



## S'í:wes' 2 Stl'ítset

*We Need It.*



### Sqwá:l

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| ítetáwt                 | <i>bedroom [also said ítetáwtxw<sup>12</sup>; also used for 'hotel']</i> |
| kopû                    | <i>coat [pl. kalepû]</i>   |
| kéchel                  | <i>kitchen [pl. kelétchel]</i>   |
| kwukwáwt                | <i>kitchen [also said kwukwáwtxw]</i>                                    |
| lá:lém                  | <i>house [pl. lalàlém]</i>   |
| stl'ítset               | <i>we need/want (it)</i>   |
| shxwelís kw'es ítettset | <i>place that we sleep</i>   |
| shxwtóle'ólestel        | <i>eye-glasses (also: st'ole'ólestel, skw'echó:steló:les)</i>            |
| skw'echóstel            | <i>window</i>  |
| sle'ólwelh              | <i>on the other side of</i>  |
| sp'lhíq'                | <i>beside</i>  |
| stetis                  | <i>near, close to</i>  |
| swa                     | <i>one's own</i>   |
| tel swa                 | <i>my own</i>  |
| t'ó:mél                 | <i>wall [pl. t'emt'ó:mél]</i>  |

### Sqwéltel

1. Sp'lhíq' te skw'echóstel tel shxwtóle'ólestel.  
*My eyeglasses are beside the window.*
2. Sts'ets'á lí te letám te lepótset.  
*Our cups are on the table.*
3. Lí te kwukwáwt ta' kopû.  
*Your coat is in the kitchen.*
4. Lí te kéchel ta' kopû'elép.  
*You guys' coats are in the kitchen.*
5. Sp'lhíq' tel ló:thel tel lepót.  
*My cup is beside my plate.*

<sup>12</sup> The -áwt or -átxw ending is used to indicate rooms and buildings. The -xw at the end of the -áwtxw ending can be heard clearly only in very slow, careful, speech, and it is likely that the forms without it are the result of fast-speech reduction or elimination of the -xw.

6. Sp'lhíq' te ló:theltset te lepóttset.  
*Our cups are beside our plates.*

### ***Qwú:lqwelqweltel 2A***

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- A. Stl'ítset te shxwtóle'ólesteltset. Alétse?  
*We need our eyeglasses. Where are they?*
- B. Lí te kéchel ta' shxwtóle'ólestelelép. Sts'ets'á te letám.<sup>13</sup>  
*You guys' eyeglasses are in the kitchen. They're on the table.*
- A. Éy! Qe alétse ye kopútset?<sup>14</sup>  
*Great! And where are our coats?*
- B. Lí te sle'ólwelhs te t'ó:mél ta' kopú'elép. Sp'lhíq' tel swa.<sup>15</sup>  
*You guys' coats are on the other side of the wall. They're beside mine.*

### ***Qwú:lqwelqweltel 2B***

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- A. Líchexw lhq'él:exw lís alétse ta' shxwtóle'ólesteltset?  
*Do you know where you guys' eyeglasses are?*
- B. Á:'a. Lí te shxwelís kw'es ítettset,<sup>16</sup> sts'ets'á te letám.  
*Yes. They're in the bedroom, on the table.*
- A. Qe alétse ye kopútset?  
*And where are our coats?*
- B. Lí te kwukwáwt ta' kopú'elép.<sup>17</sup>  
*You guys' coats are in the kitchen.*

### ***Language Relations and History***

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Within the Upriver speech area, there is still marked variation in speech from different areas. A couple of examples of such variation within Upriver Halq'eméylem are as follows.

Some speakers have the sound *ts* in certain words where others have the sound *ch* (the *ch* sound is apparently more common in the Chilliwack variety of the language).

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<sup>13</sup> In Sts'ets'á te letám, *they're* is just understood, and there is no actual word for *they're* said in the sentence. *He/She/It* and *they* are often just understood from context in this way, in Halq'eméylem.

<sup>14</sup> Note how the noun is singular (kopú, *coat*), but we get the interpretation plural (*coats*) because of the use of *ye*, which is only used with plurals. See the grammar notes for this lesson for further discussion.

<sup>15</sup> Tel swa means literally *my own*. (Note that some elders say this sentence as 'Sp'lhíq' li tel swa.') )

<sup>16</sup> Shxwelís kw'es ítettset means literally *place that we sleep*. You could also just say Li te ítetáwtxw, here.

<sup>17</sup> To clearly indicate that you mean more than one coat here, you could say ya' kopú. Ya' is the same as ta', except ya' is used only with plural objects. However, plain ta' is fine here, too, and the plurality is just understood from the context.

The word for *your* also differs slightly, depending on where the speaker is from: speakers from the Chilliwack area tend to shorten the Halq'eméylem word down to just *ta*, rather than *ta'* (with the catch in the throat at the end of the word).

There are also a few differences in vocabulary items, depending on the precise area the speaker comes from.

## ***Language Patterns***

### *Our in Halq'eméylem*

*Our* in Halq'eméylem is marked by an ending, *-tset*, which is attached to the noun as in the second column in the examples below.

|              |                  |                  |                  |
|--------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| te lepót     | <i>the cup</i>   | te lepóttset     | <i>our cup</i>   |
| te letám     | <i>the table</i> | te letámtset     | <i>our table</i> |
| te lháts'tel | <i>the knife</i> | te lháts'teltset | <i>our knife</i> |

### *You Guys' in Halq'eméylem*

When talking about an object that belongs to two or more people (i.e. *you folk's...* or *you guys'...*) Halq'eméylem uses the word for *your* which you studied earlier (i.e. *ta'*), but also adds an ending *-elep* onto the noun, as in the examples below.

|               |                   |                   |                        |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| ta' lepót     | <i>your cup</i>   | ta' lepótelép     | <i>you guys' cup</i>   |
| ta' letám     | <i>your table</i> | ta' letámelép     | <i>you guys' table</i> |
| ta' lháts'tel | <i>your knife</i> | ta' lháts'telelep | <i>you guys' knife</i> |

### *Plurals*

A common and easy way talk about plural (multiple) objects in Halq'eméylem is to just use the basic noun (ignoring the plural form) and use the word *ye* before the noun. *Ye* means *the*, but it is used only with plural objects. Thus, for example, *ye kopú* will be understood to mean *the coats*, because of the *ye*, even though *kopú* itself simply means *coat*. If you wanted to be explicit, you could also say *ye kalepú*, using the explicit plural form (*coats*) for the noun, but this is not necessary in Halq'eméylem.

The plural form for each noun, where available, is listed beside the noun in your vocabulary lists, in case you do want to use it. Plurals are formed in various different ways, and it is not usually possible to predict what the plural form for a given noun will be: sometimes the plural is made by doubling part of the noun, sometimes it is made by inserting an *-l* into the word, and sometimes in other ways. Some nouns do not have any plural form at all.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>18</sup> Brent Galloway's *Grammar of Upriver Halkomelem* notes that plural forms are commonly used when talking about large numbers of things, not simply two. See pg. 378ff. of that work for discussion, and a number of examples of different plural forms.