

THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES LANGUAGE LESSON

Winter and Trapping

Continuing what we began in the "New Year" issue, we are going to look at using action words in the "past tense"--describing actions that have occurred.

Kiksht

(Wasq'u)

Sentences

Let's first glance at the verb of "to sing" and how that changes between tenses (such as the present and the past). Included also are the present tense versions of "to sing" from two issues ago.

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|---|---|
| Ninxglalamchk idat'qtba itqwii.
<i>I sang at the longhouse.</i> | Nimxglalamchk idat'qtba itqwii.
<i>You sang at the longhouse.</i> |
| Kwaba anglalama idat'qtba itqwii.
<i>I sing at the longhouse.</i> | Kwaba amglalama idat'qtba itqwii.
<i>You sing at the longhouse.</i> |
| Nigaxglalamchk idat'qtba itweli.
<i>She sang at the longhouse.</i> | Nigixglalamchk idat'qtba itqwii.
<i>He sang at the longhouse.</i> |
| Kwaba alaglalama idat'qtba itqwii.
<i>She sings at the longhouse.</i> | Kwaba aliglalama idat'qtba itqwii.
<i>He sings at the longhouse.</i> |
| Niiglalamchk idat'qtba itqwii.
<i>They sang at the longhouse.</i> | Ninshglalamchk idat'qtba itqwii.
<i>We (all of us) sang at the longhouse.</i> |
| Kwaba aiglalama idat'qtba itqwii.
<i>They sing at the longhouse.</i> | Kanawa anshglalama idat'qtba itqwii.
<i>We (all of us) sing at the longhouse.</i> |
| Nintglalamchk idat'qtba itqwii.
<i>We (us two) sang at the longhouse.</i> | Kwaba antglalama idat'qtba itqwii.
<i>We (us two) sing at the longhouse.</i> |

Numu

(Paiute)

Review

Fill in the missing words in these sentences:

- (1) Nu ka oodunobe _____ nuka.
I danced at the longhouse.
- (2) _____ oona oodunobekwi'yoo nuka.
You danced at the longhouse.
- (3) _____ oodunobekwi'yoo nuka.
She danced at the longhouse.
- (4) _____ oodunobekwi'yoo nuka.
He danced at the longhouse.
- (5) Umu ka _____ nuka.
They danced at the longhouse.
- (6) _____ ka _____ poone.
(S)he saw the longhouse.
- (7) Nume _____ poone.
We saw the longhouse.

Ichishkiin

(Sahaptin)

Review

From the last issue of Spilyay, re-construct these sentences using the appropriate word beginnings or endings (hint: you may need to use multiple endings):

- atash Pa- -na -nam -ash I-
- (1) Aq'inun _____ kaatnampa.
I saw the longhouse.
 - (2) Aq'inusha _____ kaatnampa.
You saw the longhouse.
 - (3) _____ q'inusha _____ kaatnampa.
She saw the longhouse.
 - (4) _____ q'inushan _____ kaatnampa.
They sing at the longhouse.
 - (5) Aq'inusha _____ kaatnampa.
We sing at the longhouse.

Verbs

sing walptaiksha
go winasha

Sentences

As we've seen over the past couple of issues, Ichishkiin uses special ending (or beginning) sounds to represent the subject. (Such as the ending -ash, or the beginning pa-) Similarly, Ichishkiin uses other ending sounds to distinguish the "time" (or tense) of the action. English has a similar habit with 'ed' as in 'jumped' versus 'jump'. Once you pick up the pattern below, start looking for it through-out the normal lessons!

- Walptaikshanaash kaatnampa.**
Walptaiksha / -na / -ash / kaatnam / -pa
Sing / [past tense] / I / longhouse [at the]
I sang at the longhouse.
- Walptaikshananam kaatnampa.**
Walptaiksha / na / -nam / kaatnam / -pa
Sing / [past tense] / you / longhouse / [at the]
You sang at the longhouse.
- Iwalptiakshana kaatnampa.**
I- / walptaiksha / -na / kaatnam / -pa
(S)he / sing / [past tense] / longhouse / [at the]
(S)he sang at the longhouse.
- Pawalptiakshana kaatnampa.**
Pa- / walptaiksha / -na / kaatnam / -pa
They / sing / [past tense] / longhouse / [at the]
They sang the longhouse.
- Walptaiknatash kaatnampa.**
Walptaik / -na / -tash / kaatnam / -pa
See / [past tense] / we / longhouse / [at the]
We at the the longhouse.

By now, some of these endings should start to look pretty familiar. Try writing down the same sentences with "go" and compare with the sentences below:

- Winashanaash kaatnamyau.**
I went to the longhouse.
- Winashananam kaatnamyau.**
You went to the longhouse.
- Iwinana kaatnamyau.**
(S)he went to the longhouse.
- Pawinashana kaatnamyau.**
They went to the longhouse.
- Winashanatash kaatnamyau.**
We went to the longhouse.

Verbs

sing tunekwuhu
go mea

Sentences

Take a look at the last issue of the Spilyay and note one thing we begin to see is that time is not communicated thought Numu words as it is in English (or Kiksht, or Ichishkiin):

- Nu ka oodunobekwikoo tunekwuhu.**
I sang at the longhouse.
- U oodunobekwikoo tunekwupu.**
You sang at the longhouse.
- Masoo oodunobekwikoo tunekwuhu.**
She sang at the longhouse.
- Esoo oodunobekwikoo tunekwuhu.**
He danced at the longhouse.
- Umu oodunobekwi'yooona tunekwuhu.**
They sang at the longhouse.
- Nume oodunobekwi'yooona tunekwuhu.**
We sang at the longhouse.

Now let's switch gears and look at how "go" changes--or doesn't--when we put it into the past tense (goes, versus went):

- Nu ka oodunobekwitoo mea.**
I went to the longhouse.
- U ka oodunobekwitoo mea.**
You went to the longhouse.
- Oosoo ka oodunobekwitoo me'a.**
(S)he went to the longhouse.
- Umu ka oodunobekwitoo meapu.**
They went to the longhouse.
- Nume ka oodunobekwitoo meakwe.**
We went to the longhouse.

Review Answers:

- | | |
|------------|-----------------------|
| 1) kwi'yoo | 5) oodunobekwi'yooona |
| 2) U | 6) Oosoo, oodunobe |
| 3) Masoo | 7) ka oodunobe |
| 4) Esoo | 8) ka, me'akwe |

Review Answers:

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| 1) ash | 4) Pa-, -na |
| 2) nanam | 5) naatash |
| 3) I-, -na | |

Kiksht has a different view of time. English divides time into three segments: before now (past tense), now (present tense), and after now (future tense). On the other hand, Kiksht has four distinct tenses for the past. We will focus on only one of those four (the remote past), with a hint of one of the others.

Ganuya idat'qtba itqwii.

Ga- / n- / -u / -ya / idat'qtba itqwii
[remote past] / I / [distant time] / go / longhouse
I went to the longhouse long ago.

Nanuya idat'qtba itqwii.

Na- / n- / -u / -ya / idat'qtba itqwii
[near past] / I / [distant time] / go / longhouse
I went to the longhouse a while ago.

Gamuya idat'qtba itqwii.

Ga- / m- / u- / -ya / idat'qtba itqwii
[distant past] / you / [distant time] / go / longhouse
You went to the longhouse long ago.

Galuya idat'qtba itqwii.

Ga- / l- / u- / idat'qtba itqwii
[distant past] / she / [distant time] / go / longhouse
She danced at the longhouse long ago.

Gayuya idat'qtyamt itqwii.

Ga- / y- / u- / -ya / itdat'qtba itqwii
[distant past] / he / [distant time] / go / longhouse
He went to the longhouse long ago.

Galuya idat'qtba itqwii.

Ga- / t- / u- / -ya / idat'qtba itqwii
[distant past] / they / [distant time] / go / longhouse
They went to the longhouse long ago.

Ganchuya idat'qtba itqwii.

Ga- / nch- / u- / -ya / idat'qtba itqwii
[distant past] / we / [distant time] / go / longhouse
We went to the longhouse long ago.