

PLURAL LESSONS

(1) ?ał

With the three moods we have learned so far, you will have noticed the ?ał always occurring in the ending for the 3rd person plural (they) of verbs. It is put into brackets, though because it is not necessary there, and other elements, like “?aala-always” can be inserted:

Hawiiqłwe?in ?aala ?ał	They are always hungry.
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(2) minh

Another way of saying a plural is attaching minh to the word we are using. minh however is not the same as the “s” in English (like cat – “cats”) but could mean something like “a bunch of”. Thus:

Piišpiš	Cat
Piišpišminh	A bunch of Cats

Piišpišma would be translated as: “they are cats”.

It also appears with verbs:

ma luk ma zał piš piš minh ?i

Ha ?uk minh ma piišpiš?i.	The cats are eating.
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In this case we don't need the – ?ał at the end any more. minh is not appropriate for words that have another plural form. Nevertheless you can use – minh with words where you don't have a special plural.

qiicýakminh	pens / pencils
huupúq ^w asminh	cars

(3) Insertion of – t – and lengthening

Many nouns have a special plural form that has to be learned with each of them. The plural of “dog” is ^{ci}it nił “dogs”. Plural forms of this kind mostly have a –t– inserted after the first syllable, which get lengthened, or in case of roots that only consist of one syllable, even reduplicated. Some examples:

ANOTHER SET OF WORDS HAS -h as a plural ending besides some other changes (mostly lengthening)

EXAMPLES:

hawil - "chief" haa^hwi^hih - "chiefs"

kuucma - "woman" kuucsa^hmi^hih - "women"

ʔakup - "man" ʔaa^hkup^hih - "men, husbands"

OTHER EXAMPLES:

hawila^t - young boy. hat^h haa^hwi^hih -
young boys

ʕiniiʕ	dog	ʕiitniiʕ	dogs
ʕaneʕis	child	ʕatneʕis	children

Plurals with ʕaʕ:

Hawiiqʕweʕin ʕaʕa ʕaʕ	They are always hungry.
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Plurals with minʕ:

ʕuuʕupʕas	rabbit	ʕuuʕupʕas minʕ	rabbits
ʕimiʕ	bed	ʕimiʕ minʕ	beds
tuup	stove	tuup minʕ	stoves
huupak ^w as	car	huupak ^w as minʕ	cars
muut	boat	muut minʕ	boats

Plurals inserting a “t” and lengthening:

ʕaaq ^w aʕ	girl	ʕatʕaaq ^w aʕ	girls
ʕapac	canoe	ʕatʕaapac	canoes
nayaqak	baby	natyaqak	babies
maʕas	house	matmaas	houses

EXERCISE ON PLURALS.

FILL IN THE CORRECT PLURALS:

1. Pisatuk ma ta.
The children are playing.
2. ?etiih ma ?i.
The canoes are big.
3. Xiihpanatē aagt ma .
The young boys are going for a ride.
4. Samitfiisma .
The bears are eating fish.
5. Tuxmas it ma ?i.
The rabbits were jumping around.
6. ?ayimt ma ?a ta ?iit ma ?ni.
There used to be a lot of men fishing.
7. ?ayakuk e ?ic .
You have a lot of dogs.
8. We ?ič aat ma .
The babies are sleeping.
9. č ušakhi ?a ta ?ayaxpanatč i ?a t.
Be careful of the fast going cars.
10. Hawiigt we ?in ?a ta ?a t.
They are always hungry.

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|---------------------|----|---------------------------|----|-----------------------------|
| 1. Siitniit | 7. | 5. čimsminh | 4. | 9. nat yagak |
| 2. tuutau pč asminh | 5. | 6. čatč aapac | 2 | 10. huupuk ^w asg |
| 3. čaakupiih | 6. | 7. hathaa wiit | 3 | haawihahminh |
| 4. a t t | 10 | 8. tatne die | 1 | |

PLURALS

h'at h'aag^wat - girls

ʔaaku pu^h - men

t'at ne^lis - children

ma^tit^gin^h - boys

lu^s sa^muh - ladies

hawi^hat - young boys

e[?]u[?]ci^m - elders

mat^mas - lot of houses

ʔiitⁿiit[?] - dogs

ʔat ʔax^wat - pails

ʔat ʔa^pae - canoes

qau^gau^s - people

mat^matⁿi - white people

nat^ya^gak - babies

ma^maa^mi^gsuu - older siblings

ʔui^ye^gwⁱk^suu - younger siblings

neⁿe[?]i^gsuu - aunts & uncles

naⁿaⁿi^gsuu - grand parents

oo[?]oomⁱg^suu - mothers

naⁿuuⁱg^suu - fathers

minh
tue t²u³p³as minh + rabbits

pis¹ pis¹ minh - eats
mu¹et minh - beats

ẽim it minh - beds

tuep minh - stoves

sak yak minh - knives ~~sak yak¹~~

gic yak minh - writing impliments -

tu¹p¹u¹g¹as minh - ears

mit

mat pu - in laws -

mat - horns