

# Yurok Language Institute 2012 Collected Handouts for Week 1

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## Directions and locations

- (1) Directional adverbs (along water or paths)
  - a. Upriver: **heepch** (close), **pechkue**, **pecheek** (far)
  - b. Downriver: **heepuer** (close), **puelekw**, **pueleek** (far)
  - c. Up(hill): **heewon** (close), **wonekw**, **woneek**
  - d. Down(hill): **heechoo** (close), **choolekw**
  - e. Across: **heewoh** (close?), **wohpek** ~ **wohpewk**; **heekoh**
- (2) Some other common terms
  - heemar** “under(neath)”
  - sohchee** “on top of, high up above”
  - wo’EEK** “inside”
  - lekwsee** “outside”
  - neskwee** “near”
  - poy** “ahead, in front”
  - heenoy** “behind”
  - wogee** “in the middle”
  - kes, keskee** “down”
- (3) Relative location: the most common construction
  - a. **tepoow ue-wonekw** “on top of a tree”  
**ha’aag we-heemar** “under a rock”  
**’er’gerrch we-lekw** “outside a sweathouse”  
**reeek’ew we-neskwee** “near the sand bar”  
**pegerk we-heenoy** “behind the man”
  - b. **Keech hekswue’ k’ee k’e-s’eyoh we-heemar.**  
It was found under your pounding stone.
  - c. **’Yoch ue-poyew nee ’oyhl ne-ch’wona’.**  
My coat is lying in the front of the boat.
  - d. **’Er’gerrch we-lekw ’ee rek’een.**  
They sat outside the sweathouse.
- (4) Relative location: the alternative construction

**Yo’ wo’EEK ma nek’ cheeek ’o kue tek>wonekws.**  
He put the money into the box.

# Singular bipersonals

## A chart of forms

SUBJECT	OBJECT "me" (1)	"you" (2)	"him, her" (3)
"I" (1)	—	<b>newochek'</b> <b>'ohchek'</b> <b>nahche(e)chek'</b> <b>skewokseechek'</b> <b>laayoluechek'</b>	<b>newosek'</b> <b>'ohsek'</b> <b>nahche(e)sek'</b> <b>skewokseesek'</b> <b>laayoluesek'</b>
"you" (2)	<b>newopa'</b> <b>'ohpa'</b> <b>nahcha'</b> <b>skewokseepa'</b> <b>laayoluepa'</b>	—	<b>newose'm</b> <b>'ohse'm</b> <b>nahche(e)se'm</b> <b>skewokseese'm</b> <b>laayoluese'm</b>
"he, she" (3)	<b>newope'n</b> <b>'ohpe'n</b> <b>nahche'n</b> <b>skewokseepe'n</b> <b>laayoluepe'n</b>	<b>newoye'm</b>  <b>nahchele'm</b> <b>skewokseye'm</b> <b>laayolew</b>	<b>newo'm</b>  <b>na'ch'</b> <b>skewoksee'm</b> <b>laayolue'm</b>
imperative (2)	<b>newop'een</b> <b>'o'p'een</b> <b>na'ch'een</b> <b>skewokseep'een</b> <b>laayoluep'een</b>		<b>na'ch'es</b>

## Frequent verbs in **-eemek'** and **-uemek'**

- (2) Verbs in **-eemek'**
- skewokseemek'** "like"
  - pyerwerkseemek'** "love"
  - tyohpeyokseemek'** "hate"
  - chperwerkseemek'** "remember, think of"
  - tetomokseemek'** "am angry at"
  - kaamokseemek'** "dislike"
  - chegeyonahpeemek'** "am tired of"
  - tokseemek'** "admire, respect"
  - chpeenahpeemek'** "wait for"
  - sweyokseemek'** "insult, am rude to"
  - nokseemek'** "think (e.g. well or poorly) of"

- (3) Verbs in **-uemek'**
- komchuemek'** "know"
  - tegeruemek'** "talk to"
  - laayoluemek'** "teach"
  - nooluemek'** "love, protect"
  - ko'oyuemek'** "hire, ask to do"
  - syaahlkuemek'** "kick"
  - kweryuemek'** "whistle to"
  - chpeenahpuemek'** "wait for"

## Written Practice

1. Is she angry at me?

---

2. Wait for me!

---

3. I'm going to kick you.

---

4. I don't know him.

---

5. Who loves you?

---

6. I am tired of my pal.

---

7. He'll watch you.

---

8. I remember her.

---

9. I admire you.

---

10. Don't talk to him.

---

11. I'll hire you to make (*subjunctive*) my boat.

---

# Reflexives and reciprocals

## Reflexives: Doing something to oneself

(1) There are numerous verbs in **-epək'** that have reflexive-ish meanings

**wesepek'** 'I bathe myself'  
**heemo'repek'** "I run fast"  
etc.

(2) Actual verbal reflexives in **-epək'**

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| a. | <b>sermerterperk'</b> "beat, kill myself"<br><b>chpuerkepek'</b> "take care of myself"<br><b>megetohlkwepek'</b> "take care of myself"<br><b>tmoolepek'</b> "shoot myself"<br><b>skuykepek'</b> "adorn myself, treat myself well"<br>( <b>skeguykepek'</b> "am tidy") | <b>sermerterk'</b> "beat, kill"<br><b>chpuerkok'</b> "am careful with"<br><b>megetohlkwok'</b> "take care of"<br><b>tmoolok'</b> "shoot"<br><b>skuykok'</b> "do something well" |
| b. | <b>tegeruepek'</b> 'I talk to myself'   | <b>tegeruemek'</b> "talk to"  |
| c. | <b>Cho' nee 'ekonepe'm!</b><br>Hold yourself back!  | <b>'ekonemek'</b> "hold"  |

(3) Constructional reflexives with **'ne-'wes**

**Nee'nes k'e-'wes!**  
Look at yourself!

(4) **muech, neemuech** "by myself, for myself"

- Keech muech newook'.**  
Now I see for myself.
- Nek kee muech rohseemek'.**  
I will spear it myself.
- Neemuech serrhlerperk'.**  
I did it by myself.
- Muech megetohlkwepek'.**  
I look after myself.  
(Literally: I look after myself by myself.)

(5) **neemuech** "one's own"

- Wee' neemuech 'ne-tektoh.**  
It's my own log.
- Neemuech 'okw 'ner-merw.**  
I have my own food.
- Neemuech 'okw 'w-erkwterks.**  
He had his own drinking basket.

## Reciprocals: Doing something to one another (in a group)

- (5) **o**-class: **-ohpew**  
**e**-class: **-eepew**  
Verb in **-eemek'**, **-uemek'**: **-eepew**, **-uepew**
- (6) Examples of **o**-class verbs
- hlohpew** “embrace” (**hlegohpew** “wrestle”; cf. **hlook'** “grab”)
  - Cho skuey' soo ko negeee'nowopew!**  
Look each other over well!
  - Kee kem newohpew pekwsue nuemee chpaa.**  
We will see each other again soon.
- (7) Examples of **-eemek'** verbs
- Keech 'o skuey' soo pyerwerkseepew.**  
Then they loved each other dearly.
  - Nekah kem tyohpeyokseepew.**  
We hate each other.
  - Mueschen hes keech k'e-skewokseepew?**  
Is it true that you are fond of each other?

## Written Practice

1. We will teach each other.

---

2. Don't be angry at yourself!

---

3. Do they know each other?

---

4. He heard himself.

---

5. I think well of myself.

---

# By Request

## Reflexive Chart

Basic verb	<b>megetohlkwook'</b> "I take care of it"	<b>tmoolook'</b> "I shoot it"	<b>tegeruemek'</b> "I talk to (someone)"
"I"	<b>megetohlkwepek'</b>	<b>tmoolepek'</b>	<b>tegeruepek'</b>
"you (sg.)"	<b>megetohlkwepem'</b>	<b>tmoolepem'</b>	<b>tegeruepem'</b>
"she, he, it"	<b>megetohlkwep'</b>	<b>tmoolep'</b>	<b>tegeruep'</b>
"we"	<b>megetohlkwepoh</b>	<b>tmoolepoh</b>	<b>tegeruepoh</b>
"you (pl.)"	<b>megetohlkwepue'</b>	<b>tmoolepue'</b>	<b>tegeruepue'</b>
"they"	<b>megetohlkwepehl</b>	<b>tmoolepehl</b>	<b>tegeruepehl</b>

## Written Practice

1. Don't hit yourself!

---

2. We will carry ourselves across. (**wohpeyonemek'** "carry across")

---

3. We will carry each other across.

---

4. She will doctor herself.

---

5. I am afraid of myself. (**hlmeyorkwook'** "am afraid")

---

6. They found themselves.

---

## How to Say *Is* in Yurok

- (1) Yurok is often **more specific** than English. English has a very general verb *be* (*is, am, are, etc.*) that is used for many purposes. Yurok has no single equivalent of this verb. Instead, the work is distributed among a number of common verbs and patterns.

### Description and Quantity

- (2) Many concepts that involve English *be* + Adjective are expressed in Yurok with just a single verb:

**knewolepek'** "I am tall"

**tkwepek'** "I am short"

**pereyowok'** "I am old (of a woman)"

**penohpeyok'** "I am friendly"

- (2) Quantity expressions also use a single verb (vs. English *be* + other words):

- a **Teno' meraa mehl pueleek.**

There's a lot of smoke from downriver.

(JJ)

- b **'O'lep 'o teno' perncherch.**

There's a lot of dust in the house.

- c **Tue' nee tenoo' 'errwerh.**

There's a lot of grass there.

- d **Nueme teno' ho'olek.**

There are a lot of ferns around here.

(GT)

- e **Keet chkenem' k'ee puuek 'o wee'eeet.**

There are getting to be not many deer there.

### Possession and Existence

- (3) The Yurok verb **'ook'** is used to refer to being (residing) in a place, and the third person singular form **'okw'** is used to assert *existence* ("there is, there are") and to describe *possession*.

- a **Mecheek 'okw' ha'aag.**

There's a stone in the fire.

- b **'Yekwhl wo'eeek 'okw' 'o kue 'erplers.**

There are maggots inside the apples.

(GT)

- c **Pa'aahl nee 'oolew ha'aag.**

There are rocks in the water.

## Location

- (4) To answer a question like *Where is it?*, choose the most appropriate posture: *sitting* or *standing* or *lying* or *hanging* (usually *sitting* or *standing*). Also choose *animacy*.

	Animate (person, animal)	Inanimate (plant, rock, etc.)
sit	<b>key</b>	<b>tek</b>
stand	<b>'oolo'</b> ~ <b>'oolo'oh</b> (or <b>koo'</b> ~ plural <b>ko'oh</b> ~ <b>koo'opek'</b> )	<b>tepon'</b> ~ plural <b>ro'oh</b>
lie	<b>oyhl</b> ~ <b>kmoyhl</b>	<b>oyhl</b> ~ <b>kmoyhl</b>
hang	<b>'elew</b>	<b>'elew</b>

- (5) *Hanging*: An example of **'elew**

**Wonekw keech mehl 'elew ku 'ne-s'ewech.**

My enemy is hanging up there.

(GM)

- (6) *Animate sitting*: Examples of **key**

a **'Yoncheesh keech 'o key.**

He sat in the boat.

(FS)

b **Noohl kue 'ne-psech 'o key 'ap nek' kue 'ue-ma'ah.**

He put down the spear where my father was sitting.

(FS)

c **Mos cheetaa wo nee'nowee' kue wee 'o key.**

He was not observed at all where he sat.

(FS)

d **'O nee'now' kue wee 'o key.**

He looked at what was sitting there.

(FS)

e **Ho nuuem' 'ap new wee' 'o key Todd Horn.**

They arrive and saw Todd Horn sitting there.

(FS)

f **Mewah heemar 'o key kue s'e'goh 'o tep.**

The boy is sitting under the madrone tree.

(JJ)

- (7) *Inanimate sitting*: Examples of **tek** (~ **tektee'**)

a **Weet 'o tek ha'aag.**

There's a rock there.

(FS)

b **Nek keetue lewetek' 'o kue ha'aag 'o tek 'o heekoh.**

I'm going to set my net on the rock across the river.

(GT)

- c **Weet 'o tek tekwonekws.**  
There's a box there. (FS)
- d **Pa'aahl 'o tek kohtoh ha'aag.**  
There's one rock (sticking up) in the water.
- e **To' wee' 'o tek kue kaap' ...**  
The plant was growing there ... (DW)
- (8) *Animate standing*: Examples of 'oolo' ~ 'oolo'oh
- a **Weesh 'ee 'oolo' kue 'ne-psech 'we-chpeenah ...**  
My father stood there waiting ... (FS)
- b **Neskwee kue 'oolo' keech laayekeek'.**  
It's flowing past where I live. (FS)
- c **Wek nee 'oolo'oh. Wek nee 'oolo'oh puuek.**  
There it is. There's the deer. (FS)
- (9) *Animate standing*: You can also use **koo'** ~ plural **ko'oh** ~ **koo'opek'**
- a **Mewah heemar 'o koo'op' kue tepoo.**  
The boy is standing under the fir tree. (JJ)
- b **Kue pegerk pa'aahl 'ee koo' 'ue-kertkek'.**  
The man is standing in the water, fishing. (JJ)
- (10) *Inanimate standing*: Examples of **tepon'** ~ plural **ro'oh**
- a **Wee'eeet 'o tepon' s'e'goh.**  
There's a madrone there. (GM)
- b **Kyue' 'o tepon'.**  
There it is (a tree). (FS)
- c **Ro'oh kue wer'errgerch.**  
There's alder there. (GM)
- d **Wee'eeet 'o ro'oh kue teptepoh.**  
There are some trees standing there. (GM)
- e **Koweesh 'o ro'oh.**  
They (salmon) are standing on sticks. (VM)
- f **Na'an' wee' 'o ro'oh 'ne-cheeshep'.**  
I have two flowers. (FS)
- g **Ko'mee tenoo wee' nee 'we-ro'oh tepoo.**  
There are too many trees here.

(11) *Lying*: Examples of **oyhl** ~ **kmoyhl**

a **Wek 'oyhl skuyenee tektoh.**

There's a good log.

(GM)

b **Kwesee 'ap newom' wee'eeet 'oyhl nuemee chey muent'er'ery kepcheneesh.**

And then he saw lying there a tiny white fawn.

(FS)

c **Tue' mos cheetaa kol' sook kee nee 'oyhl.**

Nothing at all was on it (a path).

(FS)

d **Tektoh wee' nee kmoyhl.**

There are logs lying around.

(FS)

e **Noohl wek nee kmoyhl.**

People are camping all around.

(FS)

f **'Yoncheek 'okw'. 'Yoncheek 'o kmoyhl.**

It's in the boat. It's lying in the boat.

(FS)

g **Yok nee kmoyhl.**

It's lying down.

(FS)

h **Kwelekw wee' keech 'oyhl k'ee ma'ahskehl.**

The spear is here.

(FS)

i **'Yoch 'ue-poyew nee 'oyhl 'ne-ch'wona'.**

My coat is in front of the boat.

j **Nepuy heema'rk'uek 'oyhl 'o kue ha'aag.**

A salmon is underneath the rock.

(The adverb **heema'erk'uek** is the long form of **heemar'**.)

(12) Exercise: Picture descriptions

# Bipersonal Subjunctives: Introduction

## Singular Bipersonal Non-Subjunctives

SUBJECT	OBJECT "me"	"you"	"him, her"
"I"	—	<b>newochek'</b> <b>skewokseechek'</b> <b>laayoluechek'</b>	<b>newosek'</b> <b>skewokseesek'</b> <b>laayoluesek'</b>
"you"	<b>newopa'</b> <b>skewokseepa'</b> <b>laayoluepa'</b>	—	<b>newose'm</b> <b>skewokseese'm</b> <b>laayoluese'm</b>
"he, she"	<b>newope'n</b> <b>skewokseepe'n</b> <b>laayoluepe'n</b>	( <b>newoye'm</b> ) ( <b>skewokseye'm</b> ) ( <b>laayolew</b> )	( <b>newo'm</b> ) ( <b>skewoksee'm</b> ) ( <b>laayolue'm</b> )

## Singular Bipersonal Subjunctives

SUBJECT	OBJECT "me"	"you"	"him, her"
"I"	—	<b>'ne-newochek'</b> <b>'ne-skewokseechek'</b> <b>'ne-laayoluechek'</b>	<b>'ne-newosek'</b> <b>'ne-skewokseesek'</b> <b>'ne-laayoluesek'</b>
"you"	<b><i>k'e-newopah</i></b> <b><i>k'e-skewokseepah</i></b> <b><i>k'e-laayoluepah</i></b>	—	<b><i>k'e-newosek'</i></b> <b><i>k'e-skewokseesek'</i></b> <b><i>k'e-laayoluesek'</i></b>
"he, she"	<b>'we-newope'n</b> <b>'we-skewokseepe'n</b> <b>'we-laayoluepe'n</b>	<b>'we-newochek'</b> <b>'we-skewokseechek'</b> <b>'we-laayoluechek'</b>	<b>'we-newosek'</b> <b>'we-skewokseesek'</b> <b>'we-laayoluesek'</b>

- (1) **Skewok kee 'ne-newochek'.**  
I want to see you.
- (2) **Tewomehl keech 'ne-kohchewochek'.**  
I'm glad I have caught you.
- (3) **Neeko'hl k'e-tegeruesek'.**  
You're always talking to him.

## Written Practice

1. I want to hear you.

---

2. I want him to hear you.

---

3. I want to hear him.

---

4. I'm glad you love me.

---

5. I'm glad she loves me.

---

6. I'm glad he loves you.

---

7. I always help him.

---

8. You always help him.

---

9. My father always helps him.

---

10. Thank you for helping me.

---

11. Thank you for talking to her.

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## Stress patterns, e alternations

- (4) The *Basic Yurok Grammar* booklet discusses several *common pronunciation patterns*. These include ways that a *sound* may change when the form of a *word* is changed.

### Changes Involving "e" ("e" ~ "ey")

- (5) (This topic can be hard to describe because of the differences between the Yurok alphabet and the writing used at Berkeley. I apologize for the confusion.)
- a The *open* pronunciation of e is found in *stressed* final syllables of two-syllable words:

**keekwten** "moss"  
**keeshen** "summer"  
**pontet** "ashes"

- b This includes words that end in **w** or **y**:

**Chuerey** "Trinidad"  
**Hop'ew** "Klamath"  
**perey** "old woman"

Individual speakers, of course, differ in how open they make this pronunciation, and from occasion to occasion. Open e sometimes sounds like the vowel in English *hat*.

- c The *tense* pronunciation of e (written "ey" in the Yurok alphabet) is found when e is *stressed* in the first syllable of a word with more than one syllable:

**nepuy** "salmon"  
**tekwonekws** "box"  
**chmeyaan** "yesterday"  
**hewon** "first"  
**lemolok'** "I hook eels"  
**meweemor** "old man"

- d Some words with one tense e and one open e:

**chekwchem** "black acorns"  
**keget** "mountain lion"  
**keychek** "tired"  
**kweget** "visit"  
**legech** "mudhen"  
**segep** "coyote"  
**slekwslekw** "put clothes on"

Note: These pronunciation patterns don't easily apply to e before r, because r has its own effect on the pronunciation of a preceding vowel.

(6) Changes from tense → open e

a Third-person verbs:

**chkeyek** "I sleep" → **chkey** "s/he sleeps"

**nekek** "I put it" → **nek** "s/he puts it"

**nepek** "I eat" → **nep** "s/he eats"

b Possessed short forms:

**lewet** "net" → **'ne-lew** "my net"

**'leptoyhl** "hair" → **'ne-lep** "my hair"

**pekcheech** "rope" → **'ue-pek** "her or his rope"

c Iteratives:

**meskwook** "I treat him" → **meges** "doctor"

**sepolah** "prairie" → **segep** "coyote"

**tetolohlek** "I cry" → **teget** "cry"

d Directional and locational adverbs:

**lekwise** → **lekws** "outside"

**pechue** → **hepech** "upriver"

→ **Sreg Pech** "just up river from Sregon"

e Fingers and hands

**Nue pe'wetewes!** "Go wash your hands!"

(GT)

vs. **pletew** "thumb"

or **sketew** "little finger"

## Two Stress Patterns

(7) A *heavy* syllable is a syllable that has a long vowel in it, or a short vowel followed by more than one consonant. Yurok has these *five long vowels*:

**aa, oo, eee, uue, err**

(8) A heavy syllable is always stressed.

**chaa-nuueks** "baby"

**cheee-shep'** "flower"

**hoo-gech'** "star"

**plerr-serk'** "I talk loudly"

**'wer-'err-gerch** "alder"

(9) If a heavy syllable has a vowel followed by more than one consonant, then stress the immediately following syllable as well. (Examples are on the next page.)

a Two-syllable words:

**chah-chew** "difficult"  
**Koh-pey** "Crescent City"  
**wen-chokws** "woman"

b Three-syllable words:

**chey-ke-nee** "little"  
**kep-che-neesh** "fawn"  
**kwom-hle-chook** "I return"  
**kom-chue-mek** "I know"

e Four-syllable words:

**che-gey-ke-nee** "little ones"  
**me-wah-se-goh** "boys"  
**ske-wok-see-mek** "I like it"  
**ye-goh-pe-chok** "I go around in circles"  
**tey-ke-lue-mek** "I bite it"

# Bipersonals with Plural Subjects or Objects

## Singular Subject, Plural Object

SUBJECT	OBJECT “us”	“you all”	“them”
”I”	—	<b>newo(o)ch'o'</b> <b>skewokseech'o'</b>	<b>newo(o)s'o'</b> <b>skewoksees'o'</b>
”you”	<b>newoy</b> <b>skewoksey</b>	—	<b>(newoom')</b> <b>(skewokseemem')</b>
”he, she”	<b>newoy</b> <b>skewoksey</b>	<b>(newoye'm)</b> <b>(skewokseye'm)</b>	<b>(newo'm)</b> <b>(skewoksee'm)</b>

## Plural Subject, Plural Object

SUBJECT	OBJECT “us”	“you all”	“them”
”we”	—	<b>newo(o)ch'o'</b> <b>skewokseech'o'</b>	<b>(newoo)</b> <b>(skewokseemoh)</b>
”you all”	<b>newoy</b> <b>skewoksey</b>	—	<b>(newow')</b> <b>(skewokseemue')</b>
”they”	<b>newoy</b> <b>skewoksey</b>	<b>(newoye'm)</b> <b>(skewokseye'm)</b>	<b>(newoohl)</b> <b>(skewokseemehl)</b>

## Plural Subject, Singular Object

SUBJECT	OBJECT “me”	“you”	“her, him”
”we”	—	<b>newo(o)choh</b> <b>skewokseechoh</b>	<b>newo(o)soh</b> <b>skewokseesoh</b>
”you all”	<b>newopa'</b> <b>skewokseepa'</b>	—	<b>newo(o)se'm</b> <b>skewokseese'm</b>
”they”	<b>newopaahl</b> <b>skewokseepaahl</b>	<b>(newoye'm)</b> <b>(skewokseye'm)</b>	<b>(newoohl)</b> <b>(skewokseemehl)</b>

### (10) Examples

- a **To' kee kem newooch'o'**.  
I'll see you (plural) later. (GT)
- b **Ko'moyoch'o'**.  
We hear you. (AF)

c **Nek nue nonowoch'o'.**

I have come to fetch you all. (**nonowok'** "fetch, invite")

d **Hehl tue' kue neee'nowos'o'.**

Well, I'm going to go watch them.

(MM)

e **Mueschen hes kolonee k'e-skewoksees'o'?**

Do you really like them? — *bipersonal subjunctive plural!*

## Written Practice

1. I will talk to you (plural).

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2. They taught me.

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3. I love you (plural).

---

4. We love you (plural).

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5. Do they hear me?

---

6. Will I hear them?

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7. I can't hear you (plural).

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8. Do you (plural) hear me?

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9. I want to hear them.

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# Superlatives (and Comparatives)

## Comparatives: *More ... (Than ...)*

- (11) To express the meaning of *more X*, or *X-er*, use the preverb **neenee**.
- a **Cho' neenee plerrsem'**.  
Talk louder.
  - b **Yo' neenee knewolep' pegerk**.  
He is a taller man.
  - c **Nek neenee chey 'o kel'**.  
I am smaller than you.
  - d **Neenee teno'**.  
There's more (of one thing than another).

## Superlatives: *The Most ... (Of All)*

- (12) Both patterns below are apparently limited to *intransitive* verbs (verbs with no objects, in all the examples verbs with descriptive meanings).
- (13) More common pattern: (**nuemee** ~ **chpeewee**) + *third-person* subjunctive
- a **Nuemee 'ue-pelek' tektoh**.  
It's *the very biggest* log,
  - b **Nuemee 'ue-pelek' ch'eeshah**.  
It's *the very biggest* dog.
  - c **Chpeewee 'ue-kwere'weyek' 'oohl**.  
You are *the absolute sharpest faced* person.  
  
(**Chpeewee** means "as much as possible".)
  - d **Nek 'we-temomehl**.  
I am *the most happy*.
  - e **Pecheykwsehl kue nuemee 'we-chey kem now lehlkenee'**.  
Even *the smallest bit* of gravel was cleared away.  
  
(**Pecheykwsehl** is "gravel" and the preverb **now** means "away".)
  - f **Kue nepuy neemee nuemee 'we-skueyen'**.  
The salmon was not *the very best*.

(14) Less common pattern: **(nuemee) 'uewayuuen + Verb**

a **Wee' 'uewayuuen tom' k'ee puuek.**

This is the biggest deer.

b **Nuemee 'uewayuuen tom' tepoo**

It's the very biggest tree.

(15) Warning: These superlative constructions are very badly documented; they seem to be rarely used, and *a lot* is unknown.

## Written Practice

1. You are happier than me.

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2. You are the happiest.

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3. Fido is the smallest dog.

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4. She is the very most beautiful girl.

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5. I saw the smallest mouse outside.

---

6. He is the tallest boy in Requa.

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7. He'll watch you.

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8. Who runs fastest?

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