

## Unit Five Subject Pronouns

### 5.1 Dialogue.

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| A. ni ʔə čx <sup>w</sup> ʔiməx?         | ‘Did you walk?’       |
| B. ʔəwə, ni cən x <sup>w</sup> ənxénəm. | ‘No, I ran.’          |
| A. ni ʔə čx <sup>w</sup> łciwš?         | ‘Are you tired?’      |
| ʔi łe? ʔəmət.                           | ‘Let’s sit down.’     |
| B. hay čx <sup>w</sup> q̄a?             | ‘Thank you.’          |
| ni ʔə čx <sup>w</sup> nem ya:ys?        | ‘Did you go to work?’ |
| A. ʔəwə, ni cən ʔəw ʔitət ʔal.          | ‘No, I just slept.’   |

### 5.2 Subject pronouns

cən ‘I’	ct ‘we’
čx <sup>w</sup> ‘you’	ce:p ‘you (pl)’

Put the pronoun after the first auxiliary or verb of the sentence.

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| ʔəmət cən ce?                | ‘I will sit down.’                         |
| nem cən x <sup>w</sup> iwəl. | ‘I am going down onto the bighouse floor.’ |
| nem ct ce? həye?             | ‘We will go leave.’                        |
| nem ct ʔiməx.                | ‘We are going to walk.’                    |
| mi čx <sup>w</sup> ya:ys.    | ‘You are coming to work.’                  |
| tiwi?əl ce:p ce?             | ‘You (pl) will pray.’                      |

### 5.3 Two auxiliaries: ʔi and ni.

In the following examples, the subject pronoun follows the auxiliaries *ʔi* and *ni*. *ʔi* signals that the event happens in present space or present time. *ni* signals that the event was removed in space or time. It is sometimes pronounced as *nə*.

- |                                       |                                     |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ʔi cən ʔəw ʔəy ʔal.                   | ‘I am alright.’ (now)               |
| ʔi ʔi ʔə təʔi.                        | ‘It is here.’                       |
| ni ʔə čx <sup>w</sup> łciwš?          | ‘Are you tired?’                    |
| ni ct łciwš.                          | ‘We are tired.’                     |
| ni ʔə čx <sup>w</sup> ʔiməx?          | ‘Did you walk?’ (action completed)  |
| ni ʔə čx <sup>w</sup> nem ʔəmət?      | ‘Did you go sit down?’ (over there) |
| ni ct ʔiməx.                          | ‘We walked.’                        |
| ni ct łxiləx.                         | ‘We stood up.’                      |
| ni ct həye?                           | ‘We left.’                          |
| ni ct nem ʔəmət.                      | ‘We went to sit down.’              |
| ni ce:p nem ʔiməx.                    | ‘You (pl) walked.’                  |
| ni čx <sup>w</sup> q <sup>w</sup> el. | ‘You talked.’                       |

### 5.4 ʔə question particle.

To form a question, place the interrogative particle *ʔə* immediately after the first auxiliary or verb. Note that *ʔə* precedes the pronoun.<sup>1</sup>

ni ʔə čx<sup>w</sup> wəl lciw̄s?

‘Are you tired?’

ni ʔə čx<sup>w</sup> ʔiməx?

‘Did you walk?’

ni ʔə čx<sup>w</sup> ʔəltən?

‘Did you eat?’

neim̄ ʔə čx<sup>w</sup> ʔəmət?

‘Are you going to sit down?’

q<sup>w</sup>el ʔə čx<sup>w</sup> ce??

‘Will you talk?’

ni ʔə ce:p t̄iləm?

‘Did you (pl) sing?’

ni ʔə ce:p q̄<sup>w</sup>əyələx?

‘Did you (pl) dance?’

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<sup>1</sup>Pronunciation tip: Contract the auxiliary *ʔi* and the question particle *ʔə* to *ʔi:* and *ni* and *ʔə* to *ni:*.

**Homework 7**  
**Subject Pronouns**

**A. Translation.**

1. I worked.
2. Did you stand up?
3. We talked.
4. Did you listen?
5. I called out.
6. I went to sit down.
7. We ran.
8. Did you (pl) go work?
9. We went to play.
10. Did you sing?

**B. Answer.** Answer with a full sentence and translate.

1. ni ʔə čx<sup>w</sup> ʔiməx?  
'Did you walk?'  
*A: ni cən ʔiməx.*  
'I walked.'
2. ni ʔə ce:p ʔəmət?
3. ni ʔə čx<sup>w</sup> q<sup>w</sup>el?
4. ni ʔə čx<sup>w</sup> tiləm?
5. ni ʔə ce:p ya:ys?

### 5.5 *ʔəw...ʔal* qualifier.

By adding the particles *ʔəw* before the verb and *ʔal* after the verb, you can express the meaning of ‘just’ or ‘quite’.

ni ʔə čx<sup>w</sup> ʔəw ʔiməx ʔal?  
ni cən ʔəw ʔənəx<sup>w</sup> ʔal.  
ʔəw ʔayəm čx<sup>w</sup> ʔal!

‘Did you just walk?’ (as opposed to getting a ride)  
‘I just stopped.’  
‘Just go slow!’ (‘Just take it easy!’)

### 5.6 ‘he/she/it’.

No special marking is needed to express third person subjects of intransitive verbs. Just use the plain verb. Unlike English, Həŋqəmínəm makes no distinction in gender when it comes to person marking. So the sentences below have subjects that can be translated as ‘he’, ‘she’, ‘it’, or ‘them’, depending on the context.

ni ʔəmət.  
ni nem ya:ys.  
ni q<sup>w</sup>əyóləx ʔiʔ tɪləm.  
ni ʔə ʔəmət?

‘He/she/it sat down.’  
‘He/she went to work.’  
‘He/she danced and sang.’  
‘Did he/she/it sit down?’

### 5.7 *ʔe:ltən* ‘they’.

No special marking on the verb is needed to express a third person plural subject. But the pronoun *ʔe:ltən* can be used after the verb to make it clear that more than one person is doing the action.

ni ʔəmət ʔe:ltən.  
ni nem ya:ys ʔe:ltən.  
ni ʔə tɪləm ʔe:ltən?

‘They sat down.’  
‘They went to work.’  
‘Did they sing?’

**Homework 8**  
**More Subject Pronouns**

**A. Translation.**

1. I just listened.
2. We just worked.
3. He/she went to work.
4. Did he eat?
5. He stopped and listened.
6. Did they go sit down?

**B. Ask a question and translate.**

1. ni cən ʔiməx. *Ask: ni ʔə čx<sup>w</sup> ʔiməx?*  
'I walked.' *'Did you walk?'*
2. ni ct ʔənəx<sup>w</sup>.
3. ni nem̄ ya:ys.
4. ni ct tiwiʔəl.
5. ni tiwiʔəl ʔe:ltən.
6. ni cən nem̄ həwələm̄.

## Homework 9 Pronouns Review

### A. Transformations.

If the example involves a singular pronoun, put it in the plural and, if it involves a plural pronoun, put it in the singular. And translate, please.

1. ni cən x<sup>w</sup>iyné:m.
2. ni ct ʔəw̄ ya:ys ʔal̄.
3. ni ʔə ce:p nem̄ ya:ys?
4. ni ʔəw̄ ʔəltən ʔal̄.
5. ʔənəx<sup>w</sup> ct ce?
6. ni ʔə ʔəmət ʔe:ltən?
7. ni ʔə čx<sup>w</sup> łxiləx?
8. tiləm ʔə čx<sup>w</sup> ce??

### B. Sentence Scramble.

Rearrange the words to form a correct sentence and translate.

1. ʔə nem̄ ce:p ʔiməč ʔəw̄ ʔal̄ ni?
2. ya:ys ʔə ʔe:ltən nem̄ ni?