

Sngä'iyufpi a Li'fya leNa'vi—Na'vi for Beginners Shenandoah, July 2013

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Numultxafpi a Ayli'fyavi Lesar: Useful Classroom Expressions

Rutxe tivng mikiyun, ma frapo.

Your attention please, everyone!

Hitxoa, lu oeru tìpawm.

Excuse me, I have a question.

Hitxoa, ke tsolam. Rutxe liveyn.

Sorry, I didn't understand. Please repeat that.

(Nga) tsolam srak?

Did you (OR: do you) understand?

Srane, tsolam.

Yes, I understand.

Kehe, ke tsolam. OR Ke tsolatsam.

No, I didn't understand. OR I didn't quite understand.

I may not have understood.

Srake tsun nga law sivi nì'it?

Could you make that a bit clearer?

Nìprte'. Poltxe san . . .

Sure. (Gladly, With pleasure.) What I said was . . .

Srake law slolu set?

Is it clear now?

Srane, law nìwotx. Irayo.

Yes, completely clear. Thank you.

Kehe, ke li. Rutxe fmi nìmun.

No, not yet. Please try again.

Eyawr. Ngaru tiyawr.

Correct. You're right.

Keyawr. Ngaru tìkxey.

Incorrect. You're wrong.

Tsali'uri alu X ral lu 'upe?

What does X (the word X) mean?

Tsali'fyaviri alu X ral lu 'upe?

What does X (the phrase, expression X) mean?

X-(i)ri peral? EX.: Sponori peral?

What does X mean? EX.: What does "spono" mean?

X-(i)ri ral lu _____. EX.: Sponori ral lu _____.

X means _____. EX.: "Spono" means "island."

Tsali'uri alu X nìNa'vi slu peli'u?

How do you say X (the word X) in Na'vi?

X nìNa'vi peli'u?

How do you say X (the word X) in Na'vi?

Ke omum. OR Ke omängum.

I don't know. OR I'm sorry to say I don't know.

Omum nga srak?

Do you know?

'Awa swawtsyìp. Oe fperil.

Just a moment. I'm thinking.

Tìpängkxotsyìp a1ve—Dialog #1: Who is that boy?

A. Kaltxi. Ngenga lu tupe?

Hello. May I ask who you are?

B. Oe lu Ralu. Ngenga tut?

I'm Ralu. And you?

A. Lu oe Rini. Smon nìprte'.

I'm Rini. Nice to meet you.

B. Smon nìprte' niteng.

Nice to meet you too.

A. Ulte tsa'evengan atsawl lu tupe?

And who is that tall boy?

B. Lu oeyä 'itan alu Kamun.

That is my son Kamun.

A. Pori solalew polpxaya zìsìt?

How old is he?

B. Solalew zìsìt avomrr.

He is thirteen.

Srungtsyìp a1ve—Tip #1: The Topical

Added to *nouns*.

After a vowel or diphthong: **-ri**

After a consonant or pseudovowel: **-ìri**

Examples: spono → sponori
swizaw → swizawri
Eytukan → Eytukanìri
trr → trrìri

Basic meaning: 'as for X, concerning X.'

Widely used in Na'vi!

Srungtsyìp a2ve—Tipp #2: The "age" pattern

How old are you?

Ngari solalew polpxaya zìsìt? (most formal)

Ngari solalew polpxay?

Ngari solew polpxay?

Solew polpxay? (most casual)

I'm 24 years old.

Oeri solalew zisit apxevol. (most formal)

Oeri solalew pxevol.

Oeri solew pxevol.

Solew pxevol.

Pxevol. (most casual)

For the numbers, see the Number Handout.

Tipängkxotsyìp a2ve—Dialog #2:

Families large and small.

A. Ätxäle si oe pivawm, ayfo lu tupe?

If I may ask, who are those people?

B. Lu oeyä smukan si smuke.

They're my brothers and sisters.

A. Tewti! Lu ngaru soaia apxa!

Wow! You have a large family!

B. Srane. Lu oeru tsmukan amrr sì pxesmuke.

Yes. I have five brothers and three sisters.

A. Oeri soaia lu hì'i—'awa tsmukan nì'aw.

My family is small—only one brother.

Ke lu oeru kea tsmuke.

I don't have any sisters.

Srungtsyìp a3ve—Tipp #3:

Plurals and Lenition

For Plurals (in Na'vi, 4 or more), we use the prefix **ay-**. This sometimes causes a change in the following consonant, called lenition.

The 20 consonants are listed below. The ones that change through lenition are bolded.

px	tx	kx	'
p	t	k	
	ts		
f	s	h	
v	z		
m	n	ng	
	r, l		
w	y		

The Lenition process:

px, tx, kx → **p, t, k**

p, t, k → **f, s, h**

ts → **s**

' → **(dropped)**

Nouns for practice:

mokri	voice	vitra	soul
hì'ang	insect	lertu	colleague
sa'nok	mother	zekwä	finger
eltu	brain	nantang	viperwolf

kxa	mouth	txon	night
pxuntil	elbow	kxeyey	error

karyu	teacher	palulukan	thanator
puk	book	taw	sky

tsong	valley	tstxo	name
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'eveng	child	'eylan	friend
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IMPORTANT: When *ay-* causes a lenition change, it can then drop, leaving only the changed consonant! These are the "short plurals." Example:

karyu 'teacher' ayharyu OR haryu 'teachers'

Tipängkxotsyìp a3ve—Dialog #3:

What are you doing?

A. Kempe si nga?

What are you doing?

B. Oe yom.

I'm eating.

A. Ngal yom peut?

What are you eating?

B. Oel yom teylut.

I'm eating teylu.

Srungtsyìp a4ve—Tipp #4:

"Agentive -l"

When a verb is transitive (has an object), Na'vi has special forms for the agent and the object—the "l" form for the agent, the "t" form for the object.

Some verbs for practice:

yom, näk, inan, 'em, kar, ftia

Some objects for practice:

syuve, teylu, fkxen, naer, pay, pxir, swoa, 'upxare, tsmìm, yerik, li'fya leNa'vi