

Lesson Seventeen: self

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Kaltxi! Long time no post. This time I'd like to talk about how to say someone does something to her/his self.

vtr. and äp

In English, we have special pronoun words like **myself**, **yourself**, **himself**, **herself**, **ourselves** to get this idea across. For example:

I see myself.

In Na'vi, we add <äp> inside the **verb**. The above example sentence would work like this:

Oe tsäpe'a.

We do this instead of repeating the same person again:

**Oel tse'a oeti*

**Ayngal tse'a ayngati*

Did you notice that there is no marking on **oe** in that first example? Here's why. We can only even use <äp> in verbs marked **vtr.** in the dictionary. And when we use <äp>, it changes the **vtr.** into a **vin.** It then has the same structure as any old **vin.** like **hahaw** (sleep) or **kä** (go):

Oe tsäpe'a. (I see myself.)

Nga tìsraw säpeyki. (You hurt yourself / cause yourself to hurt)

Oe hahaw. (I sleep.)

Nga kä. (You go.)

Hey, check it out! That second example here has both <äp> AND <eyk> in it. (Remember <eyk> from the previous lesson?) Both of these go first in the first raised dot of the dictionary entry of the verb.

vin. and sno

But what about actions which are *not* marked *vtr.*? A popular example is this: I know how to say "she loves her", which is talking about two different people:

Po yawne lu poru (she beloved is to her)

But how do I say "He loves himself"? Basically, like this:

Po yawne lu snoru (he beloved is to self)

sno is just a special pronoun word that means **(his/her-)self**. Use it when you need to say he or she is doing something to self, but the action is *not vtr.*

Me, myself, and vin.

What about if I want to do a *vin.* to myself or we to ourselves? Then, I believe that the same word would just get repeated again:

Oe pamrel sí oeru. (I write to me)

Ayoeng ting narí awngaru. (we look at us)