

A Eetí Wudiháni Aa Yéi Jinéiyi X'úx': Tléix'  
(Pronoun Worksheet One)

Aadóoch Sá Wusaneiyí  
(Subjects)

*Subjects are the do-ers in the sentence, the ones responsible for the activity of the verb. In Tlingit, the subjects change shape in reaction to the sounds around them, but they will always have certain sounds in common. In the next sentences, notice which parts of the subject pronouns always sound the same or similar.*

I                    x̄a, x̄

yéi **x̄**waajée yilateení                    “**I** think that you guys are watching him.”  
yee een yéi **ya**x̄waak̄aa tulateení    “**I** told you guys that we are watching her.”

We                    too, tu

yee een yéi ya**x̄**waak̄aa **tula**teení    “I told you guys that **we**'re watching her.”  
yéi oowajée tl'atgukatléigu **too**x̄á    “He thinks that **we**'re eating strawberries.”

You                    i, yee

yéi **ya**yee**k̄**aa haa **isa**x̄áni                    “**You** said that **you** loved us.”  
yéi x̄waajée **ila**teení                    “I think that **you** are watching him.”

you guys            yi, yeey

yéi aawajée **yila**teení                    “He thinks that **you guys** are watching him.”  
haa een yéi **ya**yeey**k̄**aa alateení    “**You guys** told us that he is watching her.”

*He/she            A person or a thing that is a subject (he, she, it) isn't marked on the verb. You know he/she/it is the subject when you don't see the markers for I, we, you, or you guys. Sometimes you will see something on the verb in these cases—usually [a]. We will discuss that [a] later on in the worksheet.*

yéi oowajée tl'atgukatléigu **too**x̄á    “**He** thinks that we're eating strawberries.”  
haa een yéi ya**yeey**k̄aa **ala**teení    “You guys told us that **he** is watching her.”

- Takeaway:*
- If you see a [x] or [xa], you know **I** is involved;
  - When you see [tu] or [too], you know **we** is involved;
  - If you see [ee] or [i], you know **you** is involved;
  - When you see [yee] or [yi], you know **you guys** is involved;
  - If you don't see any of these, or only [a], **he** or **she** may be involved.

*Note:* In these worksheets, subjects while be highlighted in **red**, while the rest of the verb will be highlighted in **green**. The rest of the verb, which the subject is attached to, is sometimes called the stem.

### Yéi Daadunéiyi Át Kaayí: Tléix'

(Verb Pattern One/long subject pronoun)

*Reading (it):*

x'úx' xatéew

"I'm reading a book."

x'úx' tootéew

"We're reading a book."

x'úx' eetéew

"You're reading a book."

x'úx' yitéew

"You guys are reading a book."

x'úx' atéew

"He/she is reading a book."

Dzéiwsh x'úx' atéew

"Dzéiwsh is reading a book."

*Eating (it):*

sakwnéin xaxá

"I am eating bread."

sakwnéin tooxá

"We are eating bread."

sakwnéin eexá

"You are eating bread."

sakwnéin yixá

"You guys are eating bread."

sakwnéin axá

"He/she is eating bread."

Dzéiwsh sakwnéin axá

"Dzéiwsh is eating bread."

Sh too iltéew!: For the sentences below, fill in the gaps in the pattern. Two of the  
(Learn it!) verbs are familiar, and one is new. All follow the same pattern.

1: kadushxit t'áa xatéew

\_\_\_\_\_

	_____	kadushxit t'áa <b>yitéew</b>
	kadushxit t'áa <b>atéew</b>	_____
2:	_____	x'áax' <b>tooxá</b>
	x'áax' <b>eejá</b>	_____
	_____	<b>Dzéiwsh</b> x'áax' <b>axá</b>
3:	<i>Picking (them):</i> tléikw <b>xa.éen</b> “I am picking berries.”	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____

Yéi Goowáatl'i Aadóoch Sá Wusaneiyi  
(Contracted Subject)

*In some cases, the pronouns we saw above (**xa**, **too**, **ee**, **yi**, **a**) shorten or contract. Often, this happens as a reaction to the length of the rest of the verb (*the stem*). The longer the **stem** gets, the shorter the **pronouns** get. One way to think about this is in terms of syllables or beats—when a verb gets longer than two beats long, the pronoun will become shorter.*

*Note: You will notice other parts of the verb changing slightly as well. For now, pay attention to the pattern of the pronouns.*

Yéi Daadunéiyi Át Kaayí: Déix  
(Verb pattern two/ contracted subject pronoun)

Drinking (it):

heen **xadaná**

“I’m drinking water.”

heen **tudaná**

“We’re drinking water.”

heen **idaná**  
 “You’re drinking water.”

heen **yidaná**  
 “You guys are drinking water.”

heen **adaná**  
 “He/she is drinking water.”

Dzéiwsh heen **adaná**  
 “Dzéiwsh is drinking water.”

Cooking (it):  
 dleey **xasa.ée**  
 “I’m cooking meat.”

dleey **tusa.ée**  
 “We’re cooking meat.”

dleey **isa.ée**  
 “You’re cooking meat.”

dleey **yisa.ée**  
 “You guys are cooking meat.”

dleey **as.ée**  
 “He/she is cooking meat.”

Dzéiwsh dleey **as.ée**  
 “Dzéiwsh is cooking meat.”

Sh tóo iltéew!: *Which of the subject forms above are different from those in pattern one? How can you tell which will change?*

Same as Pattern 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Different from Pattern 1: \_\_\_\_\_

For the sentences below, fill in the gaps in the pattern. Two of the verbs are familiar, and one is new. All follow the same pattern.

1: wasóos l’aayí **xadiná** \_\_\_\_\_

wasóos l’aayí **idiná** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Dzéiwsh wasóos l’aayí **adiná**

2: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ gishoo **yisa.ée**

gishoo **as.ée** \_\_\_\_\_

3: *Boiling (it):*  
k'únts' **xasateix**

k'únts' **asteix**

### Aadóo Daat Sá Wunei

#### *(Objects)*

*Objects are the receivers of the action of the verb: the ones who the verb is done to. In the sentences below, pay attention to which parts of the verb change and which stay the same.*

*Me*            **xat**

yéi xwaajée **xat** lateení

*“I think that he’s watching **me**.”*

*Us*            **haa**

yéi yayeekaa **haa** isaxáni

*“You said that you loved **us**.”*

*You*            **i**

yéi aawajée **ilateení**

*“She thinks that **you** are watching him.”*

*You guys*    **yee**

**yee** een yéi yaxwaa<sub>ka</sub> tulateení

*“I told **you guys** that we are watching her.”*

*Him/Her*    (nothing), **a**

yéi aawajée **tulatín**

*“She thinks that we are watching **him**.”*

haa een yéi yayeey<sub>ka</sub> **alateení**

*“You guys told us that he is watching **her**.”*

*Note: Since subjects are marked in **red**, all objects will be marked in **blue**. For these patterns, just pay attention to the shape of the **object**.*

Yéi Daadunéiyi Át Kaayí: Nás'k - A  
(Verb pattern 3A/ object pronouns A)

*Loving (me/us):*

xat isixán

"You love me."

haa isixán

"You love us."

Xat yisixán

"You guys love me."

haa yisixán

"You guys love us."

Xat sixán

"He/she loves me."

haa sixán

"He/she loves us."

Dzéiwsh xat sixán

"Dzéiwsh loves me."

Dzéiwsh haa sixán

"Dzéiwsh loves us."

*Watching me/us:*

xat ilatín

"You're watching me."

haa ilatín

"You're watching us."

Xat yilatín

"You guys are watching me."

haa yilatín

"You guys are watching us."

Xat latín

"He/she is watching me."

haa latín

"He/she is watching us."

Dzéiwsh xat latín

"Dzéiwsh is watching me."

Dzéiwsh haa latín

"Dzéiwsh is watching us."

Sh too iltéew!: For the sentences below, fill in the gaps in the pattern.

1:

xat ilats'éek'

"You're pinching me."

\_\_\_\_\_

Xat yilats'éek'

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

haa lats'éek'

\_\_\_\_\_

Dzéiwsh haa lats'éek'

Yéi Daadunéiyi Át Kaayí: Nás'k – B  
(Verb pattern 3B/ object pronouns B)

*Loving (you/you guys):*

**i**x̄s̄ix̄án

“I love you.”

yee **x̄**s̄ix̄án

“I love you guys.”

**it**us̄ix̄án

“We love you.”

yee **t**us̄ix̄án

“We love you guys.”

**i**s̄ix̄án

“He/she loves you.”

yee **s̄**ix̄án

“He/she loves you guys.”

Dzéiwsh **i**s̄ix̄an

“Dzéiwsh loves you.”

Dzéiwsh yee **s̄**ix̄an

“Dzéiwsh loves you guys.”

*Watching (you/you guys):*

**i**x̄latín

“I’m watching you.”

yee **x̄**alatin

“I’m watching you guys.”

**it**ulatin

“We’re watching you.”

yee **t**ulatin

“We’re watching you guys.”

**i**latin

“He/she is watching you.”

yee **l**atin

“He/she is watching you guys.”

Dzéiwsh **i**latin

“Dzéiwsh is watching you.”

Dzéiwsh yee **l**atin

“Dzéiwsh is watching you guys.”

Sh tóo iltéew!:      *For the sentences below, fill in the gaps in the pattern.*

1:      **i**x̄lats'éeek'

“I’m pinching you.”

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**i**lats'éeek'

\_\_\_\_\_

Dzéiwsh **ilats'éeek'**

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Yéi Daadunéiyi Át Kaayí: Nás'k - C  
(Verb pattern 3C/ object pronouns C)

*Loving (him/her):*

aḡ tláa **ḡasixán**

"I love my mom."

aḡ tláa **tusixán**

"We love my mom."

aḡ tláa **isixán**

"You love my mom."

aḡ tláa **ysisixán**

"You guys love my mom."

aḡ tláa **asixán**

"He/she loves my mom."

Dzéiwsh aḡ tláa **asixán**

"Dzéiwsh loves my mom."

*Watching (him/her):*

aḡ tláa **ḡalatín**

"I am watching my mom."

aḡ tláa **tulatín**

"We are watching my mom."

aḡ tláa **ilatín**

"You're watching my mom."

aḡ tláa **yilatín**

"You guys are watching my mom."

aḡ tláa **alatín**

"He/she is watching my mom."

Dzéiwsh aḡ tláa **alatín**

"Dzéiwsh is watching my mom."

Sh too Iltéew!: *For the sentences below, fill in the gaps in the pattern.*

1: Dzéiwsh **ḡalats'éeek'**  
"I'm pinching Dzéiwsh."

\_\_\_\_\_

Dzéiwsh **yilats'éeek'**

\_\_\_\_\_

Éedaa Dzéiwsh **alts'éeek'**

Subjects, Objects, and [a]

*You have probably noticed by now that [a] appears and disappears from the beginnings of certain verbs. You might also have noticed that it only does so when either the subject or object is he/she/it. One way to think about [a] is as a placeholder. Most verbs in Tlingit want something to fill the slot in front of the verb stem. In the worksheet so far, you've seen both subjects and objects fill that slot.*

xasixán

“I love him/her.”

isixán

“He/she loves you.”

*We know that he/she/it aren't marked on the verb in Tlingit—this means there's a problem when the subject is he/she/it.*

\_\_sixán

\_\_xá

*To solve this problem, we add [a] to fill the gap.*

asixán

“He/she loves him/her.”

axá

“He/she ate it.”

A Eetí Wudiháni Aa Yéi Jinéiyi X'úx': Déix

Aadóoch Sá Wusineiyí:

*In the patterns below, think about what parts of the verbs are familiar from the last worksheet, and brainstorm ways you might be able to recognize each pronoun (what sound would you listen for to know “I” is doing the action?).*

*Also notice how the sentences have changed in meaning between this worksheet and worksheet one. In what situations would you use the patterns here, and when would you use the patterns from the previous worksheet?*

Yéi Daadunéiyi Át Kaayí: Tléix'  
(Verb pattern I/long subject pronouns)

Read (it):

x'úx' x'waatéew

“I read a book.”

x'úx' wutuwatéew

“We read a book.”

x'úx' iyatéew  
"You read a book."

x'úx' yeeytéew  
"You guys read a book."

x'úx' aawatéew  
"He/she read a book."

Dzéiwsh x'úx' aawatéew  
"Dzéiwsh read a book."

Ate (it):  
sakwnéin xwaaxáa  
"I ate bread."

sakwnéin wutuwaaxáa  
"We ate bread."

sakwnéin iyaxáa  
"You ate bread."

sakwnéin yeeyaxáa  
"You guys ate bread."

sakwnéin aawaxáa  
"He/she ate bread."

Dzéiwsh sakwnéin aawaxáa  
"Dzéiwsh ate bread."

Sh tóo iltéew!: *In the verbs above, the stems look a bit different from worksheet one. Which new sounds appear in these stems?*

*Are there any patterns to which sounds go with which subjects?*

*For the sentences below, fill in the subjects in the pattern:*

2: kadushxit t'aa yá \_\_\_ waatéew      kadushxit t'aa yá wu\_\_ watéew

kadushxit t'aa yá \_\_\_ yatéew      kadushxit t'aa yá \_\_\_ ytéew

kadushxit t'aa yá aawatéew      Dzéiwsh kadushxit t'aa yá aawatéew

*For the sentences below, fill in the stems in the pattern:*

3: x'áax' x\_\_\_\_\_      x'áax' \_\_tu\_\_\_\_\_

x'áax' i\_\_\_\_\_      x'áax' yee\_\_\_\_\_

x'áax' \_\_\_\_\_      Dzéiwsh x'áax' \_\_\_\_\_

*For the sentences below, see if you can complete the pattern:*

4:

*Pick (them):*

tléikw xwaa.ín

*“I picked berries.”*

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Yéi Daadunéiyi Át Kaayí: Déix  
(Verb pattern 2/ contracted subject pronouns)

*Like in worksheet one, pattern two has shortened some parts of the verb. But instead of the subjects shortening, now the stems have shrunk. Pay attention to which ones have changed.*

*Drank (it):*

heen xwadináa

*“I drank water.”*

heen wutudináa

*“We drank water.”*

heen yidináa

*“You drank water.”*

heen yeeydináa

*“You guys drank water.”*

heen amdináa

*“He/she drank water.”*

Dzéiwsh heen amdináa

*“Dzéiwsh drank water.”*

*Cooked (it):*

dleey xwasi.ée

*“I cooked meat.”*

dleey wutusi.ée

*“We cooked meat.”*

dleey **yisi.ée**  
 “You cooked meat.”

dleey **yeeysi.ée**  
 “you guys cooked meat.”

dleey **amsi.ée**  
 “He/she cooked meat.”

Dzéiwsh dleey **amsi.ée**  
 “Dzéiwsh is cooking meat.”

Sh too Iltéew!: Which of the **stems** are changing in a pattern different from those in pattern one?

1: Same as Pattern 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Different from Pattern 1: \_\_\_\_\_

For the sentences below, fill in the gaps in the pattern. Two of the verbs are familiar, and one is new. All follow the same pattern.

2: wasóos l’aayí **xwadináa** \_\_\_\_\_

wasóos l’aayí **yidináa** \_\_\_\_\_

3: \_\_\_\_\_ Dzéiwsh wasóos l’aayí **amdináa**  
 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ gishoo **yeeysi.ée**

gishoo **amsi.ée** \_\_\_\_\_

4: *Boiled (it):*  
 k’únts’ **xwasitáa** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ k’únts’ **amsitáa** \_\_\_\_\_

### Aadóo Daat Sá Wunei

The objects here are the same as they were in Pattern 3, worksheet one. Notice, though, how the subjects are changing in reaction to them.

Yéi Daadunéiyi Át Kaayí: Nás'k - A  
(Verb pattern 3A/ object pronouns A)

Loved (me):

xat **imsixán**

"You love me."

haa **imsixán**

"You love us."

xat **yeeysixán**

"you guys love me."

haa **yeeysixán**

"You guys love us."

xat **wusixán**

"He/she loved me."

haa **wsixán**

"He/she loved us."

Dzéiwsh xat **wusixán**

"Dzéiwsh loved me."

Dzéiwsh haa **msixán**

"Dzéiwsh loved us."

Sh tóo Iltéew!: *Even though the subjects here are the same as in pattern 2, the stems have changed again. Compare the stems here to the stems in Pattern Two. Which are the same, and which have changed? Is there a pattern to how they change?*

Same: \_\_\_\_\_ Different: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Notes:

*For the sentences below, fill in the gaps in the pattern.*

2: xat **imlats'éeek'** haa **\_\_\_lats'éeek'**  
 "You pinched me."  
 Xat **\_\_\_lats'éeek'** haa **\_\_\_lats'éeek'**  
**\_\_\_wulats'éeek'** haa **wlats'éeek'**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Éedaa \_\_\_\_\_

Yéi Daadunéiyi Át Kaayí: Nás'k – B  
(Verb pattern 3B/ object pronouns B)

*Watched (you):*

*ix*walitín

"I watched you."

yee *x*walitín

"I watched you guys."

*iw*tulitín

"We watched you."

yee *wu*tulitín

"We watched you guys."

*im*litín

"He/she watched you."

yee *m*litín

"He/she is watching you guys."

Dzéiwsh *im*litín

"Dzéiwsh watched you."

Dzéiwsh yee *a*mlitín

"Dzéiwsh watched you guys."

Sh tóo Iltéew!: *Compare the stems here to the subjects that were in Pattern Two. Which are the same, and which have changed? Is there a pattern to how they change?*

Same: \_\_\_\_\_ Different: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Notes:

*For the sentences below, fill in the gaps in the pattern.*

2: *ix*walats'éek' yee \_\_\_lats'éek'  
 "I pinched you."  
*i* \_\_\_lats'éek' yee \_\_\_lats'éek'  
 \_\_\_mlats'éek' yee amlats'éek'  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Éedaa \_\_\_\_\_

Yéi Daadunéiyi Át Kaayí: Nás'k – C  
(Verb pattern 3C/ object pronouns C)

*Watched (him/her):*

ax tláa xwalitín

“I watched my mom.”

ax tláa wutulitín

“We watched my mom.”

ax tláa yilitín

“You watched my mom.”

ax tláa yeeylitín

“You guys watched my mom.”

ax tláa amlitín

“He/she watched my mom.”

Dzéiwsh ax tláa amlitín

“Dzéiwsh watched my mom.”

Sh too Iltéew!: Which pattern does this pattern most closely resemble? How does it differ from that pattern?

For the sentences below, fill in the gaps in the pattern.

1: Dzéiwsh xwalats'éek'  
“I pinched Dzéiwsh.”


A Eetí Wudiháni Aa Yéi Jinéiyi X'úx': Nás'k

Hás:

[Hás] is the word which makes **he** or **she** plural, becoming **they** or **them**. Because of this, it has two jobs; making the subject plural, or making the object plural. If there is only one **he** or **she** in the sentence, then they must be what is plural. If there is more than one, then you have to rely on context to know which should be plural. Keep in mind that [hás] only makes people plural: if you could refer to the noun as **it**, then it can't use [hás].

Pay attention to the order of [hás] and the **object** in the pattern below.

Yéi Daadunéiyi Át Kaayí: Hás

x'úx' hás atéew

"They are reading a book."

heen hás adaná

"They are drinking water."

hás xat sixán

"They love me."

hás haa sixán

"They love us."

hás isixán

"They love you."

hás yee sixán

"They love you guys."

When there are multiple people in a sentence, you have to rely on context to decide which is plural.

hás asixán

"They love him/her."

"He/she loves them."

ax tláa hás asixán

"They love my mother."

Sh tóo iltéew!: *For the sentences below, fill in the gaps in the pattern.*

1:

hás xalatín

"I am watching them."

\_\_\_\_\_

hás yilatín

hás alatín

\_\_\_\_\_

*In the sentences below, choose where to place [hás]:*

2:

\_\_\_\_\_ tléikw \_\_\_\_\_ a.éen

\_\_\_\_\_ Dzéiwsh \_\_\_\_\_ amlitín

\_\_\_\_\_ xat \_\_\_\_\_ amsixán

\_\_\_\_\_ k'únts' \_\_\_\_\_ asteix

\_\_\_\_\_ yee \_\_\_\_\_ amlats'éek'

*In the sentences below, choose whether you may use *hás* to make the subject or object plural:*

	<u>Yak'ei</u>	<u>Ushk'é</u>
3: Éedaa <i>hás</i> amsixán	_____	_____
x'áax' <i>hás</i> xaxá	_____	_____
aḡ dóosh <i>hás</i> isixán	_____	_____
<i>hás</i> haa amlitín	_____	_____
<i>hás</i> yidiná	_____	_____

### *Suggested Topics for Further Discussion*

#### ***Which to choose: Pattern 1 or Pattern 2***

*In worksheets one and two, we saw that the pronouns take different forms depending on the stem they attach to: with some stems, we used pattern one ([xá] 'eat', [téew] 'read'), while with others we used pattern two ([diná] 'drink', [sixán] 'love').*

*What makes these stems different is partially to do with the number of syllables—notice that the verbs in the long pronoun pattern all are one syllable, while those in the short pronoun pattern are two.*

*You may also be familiar with the idea of a classifier. The classifier is an element in Tlingit that comes right before the verb root, and has a number of functions. It can change shape in different contexts, and change the shape of elements around it. There are several patterns which can be learned predict how this classifier changes and what effects it has.*

### *When something happened: Worksheet 1 vs Worksheet 2*

*The difference in meaning between the verbs in worksheet 1 and worksheet 2 is translated in English usually by tense—whether something is happening right now, or happened in the past. In Tlingit, though, they mean something a little different. Tlingit cares most about whether an action is still happening, or whether it's finished happening. In other literature, you will see these two ideas called 'imperfective' and 'perfective'.*

### *Deeper into the Worksheet 2 Patterns*

*The stems in worksheet 2 looked fairly different from those in worksheet 1. One of the most noticeable things is the addition of w, m, or y. Although it can be hard to hear or see, these sounds, along with the [u] and [a], form their own pattern which can be learned. Each of these verbs is made from the same simple recipe of elements, which combine in slightly different ways depending what sound precede and follow them.*