SPEAK
txʷəlšucid
PUYALLUP · TRIBE · OF · INDIANS

GRAMMAR NOTES – CONVERSATION: WHO DID YOU SEE?

A little bit of grammar on the *-d* and *-dxʷ* suffixes

(For simplicity, all of the translations in this grammar only have one tense. However, the translations can be given in any tense: past, present or future. As mentioned before in previous grammar lessons, tense is understood by the context of what is being said or by the context of what is occurring.)

In a previous lesson, we learned that we can add *-d* to an end of a verb to mean the action was done to someone or something else deliberately and with great care. The doer has 'control' (CTL). For example, look at (1):

(1)   kʷədə**d**əxʷ čəd ti c'aʔkʷdisəbəd.
           kʷədə-**d**-əxʷ   čəd   ti   c'aʔkʷdisəbəd.
           take-**CTL**-bearing.info   I   the   toothbrush
           'I take the toothbrush.'
           Literally, 'I **deliberately** take the toothbrush.'

Notice that in (1), the *-d* suffix comes after *kʷədə*. The last /ə/ in *kʷədə* only occurs with the *-d* suffix. Its only function is to connect the *-d* suffix to the verb and is called a **connecting vowel** (CONNECTER). Notice in (2) where (1) is rewritten and the connecting vowel is presented as a separate part of the verb (the connecting vowel is in bold for clarity).

GRAMMAR NOTES – CONVERSATION: WHO DID YOU SEE?

(2) kʷədədəxʷ čəd ti c'aʔkʷdisəbəd.

kʷəd-**ə**-d-əxʷ	čəd	ti	c'aʔkʷdisəbəd.
take-**CONNECTER**-CTL-bearing.info	I	the	toothbrush

'I take the toothbrush.'
Literally, 'I deliberately take the toothbrush.'

The connecting vowel is usually the same as the vowel that precedes it, e.g., the connecting vowel (in bold) in *kʷ<u>ə</u>d-**ə**-d* is the same as the vowel that precedes it (underlined). However, there are exceptions. As we will see below, the connecting vowel in *laʔb* 'see' is /ə/, not /a/, i.e, *l<u>a</u>ʔb-**ə**-d*.

Lushootseed has a suffix that contrasts with *-d* in meaning. It is *-dxʷ*. Where the *-d* suffix expresses that the action is done by the doer 'deliberately with care and control', the *-dxʷ* expresses that the action was 'accidentally done' or 'managed to be done' by the doer. In other words, the doer does not have full control over the situation but rather, a 'limited control' (LIMITED.CTL). This *-dxʷ* 'limited control' suffix is easily interchanged with the *-d* 'control' suffix. Look at and contrast (3) with (2) and notice the differences in meaning when the *-d* suffix in (2) is replaced with the *-dxʷ* suffix in (3).

(3) kʷəd(**d**)**xʷ**əxʷ čəd ti c'aʔkʷdisəbəd.

kʷəd-**dxʷ**-əxʷ	čəd	ti	c'aʔkʷdisəbəd.
take-**LIMITED.CTL**-bearing.info	I	the	toothbrush

'I **managed** to take the toothbrush.'
'I **accidentally** take the toothbrush.'

GRAMMAR NOTES – CONVERSATION: WHO DID YOU SEE?

Another example of the contrast between *-d* and *-dxʷ* is given in (4) where the verb is *laʔb* 'see'. As mentioned above, notice that the connecting vowel in (4a) is /ə/. It does not match the /a/ vowel that precedes it in the word *laʔb*, i.e., *laʔb-ə-d*.

(4) (a) ʔulaʔbəd čəd tsi mali.

ʔu-laʔb-ə-**d**		čəd	tsi	mali
CENTRAL-see-CONNECTER-**CTL**		I	the	Mary

'I saw Mary.'
Literally, 'I **deliberately** saw Mary.'

(b) ʔulaʔbdxʷ čəd tsi mali.

ʔu-laʔb	-**dxʷ**	čəd	tsi	mali
CENTRAL-see-**LIMITED.CTL**		I	the	Mary

'I saw Mary.'
Literally, 'I **happen to/managed to** see Mary.'

In the 'Who did you see?' conversation topic, the *-dxʷ* suffix was the only suffix used. Examples of the two main sentences used in this conversation topic is given in (4). In (4), the verb *ʔulaʔbdxʷ* '(manage/accidentally/happen to) see' is used for both the question and answer.

(4) (a) gʷat kʷ(i) adsulaʔb**dxʷ** ʔal ti sləx̌il.
         gʷat kʷ(i) ad-s-ʔu-laʔb-**dxʷ**
         who kʷi your-NMZR-CENTRAL-see-**LIMITED.CTL**

         ʔal ti sləx̌il
         on this day
         'Who did you **happen to/manage to/accidentally** see today?'
         Literally, 'Who was your seeing (**by accident/manage to/happen to**)
         on this day?'

     (b) ʔulaʔbdxʷ čəd tsi mali.
         ʔu-laʔb **-dxʷ**   čəd tsi mali
         CENTRAL-see-**LIMITED.CTL**   I   the Mary
         'I saw Mary.'
         Literally, 'I **happen to/managed to/accidentally** see Mary.'

The *-dxʷ* suffix was used in (4) to express a limited control condition for the 'Who did you see?' conversation topic. However, this is not the only option. You can just as easily use the *-d* suffix to express a full control condition. Compare (4) with (5) where the 'LIMITED.CTL' *-dxʷ* suffix is replaced with the 'CTL' *-d* suffix.

(5) (a) gʷat kʷ(i) adsulaʔbə**d** ʔal ti sləx̌il.
         gʷat kʷ(i) ad-s-ʔu-laʔb-ə-**d**
         who kʷi your-NMZR-CENTRAL-see-CONNECTOR- **CTL**

         ʔal ti sləx̌il
         on this day
         'Who did you **deliberately, with care and control,** see today?'
         Literally, 'Who was your seeing (**with deliberateness, care and control**) on this day?'

(b)   ʔulaʔbdxʷ čəd tsi mali.

ʔu-laʔb-ə-**d**   čəd   tsi   mali
CENTRAL-see-CONNECTOR- **CTL**   I   the   Mary
'I saw Mary.'
Literally, 'I **deliberately, with care and control,** saw Mary.'

Look at how the questions are structured in (4a) and (5a), rewritten in (6a and b). The *ʔal ti sləx̌il* 'today' is omitted for simplicity (The *ad-s-* prefixes are in bold for clarity).

(6)   (a)   gʷat kʷ(i) **ads**ulaʔbdxʷ.

gʷat   kʷ(i)   **ad-s-**ʔu-laʔb-dxʷ
who   kʷi   **your-NMZR-**CENTRAL-see-LIMITED.CTL
'Who did you happen to/manage to/accidentally see?'
Literally, 'Who was **your** seeing (by accident/manage to/happen to)?'

(b)   gʷat kʷ(i) **ads**ulaʔbəd.

gʷat   kʷ(i)   **ad-s-**ʔu-laʔb-ə-d
who   kʷi   **your-NMZR-**CENTRAL-see-CONNECTOR- CTL

'Who did you deliberately, with care and control, see?'
Literally, 'Who was **your** seeing (with deliberateness, care and control)?'

In both (6a and b), the question word *gʷat* 'who' comes first followed by *kʷi*. As mentioned in a previous lesson, *kʷi* is used when the location or existence is in question. For both examples in (6), *kʷi* lets the listener know that the

speaker does not know who you saw or may not even know if you saw anybody.

Notice that the /i/ in *kʷi* is in parentheses (*kʷ(i)*). As mentioned in a previous

grammar lesson, when *kʷi* comes before the prefix *ad-* 'your', the /i/ is often

silent and *kʷ(i) ad-* is pronounced as one syllable (*kʷ(i)ad-*). However, it is not

incorrect to pronounce the /i/ and say *kʷi ad-.*

    In both (6a and b), the verb comes after *kʷi*. Both verbs are prefixed with

ad- 'your' and *s-* 'nominalizer'. In both translations, the literal translations are

given as 'who was your seeing?'. Compare these question sentences in (6) to the

question in (7) asked in the conversation topic 'Where did you go?', and notice

that the sentences are very similar. There are different question words and verbs

between (6) and (7), but in both, the verb follows *kʷi* and both have *ad-s-* 'your-

NMZR' at the beginning of the verbs.

(7)   čad kʷ(i) adsʔux̌ʷ.
        čad   kʷ(i)   **ad-s-ʔux̌ʷ**
        where   kʷi   **your-NMZR-go**
        'Where did you go?'
        Literally, 'Where was **your** going?'

    This sentence structure in (6) and (7) is a common pattern you will soon see

for questions that begin with question words.