The verb √lem "look"

The verb root √lem "look" has the shape: CVC

1. Vowel patterns

We observe three patterns of the vowel in this verb root.

1.1   Root vowel stays the same.

lemut	√lem=t	look at
lemuls	√lem=els	look: select, choose

1.2 Root vowel becomes schwa with some suffixes

lumnuhw	√lem=nehw	see
lumstuhw	√lem=stuhw	show (him,her)
lumtsunum	√lem=tsun=m	look around, as at a stop sign

1.3 Vowel harmony: root vowel changes to *a* with –*thut* 'reflexive'

lamuthut	√lem=that	look at self, look after self

• Summing up, the vowel in the root differs depending on the type of suffix.

2. Forming progressives

Comparing the plain form and the progressive form, we see that the progressive has reduplication (and also resonant glottalization).

2.1 Root vowel gets copied.

Progressive: C_1V= reduplication, with resonant glottalization

• CV= the root vowel

lemut	√lem=t	look at
le'lum'ut	√lem=t-PROG	looking at; looking after

2.2 Root vowel gets copied, even with a suffix that changes the vowel to schwa.

lumnuhw	√lem=nehw	see it
le'lum'nuhw	√lem=nehw=PROG	seeing it

2.3 Vowel harmony: vowel /e/ changes to /a/, triggered by =*that* 'reflexive'

| lemut | √lem=t | look at |
| le'lum'ut | √lem=t-PROG | looking at; looking after |

| lamuthut | √lem=that | look at self, be careful |
| la'lum'uthut | √lem=that=PROG | looking after self, being careful |

• Summing up, the root vowel is copied, and there is harmony with some suffixes.

3. Forming plurals

Plural reduplication is C_1uC_2= where the base vowel in the plural is the same as in the related plain verb.

| lemut | √lem=t | look at |
| lumlemut | √lem=t=PL | look at them |

| lumnuhw | √lem=nehw | see it |
| lumlumnuhw | √lem=nehw=PL | see them |

4. Combinations of word processes

4.1 Plural and progressive

There is only one CVC- reduplication. One difference between plural and plural-progressive verbs is where stress falls. For plural-progressive verbs, stress falls on the first syllable, plus resonant glottalization.

| lumlemut | √lem=t=PL | look at them |
| lemlum'ut | √lem=t=PL=PROG | looking at them |

4.2 Diminutive and progressive

There are two reduplications: one for progressive and one for diminutive. The resonant *l* changes to *h* with diminutive reduplication, plus there is a long *ii*.

| le'lum'nuhw | √lem=nehw=PROG | seeing it |
| hiil'e'lum'nuhw | √lem=nehw=DIM=PROG | seeing little thing |

4.3 Lexical suffixes and PROG, DIM

The following words have a vowel-initial lexical suffix, in which the combination of schwa and *y* is pronounced and spelled as *i.* The diminutive is formed by copying the first consonant and having the vowel *i.*

le'lum'i'lh	√lem-uylh-PROG	babysit
lil'e'lum'ilh	√lem-uylh-PROG-DIM	babysit (young child babysitting a baby) DIM

The following word has a consonant-initial lexical suffix. The non-progressive and diminutive-progressive verbs were not found in the dictionary.

hwle'lum'shun	√lem=shen=PROG	looking for tracks

• Summing up, the diminutive verbs seem to be built on the progressive verbs, so can have two reduplications. However, when adding the plural to a progressive, there is only one reduplication.

5. Other sound changes

n deletes before a suffix that begins with *t*

lemuxutun	√lem=uxen=ten	watchman