



## S'Í:WES' 8 Li te Letám

At the Table



### Sqwá:l

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cheláqelh	yesterday [also: cheláqelhelh]
éy	good
hóqwem	to smell bad, to stink [a bit stronger than qeléqep]
iyaléqep	to smell good (or eyaléqep)
qeléqep	to smell bad
slhóp'	soup
te'í	this [use when close enough to touch the object, but not holding it]
te'íle	this [use when actually touching or holding the object]
tethá	that
xá:ws	new

### Sqwéltel

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1. El stl'í kw'e xá:ws slhóp'.  
*I need some new soup.*
  2. Stl'ítset kw'e xá:ws slhóp'.  
*We need some new soup.*
  3. Qeléqep te slhóp'.  
*The soup smells bad.*
  4. Iyaléqep te slhóp'.  
*The soup smells good.*
  5. Iyaléqep te seplí:l.  
*The bread smells good.*
  6. Hóqwem te slhóp'!  
*The soup stinks!*

### ***Qwú:lqwelqweltel 8A***

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- A. Líchexw léwex kw'e slhóp' lí te'íle lepót?  
*Did you put some soup into this cup?*
- B. Á:'a. Tsel léwex kw'e cheláqelh.<sup>43</sup>  
*Yes. I put it in yesterday.*
- A. Qeléqep tethá slhóp'.  
*That soup smells bad*  
Léwex kw'e xá:ws slhóp' la tethá lepót.<sup>44</sup>  
*Put some new soup in that cup.*

### ***Qwú:lqwelqweltel 8B***

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- A. Líchap léwexchap kw'e slhóp' lí te'íle lepót?  
*Did you guys put some new soup into this cup?*
- B. Á:'a. Tset léwex kw'e cheláqelh.  
*Yes. We put it in yesterday.*
- A. Qeléqep te'í slhóp'.  
*This soup smells bad*  
Léwexchap kw'e xá:ws slhóp'.  
*You guys put some new soup in it.*

### ***Language Patterns***

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#### ***Simple Sentences with Nouns***

The basic Halq'eméylem word-order for simple sentences with nouns is to put the verb first, then the noun. For example:

- (1) (a) Ímex te swíyeqe.  
*Walks the man. = The man walks.*
- (b) Hóqwem te slhóp'.  
*Smells the soup = The soup smells.*

#### ***Actions Directed to Others, vs. Actions Done Alone***

In terms of verb endings, Halq'eméylem makes a clear distinction between two different kinds of verbs:

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<sup>43</sup> Again, the word for *it* is simply implied in the Halq'eméylem, because of the nature of the verb. Note also the use of kw'e (=the, for remote or distant things) placed before *yesterday*; elders do not always put kw'e in this position, but it is common.

<sup>44</sup> Note how -chexw (=you) is used explicitly in the command in Halq'eméylem, even though in English we do not usually actually say *you* when giving a command. There are also various other command forms that you can use in Halq'eméylem. The book *Wisdom of the Elders* (pg. 21) has a good summary of these.

- (2) (a) Verbs where the action or state is done alone, not acting on or reacting to someone else.  
 (b) Verbs where a doer (subject) is acting on something (or someone) else.

English often uses the same verb for both (a)-type and (b)-type actions. But Halq'eméylem is quite different. Halq'eméylem will use different forms of the verb depending on whether the action is (a)-type or (b)-type. Some examples illustrating this are shown below.

- (3) (a) Tsel ímex. *I walked. [Action is done alone]*  
 (b) Tsel ímexstexw te sqwemá:y. *I walked the dog. [Action is done to something else, i.e. the dog].*
- (4) (a) Tsel hóqwem. *I smelled (bad). [In that state alone]*  
 (b) Tsel hóqwelexw te slhop'. *I smelled the soup. [Action is done to something else, i.e. the soup.]*

Notice how the Halq'eméylem verb has different endings (ímex vs. ímexstexw, hóqwem vs. hóqwelexw) depending on whether the action is done alone vs. when the action is directed towards something (or someone) else. This is very common, in Halq'eméylem.

The endings -lexw, -stexw, -et, and -ex, (each of which has its own particular meaning, to be discussed later) usually appear on verbs where the actions are directed towards someone or something else. Verbs that are *not* directed towards another person or object often have no ending; they can also have an -em ending, among others.