

LESSON 13

TRANSITIVE ANIMATE (TA) INVERSE FORMS; REFLEXIVES AND RECIPROCALLS

READING PASSAGES

- I. *Utemu â Tshân?*
Ehe. Nânitam nâshâku utema. Does John have a dog?
Yes. His dog follows him all the time.
- II. *Tânite etât Pûn?*
Nâtuâshîsh anite tâu.
Uâpannitî tshika aimîku
utishkuema. Where is Paul?
He's in Natuashish.
His wife will be talking to him tomorrow.
- III. *Tânite etât Tshân?*
Kâshûshtueu ûtâuia.
Muk^u uâpamiku ûtâuia. Where is John?
He is hiding from his father.
But his father can see him.
- IV. *Minuâtituat â?*
Ehe, nânitam uâpamituat. Do they like each other?
Yes, they see each other all the time.

VOCABULARY

<i>kâshûshtueu</i>	(TA verb)	s/he hides from him/her
<i>minuâteu</i>	(TA verb)	s/he loves, likes him/her
<i>nânitam</i>	(indecl part)	always
<i>nâshueu</i>	(TA verb)	s/he follows him/her
<i>utemu</i>	(AI verb)	s/he has, owns a dog

POINTS OF GRAMMAR

I. TA Inverse

The hierarchy of person in Algonquian languages is as follows:

$$2 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 3' \rightarrow 3''$$

In the TA paradigm presented in the last Lesson, the hierarchy is observed in that the subject is higher on the hierarchy than the object: thus forms were given for 1st and 2nd person subjects with 3rd person objects, and for 3rd person subjects with 3' objects. Such TA forms are referred to as DIRECT forms.

If the hierarchy is not observed, in that the person chosen as subject is lower on the hierarchy than the person constituting the object, INVERSE forms are required. In such cases (e.g. 3rd subject with 1st or 2nd person object, 3' subject and 3rd person object, 2nd person subject and 1st person object), the verb takes the same person prefix as in the corresponding direct forms. Thus 'I see him' and 'she sees me' both begin with the *ni-* prefix. What distinguishes inverse from direct forms is the appearance of an extra inverse marker *-iku* in the former. The following paradigms represent verbs with a 3rd person subject and a 1st or 2nd person object.

A. 3RD PERSON SUBJECT

1. 1st person singular object

<i>n</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>ik^u</i> [ɔk ^(w)] ¹	s/he sees me
<i>n</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>ikuat</i> [ɔgɔt]	they see me

2. 1st person plural object (exclusive)

<i>n</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>ikunân</i>	s/he sees us
<i>n</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>ikunânat</i>	they see us

¹ While vowel of *-ik^u* is generally rounded to [u] this is not the case after vowel stems, as for example in *ninipaik^u* 's/he kills me'. Certain verbs ending in *-ueu* in the 3rd person direct form an inverse in *-âk^u*. Thus *nitshishkutamuâu* 'I teach him/her' has an inverse form *nitshishkutamâk^u* 's/he teaches me'. Historically, such verbs had a 3rd person form in *-aueu* (later *-ueu*), and in the inverse, *au* + *ik^u* > *âk^u*.

3. **21p object** (inclusive)

<i>tsh</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>ikunân</i>	s/he sees us
<i>tsh</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>ikunânat</i>	they see us

4. **2nd singular object**

<i>tsh</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>iku</i>	s/he sees you
<i>tsh</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>ikuat</i>	they see you

5. **2nd plural object**

<i>tsh</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>ikuâu</i>	s/he sees you (pl)
<i>tsh</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>ikuâuat</i>	they see you (pl)

B. **3' SUBJECT** (whether singular or plural)1. **3rd singular object**

<i>uâpam</i>	<i>iku</i>	s/he sees/ they see him/her (e.g. John's father sees John)
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2. **3rd plural object**

<i>uâpam</i>	<i>ikuat</i>	s/he sees/ they see them
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C. **2ND PERSON SUBJECT, 1ST PERSON OBJECT**1. **1st singular object**

<i>tsh</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>in</i>	you (sg) see me
<i>tsh</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>inâu</i>	you (pl) see me

2. **1st plural object** (exclusive)

<i>tsh</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>inân</i>	you (sg or pl) see us
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D. 1ST PERSON SUBJECT, 2ND PERSON OBJECT

1. 2nd singular object

<i>tsh</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>itin</i>	I see you
<i>tsh</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>itinân</i>	we see you

2. 2nd plural object

<i>tsh</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>itinâu</i>	I see you (pl)
<i>tsh</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>itinân</i>	we see you (pl)

II. Word Formation: Reflexives and Reciprocals

TA stems may also be used to form **reflexive** (e.g. 's/he sees herself/himself') and **reciprocal** (e.g. 'they see each other') verb forms. In such cases, however, TA stems must be converted to AI stems before the appropriate inflectional endings are added. A typical reflexive verb is formed from a TA stem through the addition of the AI 'middle' or 'passive-like' final *-i(tî)shu*² (where the final *-u* of *-i(tî)shu* represents the AI stem vowel).

Example:

1	<i>n</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>i(tî)sh</i>	<i>u</i>	<i>n</i>	I see myself
2	<i>tsh</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>i(tî)sh</i>	<i>u</i>	<i>n</i>	you see yourself
3	-	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>i(tî)sh</i>	<i>u</i>		s/he sees her/himself
3'	-	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>i(tî)sh</i>	<i>u</i>	<i>nua</i>	s/he/they (obv) see(s) her/himself/themselves
			<i>i(tî)sh</i>			
1p	<i>n</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>i(tî)sh</i>	<i>u</i>	<i>nân</i>	we (excl) see ourselves
21p	<i>tsh</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>i(tî)sh</i>	<i>u</i>	<i>nân</i>	we (incl) see ourselves
2p	<i>tsh</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>i(tî)sh</i>	<i>u</i>	<i>nâu</i>	you (pl) see yourselves
3p	-	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>i(tî)sh</i>	<i>u</i>	<i>at</i>	they see themselves

To form a reciprocal (typically translated by 'each other' or 'one another'), the AI final *-itu* is added to a TA stem, and the verb is then processed as an AI *u*-stem.

² The pronunciation of the reflexive suffix as *-ishu* or as *-itîshu* reflects dialect differences within Innu-aimun and within the community of Sheshatshiu.

Examples:

1p	<i>n</i>	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>it</i>	<i>u</i>	<i>nân</i>	we see each other/ one another
3p	-	<i>uâpam</i>	<i>it</i>	<i>u</i>	<i>at</i>	they see each other/ one another

EXERCISES

I. Translate the following sentences into English:

1. *Minuâteu Tshân utema.*
2. *Utema nâshâku Tshân.*
3. *Ukâuia mishkueu.*
4. *Ukâuia mishkâku.*
5. *Tshiminuâtâu â?*
6. *Tshiminuâtik^u â?*
7. *Tshiminuâtikunân â?*
8. *Ûtâuia tshishkutamueu Tshân.*
9. *Ûtâuia tshishkutamâku Tshân.*
10. *Tshitshissenimitin â? Ehe, tshitshissenimin.*

Additional Vocabulary:

<i>minuâteu</i>	(TA verb)	s/he likes him/her
<i>mishkueu</i>	(TA verb)	s/he finds him/her
<i>tshishkutamueu</i>	(TA verb)	s/he teaches him, shows her how

II. The following TA verbs are given in 3rd person singular form. Form the 3rd person plural reciprocals ('they ... each other/one another') on the basis of the model:

<i>aimieu</i>	s/he talks to him/her
<i>aimîtuat</i>	they talk to one another
1. <i>uîtshieu</i>	s/he helps him/her
2. <i>nîpaieu</i>	s/he kills him/her
3. <i>shâtshieu</i>	s/he loves him/her
4. <i>minuâteu</i>	s/he likes him/her
5. <i>uepineu</i>	s/he abandons him/her, throws it (an) away

III. Translate into Innu-aimun:

1. John's mother loves John.
2. John loves his mother.
3. Can you (sg) teach me?
4. We (excl) like you (pl).
5. We (excl) know one another.