

Sngä'iyufpi a Li'fya leNa'vi—Na'vi for Beginners Los Angeles, July 2014

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Srungtsyìp a1ve—Tip #1: Interrogative *pe*

Two major types of questions:

- *Yes-No questions* use *srake/srak*.
- *Information or “wh” questions* use the element *pe* ‘what.’

Pe is either prefixed or suffixed to a root.
As a prefix, *pe* triggers lenition.

Ex.: *pe* + *krr* ‘time’ = ‘what time?’ or ‘when?’
So ‘when’ is either *krrpe* or *pehrr*.

Add *pe* to these roots in two ways:

fya (from *fya'o*) ‘way’
fnel ‘kind’
li'u ‘word’
lun ‘reason’
kem ‘action’
tu (from *tute*) ‘person’
tseng ‘place’
'u ‘thing’

Tipängkxotsyìp a1ve—Dialogue #1: What's that?

1A

- A. Tsa'u lu peu?
What is that?
B. Lu tsko.
It's a bow.
A. Srake lu pum ngeyä?
Is it yours?
B. Srane, lu pum oeyä.
Yes, it's mine.

1B

- A. Ätxäle si oe pivawm, fi'u lu peu?
May I ask, what is this?
B. Lu syeprel.
It's a bow.
A. Srake lu pum ngeyä?
Is it yours?
B. Kehe, ke lu pum oeyä. Lu pum Syäronä.
No, it's not mine. It's Sharon's.

1C

- A. Hitxoä, tsaw lu peu?
Excuse me, what's that?
B. Lu fkxile.
It's a necklace.
A. Lu pum pesuä?
Whose is it?
B. Pum oeyä.
Mine.

Srungtsyìp a2ve—Tip #2: The pronoun *pum*

In possessive constructions, *pum* takes the place of a repeated noun:

Fìtsko lu tsko oeyä. → Fìtsko lu **pum** oeyä.
This bow is my bow. This bow is mine.

Nouns for practice:

<u>'are</u>	cape, shawl	<u>ontsang</u>	nose ring
<u>au</u>	drum	<u>puk</u>	book
<u>eltu lefngap</u>	computer	<u>pxawpxun</u>	arm band
<u>fkxile</u>	bib necklace	<u>rum</u>	ball
<u>hawntsyokx</u>	glove	<u>swizaw</u>	arrow
<u>hawnyen</u>	shoe	<u>tsko</u>	bow
<u>hawre'</u>	hat	<u>tsngal</u>	cup
<u>masat</u>	breastplate	<u>tstal</u>	knife

Srungtsyìp a3ve—Tip #3:

Case Paradigm for Nouns and Pronouns

S: Eytukan	oe	nga
A: Eytukanil	oel	ngal
P: Eytukanit/-ti	oeti	ngati
G: Eytukanä	oeyä	ngeyä
D: Eytukanur	oeru	ngaru
T: Eytukaniri	oeri	ngari

Variants:

A: -l, -il	P: -t, -it, -ti	G: -ä, -yä
D: -r, -ur, -ru,		T: -ri, -iri

Tipängkxotsyìp a2ve—Dialogue #2:

Please give me that.

1A

A. Ma tsmuk, tìng oeru ngeyä hawre'ti, rutxe.

Brother/Sister, give me your hat, please.

B. Ngaru fi'u.

Here it is. OR It's yours.

A. Irayo nìtxan.

Thanks very much.

1B

A. Ma tsmuk, tìng oeru ngeyä tstalit, rutxe.

Brother/Sister, give me your knife, please.

B. Ngaru fi'u.

Here it is. OR It's yours.

A. Ngeyä tìtstunwiri irayo nìtxan.

Thanks very much for your kindness.

1C

A. Ma tsmuk, tìng oeru ngeyä tskoti, rutxe.

Brother/Sister, give me your bow, please.

B. Oeru txoa livu, ke tsun oe tsakem siyi.

Forgive me, (but) I can't do that.

A. Pelun.

Why?

A. Taluna Neytiri fitsengne zaya'u ye'rìn, ulte oel tasying tsat poru.

Because Neytiri is coming here soon, and I'm going to give it to her.

A. Tslolam. Ke tsranten.

I understand. It doesn't matter.

Srungtsyìp a4ve—Tip #4:

Direct and Indirect Objects

Verbs like *tìng* 'give,' *peng* 'tell,' and *wìntxu* 'show' take both a direct and an indirect object.

The *direct object* indicates *what* is being given, told, or shown. The *indirect object* indicates the *receiver* of the action .

Direct objects have the t-endings (Patientive Case). Indirect objects have the ru/ur-endings (Dative Case).

Examples:

Oel to^lìng ngaru tstalit.

'I gave you the knife.'

Eytukanìl Neytiriru poleng fmawnit.

'Eytukan told Neytiri the news.'

Rutxe ngeyä masatit wìntxu Ralur.

'Please show Ralu your breastplate.'

For practice:

Objects: All the nouns on the other side, plus:

'upxare	message	säfpìl	idea, thought
fmawn	news	stxeli	gift
hangvur	joke	vur	story

Agents and Indirect Objects:

Neytiri, Eytukan, Mo'at, Tsu'tey, Tsyeyk, Ralu, Kamun, Entu, Eywa, Loak, Peyral, Rini, Tsenu, oe, nga, po, awnga, ayoe, aynga, fo

Pattern:

Q: Neytiril to^lìng ngaru peut?

A: (Po) to^lìng oeru tskoti.

Srungtsyìp a5ve—Tip #5:

Completed Action; the Future

Use the *-ol-* infix for completed action:

tìng → *tolìng*

Use the *-ay-* infix for the future (prediction):

tìng → *tayìng*

Use the *-asy-* infix for the future (intention):

tìng → *tasyìng*

Tipängkxotsyìp a3ve—Dialogue #3:

Where is he?

A. Tok pesenget Ralul?

Where is Ralu?

B. Tok na'ringit.

He's in the forest.

A. Po pelun kolä ne na'ring?

Why did he go to the forest?

B. Tìomummì oeyä, kolä fte tivaron.

As far as I know, he went to hunt.

Srungtsyìp a6ve—Tip #6:

The verb *tok*

To ask where someone or something is, use the *transitive* verb *tok*, 'occupy a place in or at a given location'. In Na'vi thought, when you occupy a place, you affect or change it in some way, hence the transitivity.