

The dh- prefix

Some verbs referring to a state require the the dh- prefix, however, this prefix only occurs in the forms with I, you, and you plural subject. Thus for 'one person sitting' we have:

didhihdah 'I am sitting'
didhindah 'you are sitting' or 'sit!'

but,

di'eedah 'he/she/it is sitting'

Similarly, for 'more than one sitting', the dh- prefix only occurs with the 'you plural' form:

didzelth'ih 'we are sitting' (here the dz is a contraction of ts' plus d)
didedhaltth'ih 'you all are sitting'
dixdelth'ih 'they are sitting'

Customary verbs

Sometimes we want to indicate that an activity is carried out on a customary or usual basis. This is often indicated by a verb form which ends in *x* or *k*. In this lesson we learned to ask 'what do you usually do?'

Dzen uudih nts'é t'indiix? What do you usually do all day?
Itndah deh nts'é t'indiix? What do you usually do at work?

Phrases

Dóo iin nk'eddh dixdelth'ih?

Who all is sitting next to you?

Rick éł Deana éł dixdelth'ih.

Rick and Deana are sitting next to me.

Sts'í' didedhaltth'ih.

You guys are sitting facing me.

Dihthâad xt'een iin aandĕg'
nuhedach'axdekđíix.

I'm teaching you how to speak the Mansfield
people's language.

Neets'í' didzelth'ih tl'aan Dihthâad xt'een iin
aandĕg' nee'edach'axdihđíix.

We sitting facing you, and you're teaching us
to speak the Mansfield people's language.

Tach'udelsí'i degđíix.

I'm learning to read.

Ch'etnetlez degđíix.

I'm learning to write.

Nuhtah didhihdah.

I'm sitting among you.

xú' ch'e lee

like that

Dzen uudíh telephone éł dendeey iin ts'í'
xuhhéex.

I talk to people on the phone all day.

Dóo ts'í' xnínheyh?

Who are you talking to?

John ts'í' xníhheyh.

I'm talking to John.

k'ôd xú' shéé'!

that's enough already!

Shtthiixăa' shíi ch'etnaldók!

My brain is full!

Tâats'utdeetl!

Let's go home!