

Lesson Nine: -rí

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This blog post will hopefully better your understanding of the topical suffix *-rí*.

-rí introduces the topic of what you are about to say. It gives your sentence a theme, and this is often done in English by using "As *for*..." or simply "*for*".

The *-rí* in "*ngeyä srungirí ngaru irayo sí oe*" lets us know that the theme is the "*srung*" - the help. It tells us that the reason that *oe* is thanking to *nga* is the *srung*... in other words, *oe* thanks *nga* for their *srung*. "*I thank you for your help.*"

The topic (word with *-rí*) almost always comes first in the sentence.

-rí is found most commonly in sentences with:

- *irayo sí* (for the "*thank for*" meaning)
- *tsap'alute sí* (for the "*apologise for*" meaning)
- *pey* (for the "*wait for*" meaning)
- *klfiro'* (for the "*be responsible for*" meaning)
- *tikangkem sí* (for the "*work on*" meaning)

Example sentences:

Syurari yerikä irayo sí awnga por. "We thank the hexapede for his energy."

Fiskxawngiri tsap'alute sāngi oe. "I apologise for this moron."

Trrayiri ke tsun oe pivey! "I can't wait for tomorrow!"

Porí klfiro' nga. "You are responsible for him."

Tskori po tikangkem sí. "She works on the bow."

Lastly, don't confuse -rí with f pí+. F pí means "for" as in "for the sake/benefit of". With f pí, you are acting to benefit something. E.g. Oe 'iyem ngaf pí. "I will cook for (the sake of) you."

Eywa ngahu!

This post brought to you by @NeytiriTeTskaha