating past time. It is a form -hne suffixed to the end of a verb with a perfective suffix already on it

past serial This is another way of indicating past time. Its form -(h)kwe is attached to verbs ending in a serial suffix.

past tense There is not a single way to indicate past time in Oneida. Different verbs use different devices, sometimes prefixes such as the aorist, and sometimes suffixes.

perfective aspect This is a verb suffix that takes the action of the verb as a state, either the state of doing the action right now or the state of have complete the action. It is also called the stative aspect.

person Grammatical person is a feature of pronouns or pronoun prefixes. The first person indicates the one(s) speaking; the second person is whomever is spoken to; and the third person is whomever is spoken about. *I* is a first person pronoun; *you* is a second person pronoun; and *they* is a third person pronoun.

plural In English plural is the grammatical number for anything that is not singular, but in Oneida there is a dual number for two of anything so plural is for three or more of anything.

possessive Both English and Oneida have multiple ways of expressing possession, sometimes with verbs such as *have* and *own*, and sometimes with sets of special pronoun prefixes.

predicate Most sentences consist of identifying some object or individual and making a claim about that object or individual. The predicate is the part that makes the claim. It can be very simple such as the verb *laughed* or it can be more complex such as washed clothes over and over for someone else. In Oneida verb stems, either simple or complex, are the predicates.

prefix Any attachment of identifiable form or meaning to the front of a root or stem. Most Oneida stems need prefixes to make them complete words.

preposition In English these are small words such as *in, on, under, of, with* that express spatial and grammatical meanings with nouns. Oneida does not have a separate class of words that correspond to prepositions. Instead their meanings are folded into various suffixes and verb stems.

prepronominal prefix Any of the eleven prefixes that are used in front of the pronoun prefixes on Oneida verbs. Each has its own form, meaning, and ability to combine with others. They modify the meaning of the verb with reference to time, place, and a number of other adverbial meanings.

productivity How frequently or widely a particular grammatical pattern or process applies.

progressive A verb suffix that indicates ongoing action or action while one is in motion.

pronominal prefix A prefix required on any verb stem to provide information about who is doing or receiving the action of the verb. These prefixes fall into different classes and subclasses depending on the verb they attach to and include information about the number and gender of the participants in the verb's activity.

punctual aspect This is a suffix on verb stems that indicates the verb's activity is being seen as happening at a single point, as opposed to being ongoing or completed. Whenever the punctual aspect suffix is used, one other three tense prefixes (aorist, future, or indefinite) must also be used.

purposive This is an aspect suffix that adds the meaning of intention to the verb.

reflexive This is a derivational prefix that is added to verb stems. It is always at the front of stems that the pronoun prefixes attach to. There are several modifications it adds to the meaning of the verb, many involving reflecting the action back somehow on the actor. The particular meaning modification has to be learned for each verb stem.

root A root is not a whole word. It is a building block to which various prefixes and suffixes and possibly other roots are added. There are both noun and verb roots. Roots cannot typically be separated into smaller components.

root suffix There are several of these suffixes such as causative, dative, distributive, and instrumental that attach to verb roots and add specific meaning modifications to them. The root with its attached suffix then becomes a verb stem.

second person Pronoun forms that refer to *you* are called second person. Unlike English, Oneida has different forms depending on how many individuals are meant by *you*.

semi-reflexive One of the two reflexive prefixes that attach to verb stems. It is the shorter form and its meaning is more variable than the other one - the full reflexive.

serial aspect This is a suffix on verb stems that indicates either habitual or current activity of the verb.

singular One of the grammatical numbers, as opposed to dual and plural in Oneida.

stative Any predicate that describes a state or condition is a stative. It is the opposite of an action, although the result of an action can be described as a state. Stative is also an alternative name for the perfective aspect.

stem This is the form of a verb that contains at least a verb root and maybe several derivational affixes to which pronoun prefixes and aspect suffixes are attached to make a complete word. The verb stem expresses a predicate.

stem class Verb stems falls into several classes depending on the sound they begin with. This is important in determining which set of pronoun prefixes must be attached to the verb stem.

stem joiner When an incorporated noun and a verb stem are joined together in a complex verb stem they are often separated by the vowel -a-. This vowel is necessary but adds no additional meaning. It simply joins the noun and verb stems together.

subjective This is the name for a class of intransitive pronoun prefixes on verbs. It is the opposite of objective, which is the other class. Learning verbs in Oneida involves learning whether they are in the objective or subjective class and in general it cannot be predicted from the English translation

suffix Any attachment of identifiable form or meaning to the end of a root or stem. Most Oneida stems need suffixes to make them complete words.

superlative The form of adjectives characterized by the suffix -est or the adverb most. In Oneida the superlative is indicated by a particle and a prefix.

third person This is a characteristic of pronouns or pronoun prefixes involving neither the speaker nor the one spoken to. Pronouns such as *he, she,* and *they* are third person.

transitive Transitive verbs indicate both a doer and a receiver of the action of the verb. Intransitive verbs indicate just the individual(s) doing the action or being in a state. In English transitive verbs are those that have a direct object and in general those correspond to transitive verbs in Oneida but not always. In Oneida transitive verbs are defined by the class of pronoun prefix the verb stem requires. There are also a number of derivational suffixes in Oneida (as there are in English) that change intransitive verbs into transitive ones.

translocative This is one of the prepronominal prefixes on verbs that indicates direction or sometimes location. It is an optional addition on many verbs but required on some.

Main Parts of an Oneida Verb

PREPRONOMINAL	/	PRONOMINAL	/	STEM	/	ASPECT SUFFIX
PREFIX		PREFIX				

Possible Parts of an Oneida Stem

REFLEXIVE / INCORPORATED NOUN WITH EXTENDER / VERB ROOT / DERIVATIONAL SUFFIXES

Types of Pronominal Prefixes

subjective objective transitive

(Note: each type contains information about number, gender, and person; and the form varies with the stem class of the verb the prefix is used with.)

Types of Prepronominal Prefixes

modal prefixes (tenses): aorist, future, and indefinite location and direction: translocative and cislocative counting prefixes: iterative, dualic, partitive others: contrastive, coincident, negative

Types of Aspect Suffixes

serial (ongoing, habitual, or current) punctual (single occurrence) perfective (state or condition) imperative (command)

SUMMARY OF SOUND RULES

When constructing the building blocks of roots, stems, prefixes and suffixes for Oneida words, certain combinations necessitate some changes in the basic form of the building blocks. The rules describing these changes can be divided into four groups: rules that apply to whole words; rules that apply to prefixes; rules that apply to stems; and rules that apply to suffixes.

Rules that apply to whole words

Epenthesis (page 32)

The vowel -e- is inserted to break up unallowable clusters of consonants.

Accent rules (page 47)

These are rules for determining the placement of accent and the resulting rhythm patterns of words.

Rules that apply to prefixes

h - 1 alternation on pronominal prefixes (page 23)

Pronominal prefixes that begin with an 1 in the pronominal charts use the 1 only if there are no addition prefixes before it. If there are additional prefixes, then the 1 is replaced by an h.

vowel drop (page 25)

The vowels are the beginning of stems only occur after pronoun prefixes ending in consonants. If the pronoun prefixes end in a vowel, then the vowel that begins the stem is dropped.

loss of glottal stops (on pre-pronominal prefixes) before \mathbf{h} and \mathbf{s} . Any prepronominal prefix that ends in a glottal stop in the chart is dropped if the following sound (on the pronoun prefix) is either \mathbf{h} or \mathbf{s} .

loss of y (on pronominal prefixes) after the aorist wa?For many speakers any pronoun prefix on the chart that begins with a y drops that y if it comes right after the aorist prefix wa?-.

(w)a?wa changes to u (on combinations of pre-pronominal and pronominal prefixes) When the prepronominal prefix ends in -a? and the pronoun prefix begins in wa-, then the entire combination changes to -u-.

loss of **h** (on pronominal prefixes) when the **h** is word initial or to avoid **hsk** and **hst** When a pronoun prefix begins with an **h** and there is no additional prefix before the **h**, then that **h** is dropped. The **h** is also dropped if it comes right before an **sk** or **st** combination.

addition of **e** (on certain pronominal prefixes) after consonants - If there's a prepronominal prefix ending in a consonant right before a pronoun prefix beginning with either **t** or **s**, then an **e** is inserted right before the **t** or **s**.

dummy i (page 96)

On very short words that do not have enough syllables for the accent rules to operate, then a dummy syllable consisting of just i is added to the front of the word.

s becomes ts

A pronoun prefix ending in s becomes ts before any stem that begins with a y.

s becomes st

A pronoun prefix ending in s becomes st before a stem that begins with an s.

Rules that apply to stems

stem joiners (page 78)

An -a- is often inserted between an incorporated noun ending in a consonant and a verb beginning with a consonant in forming a complex stem.

w - **o** rule (page 33)

When one root ends in a \mathbf{w} and the immediately following one starts with an \mathbf{o} within the same word, then the \mathbf{w} is dropped.

glottal stop changes to h

A glottal stop that occurs before a single consonant or **kw** but in a syllable after the accented syllable changes to an **h**.

loss of **h**

When a prefix ends in **s** and a stem begins with **hl**, **hy**, **hw**, or **hn**, then the **h** is dropped.

Rules that apply to suffixes

whispering rules for utterance final position (page 52)

 $\mathbf{kw} + \mathbf{h}$ (page 54)

When a stem ends in -kw and a suffix begins with an h, then the -kwh- changes to -khw-.

w - o changes (page 33)

Certain stems ending in \mathbf{w} (but not all) change the \mathbf{w} to \mathbf{o} before a suffix consisting of a glottal stopage

i - y changes (page 73)

A stem ending in an i changes the i to y before suffixes starting with consonants.

Prepronominal Prefix Chart

	alone	future A	aorist wa?	indefinite a
iterative	S	ΛS	sa	usa
cislocative	t	Λt	ta	uta
dualic	te	t۸	wa ⁹ t	taa
translocative	ye	ул	ya [?]	yaa
partitive	ni	nv	na?	naa
coincident	tshi	tshA	tsha?	tshaa
contrastive	thi	thA	tha?	thaa
negative	te?			
dualic + iterative	tes	tas	tusa	tuusa
dualic + cislocative	tet	tAt	tuta	tuuta
dualic + translocative	ya [?] te	ya ⁹ tʌ	ya ⁹ t	ya ⁹ taa
dualic + partitive	na ⁹ te	na ⁹ tA	na?t	na ⁹ taa
dualic + coincident	tsha ⁹ te	tsha ⁹ tA	tsha?t	tsha ⁹ taa
dualic + contrastive	tha ⁹ te	tha?ta	tha?t	tha?taa
partitive + iterative	nis	nas	nusa	nuusa
partitive + cislocative	nit	n∧t	nuta	nuuta
partitive + translocative	nye	nyx	nya?	nyaa
cislocative + iterative	tes	tas	tusa	tuusa
cislocative + coinc.	tshit	tshat	tshuta	tshuuta
cislocative + contra.	thit	that	thuta	thuuta
cislocative + negative	te ⁹ t			
translocative + iter.	yes	yas	yusa	yuusa
translocative + coinc.	tshye	tshyA	tshyusa	tshyuusa
translocative + contra	thye	thyA	thyusa	thyuusa
iterative + coincident	tshis	tshas	tshusa	tshuusa
iterative + contrastive	this	thas	thusa	thuusa
iterative + negative	te ⁹ s			
dualic + trans + iter	ya ⁹ tes	ya ⁹ tas	ya ⁹ tusa	ya ⁹ tuusa
part. + du + iter	na?tes	na ⁹ t∧s	na ⁹ tusa	na?tuusa
part + du + cisloc	na?tet	na ⁹ tAs	na ⁹ tuta	na ⁹ tuuta
part + du + trans	nya ⁹ te	nya [?] tʌ	nya [?] t	nya ⁹ taa
1	<i>y</i>	J	J	

coinc + du + iter coinc + du + cisloc coinc + du + transloc contra + du + iter contra + du + cisloc contra + du + transloc	tsha?tes	tsha?tas	tsha?tusa	tsha ⁹ tuusa
	tshatet	tshatat	tsha?tuta	tsha ⁹ tuuta
	tshya?te	tshya?ta	tshya?t	tshya ⁹ taa
	tha?tes	tha?tas	tha?tusa	tha ⁹ tuusa
	tha?tet	tha?tat	tha?tuta	tha ⁹ tuuta
	thya?te	thya?ta	thya?t	thya ⁹ taa
part + transloc + iter	nyes	nyas	nyusa	nyuusa
coinc + transloc + iter	tshyes	tshyas	tshyusa	tshyuusa
contra + trans + iter	thyes	thyas	thyusa	thyuusa
part + trans + du + iter	nya ⁹ tes	nya ⁹ tas	nya ⁹ tusa	nya ⁹ tuusa
coinc + trans + du + iter	tshya ⁹ tes	tshya ⁹ tas	tshya ⁹ tusa	tshya ⁹ tuusa
contra + trans + du + iter	thya ⁹ tes	thya ⁹ tas	thya ⁹ tusa	thya ⁹ tuusa

Possessive Prefixes

English	a-stems	c-stems	o/u stems	i-stems
my	akwa-	ak-	ak-	ak-
your (sg.)	sa-	sa-	S-	SA-
your (two)	tsya-	sni-	sn-	sn-
your (plural)	swa-	swa-	tsy-	sw^-
his	lao-	lao-	lao-	lao-
her	ao-	ao-	ao-	ao-
her	ako-	ako-	akao-	ako-
our (two)	yukya-	yukni-	yukn-	yukn-
our (plural)	yukwa-	yukwa-	yuky-	yukw^-
their	laona-	laoti-	laon-	laot-
their (fem. only)	aona-	aoti-	aon-	aot-

VOCABULARY SETS

Animals

takóhs cat é·lhal dog kohsa tás horse tsyonhúskwalut cow kítkit chicken kóskos pig síksik sheep kaya⁹táklahs<u>e</u> goat

ohkwa·lí bear osk^nu tú deer othahyu n<u>í</u> wolf skahnáksa fox anó ki muskrat aní tas skunk otsi?no:wk mouse otshuhkalo·l\(\lambda\) rabbit λti·l<u>ú</u> raccoon

atú·yoteaglekáhukgoosetalu²kóduckká·kacrow

skawelo·wáhne turkey (skawelo·wáne? context form)

oli'tédovetsiskókorobintsiksflytsyonhutstókwiantslíkslikcrickettsístalakgrasshoperkana·wíbutterflyokalyahtáhnemosquito

okalyahtáh<u>ne</u> mosquito (okalyahtá·ne⁹ context form)

 a^{9} no·wálturtleótkusnakekwale·l\(\lambda\)frog

Trees

wáhta maple ohnéhta pine

kalíht<u>u</u> oak (red) otokλ<u>ha</u> oak (white)

Foods o·n\ste corn (osahé·ta? context form) osahéhta beans onu⁹úhsehli (onu⁹úhsli⁹ context form) squash ohn∧náhta potato watn^?k·kwas rice otsínkwal ohtéhla (ohté·la? context form) carrot tewahnyakháni tomato á·nuk onion teyotsahe?takwe?nu·ní peas kahik fruit swahyo wáhne (swahyo wáne? context form) apple teyotahyá·ktu (bent fruit) banana kaná talok bread kanastóhahle corn bread (kanastóhale? context form) okahslótha green corn bread ola ná corn soup waté·skut kaná·talok fry bread ohnekákehli (ohnekákli? context form) soup ohne kánus water onúhta (onú·ta? context form) milk o?wáhlu (o?wá·lu? context form) meat teyohyó tsis salt owistóhsehli (owistóhsli? context form) butter Directions tkaké tohse? nukwá east λty_Λ nukwá south va?tewatsh\u00e1thohse? nukw\u00e1 west otholé·ke nukwá north Colors onikw\(\lambda\)htala red olúhya blue (olú·ya[?] context form) otsí nkwal yellow or orange awn·lá green owiskehla white (owiskla? context form) o?sw\hta (o?sw\lambda.ta? context form) black (ata?k\la? context form) ata?k\hla gray yohalλnλhta purple what color is it? oh niwahsohkó ta olú·ya? niwahsohkó·ta it's blue

Places

ukwehuwé·neOneidakanatá·keGreen Baytalu²kowánhneDuck CreekkanatakalyásneWashington, DC

Weather

ot niwehnisló·ta what kind of day is it? good day wehnisli vó wehnisláksa bad day yotho·lé cold yokano lú raining yo[?]talíh∧ hot yotáhalot<u>e</u> sunny yowelu tú windy yota⁹klókwa snowy yoyanlástu good day

Seasons

kwa²kanhé·kesummerkanana²ké·nefallkohsla²ké·newinterkukwité·nespring

Clothes

satya tahslu ní you are dressed up atslunyák hwa clothes atyá tawiht jacket, shirt, coat oyá khale blouse ká khahle skirt anhuskwá la pants

anhuskwá·lapantsatláhtisocksáhtashoeaná·alohleor anú·walohlehat

Days of the week

yawʌtʌtáu Monday
tekníhatut Tuesday
ahsλhatut Wesnesday
kayelíhatut Thursday
wiskhatut Friday
ʌtákta Saturday
yawʌtatokλhti Sunday

Chart of Pronominal Prefixes

		subjective	;			objective		
	c-stem	a-stem	o-stem	e-stem	c-stem	a-stem	o-stem	e-stem
I	\mathbf{k}	\mathbf{k}	k	k	wak	wak	wak	wak
we (2ex)	yakni	yaky	yakn	yakn	yukni	yuky	yukn	yukn
we (2in)	tni	ty	tn	tn				
we (3ex)	yakwa	yakwa	yaky	yakw	yukwa	yukwa	yuky	yukw
we (3in)	twa	twa	ty	tw	-	-		-
you	hs	hs	hs	hs	sa	sa	S	S
you (2)	sni	tsy	sn	sn	sni	tsy	sn	sn
you (3)	swa	swa	tsy	sw	swa	swa	tsy	sw
it/she	ka	wa	yo	\mathbf{w}	yo	yo	yao	yaw
he	la	la	hl	hl	lo	lo	lao	law
she	ye	yu	yak	yak	yako	yako	yakao	yakaw
they (2f)	kni	ky	kn	kn	yoti	yon	yon	yon
they (3f)	kuti	ku	kun	kun				
they (2m)	hni	hy	hn	hn	loti	lon	lon	lon
they (3m)	lati	lu	l^n	lan				

I-stems are just like c-stems except that the i combines with a final a in the pronominal prefix to form Λ $(a + i > \Lambda)$ and the 'they' forms for many speakers are like the forms for e-stems and o-stems.

Combining rules:

- 1. An **e** is inserted before prefixes beginning with **t** or **s** when there is a prepronominal prefix.
- 2. Vowel Drop: when a prefix ends in a vowel and a stem starts in a vowel the second vowel drops.
- 3. An 1 at the beginning of a prefix changes to \mathbf{h} is there is a prepronominal prefix.
- 4. An **h** at the beginning of a prefix drops if it is at the beginning of a word.
- 5. A y at the beginning of a prefix is dropped (for some speakers) after a wa? prefix.

a-stems

	me	us two	us all	you	you two	you all	it	it/her	him	her	them (fem)	them
I				kuy	ky		1	k h			khey	
we two (- you)					•		ya	ıky	shaky	yak	hiy	
we all (- you)					kwa	I	yal	cwa	shakwa			
we two (+ you)							t	У	hethy		yethiy	
we all (+ you)							tv	va	hethwa			
you	skw	sky	skwa				h	ıs	hets		shey	
you two							ts	sy	hetsy		yetshiy	
you all		_					sv	va	hetswa			
it/she	wak	yuky	yukwa	sa	tsy	swa	W	yo	lo	yako	yon	lon
he	lakw	shuky	shukwa	hya	hetsy	hetswa	1	a			shako	
she	yukw	yu	khiy	yesa	yets	hiy	yu	kuwa	luwa	yutat	kuw∧n	luw^n
they							ky			yakon		
two												
(fem)												
they all							ku					
(fem)												
they							hy			shakon		
two												
they all							lu					

c-stems

	me	us two	us all	you	you two	you all	it	it/her	him	her	them (fem)	them
I				ku	ky			k	hi		khe	
we two							ya	ıky	shakni		yakhi	
(- you) we all					kwa		yal	κwa	shakwa			
(- you)												
we two							t	y	hethni		yethi	
(+ you) we all							tv	va	hethwa			
(+ you) you	sk	skni	skwa				1	ıs	hets		she	
you two	SK.	SKIII	SKWa					ni	hetsni		yetshi	
you all								wa	hetswa		,	
it/she	wak	yukni	yukwa	sa	sni	swa	ka	yo	lo	yako	yoti	loti
he	lak	shukni	shukwa	hya	hetsni	hetswa	1	a			shako	
she	yuk	yι	ıkhi	yesa	yets	shi	ye	kuwa	luwa	yutat	kuwati	luwati
they							kni			yakoti		
two												
(fem)							14	-				
they all (fem)							kuti					
they							hni	-		shakoti		
two							11111			SHakoti		
they all							lati	1				

e-stems

	me	us two	us all	you	you two	you all	it	it/her	him	her	them (fem)	them
I				kuy	kn]	k	hiy		khey	
we two							va	ıkn	shakn		yakhiy	
(- you)							, ,		SHARII		Juning	
we all					kw	I	yal	κwa	shakw	=		
(- you)												
we two							t	n	hethn		yethiy	
(+ you)												
we all							t	W	hethw			
<u>(+ you)</u>		1 -		1								
you	skw	skn	skw				ŀ	ıs	hets		shey	
you two							S	sn	hetsni	=	yetshiy	
you all		 			 	i -	S	W	hetsw			
it/she	wak	yukn	yukw	sa	sn	sw	W	yaw	law	yakaw	yon	lon
<u>he</u>	lakw	shukn	shukw	hyay	hetsn	hetsw	1	e			shako	
she	yukw	yu	khiy	yesa	yets	hiy	yak	kuw	luw	yutat	kuw∧n	luw^n
they							kn			yakon		
two												
(fem)												
they all							kun					
(fem)								_				
they							hn			shakon		
two								_				
they all							lvn					

o-stems

	me	us two	us all	you	you two	you all	it	it/her	him	her	them (fem)	them
I				kuy	kn			k	hiy		khey	
we two (- you)							ya	akn	shakn		yakhiy	
we all					ky	I	ya	aky	shaky			
(- you) we two								tn	hethn		yethiy	
(+ you) we all								ty	hethy			
(+ you)				_				- 7				
you	sk	skn	sky]	hs	hets		shey	
you two							e	esn	hetsn		yetshiy	
you all				ļ			e	tsy	hetsy		·	
it/she	wak	yukn	yuky	S	sn	tsy	у	yao	lao	yakao	yon	lon
<u>he</u>	lak	shukn	shuky	hyay	hetsn	hetsy		hl		shakao		
she	yuk	yu	khiy	yesay	yets	shiy	yak	kuway	luway	yutat	kuw∧n	luw^n
they							kn			yakon		
two												
(fem)							1	_				
they all							kun					
(fem)							h	1		ahalran		
they two							hn			shakon		
they all							l∧n	1				

i-stems

	me	us two	us all	you	you two	you all	it	it/her	him	her	them (fem)	them
I				ku	kn			k	hi		khe	
we two (- you)					1		ya	ıkn	shakn		yakhi	
we all (- you)				yakw∧			yakw∧		shakwA			
we two							t	n	hethn		yethi	
(+ you) we all (+ you)							twn		hethwa			
you	sk	sk skn skwa					hs		hets	she		
you two you all								hetsn hetswa	yetshi			
it/she	wak	yukn	yukwn	SΛ	sn	SWΛ	k۸	yo	lo	yako	yon	lon
he	lak	shukn	shukwa	hyʌ	hetsn	hetswa	l _v				shako	
she	yuk	yukhi		yesn yets		shi	ye	kuwa	luwn	yutat	kuw∧n	luw∧n
they							kn			yakon	kuwati	luwati
two										yakoti		
(fem)							1	-				
they all (fem)							kuti kun					
they							hn	1		shakon		
two							1111			shakoti		
they all							lati	1				
•							lvn					