

Unit Three Naming Things

3.1 Dialogue.

A.	stem 'a'lu tu'i?	“What is this?”
B.	poukw p'e' tthey'. ¹	“That is a book.”
A.	stem 'a'lu tthey', 'u Mary?	“What is that, Mary?”
B.	xul'tun p'e' tu'i.	“This is a pen.”
A.	stem 'a'lu kw'un's ² hun'ut tthey'?	“What do you call that?”
B.	wech p'e' kw'un's hun'ut tthey'.	“That's called a clock.”
A.	stem' kwu'elh tthey'?	“What is that then?”
B.	'uw' lutem 'ul' p'e' tthey'.	“It's just a table.”

3.2 Vocabulary: things around the classroom.

poukw	“book”
lutem	“table”
li'lutem'	“desk”, “little table”
pipu	“paper”
xul'tun	“pen”, “pencil”
xthum	“box”
shts'e'nutstun	“chair”
t'amun	“wall”
shelh	“door”
lhxunuptun	“floor”
shhwul'mastun'	“window”, “mirror”
shkw'tsastun'	“window”
wech	“clock”, “watch”
huy'qwoon'	“light”
huy'qwiin'	“light” (Snuneymuhwqun)

¹ Some dialects say tey' instead of tthey'.

² Many people pronounce kw'un's as kw'us.

3.3 -tun instrument.

The suffix *-tun* appears on many nouns that name objects that are used as instruments.

xul'um	“write, mark”
xul'tun	“writing utensil” = “pen”, “pencil”, “chalk”
hwts'e'nutsum	“sit”
shts'e'nutstun	“chair”
p'etth'ut	“sew it”
p'utth'tun	“needle”
luxwut	“cover it”
luxwtun	“blanket”
p'ukw	“float”
p'ukwten	“float”, “buoy”
q'uluts't	“shelter him”
q'uluts'tun	“umbrella”, “shelter”
paat	“blow it”
patun	“sail”
qw'aqwust	“club him/her on the head”
qw'aqwustun	“club”

3.4 p'e' "indeed".

Use the particle *p'e'* to express certainty. In casual speech, this gets pronounced *p'e'* or *p'u* or even just *p'*.

John p'e' tey'.	"That's indeed John."
Mary p'e' they'.	"That's indeed Mary."
luplit p'e' tey'.	"That's indeed a priest."
taktu p'e' they'.	"She's indeed a doctor."

3.5 Pattern practice.

Q: What is this?	Q: stem 'a'lu tu'i?
A: That's (indeed) a book .	A: poukw p'e' tey'.
pen	
table	
chair	
box	
paper	
desk	
watch	

3.6 Pattern practice.

Q: What's that called?	Q: stem 'a'lu kw'un's hun'ut tey'?
A: That's called a clock .	A: wech p'e' kw'un's hun'ut tey'.
wall	
window	
door	
table	
floor	
light	
book	

You might also want to practice:

stem'a'lu kws hun'ut-s tthey'?	What do they call that?
wech p'e' kws hun'ut-s tthey'.	They call that a watch.

3.7

**Translation.**

1.	stem 'a'lu kw'un's hun'ut tu'i?	What's this called?
2.	stem 'a'lu kwu'elh tthey'?	
3.	shts'e'nutstun p'e' tey'.	
4.	shkw'tsastun p'e' kw'un's hun'ut tey'.	
5.	shelh 'u kwu'elh tey'?	
6.	What's this?	
7.	This is a pen.	
8.	That's a book.	
9.	That's called a wall.	
10.	This is just a paper.	

3.8 Vocabulary: people.

skwoolstunuq	“teacher”
t’it’um’el’s	“teacher”, “trainer”
hwuy’athun’uq	“language teacher”
hw’iw’tssun’uq	“teacher of how to do things”
t’it’um’athut	“student”
le’lum’i’lh	“babysitter”, “day care”
ts’uw’tun	“assistant”, “helper”
taktu	“doctor”
shneem, shne’em	“Indian doctor”
nus	“nurse”
luplit	“priest”
sistu	“nun” (“sister”)
shsi’em’	“chief”, “boss”, “shopkeeper”
xwuxwi’eem’	“storyteller”
shqwu’qwel’, shqwi’qwal’	“speaker”

3.9 lhwet/wet “who”.

Use *lhwet* (in Chemainus or Nanoose) or *wet* (in Nanaimo or Nanoose) to ask the question “who?”. Placing the particle *’a’lu* after *lhwet/wet* expresses the idea of “whoever”. That is, the speaker is really curious and has no idea who the person is.

lhwet / wet ’a’lu tu’i?	“Whoever is this?”
lhwet / wet ’a’lu tey’?	“Whoever is that (male)?”
lhwet / wet ’a’lu they’?	“Whoever is that (female)?”

3.10 Substitution drill.

Q: Who is that (male)?	Q: lhwet tey'?
A: That's John .	A: John p'e' tey'.
a doctor	
an Indian doctor	
Mary	
a nun	
Bill	
a priest	

3.11 Fill in the blanks. Translate.

a.	_____ 'a'lu they'?
	Mary p'e' _____ .
	_____ p'e' they'.
b.	lhwet 'a'lu _____ ?
	John p'e' _____ .
	_____ p'e' _____ .
c.	wet _____ tu'i?
	_____ tu'i.

3.12 Emphatic pronouns.

'een'thu	"I"
nuwu	"you"
nilh	"he, she, it"
lhnimulh	"we"
lhwulup	"you (pl)"
ne'ellh	"they"

Use the emphatic pronouns for identifying people.

'een'thu p'e' Mary.	"I'm Mary."
nilh 'u John?	"Is he John?"
nilh p'e' John.	"He's John."
lhnimulh p'e' John 'i' Mary.	"We are John and Mary."

3.13 Pronunciation tip.

When you have *nuwu* followed by the question particle *'u* it is pronounced *nuwe 'u*. Speakers in Nanaimo often contract *nuwe* and *'u* to *nuwee*.

3.14 Answer and translate.

1.	nuwe 'u John?
Answer:	he'e, 'een'thu p'e' John.
Translate:	Are you John? / Is that you, John? Yes, I'm John.
2.	nilh 'u Mary?
Answer:	
Translate:	
3.	lhwulup 'u Mary 'i' John?
Answer:	
Translate:	
4.	ne'ellh 'u John 'i' Bob?
Answer:	
Translate:	
5.	nuwe 'u Mary?
Answer:	
Translate:	

3.15 Reading lesson.

lhnimulh p'e' Mary 'i' Barbara. lhnimulh skwoolstunuq. 'een'thu p'e' hwuy'athun'uq. ts'uw'tun p'e' thu Barbara. poukw p'e' tu'i. *'ilhe hwulmuhwqun* kw'un's hun'ut.