

## =ulmun

‘want to’ [desiderative (DESID)]

### I. The suffix =*ulmun* on active intransitive verbs adds the meaning ‘want to’ or ‘try to’.

(1) yays ‘work’

ni' yays tthu swuy'qe'. ‘The man worked.’

ni' yays**ulmun** tthu swuy'qe'. ‘The man wanted to work.’

(2) lhxilush ‘stand up’

ni' lhxilush tthun' qeq. ‘Your baby stood up.’

ni' lhxilush**ulmun** tthun' qeq. ‘Your baby tried to stand up.’

### II. In the progressive, the suffix appears as =*ul'mun*'.

(3) 'imushulmun ‘want to walk’ >

'i'mushul'**mun**' ‘wanting to walk’

'i wulh 'i'mushul'**mun**' lhu q'e'mi' kws nem's tl'tawn.

‘The young woman is wanting to walk to town.’

(4) 'i'tutul'mun' ‘wanting to sleep’ ('itut ‘sleep’)

xulhusul'mun' ‘wanting to eat’ (xlhas ‘eat’)

tl'itl'uw'ul'mun' ‘wanting to run away’ (tl'iw' ‘run away’)

hwu'a'lum'ul'mun' ‘wanting to turn back’ (hwu'alum' ‘go back’)

BASIC VERB		<i>-əlmən</i>	
kw'i'	'climb'	kw'i'ulmun	'want to climb'
lhakw'	'fly'	lhakw'ulmun	'want to fly'
suw'q'	'seek'	suw'q'ulmun	'want to seek'
nem'	'go'	nem'ulmun	'want to go'
p'etth'	'sew'	p'etth'ulmun	'want to sew'
'itut	'sleep'	'itutulmun	'want to sleep'
qwal	'speak'	qwalulmun	'want to speak'
'unuhw	'stop'	'unuhwulmun	'want to stop'
'ixw	'sweep'	'ixwulmun	'want to sweep'
t'akw'	'go home'	t'akw'ulmun	'want to go home'
t'ahw	'go down'	t'ahwulmun	'want to go down'
lheel	'go ashore'	lheelulmun	'want to go ashore'
kweel	'hide'	kweelulmun	'want to hide'
huye'	'depart'	huye'ulmun	'want to depart'
ch'ekwx	'fry'	ch'ekwxulmun	'want to fry'
qen'	'steal'	qen'ulmun	'want to steal'
'alux	'collect'	'aluxulmun	'want to collect'

**Table 1. Desiderative use of =*ulmun*.**

### III. Aspectual meaning

The suffix =*ulmun* can be used in situations where the subject noun is not a living thing and so it cannot 'want' or 'try'. In this case the suffix adds the meaning that the event is going to happen in the near future. It gets translated as 'nearly', 'almost', 'going to', etc.

(5) ts'uy'hw 'dry'

ni' wulh ts'uy'hw lhunu sth'xwulwutum.  
'My laundry is dry.'

ni' wulh ts'uy'hwulmun lhunu stt'xwulwutum.  
'My laundry is nearly dry now.'

(6) tth'ux 'worn out'

wulh tth'ux tthun' qwlhuy'shun.  
'Your shoe is worn out.'

na'uth wulh tth'uxulmun tthun' qwlhuy'shun.  
'Your shoe is almost worn down.'

(7) ni' 'u tuw' muya' tthu shnenutss tthu kesulin?  
'Did the price of gas go down?'

st'e 'uw' 'iis tuw' muya'ulmun tthu tthu shnenutss tthu kesulin.  
'It looks like the price of gas is going to go down.'

BASIC VERB		<i>=ulmun</i>	
lhuqw	'get wet'	lhuqwulmun	'almost damp'
tth'uhw	'(sun) set'	tth'uhwulmun	'starting to set'
qwixw	'get angry'	qwixwulmun	'starting to get angry'
p'il	'fill'	p'ilulmun	'starting to fill'
yeq'	'fall down'	yeq'ulmun	'almost falling down'
t'en	'go out of sight'	t'enulmun	'starting to go out of sight'
yaxw	'melt'	yaxwulmun	'almost melting'
kw'es	'get hot'	kw'esulmun	'starting to sweat'
'uw'kw'	'gone, finished'	'uw'kw'ulmun	'almost gone, finished'
qwuya'	'dislocate'	qwuya'ulmun	'almost dislocated'
lhas	'slide, slip down'	lhasulmun	'starting to slide'
mus	'get smaller'	musulmun	'starting to shrink'
piw'	'gel'	piw'ulmun	'(jelly) almost set'
pay	'bend, get bent'	payulmun	'almost bent'
liqw	'(weather) get calm'	liqwulmun	'(storm) almost subsiding'
qw'aqw	'get clubbed, hit'	qw'aqwulmun	'almost get clubbed, hit'
muqw'	'burst'	muqw'ulmun	'ready to burst'

**Table 2. Aspectual use of *=ulmun*.**

#### IV. Combinations with =ulmun.

The suffix =ulmun can be added after other verb suffixes.

- After =t TRANSITIVE (ts'ewut 'help him/her/it/them')

ts'ets'uw'=ut=ul'mun' [ $\sqrt{\text{help=TR=DESID+PROG}}$ ]

- (8) ni' tsun ts'ets'uw'utul'mun' lhu slheni'.  
'I was wanting to help the woman.'

- After =stuhw CAUSATIVE

huye' 'go, depart, leave' >

huye'stuhw 'along, depart with, set out with' >

huy'ustuhwul'mun' [ $\sqrt{\text{huye'=stuhw=ulmun+PROG}}$ ]

- (9) huy'usthwul'mun'us thu sqe'uqs thu Teresa.  
'Teresa is wanting to take her younger sister.'

Note: You can use =ulmun on a passive; the agent is the person who wants to do something.

huy'ustum'ul'mun' [ $\sqrt{\text{huye'=stuhw=m+PROG}}$ ]

- (10) huy'ustum'ul'mun' tthun' men 'u kwthu mun'us.  
'Your brother wants to take his father along.'  
(This does not mean: his father wants to be taken along.)

#### V. What the verb class project showed about =ulmun

	+ =ulmun	- =ulmun	
desiderative	176	—	
aspectual	118	—	
total	287	170	457

**Table 3. Verb roots and uses of =ulmun.**