

THE PAST TENSE: - (m)it

We express the notion of something being in the past with the little suffix -(m)it in our language. This is quite like putting -ed to most of the verbs in English. Like in the REAL MOOD suffixes, we have to consider whether a vowel precedes this suffix or a consonant (then it drops the m):
after a consonant: kaʔuk^w it in "we were eating"
after a vowel naaʔaa mit in "we heard"

In some cases the (m)it is merged with the last vowel in the word to -imt, like the word ciigciigamitah (I spoke) which is pronounced ciigciigimtah by many speakers. The only case REAL MOOD ending -ma- is after the PAST TENSE suffix -(m)it.

SAMPLE WORDS PAST TENSE

IT - ʔii kaapuk^t it ma - He was raising his hands
ʔiqwas it maʔaʔ - They were sitting.
haʔina pit ma suwa - She was calling you
ʔiicit it ma čimsʔi - He shot the bear.

mit - puuwiicaa mit eʔic - You were dreaming -
kwisaa mit ma ʔuthii - It was snowing last night.
Yuʔi mit ma - It was windy.
Hayim hi mit ah - I didn't know.

PAST TENSE CONTINUED

imt -qii'giic imt ah - I was writing.
ʔ'uu'psim h imt in - We were trying to keep warm.
ʔaataapat imt maʔaʔ - They were thinking.
miit miit x^w imt ma - It was turning.

THE "PRESENT TENSE": aʔ "now, then"

If we want to make clear that the event or action we are talking about is happening right now we can use the suffix -aʔ. Many Naučaanuʔ words are ambiguous, they can be translated in PAST or PRESENT, depending on the context. A word like yuk^w iʔ ma "it becomes windy" could also be "it became windy". Inserting -aʔ makes it yuk^w iʔ aʔ ma "it becomes windy now, finally". In a way, -aʔ also expresses suddenness, an event taking place right on a specific spot in time. That's why it can also be used in a past context where it means "then". Even the combination with the PAST suffix as -aʔit - (yuk^w iʔ aʔ ita "then finally, it got windy") is possible.

Note: the final ʔ in ʔit / ʔit gets lost in conjunction with -aʔ: - ʔi (ʔ) ʔaʔ - ʔiʔaʔ

A note of glottalization

Certain suffixes start with a glottal stop (a little "jump" in the voice produced by a closure of the throat, the sound that you can hear before each o when you say "oh-oh!" after a mishap) that merges with the preceding sound. Glottalization simply means that those suffixes glottalize the consonants that are glottalized, whereas otherwise a full glottal stop is inserted.

Although there are two more glottalized consonants $\overset{?}{m}$ and $\overset{?}{n}$ their plain counter parts are not glottalizable

GLOTTALIZABLE

c c'

k kw

p

t

x

w

y

GLOTTALIZED

$\overset{?}{c}$ $\overset{?}{c'}$

$\overset{?}{k}$ $\overset{?}{kw}$

$\overset{?}{p}$

$\overset{?}{t}$

$\overset{?}{x}$

$\overset{?}{w}$

$\overset{?}{y}$

Therefore, $\overset{?}{h}a\overset{?}{z}uk\overset{?}{m}a$ changes in conjunction with -at to $\overset{?}{h}a\overset{?}{z}uk\overset{?}{a}t\overset{?}{m}a$.

Whereas $\overset{?}{m}i\overset{?}{t}a\overset{?}{a}m\overset{?}{a}$ changes to $\overset{?}{m}i\overset{?}{t}a\overset{?}{a}z\overset{?}{a}t\overset{?}{m}a$.

The glottalizing effect of a suffix will be symbolized as a raised comma (apostrophe) after the hyphen: 'at

TENSES

What is a "TENSE"?

Name the 3 TENSES and what they signify.

(1)

(2)

(3)

Fill in the correct tense in these sentences.

1. \dot{x} upaa _____ ma \dot{x} ahuyi.
It is hot today.

2. mamuk _____ ah ku?at.
I was working this morning.

3. Ha?uk _____ e?icu, na?uu ne?wa.
You all are going to eat with us.

4. We?ic pi _____ ?i.
Go to bed now.

5. \dot{m} itau _____ ma ?uthii ?uyi.
I was raining last night.

6. hasiik _____ in giic giica.
We are finished writing.

7. huat huuya _____ ah \dot{c} apac?i.
I was bailing the canoe.

8. Wassayap _____ has na'xal'yaki'zah?
Where am I going to put this book?
9. Hiniip _____ ah tick yakukgas.
I got my drum now.
10. Wabhak _____ ah mituuni lamitig.
I am going to Victoria tomorrow.
11. yuxtaokuk _____ ?elic,
looks like you are packing to go somewhere.
12. qii _____ ah na'winhi suwa.
I waited for you for a long time.
13. Hupii _____ hak siya?
Are you going to help me?
14. Wezi' _____ ma niyaquki.
The baby is sleeping.
15. hasqwat _____ in hasiik.
We are almost finished.
16. wahas _____ ma me'itgaszi.
The boy fell down.
17. xakiish _____ we'ini nuquuk.
We are going to stand and sing (It is said).
18. ✓ Cuu hasiik _____ in.
There now we are finished.

ANSWERS TO TENSE SENTENCES

TENSES (1) mit - past (2) at - present (3) aagt - future.

1. at

2. mit

3. aagt

4. at

5. mit

6. at

7. mit

8. aagt

9. at

10. aagt

11. at

12. mit

13. aagt

14. at

15. at

16. ~~mit~~ it

17. aagt

18. at

Write two sentences for each tense.

Past:

1

2

Present:

1

2

Future:

1.

2.

ANSWERS TO REVIEW ON REAL & QUESTION MOODS

① (hak) ②. e?icu ③ ah ④ (hasuu)

⑤ e?ic ⑥ ma ⑦ hin ⑧ (ha?at)

ANSWERS TO A REAL MOOD REVIEW

1. mah 2. e?ic 3. ma ④ ma?at ⑤ me?icu

6. ah 7. in 8. e?icu ⑨ me?ic ⑩ min

TENSE ENDINGS REVIEW

Fill in the correct TENSE ENDINGS the following sentences:

(1) mit—past

(2) aλ—present

(3) aaqλ—future

- 1) Yacʔpanutč _____ in quʔaʔʔik.
We are going for a walk tomorrow morning.
- 2) Puwitsʔa _____ eʔic utʔhii.
You were dreaming last night.
- 3) Ka mitq mas _____ ma ʔetʔniiλ
The dogs are running around.
- 4) Hupiisim _____ aḥ uʔmiλik.
I'm going to need help tomorrow.
- 5) Qii _____ maʔaʔ ʔaʔaʔpaʔta.
They are thinking for a long time now.
- 6) Huuḥtakʔši _____ ma Mary hukʔsaa.
Mary is learning to count now.
- 7) Huḥtakʔsiλ _____ in quuquuʔacʔa.
We are going to learn to speak our language.
- 8) Qicʔšiλ _____ aḥ Oomi.
I'm going to write to Mother.
- 9) Haaʔukḥšiḥ _____ in ciiqciiqa.
We're going to take turns talking.
- 10) Aaʔni _____ ḥak naʔataḥ weʔʔus.
Are you really going to listen

Sound Drill work sheet for c and c'

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| I. ___uw'it | 2. ___iyapuxs |
| 3. ___akiʔ | 4. muu___iq |
| 5. ___awaak | 6. ___aʔak |
| 7. ___iʕas | 8. ___ima |
| 9. ___ahaa | 10. wik___uu |
| 11. ___aʔuuyis | 12. ___iiq___iiqa |
| 13. qa___a | 14. p'a___mis |

Pair

wikcuu ----not in container

wikcuu ---- you all don't do it