Lesson Ten: No and Not

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Kaltxì This post is about saying no, not, and making stuff negative, and stuff having to do with that. I think I should have mentioned all this before now, but I forgot. Better now than never.

Srak/Srake, Srane and Kehe

So you may know by now the words srane (*yes*) and kehe (*no*).

Those are simple enough. They are acceptable answers to a question that has the word srak or srake in it.

<u>For example:</u>

> Q : Nga 'efu ohakx srak? (*Are you hungry?*)
> A1: Srane, nìtxan (*Yes, very*)
> A2: Kehe, li yolom. (*No, I already ate.*)

Ke - Not

In Na'vi, in order to say someone does not do something or is not doing something, use the word ke. It must always go immediately before the verb.

<u>For example:</u>

> Poe ke plltxe. (*She doesn't speak.*)
> Ke tayaron oel yerikit. (*I will not hunt a hexapede*)
> Kawtu ke plltxe nì'ìnglìsì. (*No one speaks English.*)

Nothin' Ain't True

Notice that in that last example, we still used ke even though kawtu means *nobody*. This is because there is a rule about this: Whenever using words like nobody, nowhere, or nothing, you still **must** use ke in front of the verb. It's like they make a pair.

More examples:

> ke'u ke lu ngay (*Nothing is true.*)
> Oe kekem ke sí. (*I'm doing nothing.*)
> Kawkrr tsatskxe ke zayup. (*That rock will never fall.*)
> Fo ke lu 'ewan kaw'it. (*They are not young at all.*)

Not Every

If you want to say *not every*... then it's as easy as putting ke in front of the word that has fra- (*every-*). Don't forget to still put ke in front of the verb.

For example:

> Ke frapo ke tslolam. (*Not everyone understood.*)
> ke fratutan ke taron. (*Not every man hunts.*)

I have none / I don't have any

Use kea (*no*) in front of nouns to say stuff like *He has no sisters.* instead of *He doesn't have a sister.*

For example:

> Ke lu poru kea smuke. (*He has no sisters*)
> Vay set ke pamähängem kea ti'eyng. (*Up to now, no answer arrived.*)

Don't Do That

When giving commands, do not use ke. ke is for making a statement into the opposite. To make a command into a *Do not*... command, you have to use rä'ä right before the verb instead of ke. For super emphasis on the do NOT, you are allowed to put rä'ä right after the verb.

For example:

> rä'ä hahaw. (*don't sleep*)

oetí 'ampí rä'ä, ma skxawng! (*don't touch me, you moron!*)