

Unit One Commands

1.1 Welcome speech.

'i 'u tseep 'uw' 'eli' 'ul'?	“How are you (pl)?”
nem' tseep 'umut!	“You (pl) go sit down!”
tth'ihwum 'i' ts'ets'uhw!	“Please be quiet!”
hwiuneem' tseep!	“You (pl) listen!”
'ilhe hwulmuhwqun!	“Let's speak a First Nations Language!”

1.2 Vocabulary: intransitive verbs.

'umut	“sit down”, “get out of bed”
hwts'e'nutsum	“sit down”
lhxilush	“stand up”
qwal	“talk”
ts'ehwul'	“shut up”, “keep quiet”
ts'ets'uhw	“be quiet”
hwiuneem'	“listen”
t'ilum	“sing”
qw'uyulush	“dance”
hwyunumus	“smile”
'imush	“walk”
xwchenum	“run”
teem	“call out”, “telephone”
lhuqw'tsum	“clap your hands”
'unuhw	“stop”
huye'	“leave”
yaays	“work”
huw'a'lum'	“play”
q'ulum'	“camp”, “stay overnight”
lhumts'el's	“pick (berries, fruit, vegetables)”
t'iw'i'ulh	“pray”
'ulhtun	“eat”

1.3 Basic commands.

There are several different ways of expressing a command.

1.3a You can use a verb with the right intonation to express a command to one or more people.

'umut!	“Sit down!”
t'ilum!	“Sing!”
lhxilush!	“Stand!”

1.3b The second person singular pronoun *ch* “you” can be used after the verb when expressing a command to one person.

'umut ch!	“You sit down!”
hwyunumus ch!	“You smile!”
ts'ehwul' ch!	“You shut up!”

1.3c The second person plural pronoun *tseep* “you (pl)” can be used after the verb when expressing a command to more than one person.¹

'umut tseep!	“You (pl) sit down!”
t'ilum tseep!	“You (pl) sing!”
'unuhw tseep!	“You (pl) stop!”

1.3d Instead of using a pronoun, you can express a command with the imperative particle *lhe'*, which is often pronounced *lhu*.

'umut lhe'!	“Sit down!”
qwal lhe'!	“Speak!”
t'ilum lhe'!	“Sing!”

¹ English does not make a distinction between second person singular and plural. “You left” can mean one person left (you) or more than one person left (you and some other people). English speakers sometimes use “you all”, “you people”, or “you guys” to convey the plural meaning. In this book, “you (pl)” indicates the second person plural.

1.4 Translation.

Translate (1-5) into English and (6-10) into Hul'q'umi'num'.

1.	lhuqw'tsum tseep!	You (pl) clap your hands!
2.	'unuhw!	
3.	teem!	
4.	qw'uyulush!	
5.	hwi'yuneem' ch!	
6.	You (pl) dance!	
7.	Leave!	
8.	Work!	
9.	You shut up!	
10.	You (pl) stand up	

1.5 'i' “and”.

You can use the conjunction 'i' “and” to combine two verbs.

1.5a Just put the conjunction between the two verbs when the two actions are being done simultaneously or concurrently.

lhxilush 'i' t'ilum!	“Stand up and sing!”
'umut 'i' hwiyeem'!	“Sit down and listen!”

1.5b You can place the pronoun after the second verb.

lhxilush 'i' qw'uyulush ch!	“You stand up and dance!”
lhxilush 'i' qw'uyulush tseep!	“You (pl) stand up and dance!”
'umut 'i' 'ulhtun ch!	“You sit down and eat!”
'iumut 'i' 'ulhtun tseep!	“You (pl) sit down and eat!”

1.5c Or you can place the pronoun after the first verb.

lhxilush ch 'i' qw'uyulush!	“You stand up and dance!”
lhxilush tseep 'i' qw'uyulush!	“You (pl) stand up and dance!”

1.6



Translation.

1.	'unuhw 'i' hwiuneem'!	Stop and listen!
2.	lhxilush 'i' 'imush ch!	
3.	ts'ehwul' 'i' hwiuneem' tseep!	
4.	Stand up and talk!	
5.	You (pl) shut up and work!	
6.	Sing and dance!	

1.7

Some polite phrases.

tth'ihwum.	"Please."
hay ch q'a'.	"Thank you." (said to one person)
hay tseep q'a'.	"Thank you (pl)."
namut kwu.	"You're welcome."
qw'aqw'ul'ux!	"Excuse me!"
qw'aqw'ul'ux ch!	"You excuse me!"
qw'aqw'ul'ux tseep!	"You (pl) excuse me!"
'uw' 'ee ch' ul'!	"Carry on!" / "Go on!"

1.8 Polite commands.

You can make a command more polite by adding the word *tth'ihwum* “please” in front of the verb.

1.8a Link *tth'ihwum* to the verb with the conjunction 'i'.

tth'ihwum 'i' 'umut!	“Please sit down!” (literally “Have pity and sit down!”)
tth'ihwum 'i' 'ulhtun!	“Please eat!”

1.8b The pronoun can follow the verb.

tth'ihwum 'i' 'umut ch!	“You please sit down!”
tth'ihwum 'i' 'umut tseep!	“You (pl) please sit down!”

1.8c Or the pronoun can follow *tth'ihwum*.

tth'ihwum ch 'i' 'umut!	“You please sit down!”
tth'ihwum tseep 'i' 'umut!	“You (pl) please sit down!”

1.9



Translation.

1.	tth'ihwum 'i' ts'ets'uhw!	Please be quiet!
2.	tth'ihwum 'i' t'ilum tseep!	
3.	tth'ihwum 'i' 'unuhw!	
4.	Please listen!	
5.	You (pl) please stand!	
6.	Please work!	

1.10 Motion auxiliaries.

The words *nem* '“go” and *'um* 'i “come” (usually shortened to *m* 'i) can be placed in front of the verb.

1.10a The auxiliary *nem* ' indicates motion away from a point of reference.

<i>nem</i> ' <i>'umut</i> !	“Go sit down!”
<i>nem</i> ' <i>xwchenum</i> !	“Go run!”
<i>nem</i> ' <i>'ulhtun</i> !	“Go eat!”

1.10b The auxiliary *m* 'i indicates motion toward a point of reference.

<i>m</i> 'i <i>'ewu</i> !	“Come here!”
<i>m</i> 'i <i>'ulhtun</i> !	“Come eat!”
<i>m</i> 'i <i>yaays</i> !	“Come work!”

1.10c In a command, the pronoun appears between the auxiliary and the verb.

<i>nem</i> ' <i>ch yaays</i> !	“You go work!”
<i>nem</i> ' <i>tseep huw'a'lum</i> '!	“You (pl) go play!”
<i>m</i> 'i <i>tseep 'ulhtun</i> !	“You (pl) come eat!”

1.10d You can form a polite command by putting *tth* 'ihwum before the auxiliary.

Link *tth* 'ihwum to the auxiliary with the conjunction 'i '.

<i>tth</i> 'ihwum 'i' <i>nem</i> ' <i>ch 'umut</i> !	“Please go sit down!”
<i>tth</i> 'ihwum 'i' <i>m</i> 'i <i>'ewu</i> !	“Please come here!”
<i>tth</i> 'ihwum 'i' <i>nem</i> ' <i>tseep 'ulhtun</i> !	“Please you (pl) go eat!”

1.11

**Translation.**

1.	nem' 'imush!	Go walk!
2.	nem' huye'!	
3.	nem' tseep yaays!	
4.	tth'ihwum 'i' m'i 'ulhtun!	
5.	You (pl) go sit down!	
6.	Please go walk!	
7.	You (pl) go dance!	
8.	Come here!	

1.12 tse' future.

You express the future tense with the future particle *tse'*.

1.12a Place *tse'* after the verb and pronoun. With the right intonation, you can use these sentences as commands.

'umut ch tse'.	"You will sit down."
qwal ch tse'.	"You will speak."
t'ilum tseep tse'.	"You (pl) will sing."

1.12b A more polite way to make a command is to add the interrogative particle 'u after the verb. You will study this particle in the next unit.

t'ilum 'u ch tse'?	"Will you sing?"
'umut 'u tseep tse'?	"Will you (pl) sit down?"
qw'uyulush 'u tseep tse'?	"Will you (pl) dance?"

1.13 'ilhe "let's".

Use *'ilhe* to express "let's". In fast speech this word often sounds like *'ilhe* or *'ilhu*.

1.13a The verb comes after *'ilhe*.

'ilhe 'umut!	"Let's sit down!"
'ilhe t'ilum!	"Let's sing!"
'ilhe qwal!	"Let's talk!"
'ilhe hwulmuhwqun!	"Let's speak a First Nations language!"
'ilhe nem'!	"Let's go!"
'ilhe t'iw'i'ulh!	"Let's pray!"

1.13b *'ilhe* can also be followed by a motion auxiliary.

'ilhe nem' q'ulum'!	"Let's go camp!"
'ilhe nem' lhumts'el's!	"Let's go picking!"

1.14 Translation.

1.	'ilhe 'unuhw!	Let's stop!
2.	'ilhe nem' 'umut!	
3.	'ilhe lhxilush!	
4.	'ilhe 'imush!	
5.	Let's dance!	
6.	Let's go play!	
7.	Let's leave!	
8.	Let's go work!	

1.15 **-muhw** “people”

Many words in Hul'q'umi'num' that refer to types of people contain the suffix *-muhw* (or *-mush*).

hwulmuhw	“First Nations person”
mustimuhw	“person”
snuneymuhw	“Nanaimo”, “Nanaimo person”
nuts'uwmuhw	“stranger”, “people from somewhere else” <i>nets</i> ' = “different”
sqwxwa'mush	“Squamish”, “Vancouver”

1.16 Peoples and their languages.

Adding the lexical suffix *-qun* “throat” to the name of a people expresses the idea of speaking the language of those people. With some words, the prefix *hw-* is added as well.

hwulmuhw “First Nations person”	hwulmuhwqun “speak a First Nations language”
snuneymuhw “Nanaimo”	snuneymuhwqun “Nanaimo language”
yuqwulhte’x “Lekwiltok”	yuqwulhte’xqun “Lekwiltok” speak the language of the (Campbell River, Cape Mudge River, Cape Mudge)
flench “French person”	hwflenchqun “to speak French”
cheymun “Chinese person”	hwcheymunqun “to speak Chinese”
hwunitum’ “White person”	hwunitum’qun “to speak English”

1.17 What do these words mean?

1.	snuw’nuw’usqun	to speak Nanoose
2.	hwchapaniqun	
3.	hwquw’utsun’qun	
4.	hwshts’um’inusqun	
5.	hwsqwxwa’mushqun	
6.	hwspenishqun	
7.	hwshishe’lhqun	
8.	hwmuskwi’umqun	



1.	'umut 'i' 'uw' hwiuneem' ch'ul'!	You sit down and just listen!
2.	tth'ihwum 'i' nem' ch teem!	
3.	ts'ehwul' 'i' yaays tseep!	
4.	'ilhe nem' xwchenum!	
5.	t'ilum 'u tseep tse'?	
6.	lhxilush 'i' qw'uyulush tseep!	
7.	Let's just speak French!	
8.	You (pl) dance and clap!	
9.	Let's just walk!	
10.	Will you (pl) sit down?	
11.	Please you (pl) go stand!	
12.	Stop and go work!	

1.19 Reading lesson.

ni' tetsul lhu hwuy'athun'uq sis 'uw' thut, “ 'uy' skweyul tun'a kweyul. tth'ihwum tseep
'i' 'uw' 'umut 'ul'. tl'lim' tseep p'uw' hwiyeem'. hwulmuhwqun tseep tse'.”

1.20 q'uyatl'un' song.

'imush q'uyatl'un'! (thume)

tstamut q'uyatl'un'? (thume)

hwiyeem' q'uyatl'un'! (thume)

qwal lhe' q'uyatl'un'! (thume)

tstamut q'uyatl'un'? (thume)