

Aontaiónhsete'

Counting Nouns

Glossary of Terms

Noun Stem - The first letter of a Noun Root. There are 5-7 Noun Stems in Onkwehonwehnéha'. The Noun Stem will determine which group of pronouns to apply to the noun.

Noun Root - The part of a word (noun) that is used when incorporating the noun.

Pronoun - A unit of language that conveys the person associated with the word. I.e. Me, you, he, she, etc

Derivational Noun - A noun that was originally a verb.

Nominalizer - A unit of language attached to the end of a word in order to turn it into a noun.

Natural Noun - A unit of language that only exists as a noun (as opposed to a Derivational Noun). Often considered very old nouns and are things found in nature or as a natural necessity of existence.

Suffix - A unit of language attached at the end, or back, of a word.

Prefix - A unit of language attached at the beginning, or front, of a word.

Aónha - A pronoun conveying the meaning of either she or it.

Recap

In the last class, we learned that there are C-Stem, A-Stem, I-Stem, E/En-Stem, and O/On-Stem nouns, with C-Stem and A-stem being the most common. We learned how to identify C-Stem nouns and their consonant stems, as well as identifying A-Stem nouns. We learned how to find Noun Roots by removing the final letter of the word. We also learned that some nouns are Natural Nouns, and others are Derivational Nouns, which require a Nominalizer Suffix when dealing with them in any way. Today, we will take it a step further by learning how to count nouns, using everything we previously learned.

Aontaiónhsete ne

lontstha'shòn:'a

Counting Nouns

In this lesson

- Overview of counting nouns
 - Counting C-Stem Nouns
 - Counting A-Stem Nouns
 - Counting Derivational Nouns
 - Conclusion and notes
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Counting Nouns in Onkwehonwehnéha'

Before we begin, there are a few things we should know about counting nouns in Onkwehonwehnéha'.

Counting Nouns in Onkwehonwehnéha'

Nouns can be counted by 1, 2, 3+, or many. While this may seem like an obvious statement, each of those four concepts are represented differently in Onkwehonwehnéha.

To do this, we must attach a prefix (before the noun) and a suffix (after the noun). For example, you can say 'Skanénhsta' (*one corn*), 'Tekanenhstake' (*two corn*), 'Áhsen nikanenhstake' (*three corn*), or 'É:so kanenhstake' (*many corn*).

We can see that each of the constructions look differently.

Counting Nouns in Onkwehonwehnéha'

A useful thing to know are the prefixes and suffixes associated with counting. As we previously seen:

When counting one, the prefix will always* begin with the letter 'S(e)-', and the suffix will always be '-a.' ('*Skanénhsta*').

When counting two, the prefix will always begin with the prefix 'Te-', and the suffix will either be '-ake,' or '-á:ke' (more on this later). ('*tekanénhstake*').

When counting three (or more), the number is first stated, and the prefix attached to the noun will always begin with 'Ni-', with the suffix being either be '-ake' or '-á:ke'. ('*áhsen (3) nikanénhstake*').

If you do not wish to specify the amount, only that there are 'many', then the particle 'É:so' is stated, followed by the noun with **no** prefix, and either the suffix '-ake' or '-a:ke'. ('*é:so kanénhstake*')

*Note: Unless we are looking at a different stem, but for today we will stick with C-stem and A-Stem.

Counting Nouns in Onkwehonwehnéha'

The next thing to know are the pronouns used.

These will vary across each stem, which is why it is important for us to first learn to find the stem of a noun (previous lesson)!

The pronoun used is the 'aónha' pronoun, of the 'Subjective', or 'Agent', or 'Red' set. This isn't exactly important to remember right now, but incase you were wondering, there it is.

What *is* important to remember is...

Pronouns to be used today

C-Stem

Ka-

A-Stem*

W(a)-

Refresher: Finding Noun Roots: C-Stem

The final note to remember is that when attaching these prefixes, pronouns, and suffixes, we must attach them to *only* the **root** of the noun.

To do this for a **C-Stem** noun, we simply remove anything before the **root** of the noun, and remove the final letter of the noun, and we are left with the noun root.

For example: 'Ó:nenhste' -> Remove the 'Ó' in the front, and the '-e' in the back, leaving us with the noun root '-nenhst-'

At times, this can seem redundant, as in 'Kanónhsa', where it would seem you are removing 'ka-', only to reattach it, as well as '-a', only to reattach it, however as we see in the 'ó:nenhste' example, it is important to know how to find the noun root.

Finding Noun Roots: A-Stem*

To find the noun root of an A-Stem noun, we need not remove the initial 'A-', as this is *part* of the of the noun root. We simply remove the final letter of the noun, and we are left with the noun root.

For example: 'Áhsire' -> **Leave** the 'A' in the front, and remove the '-e' in the back, leaving us with the noun root '-ahsir-'

*When attaching the pronoun, the 'W-' and the beginning of the noun root form the syllable 'wa-', which the pronoun is sometimes analysed as. In this view, the initial 'A-' would need to be removed and the 'Wa-' pronoun attached. (This is why the pronoun was written as 'W(a)-' two slides back).

Whichever way of looking at it is easiest for you, stick with that.

Put all together and it looks like this!

C-Stem

One = Ska-____-a

Two = Teka-____-ake

Three+ = # Nika-____-ake

Many = É:so Ka-____-ake

A-Stem

One = Sew(a)-____-a

Two = Tew(a)-____-ake

Three+ = # Niw(a)-____-ake

Many = É:so W(a)-____-ake

Let's try it out! C-Stem

One Tree

Skakwí:ra

Two Trees

Tekakwí:rake

3 Trees

Áhsen nikakwí:rake

Many Trees

É:so kakwí:rake



Ó:kwire
-kwir-

Let's try it out! C-Stem

One Food

Skákhwa

Two Foods

Tekákhwake

Three Foods

Áhsen Nikákhwake

Many Foods

É:so Kákhwake



Kákhwa
-khw-

Let's try it out! A-Stem

One Basket Sewa'thé:ra



3 Baskets Áhsen Niwa'thé:rake

Two Baskets Tewa'thé:rake

Many Baskets É:so Wa'thé:rake

À:there
-a'ther-

Let's try it out! A-Stem



One Knife

Sewa'shá:ra

3 Knives

Áhsen Niwa'shá:rake

Two Knives

Tewa'shá:rake

Many Knives

É:so Wa'shá:rake

À:share
-a'shar-

Derivational Nouns and Nominalizers

Recall earlier we said that the suffix is '-ake' or '-á:ke'?

In our previous lesson we learned about Derivational Nouns and Nominalizers. If a noun is a Derivational Noun using the Nominalizers:

'-hsera' or '-htshera'

the suffix "to count" will almost always be '-á:ke'!

However, typically shorter words will use the Nominalizers

'-ta' and '-hkwa'

These nouns often use the '-ake' suffix.

Let's try it out! C-Stem



1 Doll Skaia'tonnihsera

3 Dolls Áhsen Nikaia'tonnihsará:ke

2 Dolls Tekaiattonnihsará:ke

Many Dolls É:so Kaiattonnihsará:ke

Kaia'tón:ni(hsera)
-ia'tonnihsér-

Let's try it out! A-Stem

1 Shirt Sewakia'tawíhtshera

2 Shirts Tewakia'tawihtsherá:ke



3 Shirts Áhsen Niwakia'tawihtsherá:ke

Many Shirts É:so Wakia'tawihtsherá:ke

Akià:tawi(htshera)
-akia'tawihtsher-

Let's try it out! C-Stem

1 Bottle Skatshè:ta

2 Bottles Tekatshè:ta:ke



3 Bottles

3 Nikatshè:take

Many Bottles

É:so Katshè:take

Kátshe('ta)
-tshe't-

Let's try it out! A-Stem

1 Shoe Sewahtáhkwa

2 Shoes Tewahtáhkwake



3 Shoes Áhsen Niwahtáhkwake

Many Shoes É:so Wahtáhkwake

Áhta(hkwa)
-ahtahkw-

Thok Ní:kon!

In the next lesson, we will continue working with nouns. We will begin to learn how to describe a nouns location, using the Locative feature. Try counting any other nouns you know in the meantime!
