



Stó:lō Shxweli Language Program

A few pointers to using the Galloway dictionary

This simple guide is not comprehensive, but comes out of a discussion during an online dictionary workshop in Nov'22. Please reach out if you have any questions or additions, or would like further explanation info@stoloshxweli.org

The following show a broad overview of terms, notations, and questions you might have around using the Galloway Halq'eméylem language dictionary (BG).

1. Finding a word in Halq'eméylem

It is always recommended not to just look at the English to Halq' part, but always look for the main word entry, and do a search in the PDF version of the dictionary. You will find sample sentences with the word in context and also word entries that are not in the English part in the end. Sample sentences are very useful, and also very important to understand the actual use of a word.

example:

You want to know the word for 'candle'. In BG, under the English, you will find the following:

reed canary-grass:: ts'á:yas te th'á:xey < th'áx.
candle
point or tip of a long object (pole, tree, knife, **candle**, land):: =eqs ~ =éqsel ~ =élqsel ~ =elqs.

However, the = tells us that this is a 'bound' suffix (a so-called lexical suffix that has a noun-like meaning). This = means you can't use this as a word by itself!

There is no other entry for candle. However, if you search the PDF version of Galloway¹, you will find much more information!

¹ Download the PDF here:
<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/65r158r4>



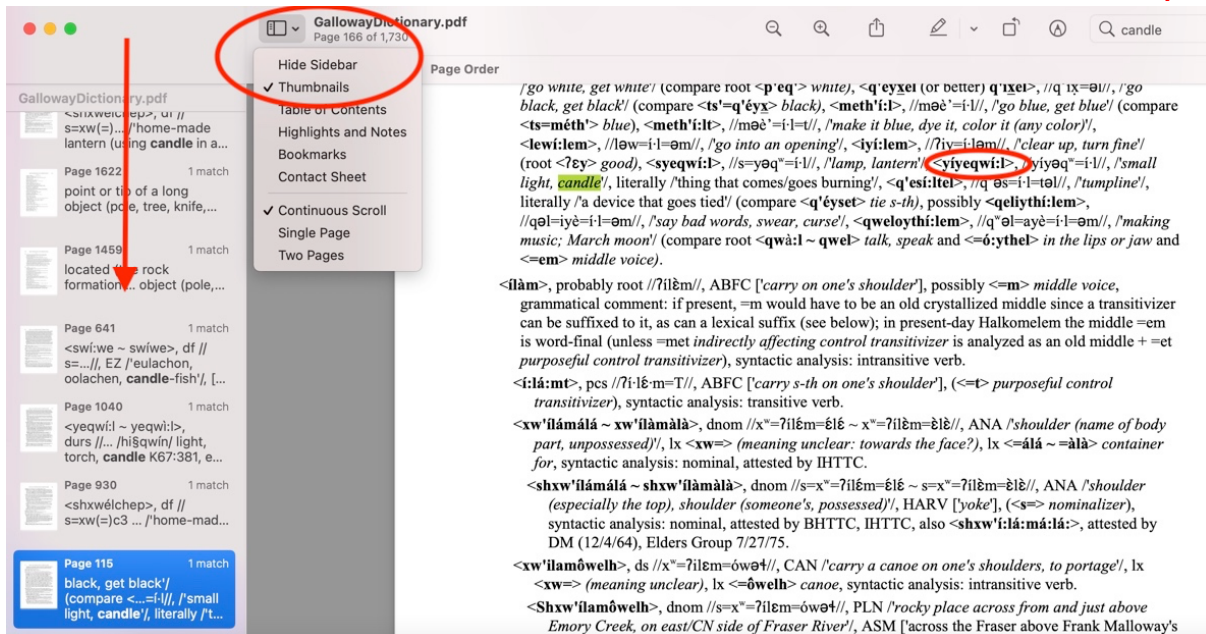
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On a mac, you can open the dictionary on “Preview”. You can activate the ‘Thumbnails’ function and expand the left side-bar, to see your results at one glance. (e.g, the page with ‘candle-fish’ is not relevant to our search)

However, as a very last entry, I do find ‘yíyeqwi:l’ as an entry for ‘candle’, which is the word we are looking for. It does take browsing through all the entries, but you get a good sense for the language that way and learn a lot along the way 😊

1. Using preview (on a mac)

search here



2. using Adobe

search here

scroll through results here





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2. some terminology and search tips

Below is a list of very common things to pay attention to when searching for a word. Here's a list of some terminology used, and what it means for your search:

| abbreviation or terminology | what is it? | what does it mean? | notes/examples |
|-----------------------------|----------------|--|---|
| = | lexical suffix | cannot be used as a word by itself, but is attached to roots to make words changes the meaning of the word or the word class of the word (for ex. from a verb to a noun); some roots cannot occur as words by themselves and these are sometimes indicated by ending them with an equals sign as well | has a noun-like meaning (e.g. building, house (=awtxw)) |
| - | affix | cannot be used as a word by itself, but is attached to roots to make words A hyphen shows an affix that is inflectional, which means it allows the word it attaches to to be used in a sentence (for ex. adds a subject to the verb, makes it plural, etc.) Affixes are parts of meaning that are either attached at the beginning of a word (prefix), in the middle (infix), or at the end (suffix) | <u>common prefixes:</u> s- (nominalizer) shxw- (nominalizer) lexw- (always) <u>common infixes:</u> -el- (plural) <u>common suffixes</u> -óx, -óle, -óme (person markers) |



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| < | | angle brackets show words/forms in the Stó:lō writing system and are a way that Galloway organized entries | if you use the PDF version, it is handy to start your word search with <, in order to get search results for the main entry of the word you're looking for. (beware of adding the correct accents and length marks!) |
| : | length mark | This notation means the vowel is pronounced a bit longer. Length can indicate the way a word is regularly pronounced, or it can indicate a change in word meaning (e.g. from the regular verb form to the continuative verb form) | try searching with or without length (and accents) if you can't find an entry. e.g. ímex. -to walk í:mex- walking |
| transitive | a linguistic term | 'transitive verb' means this is a verb that takes an object. There are many 'transitive' markers in Halq'eméylem (like -et, -t) that are attached to verbs (see appendix) | e.g. ts'tl'émēt - to jump at/on something (vs ts'tl'ém - to jump, hop) |
| intransitive | a linguistic term | 'intransitive verb' means this is a verb that does not take an object. Intransitive verbs either have no markers, or some of the 'intransitive' markers (e.g. em, -m, -á:m) that are attached to verbs (see appendix) | ts'tl'ém - to jump, hop (vs. ts'tl'émēt) |



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| continuative | a linguistic term | Continuative (or progressive) is a term used by linguists to refer to the <i>to being</i> form of a verb | álhtel – to eat a meal í:lhtel – be eating a meal |
|---------------------|-------------------|--|---|

Appendix²

- Intransitive Verbs where action or state is done alone, not acting on or reacting to someone else. (= no object)
- Transitive Verbs: where a doer (subject) is acting on something (or someone) else. (= with object)

→ Halq'emeylem verbs have special inflections, showing whether or not there is an object (and also indicate the 'quality' of the action)

| VERB INFLECTIONS TO INDICATE OBJECT/NO OBJECT | |
|---|--|
| Verbs WITHOUT Object can have the following: | Verbs WITH Object can have the following: |
| -no ending | - (e)t, -ó(:)t, á(:)t, do something on purpose to someone/something |
| -em, -m, á:m | -l accidentally do something to someone or something |
| - á:ls, -els emphasizes the doing of an activity | -st cause someone/something to do, make someone/something do |
| - (e)thet get, become, oneself | -(e)x, -(e)t, -ó(:)t, á(:)t, do something on purpose to someone/something (especially an inanimate object) |
| -í:l, -el go, come, get, become, get | -met happen to do an action, indirectly affecting someone or something |
| | -(e)les accidentally, happen to, manage to do to someone/something |

² English often uses the **same** verb for both (a)-type with object and (b)-type no object actions. Halq'émeylem uses **different verb forms**. (e.g. smell, walk, etc)