

Wáa sá sh teedinoon?

How do you feel?

Yá Lingit'aaní geix' woosh jin toolshát yeisú
— Katyé



In this world, we're still holding each other's hands
— David Kadashan
(Dauenhaeuer, Haa Tuwunáagu Yís 236-237)

Wáa sá sh teedinoonk?

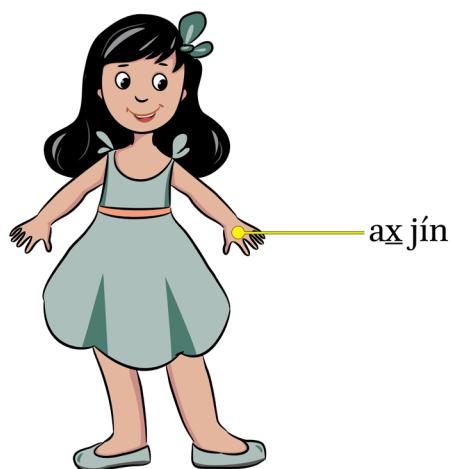
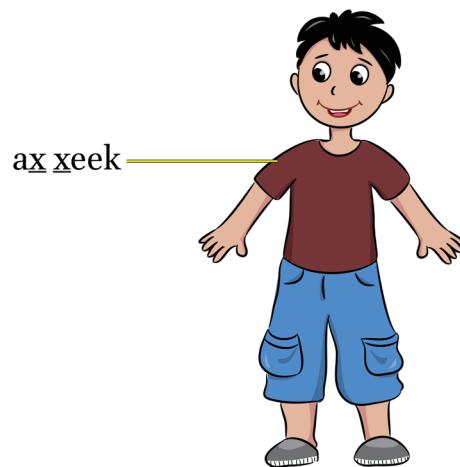
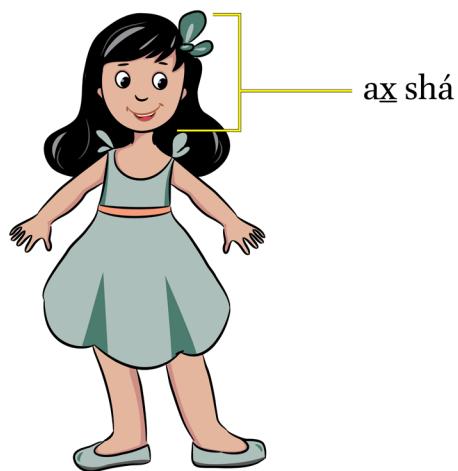
The following dialogue practice is a great mock conversation to begin thinking about communicating feelings and various states of being. When practicing this dialogue, start by saying each phrase and focusing on tone, vowel length, and sounding like the fluent speakers you can listen to on the recordings from *Beginning Tlingit*. After you have mastered these phrases individually, then shift your focus to the grammatical breakdown listed next to the phrases. The top line is a translation of the phrase, or what we might call the “English Equivalent.” Beneath that are two lines. The top one is segmenting the phrase to show all the components that are in there, including invisible components that are not heard or seen when written, but reveal how the language is functioning. Once you have examined that, it is time to practice with a partner. The most important things here are: 1) having a good flow to your words and honoring the vowel length tone, and 2) expressing emotion and trying to avoid sounding like a robot repeating sentences. Have fun!

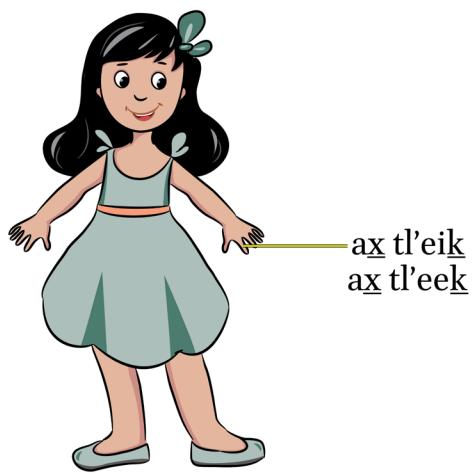
| | | |
|-----|----------------------------|--|
| A 1 | wáa sá sh teedinoonk? | how are you feeling? wáa + sá + sh + tú-i-di-√nook how.say+reflexive+inside.you-(2s.S).cl-(+d,∅,+i).√feel |
| B 2 | tlél wáa sá. | i'm okay. tlél + wáa + sá not+how+say |
| 3 | wáa sá iyatee? | how are you? wáa + sá + i-ÿa-√tee? how+say+you-(2s.O).cl-(+d,∅,+i).√be |
| A 4 | tlél tlax xat tooshk'é. | i feel terrible. tlél + tlax + xat + tu-u-sh-√k'é not+very+me-(is.O)+inside.irr.cl-(+d,sh,-i).√fine/good |
| 5 | kei xat nanéekw shákdéi yá | i think i'm getting sick. kei + xat + na-∅-√náéekw + shákdéi + yá preverb-(up)+me-(is.O)+na-cj.cl-(+d,∅,-i).√sick+perhaps.this |
| B 6 | iwdixwétl gwáa wé gé? | maybe you're tired? i-ÿu-di-√xwétl + gwáa + wé + gé you-(2s.O).pf.cl-(+d,∅,+i).√tired + maybe + that + y/n? |

| | | |
|-----|----------------------------|---|
| A 7 | tléik'. <u>xat</u> yanéekw | no. i'm sick tléik' + <u>xat</u> + ýa-√náekw no + me-(is.O) + cl-(-d,Ø,+i).√sick |
| B 2 | aatlein át! | oh dear! aatlein + át many + thing |
| 3 | goo sá wé yanéekw | where does it hurt? goo + sá + wé + ýa-√náekw where + say + that + cl-(-d,Ø,+i).√sick |
| A 4 | ax leitóox yanéekw. | my throat hurts / i have a sore throat ax + lá-tú-x ýa-√náekw my-(is.P) + throat.inside.at-(along/repeatedly) + cl-(-d,Ø,+d).√sick |
| B 6 | át axwdishée iwuneixí | i hope you get well áa-t + a-ÿu-xa-di-√shée + i-ÿu-Ø-√neixí there/at-(arrived) + a-theme.pfv.i-(is.S).cl-(-d,Ø,+i).√hope + you-(2s.O).pfv.cl-(-d,Ø,-i).√heal/save.[relative] |
| 7 | gunalchéesh | thank you gunalchéesh thank you |

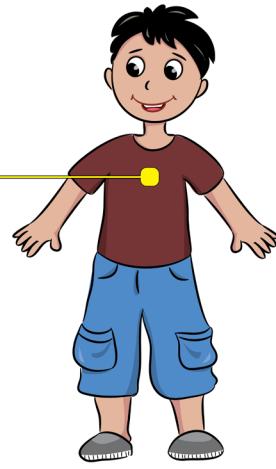
The dialogue practice above is divided into two speakers (A and B) and there are seven total lines. Take a look at line A4, «ax leitóox yanéekw». This is a phrase that we can learn and change the body part to talk about aches and pains that may exist throughout the body. This verb, «yanéekw» can translate to “illness” or “pain” and is used in a variety of ways to talk about maladies. To begin using this phrase in more dynamic ways, we are going to take a look at some basic body parts. As we begin to explore body parts, let's first talk about an important language concept in Tlingit: alienability.

Body parts usually need to belong to something. When speaking English, it would sound strange to say “nose” or “knee” without it belonging to something, such as “your nose” or “bee’s knee.” This is the same in Tlingit, only the rules are a bit more rigid. We write body parts, which are in a category called “inalienable nouns” with an en dash (–) before the word to show that they must belong to something. This en dash can be replaced by nouns and possessive pronouns. For example, «–lú» can become «i lú» or «yéil lú» but does not really appear without a possessing noun or possessive pronoun.

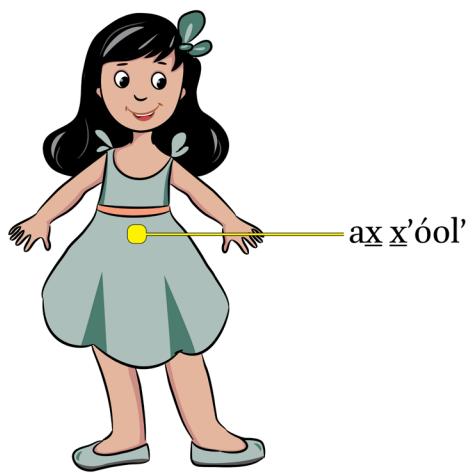




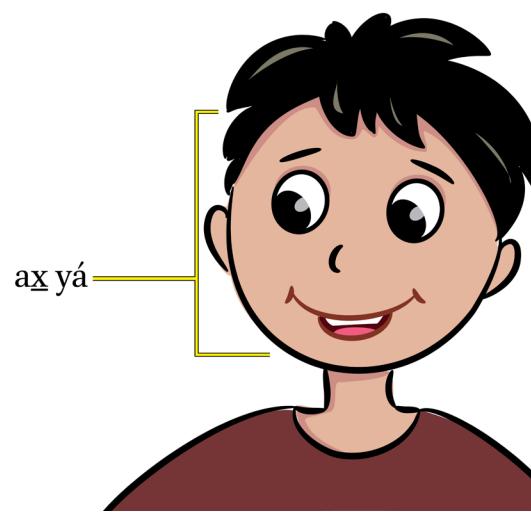
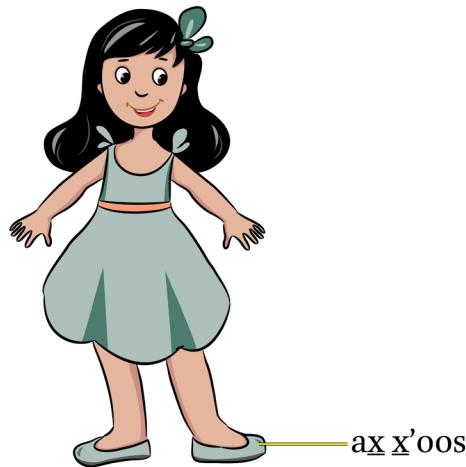
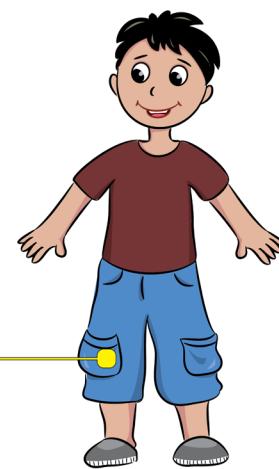
ax tl'eik
ax tl'eek

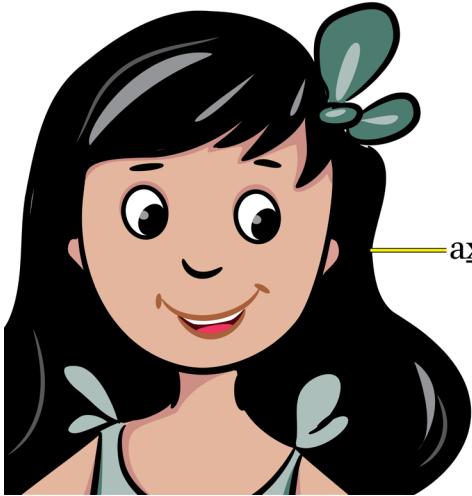


ax wóow

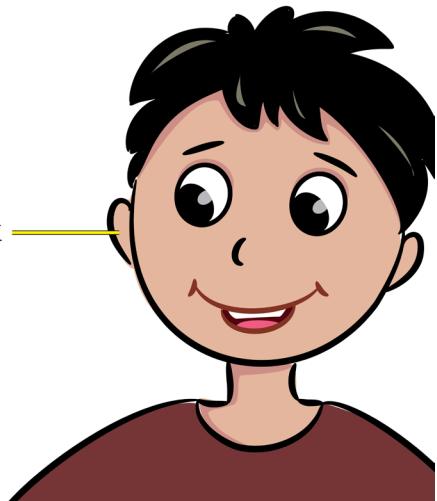


ax x'óol'

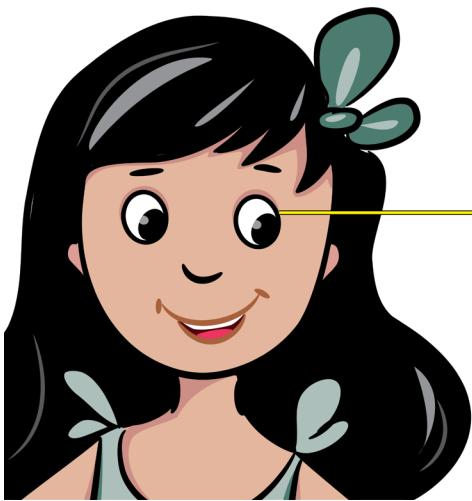




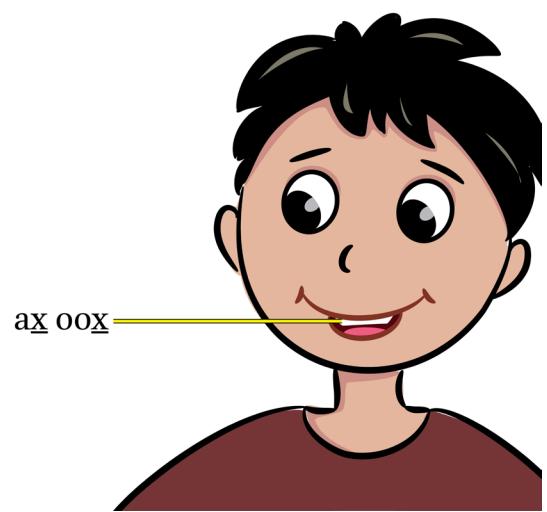
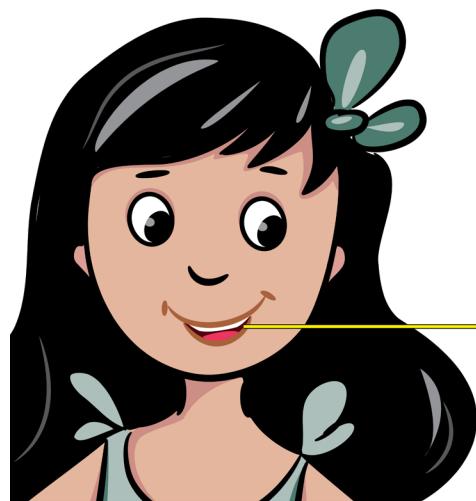
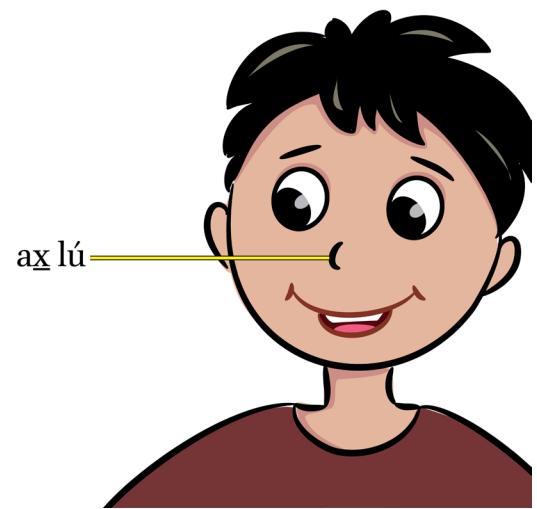
ax shaxaawú

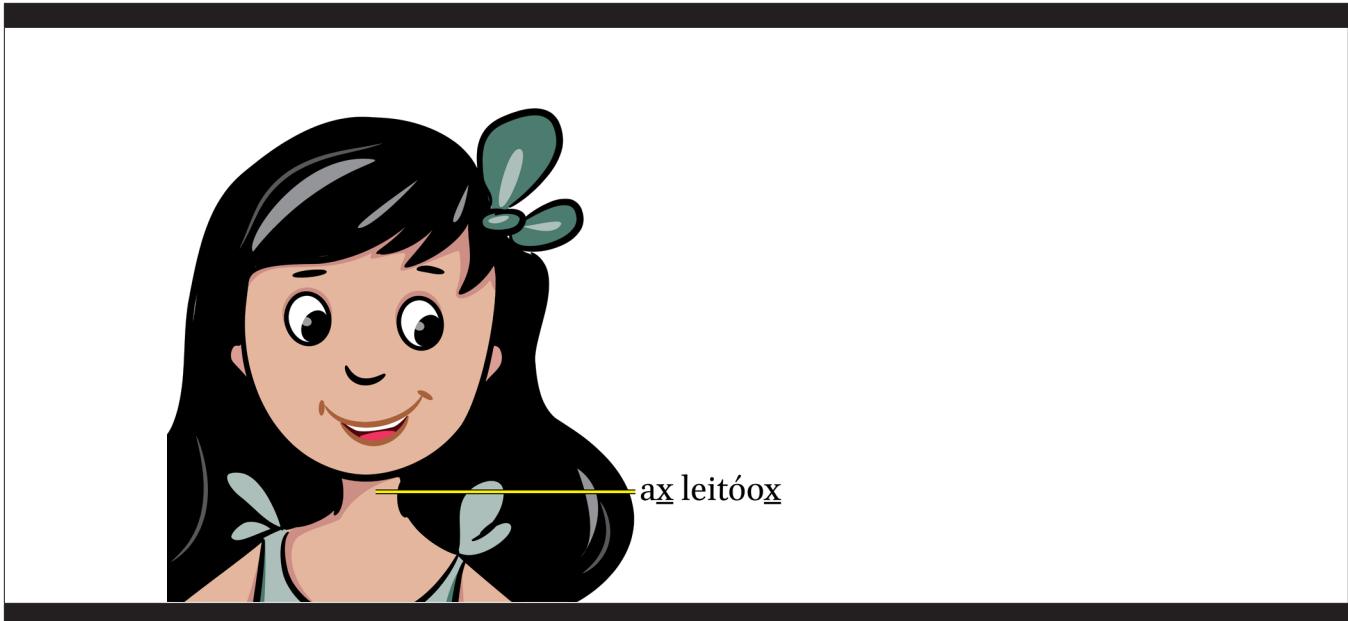


ax gúk



ax waak





Now that we've learned some body parts, we will start using some familiar drills with them. Our goals are to locate our own body parts and then to locate the body parts using the images above. One interesting thing to note is that body parts do not pluralize. In English, we would say "my head, your head, our heads," whereas Tlingit would be «ax shá, i shá, haa shá.» Once we have practiced some basic phrases with this, we will move into some more complex phrases

| | |
|---------------|---|
| | this is my ____ |
| ax ____ áyá | <p>ax + ____ + á-yá my-(is.P) + [body part] + [focus].right-here</p> |
| | where is your ____? |
| goosú i ____? | <p>goo-sá-ú + i + ____? where-say-at + your-(2s.P) + [body part]?</p> |

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| | here is my ____ |
| yáadu ax ____ | <p>yá-t-u + ax + ____</p> <p>right-here.at-(arrived).at + my-(is.P) + [body part]</p> |
| | this is her/his ____ |
| du ____ áyá | <p>du + ____ + á-yá</p> <p>her/his-(3s.P) + [body part] + [focus].right-here</p> |
| | imperfective (+) |
| | Simon says ____ |
| Simon yéi x'ayaká ____ | <p>Simon + yéi + x'a-ya-∅-∅-√ká + ____</p> <p>Simon + thus + mouth.vsf.s/he-(3.S).cl-(−d,∅,−i).√say/tell + [phrase]</p> |
| | imperfective (−) – irrealis |
| | Simon didn't say it |
| tlél yéi x'awuká Simon | <p>tlél + yéi + x'a-ya-u-∅-∅-√ká + ____</p> <p>Simon + thus + mouth.vsf.irr.s/he-(3.S).cl-(−d,∅,−i).√say/tell</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| | imperative |
| i sháat shí! | touch your head! |
| | <p style="text-align: center;"><i>i + shá-t + Ø-Ø-√shí</i> your-(2s.P) + head.at-(arrive) + Ø-cp.cl-(-d,Ø,-i).√touch</p> |
| | imperative |
| i <u>x</u>eekt shí! | touch your upper arm! |
| | <p style="text-align: center;"><i>i + <u>x</u>eek-t + Ø-Ø-√shí</i> your-(2s.P) + upper-arm.at-(arrive) + Ø-cp.cl-(-d,Ø,-i).√touch</p> |
| | imperative |
| i jínt shí! | touch your hand! |
| | <p style="text-align: center;"><i>i + jín-t + Ø-Ø-√shí</i> your-(2s.P) + hand.at-(arrive) + Ø-cp.cl-(-d,Ø,-i).√touch</p> |
| | imperative |
| i tl'eikt shí! / i tl'eekt shí! | touch your finger! |
| | <p style="text-align: center;"><i>i + tl'eik-t + Ø-Ø-√shí</i> your-(2s.P) + finger.at-(arrive) + Ø-cp.cl-(-d,Ø,-i).√touch</p> |

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| | imperative |
| i wóowt shí! | touch your chest! |
| | <p style="text-align: center;">i + wóow-t + Ø-Ø-√shí your-(2s.P) + chest.at-(arrive) + Ø-cp.cl-(-d,Ø,-i).√touch</p> |
| | imperative |
| i x'óol't shí! | touch your hand! |
| | <p style="text-align: center;">i + x'óol'-t + Ø-Ø-√shí your-(2s.P) + belly.at-(arrive) + Ø-cp.cl-(-d,Ø,-i).√touch</p> |
| | imperative |
| i keeyt shí! | touch your knee! |
| | <p style="text-align: center;">i + keey-t + Ø-Ø-√shí your-(2s.P) + knee.at-(arrive) + Ø-cp.cl-(-d,Ø,-i).√touch</p> |
| | imperative |
| i x'oost shí! | touch your foot/feet! |
| | <p style="text-align: center;">i + x'oos-t + Ø-Ø-√shí your-(2s.P) + foot/feet.at-(arrive) + Ø-cp.cl-(-d,Ø,-i).√touch</p> |

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| | imperative |
| i yát shí! | touch your face! |
| | $i + yá-t + \emptyset-\emptyset-\sqrt{shí}$ your-(2s.P) + face.at-(arrive) + ∅-cp.cl-(-d,∅,-i).√touch |
| | imperative |
| i shax̣aawóot shí! | touch your hair! |
| | $i + shax̣aawú-t + \emptyset-\emptyset-\sqrt{shí}$ your-(2s.P) + hair.at-(arrive) + ∅-cp.cl-(-d,∅,-i).√touch |
| | imperative |
| i gúkt shí! | touch your ear! |
| | $i + gúk-t + \emptyset-\emptyset-\sqrt{shí}$ your-(2s.P) + ear.at-(arrive) + ∅-cp.cl-(-d,∅,-i).√touch |
| | imperative |
| i waakt shí! | touch your eye! |
| | $i + waak-t + \emptyset-\emptyset-\sqrt{shí}$ your-(2s.P) + eye.at-(arrive) + ∅-cp.cl-(-d,∅,-i).√touch |

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| | imperative |
| i lóot shí! | touch your nose! |
| | <p>i + lú-t + Ø-Ø-√shí your-(2s.P) + nose.at-(arrive) + Ø-cp.cl-(-d,Ø,-i).√touch</p> |
| | imperative |
| i x'éit shí! | touch your mouth! |
| | <p>i + <u>x</u>'é-t + Ø-Ø-√shí your-(2s.P) + mouth.at-(arrive) + Ø-cp.cl-(-d,Ø,-i).√touch</p> |
| | imperative |
| i ooxt shí! | touch your tooth/teeth! |
| | <p>i + <u>oox</u>-t + Ø-Ø-√shí your-(2s.P) + tooth/teeth.at-(arrive) + Ø-cp.cl-(-d,Ø,-i).√touch</p> |
| | imperative |
| i leitóox<u>t</u> shí! | touch your throat |
| | <p>i + leitóox<u>t</u> + Ø-Ø-√shí! your-(2s.P) + throat.at-(arrive) + Ø-cp.cl-(-d,Ø,-i).√touch</p> |

imperative

shake your ____!

i ____ laxwál!

i + ____ + Ø-la-√xwál
your-(2s.P) + ____ + Ø-cp.cl(-d,Ø,-i).√tremble/rattle

where is the hurt/sick?

goosú wé yanéekw?

goo-sá-ú + wé + yá-√néekw
where-say-is-at + there + cl(-d,Ø,+i).√sick/hurt

imperfective

my ____ hurts / my ____ is sick

ax ____ yanéekw

ax + ____ + ýa-√néekw
my-(1s.P) + ____ + cl(-d,Ø,+i).√sick/hurt

imperfective

her/his ____ hurts; her/his ____ is sick

du ____ yanéekw

du + ____ + ýa-√néekw
her/his-(3s.P) + ____ + cl(-d,Ø,+i).√sick/hurt

perfective

hunger has arrived to me
(i'm hungry)

ax éet yaan uwaháa

ax + ée-t + yaan +
yü-ÿa-√háa¹

my-(1s.P) + [empty base].at-(arrived) + hunger +
pfv.cl(-d,Ø,+i).√move-imperceptably

perfective

sleep has arrived to me
(i'm sleepy)

ax éet yataawaháa

ax + ée-t + ÿa-√taa +
yü-ÿa-√háa¹

my-(1s.P) + [empty base].at-(arrived) + pfv.cl(-d,Ø,+i).√sleep +
pfv.cl(-d,Ø,+i).√move-imperceptably

perfective

i'm tired

xat wudixwétl

xat + yü-di-√xwétl
me-(1s.O) + pfv.cl-(+d,Ø,+i).√tired

perfective

my head has dried up
(i'm thirsty)

xat shaawakúx

xat + sha-ÿu-ÿa-√kúx
me-(1s.O) + head.pfv.cl-(+d,Ø,+i).√dried-up

perfective

has hunger arrived to you
(are you hungry)?

i éet gé yaan uwaháa

i + ée-t + gé + yaan +
yü-ÿa-√háa¹
your-(2s.P) + [empty base].at-(arrived) + yes/no? +hunger +
pfv.cl(-d,Ø,+i).√move-imperceptably

perfective

has sleep arrived to you
(are you sleepy)?

i éet gé yataa waháa

i + ée-t + gé +
ÿa-√taa + yü-ÿa-√háa¹
your-(2s.P) + [empty base].at-(arrived) + yes/no? +
cl(-d,Ø,+i).√sleep + pfv.cl(-d,Ø,+i).√move-imperceptably

perfective

are you tired

iwdixwétl gé?

i-ÿu-di-√xwétl + gé
you-(2s.O)-pfv.cl-(+d,Ø,+i).√tired + yes/no?

perfective

has your head dried up
(are you thirsty)?

ishaawakúx gé?

i-sha-ÿu-ÿa-√kúx + gé
you-(2s.O)-head.pfv.cl-(+d,Ø,+i).√dried-up + yes/no?

perfective

what has arrived to you
(what are you hungry for?)
(what are you wanting?)

daa sá i éet uwaháa

daa + sá + i + ée-t +
yü-ÿa-√háa¹

what + say + your-(2s.P) + [empty base].at-(arrived) +
pfv.cl(-d,Ø,+i).√move-imperceptably

perfective

____ has arrived to me
(i'm hungry for ____)
(i want ____)

____ ax éet uwaháa

____ + ax + ée-t + yaan +
yü-ÿa-√háa¹

my-(1s.P) + [empty base].at-(arrived) + hunger +
pfv.cl(-d,Ø,+i).√move-imperceptably



útlxi

boiled fish



at x'éeshi

dry fish



náayadi

half dry fish



k'ínk'

fermented
fish heads



taxhéeni

soup; broth



at kahéeni

juice



tléikw

berries



tsaa eixí /
tsaa eexí

seal oil



tsaa dleeyí

seal meat



guwakaan dleeyí /
kuwakaan dleeyí

deer meat



gáatl

pilot bread



k'únts' / k'wúnts'

potatoes



shaaw

gumboots
/ chiton



s'áaw

crab (dungeness)



gáal'

clams



kaháakw

(fermented)
salmon eggs



s'ikshaldéen

Hudson Bay tea,
Labrador tea



laak'ásk

black seaweed
(common)



k'áach'

red seaweed
(ribbon)

conjugation prefix

N + tuwáa + S-s-√góo^x (*ga state verb – subject intransitive*)

for N to want, like, desire S;
for S to be pleasing to N

N + tú-ÿá + (ga-cp)-S-s-√góo
[nominal object] + inside.face + [ga-CP].cl-(s).√happy

imperfective (+)

what do you want?

daa sá i tuwáa sigóo

daa + sá + i + tú-ÿá + si-√góo
what + say + your-(2s.P) + inside.face + cl-(–d,s,+i).√happy

imperfective (+)

i want _____

_____ ax tuwáa sigóo

_____ ax + tú-ÿá + si-√góo
_____ + my-(1s.P) + inside.face + cl-(–d,s,+i).√happy

imperfective (+)

what does s/he want?

daa sá du tuwáa sigóo

daa + sá + du + tú-ÿá + si-√góo
what + say + her/his-(3s.P) + inside.face + cl-(‐d,s,+i).√happy

imperfective (+)

s/he wants ____

____ du tuwáa sigóo

____ du + tú-ÿá + si-√góo
____ + her/his-(3s.P) + inside.face + cl-(‐d,s,+i).√happy

imperfective (+)

do you want ____?

____ gé i tuwáa sigóo?

____ + gé + i + tú-ÿá + si-√góo
____ + yes/no? + your-(2s.P) + inside.face + cl-(‐d,s,+i).√happy

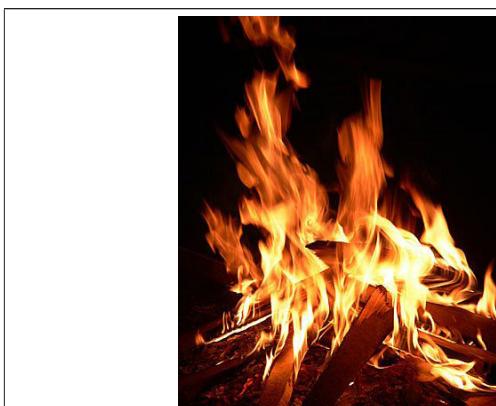
imperfective (+)

yes. i want ____

aaa. ____ ax tuwáa sigóo

aaa + ____ ax + tú-ÿá + si-√góo
yes + ____ + my-(1s.P) + inside.face + cl-(‐d,s,+i).√happy

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>tlél + N + tuwáa + u-S-sh-√gú^x (<i>ga state verb – subject intransitive</i>)</p> | |
| for N to not want, not like, not desire S; for S to be unpleasant to N | <p>tlél + N + tú-ÿá + (ga-cp)-S-sh-√gú not + [nominal object] + inside.face + [ga-CP].cl-(sh).√happy</p> |
| | imperfective (-) |
| tléik'. tlél ax tuwáa ushgú ____ | <p>no. i don't want ____</p> |
| | <p>tléik' + tlél + ax + tú-ÿá + u-sh-√gú no + not + my-(1s.P) + inside.face + irr.cl-(–d,sh,–i).√happy</p> |
| | progressive imperfective |
| ax éede yaa yaan nahéin | <p>hunger is arriving to me (i'm getting hungry)</p> |
| | <p>ax + ée-de + yaa + yaan + na-Ø-√háa¹-n my-(1s.P) + [empty base].towards + hunger + na-cj.cl-(–d,Ø,–i).√move-imperceptably.progressive</p> |
| | progressive imperfective |
| ax éede yaa yata nahéin | <p>sleep is arriving to me (i'm getting sleepy)</p> |
| | <p>ax + ée-de + yaa + ÿa-√ta + na-Ø-√háa¹-n my-(1s.P) + [empty base].towards + cl-(–d,Ø,+i).√sleep + na-cj.cl-(–d,Ø,–i).√move-imperceptably.progressive</p> |



x'aan

fire;
red (color)



x'oon

fur seal



x'éen

wall crest;
wall screen



x'uskeit

leggings (lit. thing
over the legs)



shadakóox'

woven hat
with rings



s'áax'

gray cod



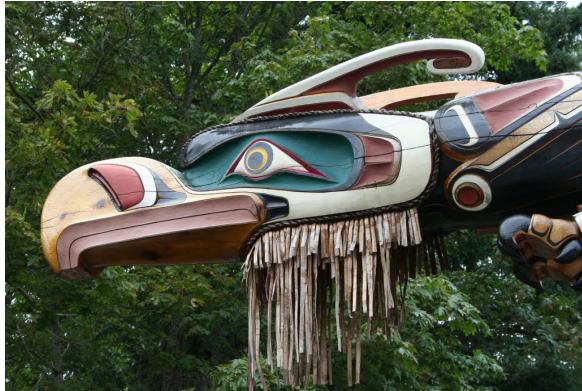
keitl

dog



cháatl

halibut

| | |
|--|--|
|  | <p>xeitl</p> <p>thunderbird</p> |
|  | <p>tláak</p> <p>arrowhead / spear point</p> |
| <p>daat eetéenáx sá iyatee?</p> | <p>through what things remains you? (what do you need?)</p> |
| | <p>daat + eetí-náx + sá + i-ÿa-√tee what + remains.through + say + you-(2s.O).cl-(−d,∅,+i).√be</p> |
| <p>_____ eetéenáx xat yatee</p> | <p>i am through the remains of _____ (i need _____)</p> |
| | <p>_____ + eetí-náx + xat + ÿa-√tee _____ + remains.through + me-(1s.O) + cl-(−d,∅,+i).√be</p> |

