

File name: REH1-039.pdf

Accompanies audio file: REH1-039.wav

CCLAS session(s) involved: This document involves looking at a handful of relational verbs across CCLAS sessions 4, 5, and 7. These verbs were not parsed when I did my initial search, so Helen and I did not discuss them previously.

Background and overview:

- My focus is what Algonquian linguistics calls “relational” verbs in Northern East Cree, where the suffix *-w* signifies an additional third-person entity who is involved in the action/event/process expressed by the verb.
- Helen and I watched sections of the video recording using the software Phon, and then we went back through to discuss individual records. In general, each record in Phon contains one utterance or intonational unit.
- All records have been sorted in Phon by segment time (i.e., chronologically). Some record numbers in the notes below may not match the record numbers mentioned in the audio recording. In such cases, refer to the time stamps that are provided right after the record number: these correspond to times within the CCLAS video recording we are discussing.
- Other time stamps in the notes below mark times in the audio recording REH1-039.wav. Adult-like phonetic targets for selected utterances by Daisy are indicated with **Target:** (timestamp). Additional information and analysis are provided below.
- **Transcriptions** are in the Northern East Cree roman orthography style used by CCLAS, where circumflex accent diacritics indicate “long” vowels. The equals sign $\leq\Rightarrow$, when used, indicates a morpheme break.

Records from Daisy session 4, where she is age 3;11.11

Record 684 (031:21.324 in the CCLAS video)

Here’s how Daisy’s utterance is transcribed:

Nimimâh nâshtâpwâh nikushtâchiwân.

‘No, I am very scared.’

Daisy’s target is adultlike (00:05:03 in REH1-039.wav), and Helen hears Daisy pronouncing all the parts of the relational verb (00:05:08). The verb is a relational form of \langle kushtâchiu \rangle ‘s/he, it (anim) is afraid’.

In this stretch of the video, Daisy is talking about not going with a group of people somewhere because she is scared. Her very next utterance is \langle Ihtâyiuh wâsh anitâh pwâchikîsh \rangle ‘There’s a

little bogeyman over there’. Helen hears Daisy talking fast, running these two sentences together: ‘No, I’m very scared. There’s a little bogeyman over there.’ Daisy contracts <nâshtëpwâh> a lot in this segment, which is something she tends to do.

Daisy’s relational verb refers to the people she would be going with (00:03:13), not yet to the bogeyman (00:01:34), who has just been mentioned by the adult. These people are referred to in the following record via the obviative verb form of ‘be’ <ihtëyih>.

Cf. The non-relational form of this utterance would be: <Nimimâh nâshtëpwâh nikushtëchin> ‘No, I am very scared’, with no reference to the other people (00:05:34).

Record 968 (042:36.212 in the CCLAS video)

Here’s how Daisy’s utterance is transcribed:

Âi ten o’clock âi niki âpitisîwân.

‘um, I am going to work at 10 o’clock.’

Target: (00:15:24 in REH1-039.wav).

Daisy is pretending like she’s going to go to work. Helen says the overall target structure is adult-like (00:07:39 and 00:11:49).

Helen hears Daisy using all the parts of the relational verb (00:11:15), which is adult-like. The relational verb is a form of the AI verb <âpitisîu> ‘s/he, it (anim) works’.

Daisy is talking about working in relation to somebody else, but it’s unclear from the context who she might be referring to (00:10:20). Maybe she’s referring to the person she was just pretending to speak to on the phone, but it’s not clear to Helen or me (00:12:26).

Cf: The non-relational form of the verb would be: <nikî âpitisîn> ‘I am going to work’, which contains no reference to someone else (00:08:27 and 00:08:59).

Record 975 (042:47.952 in the CCLAS video)

Here’s how Daisy’s utterance is transcribed:

Âihch, niki âpitisîwân nîyi nâtâh wâhyiu.

‘Me, I will be working waaay over there somewhere very far.’

Target: (00:15:57 in REH1-039.wav).

Helen hears Daisy producing all the parts of the relational verb (00:14:35), and Daisy's target is adultlike (00:14:44).

Records from Daisy session 5, where she is age 4;00.00

Record 103 (003:35.371 in the CCLAS video)

Here's how Daisy's utterance is transcribed:

Nîyi nichîh ushihtâwân.

'I made this.'

Target: (00:19:51 in REH1-039.wav), which includes the emphasizing word <wash>.

Helen hears Daisy using all the parts of the relational verb (00:20:42). Daisy's usage of a relational verb in this context is adultlike (00:19:40). Daisy's utterance immediately before this is <Awân uyâ kê îshinâkuhtât> 'Who did this?', as she points to a page in her coloring book. Helen says Daisy is referring to someone who "tampered with her (Daisy's) creation" in the coloring book (00:17:26). The relational verb refers to that person (00:20:29).

Daisy uses the personal pronoun <nîyi> 'I' to emphasize the fact that she had created something that someone else tampered with. Helen says it would be more adult-like to add the emphasis word <wâsh> after the pronoun: <Nîyi wâsh nichîh ushihtâwân> '**I** made this' (00:19:51).

Cf: The non-relational form that does not refer to another person is <Nîyi nichîh ushihtân> 'I made this' (00:18:15).

Cf: Another non-relational form is <Nîyi wâsh û nichîh ushihtân> 'It was I who made this', which is more adult-like and emphasizes the pronoun 'I' (00:18:40).

Record 1027 (037:06.419 in the CCLAS video)

Here's how Daisy's utterance is transcribed:

Niki mâtishimwân.

'I will cut it.'

Target: (00:23:52 in REH1-039.wav) for <Kiti mâtishim â>.

Helen thinks Daisy is asking a question, not saying 'I will cut it' (00:21:58). Perhaps Daisy is asking something like <Kiti mâtishim â> 'Is she going to cut it?' (00:22:51). This one is hard to be sure about, but it's not clearly a relational verb (00:23:41).

Records from Daisy session 7, where she is age 4;01.20

Record 88 (003:28.412 in the CCLAS video)

Here's how Daisy's utterance is transcribed:

Chiki âpitisîwân â.

'Are you going to work?'

Target: (00:24:58 in REH1-039.wav).

Helen says this one is adult-like (00:24:47), and she hears Daisy using all the parts of the relational verb (00:25:05). The relational verb refers to the adult's daughter, who is in the other room (00:25:34). Daisy and the adult had just mentioned her, when the adult told Daisy there is nobody available to babysit her daughter (00:26:16): Helen says, "It's very clear there who they're referring to" (00:27:28).

Record 162 (006:30.771 in the CCLAS video)

Here's how Daisy's utterance is transcribed:

Mikw mâk aniyâ wâskâhîkiniyu âh wîh ihtâwîch nimâ.

'I only wanted to stay in that house, right?'

Target: (00:30:55 in REH1-039.wav).

Daisy has just mentioned that a boy's father gave her and the boy a ride when the father went to work. Then, Daisy says, the father didn't bother with Daisy afterwards (00:28:57). Maybe the boy's father took them to work (perhaps because he didn't have a babysitter) and then didn't bother with them because he was working, but Helen and I aren't totally sure what to make of the story (00:36:55).

Here Daisy has another overgeneralization of the TA ending *-k* with one of her Conjunct relational forms: Helen hears Daisy again replacing the "ch" of the relational ending with a [k], noting "she goes back to the [k]" (00:29:54). Daisy's relational verb ends up as <âh wîh ihtâwîk>. The relational verb is referring to the boy's father, who Daisy just mentioned (00:33:04).

Daisy's utterance is also not quite adultlike because she omits the past tense preverb <chîh>, producing only a combination of <âh> plus <wîh>. A more adult-like way to say what Daisy is saying, which includes the past tense preverb:

<mikw mâk aniyâ wâskâhîkiniyu âh chîh wîh ihtâwich nimâ> (00:30:55).

Record 165 (006:37.911 in the CCLAS video)

Here's how Daisy's utterance is transcribed:

Îhî mikw anitâh niwîh iyihâtashiwân.

'Yes. I only want to stay there for a little while.'

Target: (00:38:31 in REH1-039.wav).

Helen hears Daisy kind of mushing the parts of the verb ending together: Helen hears Daisy producing a relational ending but contracting it a lot (00:34:40 and 00:35:09).

Daisy is using a relational verb because she's still referring to the boy's father (00:36:42).

The *-shi* within the verb is the diminutive. Helen points out that the base form of the 'do' verb here is <iyihâtân>, and <iyihâtâshin> is a diminutive form that could be Daisy referring to herself as being small (00:35:49). Helen says the diminutive refers both to Daisy being small and to the amount of time she wanted to stay (00:37:47).

Daisy is also recasting the verb the adult just used (00:37:38), with a different subject.