**Education Center Staff Nisenan Class: Commands Continued**

**Review sheet for Monday, October 2, 2023**

In today’s class we learned more basic commands:

1. How to tell someone to wash their hands.
2. How to tell someone to give or show things to various people.

**Wash your hands!**

Here’s how to tell one person to wash their hands:

*Yuc’úup min maa! = Min maa yuc’úup!* ‘Wash your *maa*!’ (hands)

Here’s how to tell a group of people to wash their hands:

*Yuc’uuwá mimée maa! = Mimée maa yuc’uuwá!* ‘Wash your *maa*!’ (hands)

*Esak’ábe mi?* Do you know? Nisenan does not pluralize nouns the same way English does. There is a special way of pluralizing human nouns (like relative, father, student, etc.), but non-human nouns (like hand, dog, tree, etc.) are the same regardless of whether you are talking about one or more than one. So, for example, *maa* could refer to one hand or multiple hands.

**How to tell an individual to ‘give me’ and ‘show me’**

The commands below are addressed to just one person. If you want to tell a group of people to do these things, remove -*p* from the verb if necessary and add -*wa* (See review sheet for Sep 25th).

***Mey*** *nik mɨyé. = Mɨyé* ***mey*** *nik.* ‘**Give** me *mɨyé*.’ (it)

***Mey*** *nik momí. = Momí* ***mey*** *nik.* ‘**Give** me *mom*.’ (water)

***Mey*** *nik boonóyu. = Boonóyu* ***mey*** *nik.* ‘**Give** me *boonóyu*.’ (pencil/pen)

***Etatíp*** *nik mɨyé. = Mɨyé* ***etatíp*** *nik.* ‘**Show** me *mɨyé*.*’* (it)

***Etatíp*** *nik papelí. = Papelí* ***etatíp*** *nik.* ‘**Show** me *papél*.’ (paper)

***Etatíp*** *nik sɨk’ə́lyu. = Sɨk’ə́lyu* ***etatíp*** *nik.*  ‘**Show** me *sɨk’ə́lyu*.’ (scissors)

*Esak’ábe mi?* Do you remember? In Nisenan sentences, direct and indirect objects of the verb are marked with -*i* when they end in a consonant (with one exception we’ll cover in the future). This applies to regular nouns like *mom* ‘water’, but not to pronouns like *nik* ‘me’, which are already in their special ‘object’ form. There is a list of object pronouns at the end of this review sheet.

**Using other pronouns**

Above, the object pronoun *nik* means ‘me’. To tell someone to give or show something to others, you just swap out the object pronoun.

*mɨhé* ‘him/her (human)’ *mɨyé* ‘it (non-human)’

***Mey*** *mɨhé sɨk’ə́lyu. = Sɨk’ə́lyu* ***mey*** *mɨhé*. ‘Give him/her *sɨk’ə́lyu*.’ (scissors)

***Etatíp*** *mɨhé papelí. = Papelí* ***etatíp*** *mɨhé.* ‘Show him/her *papél*.’ (paper)

***Mey*** *mɨyé momí. = Momí* ***mey*** *mɨyé.* ‘Give it *mom*.’ (water)

***Etatíp*** *mɨyé boonóyu. = Boonóyu* ***etatíp*** *mɨyé.* ‘Show it boonóyu.’ (pencil/pen)

*Esak’ábe mi?* Do you remember? We can use multiple pronouns in the same sentence; remember the command *Mey nik mɨyé* ‘Give me it / Give it to me’?

**Reference list of object pronouns**

*nik* ‘Me’

*nisak’á* ‘Us (two people)’

*nisek’é* ‘Us (three or more people)’

*min* ‘You (one person)’

*mimak’á = mik’á* ‘You (two people)’

*mimek’é* *= mik’é* ‘You (three or more people)’

*mɨhé* ‘He/She’

*mɨsá* ‘They (two people)’

*mɨsé* ‘They (three or more people)’

*mɨyé* ‘It, them (non-human)’

Please reach out to the Language Department at [Language@ssband.org](mailto:Language@ssband.org) with any questions.