



## S'Í:WES' 14

# Li te Syó:ysáwtw

At the Office

### Sqwá:l

ew...-ò	<i>just, merely</i>
híyuth'óset	<i>to play around, fool around [also pronounced iwth'óthet]</i>
íts'el	<i>lazy [being lazy: a temporary quality]</i>
máth'elqéylem	<i>to lie [-ing mámeth'elqéylem]</i>
qéyqel	<i>no good-naughty</i>
qwíqwelàts	<i>to gossip</i>
s'ù:met	<i>lazy [a permanent property: is a lazy person]</i>
t'ó:t'	<i>poor thing!</i>
ts'lhá:met	<i>to hear it [-ing ts'its'lhá:met]</i>
xéte	<i>to say<sup>60</sup></i>

### Sqwéltel

1. Tsel ts'lhá:met kw'es láms the Máli. (Or: Tsel ts'lhá:met kw'ses lám the Máli.)  
*I heard that Mary went.*
2. Xéte te Chól kw'es láms the Máli. (Or Xéte te Chól kw'ses lám the Máli.)  
*John said that Mary went.*
3. Xéte te Chól kw'ses mámeth'elqéylem. (Or Xéte te Chól kw'ses mámeth'elqéylem.)  
*John said that he/she was lying.*
4. Xéte te Chól kw'as mámeth'elqéylem.  
*John said that you were lying.*
5. Xéte te Chól kw'els mámeth'elqéylem.  
*John said that I was lying.*
6. Xéte te Chól kw'es mámeth'elqéylemtset.  
*John said that we were lying.*
7. Xéte te Chól kw'as mámeth'elqéylemelép.  
*John said that you guys were lying.*

<sup>60</sup> Instead of xéte, you can use the word thét for *to say*. For example Thét te Chól kw'as lám means *John said that you went*.

### ***Qwú:lqwelqweltel 14A***

---

- A. Wiyóth kw'es íts'els te Chól. Ts'áts'el ew s'ú:met.  
*John is always being lazy. He's really a lazy person.*
- B. Á:'a. Wiyóth kw'es ew hiyuth'ósetsò tútl'ò.  
*Yes. He's always just fooling around.*
- A. Ts'átsel ew qéyqel tútl'ò!  
*He's really no good!*

### ***Qwú:lqwelqweltel 14B***

---

- A. Wiyóth kw'es qwíqwelàts the Máli.  
*Mary is always gossiping.*
- B. Tsel lhq'él:exw. Wiyóth kw'es ew mámeth'elqéylems, t'ó:t'.  
*I know. She's always telling lies, too, the poor thing.*
- A. Á:'a. Qe tsel ts'lhá:met kw'ses s'ú:met thú:tl'ò.  
*Yes. And I heard that she's lazy.*
- B. Ts'átse'l ew qéyqel thútl'ò!  
*She's really no good!*

### ***Vocabulary Patterns***

---

#### ***That He (Pattern One: Kw'ses)***

To say *that he* (or *that she*, *that it*, *etc.*) in Halq'eméylem, you can use the word *kw'ses*. Here are some examples:

- (1) (a) Éy kw'ses lám.  
*Good that-he go = It's good that he goes/went.<sup>61</sup>*
- (b) Skwá:y kw'ses lám.  
*Impossible that-he go = He can't go.*

*Kw'ses* doesn't itself distinguish the sex of the person, so the sentences in (1) above could equally well be understood to mean *It's good that she/it went* and *She/it can't go*, too. If you want to clearly distinguish who it is that went, you can add *tútl'ò*, *thútl'ò*, or a separate noun at the end of the sentence (note that *kw'ses* is still required, in all cases):

- (2) (a) Éy kw'ses lám tútl'ò.  
*It's good that he goes/went.*
- (b) Éy kw'ses lám thútl'ò.  
*It's good that she goes/went.*

---

<sup>61</sup> All sentences of this form can be understood as either past or present tense.

- (c) Éy kw'ses lám te swíyeqe.  
*It's good that the man goes/went.*

### That He (Pattern Two: -s on Verb)

There is also a second, slightly different, way to say *that he* in Halq'eméylem. For this second pattern, what you do is just say kw'es (rather than kw'ses), and then you add an extra s-ending onto the verb. For example:

- (3) (a) Éy kw'es láms.  
 Good that goes = *It's good that he goes/went.*<sup>62</sup>
- (b) Skwá:y kw'es láms.  
 Impossible that goes = *He can't go.*

One way to think of it is that *that he* always requires an extra -s somewhere: you can put it on kw'es (*that*) to make kw'ses, or you can put the -s onto the verb, as in the examples here.<sup>63</sup>

This pattern also can be understood as *that she* or *that it*. Thus (3a) could be understood in context. as *It's good that she goes/went* or *It's good that it goes/went*. Again, with this pattern, you can specify exactly who did it by adding tútl'ò, thútl'ò, or a separate noun:

- (4) (a) Éy kw'es láms tútl'ò.  
*It's good that he goes/went.*
- (b) Éy kw'es láms thútl'ò.  
*It's good that she goes/went.*
- (c) Éy kw'es láms te swíyeqe.  
*It's good that the man goes/went.*

### Differences Between The Patterns

Linguists have not been able to find any meaning difference between the two patterns. Nor does it appear to be a dialect difference, since the same speaker will sometimes use one pattern, sometimes the other.

Possibly there is some subtle difference in meaning that is yet to be identified, but from what we know now, the patterns are simply interchangeable.

<sup>62</sup> All sentences of this form can be understood as either past or present tense.

<sup>63</sup> If the verb itself ends in an -s, that would give you two s-s in a row, as in Skwá:y kw'es yó:ys-s (*He can't work*) In slow, careful, speech, you will sometimes hear the two s-s (as an extra-long s), but in fast speech it is normally just pronounced will often simply sound like Skwá:y kw'es yó:ys, on this pattern.. (You could also say Skwá:y kw'ses yó:ys, using the kw'ses pattern, of course.)