

keijín  
*Wáa sá sh teedinook?*



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?

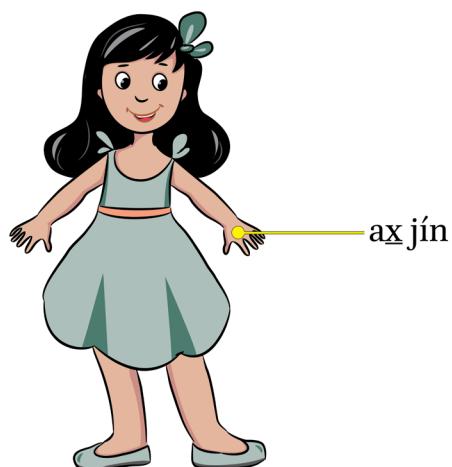
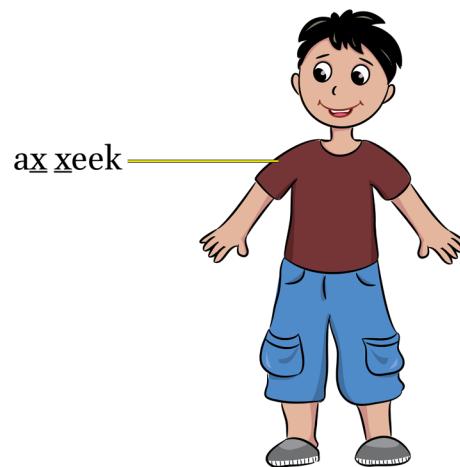
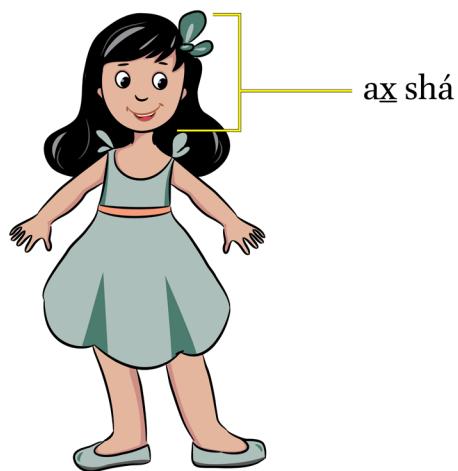
The following dialogue practice is a great mock conversation to begin thinking about communicating feelings and various states of being. When practicing this dialogue, start by saying each phrase and focusing on tone, vowel length, and sounding like the fluent speakers you can listen to on the recordings 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!

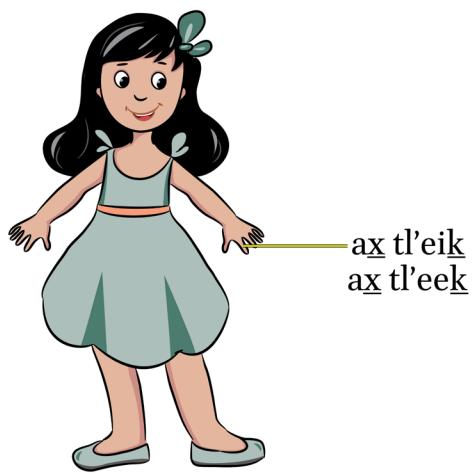
A 1	wáa sá sh teedinoonk?	how are you feeling? wáa + sá + sh + tú-i-di-√nook how.say+reflexive+inside.you-(2s.S).cl-(+d,∅,+i).√feel
B 2	tlél wáa sá.	i'm okay. tlél + wáa + sá not+how+say
3	wáa sá iyatee?	how are you? wáa + sá + i-ya-√tee? how+say+you-(2s.O).cl-(+d,∅,+i).√be
A 4	tlél <u>tlax</u> <u>xat</u> 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 <u>xat</u> nanéekw shákdeí yá	i think i'm getting sick. kei + xat + na-∅-√náéekw + shákdeí + 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-yü-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- <u>x</u> 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

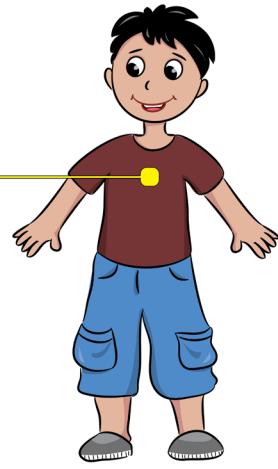
The dialogue practice above is divided into two speakers (A and B) and there are seven total lines. Take a look at line A4, «ax leitóox yanéekw». This is a phrase that we can learn and change the body part to talk about aches and pains that may exist throughout the body. This verb, «yanéekw» can translate 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.

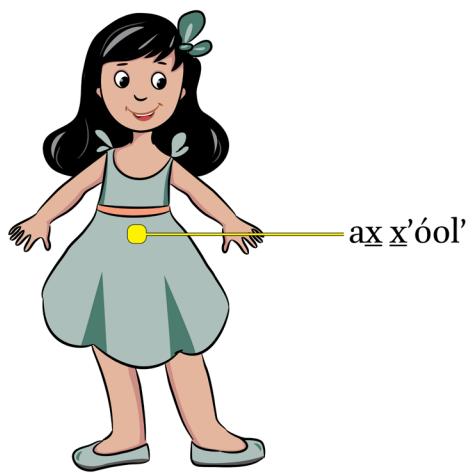




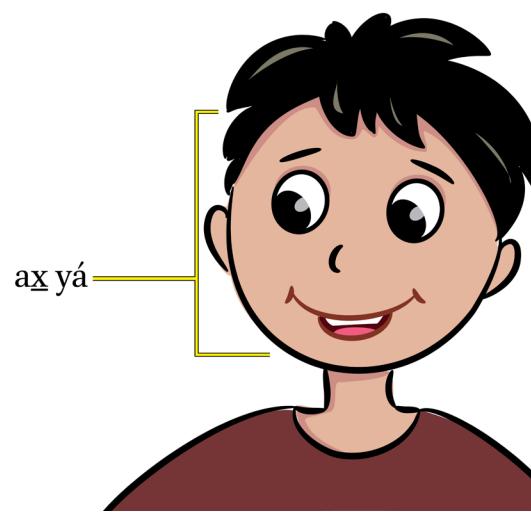
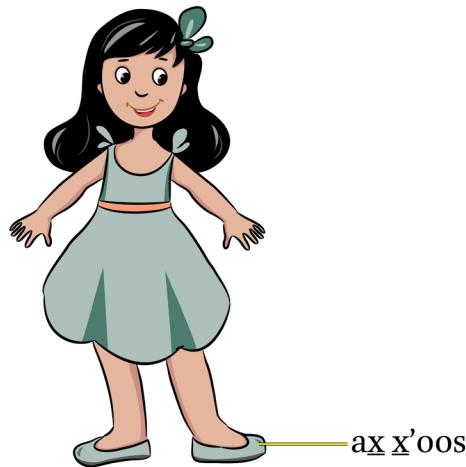
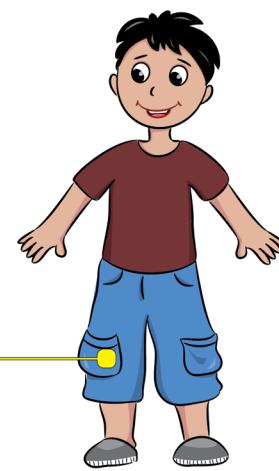
ax tl'eik  
ax tl'eek

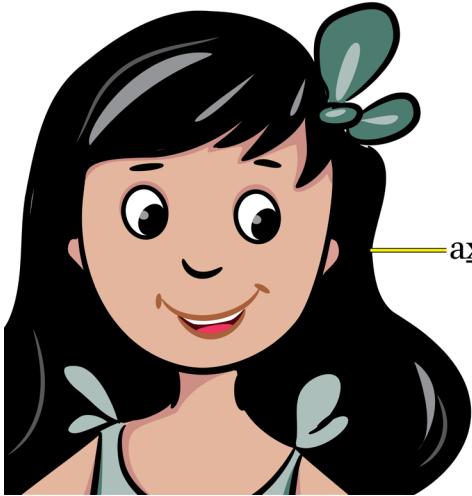


ax wóow

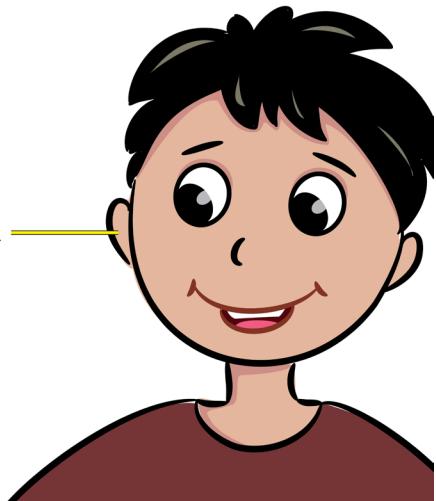


ax x'óol'

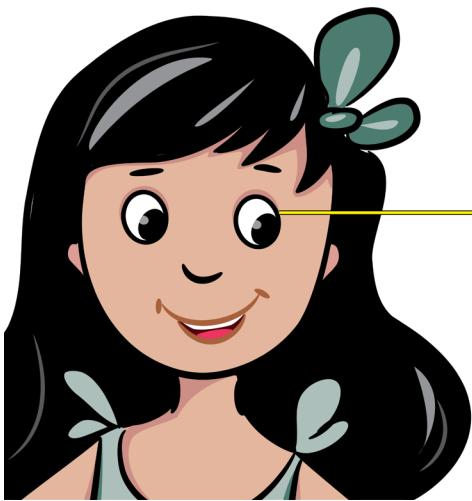




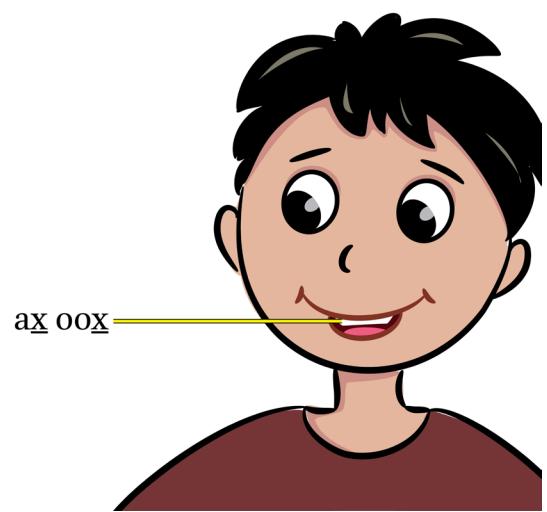
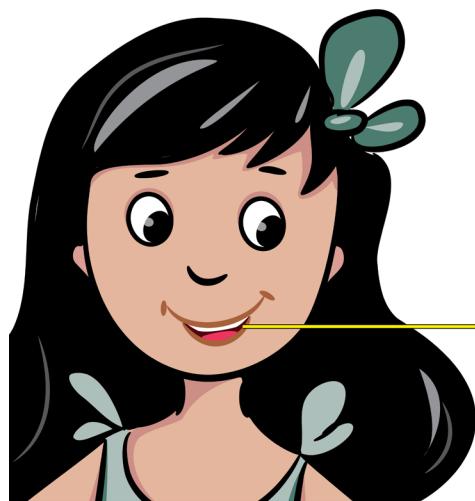
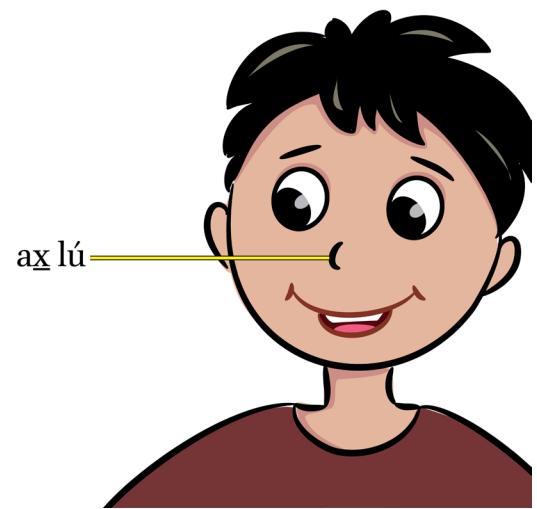
ax shaxaawú

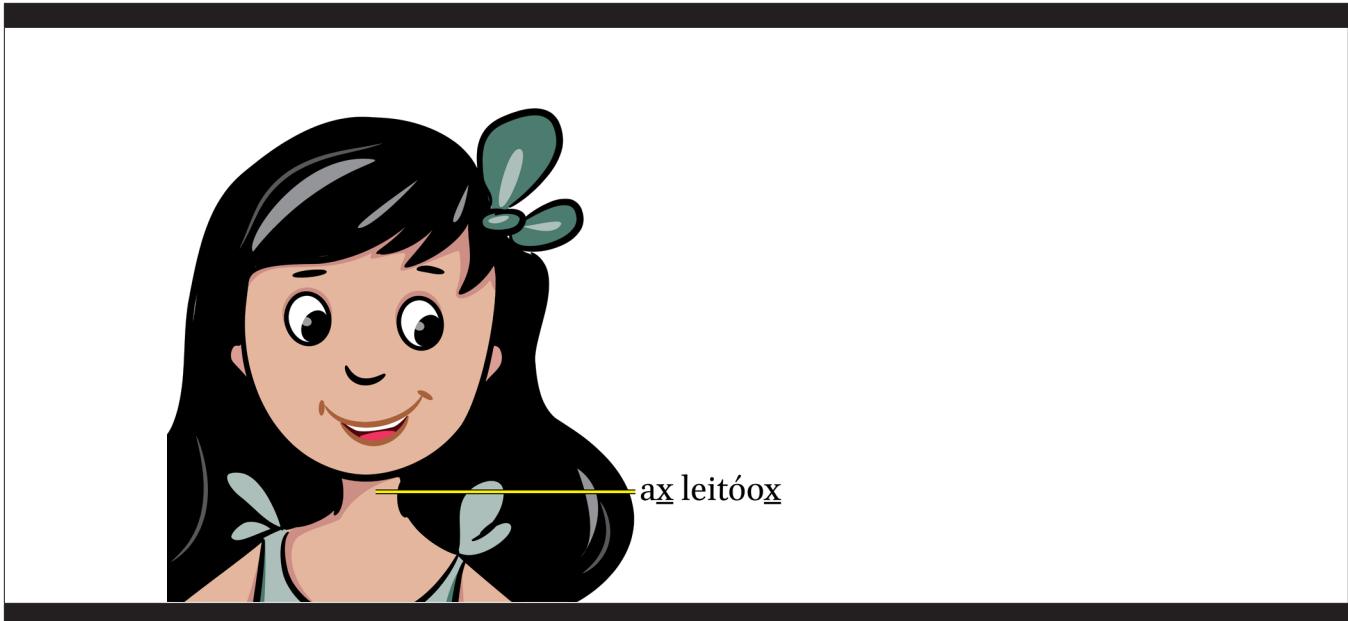


ax gúk



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 ____
ax ____ 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
<b>i sháat shí!</b>	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
<b>i <u>x</u>eekt shí!</b>	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
<b>i jínt shí!</b>	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
<b>i tl'eikt shí! / i tl'eekt shí!</b>	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>i + wóow-t + Ø-Ø-√shí      your-(2s.P) + chest.at-(arrive) + Ø-cp.cl-(-d,Ø,-i).√touch</p>
	imperative
i <u>x'</u> óol't shí!	touch your hand!
	<p>i + <u>x'</u>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>i + keey-t + Ø-Ø-√shí      your-(2s.P) + knee.at-(arrive) + Ø-cp.cl-(-d,Ø,-i).√touch</p>
	imperative
i <u>x'</u> oost shí!	touch your foot/feet!
	<p>i + <u>x'</u>oos-t + Ø-Ø-√shí      your-(2s.P) + foot/feet.at-(arrive) + Ø-cp.cl-(-d,Ø,-i).√touch</p>

	imperative
<b>i yát shí!</b>	touch your face!
	<p>i + yá-t + Ø-Ø-√shí      your-(2s.P) + face.at-(arrive) + Ø-cp.cl-(-d,Ø,-i).√touch</p>
	imperative
<b>i shaxaawóot shí!</b>	touch your hair!
	<p>i + shaxaawú-t + Ø-Ø-√shí      your-(2s.P) + hair.at-(arrive) + Ø-cp.cl-(-d,Ø,-i).√touch</p>
	imperative
<b>i gúkt shí!</b>	touch your ear!
	<p>i + gúk-t + Ø-Ø-√shí      your-(2s.P) + ear.at-(arrive) + Ø-cp.cl-(-d,Ø,-i).√touch</p>
	imperative
<b>i waakt shí!</b>	touch your eye!
	<p>i + waak-t + Ø-Ø-√shí      your-(2s.P) + eye.at-(arrive) + Ø-cp.cl-(-d,Ø,-i).√touch</p>

	imperative
<b>i lóot shí!</b>	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
<b>i <u>x'</u>éit shí!</b>	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
<b>i ooxt shí!</b>	touch your tooth/teeth!
	<p>i + oo<u>x</u>-t + Ø-Ø-√shí      your-(2s.P) + tooth/teeth.at-(arrive) + Ø-cp.cl-(-d,Ø,-i).√touch</p>
	imperative
<b>i leitóox<u>t</u> shí!</b>	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- $\sqrt{xwál}$   
your-(2s.P) + \_\_\_\_ + Ø-cp.cl(-d,Ø,-i). $\sqrt{\text{tremble/rattle}}$

where is the hurt/sick?

goosú wé yanéekw?

goo-sá-ú + wé + yá- $\sqrt{néekw}$   
where-say-is-at + there + cl(-d,Ø,+i). $\sqrt{\text{sick/hurt}}$

imperfective

my \_\_\_\_ hurts / my \_\_\_\_ is sick

ax \_\_\_\_ yanéekw

ax + \_\_\_\_ + ýa- $\sqrt{néekw}$   
my-(1s.P) + \_\_\_\_ + cl(-d,Ø,+i). $\sqrt{\text{sick/hurt}}$

imperfective

her/his \_\_\_\_ hurts; her/his \_\_\_\_ is sick

du \_\_\_\_ yanéekw

du + \_\_\_\_ + ýa- $\sqrt{néekw}$   
her/his-(3s.P) + \_\_\_\_ + cl(-d,Ø,+i). $\sqrt{\text{sick/hurt}}$

perfective

hunger has arrived to me  
(i'm hungry)

ax éet yaan uwaháa

ax + ée-t + yaan +  
yü-ÿa-√háa<sup>1</sup>

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-√háa<sup>1</sup>

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

	<p>has hunger arrived to you (are you hungry)?</p>
i éet gé yaan uwaháa	<p>i + ée-t + gé + yaan + yü-ÿa-√háa <sup>1</sup> your-(2s.P) + [empty base].at-(arrived) + yes/no? +hunger + pfv.cl(-d,Ø,+i).√move-imperceptably</p>
	<p>has sleep arrived to you (are you sleepy)?</p>
i éet gé yataa waháa	<p>i + ée-t + gé + ÿa-√taa + yü-ÿa-√háa <sup>1</sup> your-(2s.P) + [empty base].at-(arrived) + yes/no? + cl(-d,Ø,+i).√sleep + pfv.cl(-d,Ø,+i).√move-imperceptably</p>
	<p>are you tired</p>
iwdixwétl gé?	<p>i-ÿu-di-√xwétl + gé you-(2s.O)-pfv.cl-(+d,Ø,+i).√tired + yes/no?</p>
	<p>has your head dried up (are you thirsty)?</p>
ishaawakúx gé?	<p>i-sha-ÿu-ÿa-√kúx + gé you-(2s.O)-head.pfv.cl-(+d,Ø,+i).√dried-up + yes/no?</p>

		what has arrived to you (what are you hungry for?) (what are you wanting?)
daa sá i éet uwaháa	daa + sá + i + ée-t + ÿu-ÿa-√háa <sup>1</sup> what + say + your-(2s.P) + [empty base].at-(arrived) + pfv.cl(-d,Ø,+i).√move-imperceptably	
____ ax éet uwaháa	____ + ax + ée-t + yaan + ÿu-ÿa-√háa <sup>1</sup> my-(1s.P) + [empty base].at-(arrived) + hunger + pfv.cl(-d,Ø,+i).√move-imperceptably	____ has arrived to me (i'm hungry for ____) (i want ____)
	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

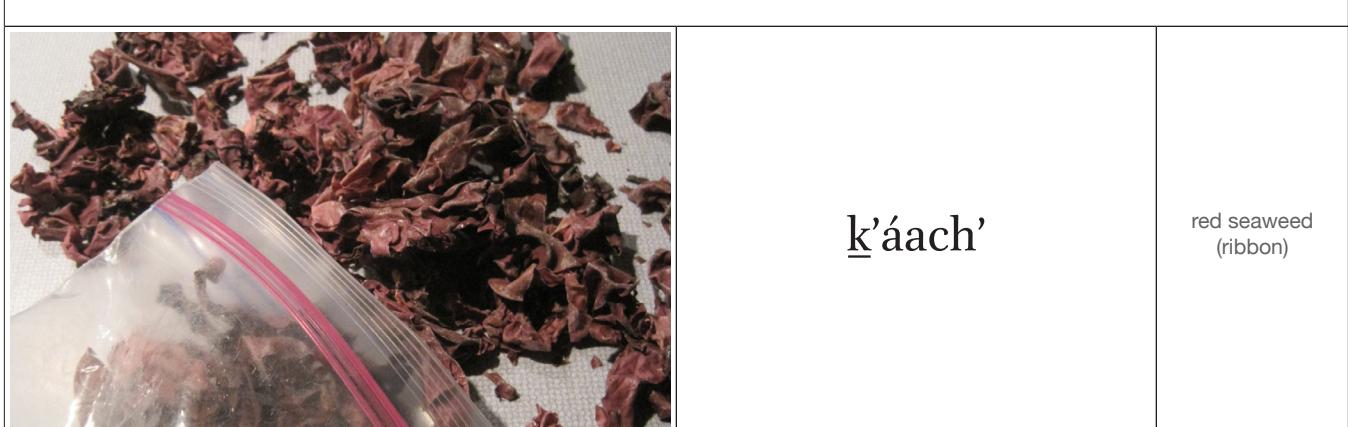
gumboots  
/ chiton



s'áaw

crab (dungeness)

	<p>gáal'</p>	<p>clams</p>
	<p>kaháakw</p>	<p>(fermented) salmon eggs</p>
	<p>s'ikshaldéen</p>	<p>Hudson Bay tea, Labrador tea</p>
	<p>laak'ásk</p>	<p>black seaweed (common)</p>



k'áach'

red seaweed  
(ribbon)

conjugation prefix

## N tuwáa (ga)-S-s-√góo<sup>x</sup> (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
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imperfective (+)

daa sá i tuwáa sigóo	what do you want?
	daa + sá + i + tú-ÿá + si-√góo what + say + your-(2s.P) + inside.face + cl-(‐d,s,+i).√happy

imperfective (+)

<u>      </u> ax tuwáa sigóo	i want _____
	_____ 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

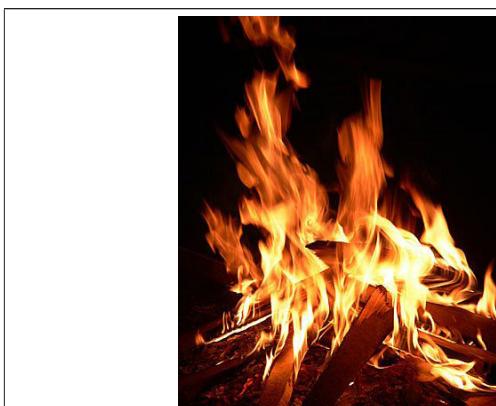
imperfective (+)

yes. i want \_\_\_\_

aaa. \_\_\_\_ ax tuwáa sigóo

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

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



x'aan

fire;  
red (color)



x'oon

fur seal



x'éen

wall crest;  
wall screen



x'uskeit

leggings (lit. thing  
over the legs)



shadakóox'

pilot bread



s'áax'

gray cod



keitl

dog



cháatl

halibut



xeitl

thunderbird



tláak

arrowhead