

Fundamental Dialogues in Awngi (I)

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Introduction

1 Preface

This report is result of my field survey conveyed in Addis Abeba, Ethiopia, from February 2004 to March 2007. I stayed there during the spring vacation (February and March) and summer vacation (August and September) of Japanese system, that is I passed about 14 months, 3 days per week, 2 or 3 hours per day, for the study of Awngi (=Awi language), Khamtənga (= Xəmra people's language) and Tigrigna.

2 Instructor

The sole instructor for this research is Mr. Tafari Getahun, member of Institute of Ethiopian Studies, Addis Abeba University, where this survey was carried out. He is from the township of Gimjabet, district of Ankasha, province of Gojjam, situated about 450 km. to the northwest of Addis Abeba. He speaks three languages, i.e. Awngi, Amharic and English and teaches English at the University.

I am very thankful to him for his patience and endeavour with which he instructed me his own native language.

3 Materials for Survey

The materials used for survey are as follows

1) Survey-list of Fundamental Words (with additional items by A.N.): ed. Shiro Hattori, Dept. of Linguistics, Faculty of Literature, University of Tokyo, 1957.

2) An Amharic Conversation Book: Wolf Leslau, Otto Harrassowitz,

Wiesbaden, 1965.

3) Amharic Basic Textbook (for the Summer Intensive Course, Asian and African Institute): compiled by Akio Nakano and Tilahun Tegen, AA Institute, Tokyo University for Foreign Studies, Tokyo, 1995.

These dialogues are the first ten conversation lessons (out of twenty) of the material 3) translated into Awi Language (= Awngi) with additional lexical items and simple grammatical informations. The rest part (from the 11-th to the 20-th lesson) will be published in the next volume of this series.

4 Awngi (= Awi Language)

4.1 My instructor calls his own language **Awngi** [awŋi], where -ŋi means "language" and states that Central Cushitic languages are called as a whole **Agaw** by other outside people and Awngi is sometimes called "Southern Agaw" by linguists. They consist of Awngi, Bilin in Eritria, Khamta-Khamir and Qemant (Qwara and Ethiopian Jew's Kayla are almost extinct at present).

The number of the speakers of these languages is very small at present, although their domain was far more wider than now in the northern highland area of Ethiopia.

According to Lionel Bender and David Cohen (originally Taye Reta, 1963), the number of Awngi speakers is appr. 50,000, that of Bilin is app. 30,000~40,000 while that of Khamta-Khamir is 5,000?

4.2.1 Consonant System

Awngi has the following consonant system whose main characteristics in comparison with other Cushitic are as follows:

1) Complete lack of ejective phoneme/sounds which are common to Southern Peripheral Semitic (Diakonoff), Omotic and all Cushitic except Somali-Afar (Coastal East Cushitic) and Bedja (North Cushitic).

2) The phoneme here transcribed as **x** is the voiced counterpart of /q/, i.e. [g], which often appears as a voiced uvular fricative [ɣ] after a vowel, aq "people": ax "is/are".

3) Existence of a phoneme /p/, which is not only a counter-part of /b/ or /w/ in verb morphology but also found in foreign borrowing. cf. **kampi**

"cheese", **anbip**: **anbeb.x^wa** "read (imper. sg.: past 3.sg.m.)", **tampə.x^wa**: **tambə.x^wa** "arrive (past 1 sg : 3 sg. m.)", **jippu.xa**: **jewu.xa** "buy (past 1.sg.: 3.sg.m.)".

4) Phoneme /ɖ/ [ɖ] is found much rarely in the words related to **sedɖa** "four", cf. **siɖicka** "forty", or as a morphological alternant of /c/ [ts], cf. **azec.x^wa**: **azedɖ.x^wa** "order (past 1.sg.: 3.sg.m.)".

5) Fricative phoneme /ʒ/ [ʒ] is far more rare and a free variant of an affricate /j/ [ɟ], cf. **wəži** = **wəji** "lion"; while /v/ [v] is found only in foreign borrowings, cf. **televijin** = **televižon** "television".

	bilabial	labiodental	dento-alv.	palato-alv.	velar	uvular
stop	p b		t d		k g q	x [ɣ]
labialised					k ^w g ^w q ^w	x ^w [ɣ ^w]
nasal	m		n		ŋ	ŋ ^w
fricacitive		f (v)		ʃ (ʒ)		
affricate			t ɖ	č j		
liquid			l r			
semi-vowel	w			y		

4.2.2 Vowel System

1) Awngi has seven vowels as follows, but the occurrence of phoneme /ɛ/ is limited to word (or sometimes phrase) final. As the whole system it resembles that of Amharic and Tigninya.

2) Long vowel occurs very rarely. cf **aay** "hide n." (:ay "who?"), **guud** "good" (:gud "noon"), **aar** "husband", **kuuli** "roasted grain (at home)", and borrowing: **saat** "hour, o'clock".

3) C^wə is sometimes pronounced as Cu, while C^wa as Co. cf. **x^wa** = **xo** "family, home".

4) According to R. Hetzron there are four tones in Awngi, i.e. mid, high, low and falling. It is very sorry that no tone is marked in these texts, although in the forthcoming wordlist only mid and high tone is marked in Awngi and Khamtənga.

	front	central	back
high	i	ə	u
middle	e		o
low	ɛ		a

5 Consulted Foregoing Literature

1) The Verbal System of Southern Agaw: Robert Hetzron, Univ. of California Publications 12, Berkely and Los Angeles, 1969 (I'm much obliged to him for citing many verbal infinitive forms and sometimes tones).

2) Les Langues Chamito-Sémitiques (troisième partie de Les Langues dans le Monde Ancien et Moderne; dir. Jean Perrot, edition du Centre Nationale de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris, 1988), textes réunis par David Cohen et partie de Le Sud-Agaw (Awngi) par R. Hetzron (p282-288).

3) Language in Ethiopia, ed. M. L. Bender, J. D. Bowen, R. L. Cooper, C. A. Ferguson, part of Cushitic (p39-46), Oxford Univ. Press, London, 1976.

6 List of Abbreviation

n.	: noun	3.	: 3-rd person
Nk	: kinship noun	2.	: 2-nd person
Nr	: normal noun	1.	: 1-st person
pro.	: pronoun		
vt.	: transitive verb	sg.	: singular
vi.	: intransitive verb	pl.	: plural
v.p.	: passive verb	pol.	: polite form (in most case equal to pl. form)
adj.	: adjective	m.	: masculin (in verbs m. always means singular)
adv.	: adverb	f.	: feminine (in verbs f. always means singular)
num.	: numeral	c.	: common gender (except for verbs in 3 sg.)

par. : particle : in verbs except for 3.sg., all other person is in common gender.

pf. : perfect (= Hetzron's "perfect indefinite")

past : (= Hetzron's "perfect definite")

pres. : present (= Hetzron's "imperfect indefinite")

fut. : future (= Hetzron's "imperfect definite")

juss. : jussive

imper. : imperative

proh. : prohibitive

prog. : progressive

(independent (= main) form is not marked)

rel. : relative (= dependent) form

ger. : gerund (= Hettzron's "converb")

inf. : infinitive

sen. : sentencial clause

exp. : expresional

gre. : greeting

phr. : phrase

--- / --- / --- vt./vi. : imperative / past 3 sg m. / present 3 sg. m./f.

--- / --- n. : singular / plural

h. : highland dialect (the instructor's dialect)

l. : lowland dialect

Lesson 1 : Present of Copula Verb and Possessive

Conversation 1

(1-1)

- Are you from Addis Abeba?
- addis abeba des ma?
- No, I'm from Dangla.
- əlla, an antux dangəl des yax.

(1-2)

- Where are you (pol.) from? (are you) From Japan?
- əntu wades-əy? jappan des ma?
- Yes, I am from Japan.
- yiga, jappan des yax.
- From where in Japan?
- jappan da wades-əy?
- I'm from Tokyo.
- tokyo des yax.

(1-3)

- I'm a student (m.). How about you (c.)?
- an kəntanti yax. ənt sa?
- I'm a student (f.), too.
- an kila kəntanta-x.

(1-4)

- Are you a (girl) student or a working (woman)?
- kəntanta ma axu əncaxəstanta-y?
- I'm a worker.
- əncaxəstanta-x.

(1-5)

- Are you (m.) Japanese or Chinese?
- jappan ma čayna-y?
- I'm a Japanese. She is also a Japanese. Are you an Oromi or Amhari?
- an ka jappan yax (m.). ŋi kila jappan-ax. ənt oromu ma amaxari-y?
- I'm neither. I'm an Awi (m.).
- an ka wullawala(=gatixa), an ka awiyax.

(1-6)

- Are you (pol.) from Tokyo, too?
- əntu kila tokyo des ma?
- No, I'm from Kyoto.
- əlla, an ka kyoto des yax (m./f.).

(1-7)

- Is he a student?
- ŋi kəntanti ma?
- He (pol.) is not (pol.) a student but a teacher.
- ŋa kəntanti gatink^wi, kəncanti yax.

(1-8)

- Good day! Hello. (Amh. tənə yəstəlləññ)
- tino yin.
- Good day.
- tino yin, əsgenaxan.
- This(>he) is my father. This(>she) is my mother.
- ŋi yi tala-x. ŋi yi ču-ax.
- Welcome!
- adix^was! (=Amh. ənkwən dahna maṭṭu)
- Thank you!
- seṅtunas! (=Amh. ənkwən dahna qoyyu)

(1-9)

- My name is Agalu (m.) / Khera (f.).

What (< who) is your (pol.) name called?

- yəw səm agalu-ax/xəra-x.

əntəw səm ay ste?

- My name is called Tafari.

- yəw səm tefari ste.

(1-10)

- What is your father's job?

- kə tala-su əncəxi əndarma-y?

- He is a doctor. My mother is a teacher.

- akim yax. yi ču kəncanta-x.

Conversation lexeme 1

1-1

des	par.	from, than
ma	par.	question marker (yes-or-no question)
əlla	imp.	no (opp. yes)
an	pro.	I
antux (past.rel.1.c.) < antu.xa	vi.	come
dangəl	p.n.	Dangil / Dangla (=town name)
-x, -ax, yax	vi.	be(=copula, present)

1-2

əntu	pro.	you (pol.)
wades	pro.	where from
-y, -əy	par.	interrogative marker (after an interrogative word)
jappan	p.n.	Japan, Japanese
yiga	exp.	yes
da	par.	in, at

1-3

kəntanti/a (m./f.)	n.	student, pupil (m./f.)
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ənt	pro.	you (2.sg.c.)
sa	par.	as for, how about?
kila	par.	also, too
1-4		
ma?	par.	question marker
axu	par.	or, either
əncaxəstanti/a	n.	worker, working person
1-5		
ka	par.	as for, in ~'s case; emphasis marker
ŋi	pro.	he, she
oromu (m.)	p.n.	Oromi
amxari (m.)	p.n.	Amhari
wullawala	pro.	neither
gatiw (3.m.)	vi.	not to be; it is not so
awiya (m.)	p.n.	Awi man, Southern Agaw man
1-6		
əntu	pro.	you (2.sg.c.pol.)
1-7		
kən canti/a (m./f.)	n.	teacher
ŋa	pro.	he/she (pol.)
1-8		
tino yin	exp.	good day, hi, hello! (=Amh. <i>ṭena yəṣṭəlləññ</i>)
tino yin, əsgenaxan	exp.	answer to the preceding greeting
tabəl, yi tala	n.	father, my father
čʷa, yi ču	n.	mother, my mother
adixʷas!	exp.	welcome! (Amh. <i>ənkʷan dahna maṭṭu</i>)
seṅtunas (past.2.pol. + -s emph.)	exp.	thank you! (answer to the preceding greeting)
1-9		
yi + Nk, yəw + Nr	pro.	my

səm	n.	name
əste (1.sg./3.sg.m. pres.)=ste	v.p.	be called(=s'appeler) (pres. ste 1.sg., sti 2.sg.)
1-10		
-s	par.	possessive marker for kinship noun. yi tala-s tala "my father's father", yiču-s ču "my mother's mother"
-su (sg.m.), -sti (sg.f.): -skʷ (pl.)	par.	possessive marker for kinship noun. yi tala-su firisi m. "my father's horse" yiču-st bəqla f. "my mother's mule"
əncəxi	n.	job, work
əndarma	pro.	what
akim	n.	doctor

1.1 Sentence / Lexeme Example

des	from	addis abeba des ma? Are you from Addis Abeba?
da	in	jappan da wades-əy? From where in Japan (are you?)
sa	as for, how about	an čayna-yax. ənt sa? I'm Chinese. And how about you?
kila	also, too	ŋi kəntanta-x kila. She is a student, too.
axu	or	ŋa amxari ma axu oromu? Is he (pol.) Amhari or Oromi?
wullawala	neither	wullawala, ŋi awiya-x. Neither, he is Awi/Agaw man.
yiga	yes	yiga, jappan yax. Yes, (I'm) from Japan.

əlla	no	əlla, an antux čayna des yax. No, I came from China.
wades	from where	əntu jappan dawades-əy? from where in Japan are you (pol.)?

1.2 Verb Paradigm 1-1, Personal Present Copula

	pronoun	positive	negative	possessive
3.sg.m.	ŋi	(y)ax	gatíw	ŋi ~ ŋiw / ŋit / ŋik ^w
3.sg.f.	ŋi	(y)ax	gatít	ŋi ~ ŋiw / ŋit / ŋik ^w
2.sg.c.	ənt	(y)ax	gatíxa	kó ~ kəw / kət / kək ^w
1.sg.c.	an	(y)ax	gatíxa	yí ~ yəw / yit / yək ^w
3.sg.pol.c.	ŋa	(y)ax	gatin.ku / .k ^w i	ŋa ~ ŋaw / ŋat / ŋak ^w
2.sg.pol.c.	əntu	(y)ax	gatinxa	əntu ~ əntəw / ntət / əntək ^w
3.pl.c.	ŋaji	(y)ax	gatinkk ^w i	naji-s ~ -su / -st / -sk ^w
2.pl.c.	əntoji	(y)ax	gatinxa	əntoji-s ~ -su / -st / -sk ^w
1.pl.c.	ənoji	(y)ax	gatinxa	ənoji-s ~ -su / -st / -sk ^w

1.3 Personal Possessive / Genitive

1.3.1 kinship noun possessed

	son (m.)	daughter (f.)	children (pl.)
his / her	ŋi ra	ŋi ja	ŋi ri
your (sg.)	kə ra	kə ja	kə ri
my	yi ra	yi ja	yi ri
his/her (pol.)	ŋa ra	ŋa ja	ŋa ri
your (pol.)	ənt ra	ənt ja	ənt ri
their	ŋaji-s ra	ŋaji-s ja	ŋaji-s ri
your (pl.)	əntoji-s ra	əntoji-s ja	əntoji-s ri
our	ənoji-s ra	ənoji-s ja	ənoji-s ri

1.3.2 normal noun possessed

	ox (m.)	cow (f.)	oxen / cows (pl.)
his / her	ɲiw biri	ɲit əll ^w a	ɲik ^w bera / nora
your (sg.)	kəw biri	kət əll ^w a	kək ^w bera / nora
my	yəw biri	yit əll ^w a	yək ^w bera / nora
his/her (pol.)	ɲaw biri	ɲat əll ^w a	ɲak ^w bera / nora
your (pol.)	əntəw biri	əntət əll ^w a	əntək ^w bera / nora
their	ɲaji-su biri	ɲaji-st əll ^w a	ɲaji-sk ^w bera / nora
your (pl.)	əntoji-su biri	əntoji-st əll ^w a	əntoji-sk ^w bera / nora
our	ənnoji-su biri	ənnoji-st əll ^w a	ənnoji-sk ^w bera / nora

Lesson 2 : Interrogative Pronoun

who	ay
whom	awa
whose	aw (m.), at (f.); ak ^w (pl.)
what	əndar, əndarma
where	wada
where from	wades
where to	waša
how many	wuxa, wəxa
how much / long	walaka
when	wani
how	watəŋa, watŋa
why	əndari, əndarmada
which	wašini (m.), wašena (f.)
which number	wuxanti (m.), wuxanta (f.)

Conversation 2

(2-1)

- Who is he (pol.)?
- ŋa ay-y(= ay-əy)?
- He (pol.) is my teacher, Mr. Tafari.
- ŋa yəw kəncanti, agal tefari yax.

(2-2)

- What(>who) is her (pol.) name?
- ŋaw səm ay-y?
- She is (called) (pol.) Mrs. Khira.
- agala(= wizaru) xəra stana.
- What is her job?
- ŋaw əncəxi əndarma-y?
- She is our teacher (pol.).
- ŋa ənnoji-sk^w kəntcantka-x.

(2-3)

- What is this called in Awngi?
- ən awŋi-s əndarma ste?
- It is called "hyena".
- "əx^wi" ste.

(2-4)

- What is there for the breakfast?
- kurs-əs əndarma zək^wa? (=əndarma-y zək^wəx?)
- There is Injera and eggs.
- anki sta ənkulal zək^wa.

(2-5)

- From which city (are you)?
- wades ketem des-əy?
- I am from Gondar. And you?
- an ka gondar des yax. ənt sa?
- I am from Bahardar.
- an ka bahərdar des yax.

(2-6)

- How many pupil are there in this room?
- ənn ben da wuxa kəntantka zəkun?
- There are 30 boys (< males) and 20 girls (< females).
- šuxacka ŋərja sta laŋŋarŋa xun zəkuna.

(2-7)

- How many children (=sons and daughters) have you (pol.)?
- wuxa jerkə-y catka?
- I have two sons(=males) and three daughters(=females).
- laŋŋa ŋərjawa sta šuxa xuno caka.
- Until they grow up well! / they may grow up well!
(greeting for the news of the children)
- deka ligisin-imbu! = deka legese yinis!

(2-8)

- How much is the price?

- waymi wuxa-y?

- It is ten Birr.

- cəkka bərr yax.

- A little expensive!

- cəlle kəbri!

- No, (it is) cheap.

- gatiw, qəcci.

(2-9)

- How many brothers and sisters(=Geschwester) have you?

- ənt wuxa senkawa cata?

- I've three brothers(=males) and four sisters(=females).

- šuxa ηərjawa sta sedḏa xuno caka.

- Oh, you have so many! of what number of girl are you (f.)?

- o, menčkawa cata! ənt wuxanta jera-y?

- I'm the fifth child (f.).

- an k^wanta jera-x.

(2-10)

- Where will you go?

- wuša kataxa-y?

- I'm going to the market.

- an gebel-a kasaxa.

(2-11)

- How much is a piece of the egg?

- əmpəla ənkulala wuxa-y?

- Four eggs are equal to one birr.

- sedḏa ənkulal əmpəla bərr-ax.

(2-12)

- Where are you, mammy?

- wada-y zəkix^w, əmmi(=əmmamma)?

- Here I am in the kitchen hut. Come!
- an ka ənda-x, ənjicci ɣəna da. aw!

(2-13)

- How many years old are you(< how much is your age)?
- kəw dəmi wuxa-y?
- (I'm) forty six (46) years old.
- (an ka) sidzicka walta amet yax.

(2-14)

- When did you come to Ethiopia?
- wanə-y itopya xa tintəx^w(=tintux)?
- I came one week ago.
- əmpəl soxət des fəna-x antux.

(2-15)

- For what/why did you come here?
- əndarmada-y / əndarma-y natte tintəx^w(=tintux)?
- It is to learn languages.
- konke(=k^wanke) kəntəŋ-s yax.

(2-16)

- How far is your native region / homeland (from here)? Is it far away?
- k-afa(=kəw ager) walaka-y? əčči?
- It is seven hundred kilometers far.
- laŋŋitti lixa kilometra əččite.
- It takes two days by car.
- mekina-s laŋŋa gerəka kacə.

(2-17)

- How is the life, fine?
- zəkini/nuru watŋa-y? dek ma?
- Fine, thank you. And you?
- dek, səgenaxan(=əsgenaxan). ənt sa?

(2-18)

- How did you come here, by car, by train or by airplane?

- əndarma-s-əy natte tintux, mekina-s ma, babur-əs ma, rumbəlla-s-əy?

- From Harar as far as Diredawa by bus and then till here by train.

- arer des diredawa-wa xista otobis-əs, natte-wa xista ki babur-əs yax.

Conversation lexeme 2

2-1

ay pro. who

agal n. Mr.

2-2

ɲaw+Nr pro. his/her (pol.)

wizaru = agala n. Mrs.

stana (pol. pres. stɛ m., sti sg.f.,
inf. əstəŋ) v.p. be called

ənnoji-su + Nr (sg.) / pro. our + Nr (sg.m.) / Nr (pl.pol.)

-sk^w + Nr (pl./pol.)

-ka par. regular plural marker
(=politeness marker)
duri "rooster", dura "hen",
durka "chicken"

2-3

ən (c.) pro. this

əx^wi n. hyena

2-4

kurs n. breakfast

-əs par. for, to; by, with
(instrumental)

zək^wa m.(rel.) zəkəx^w // vi. (there) is (=se trouver),
zək^wɛ f.(rel.) zəkix^wa exist (Amh. alla)

anki n. Injera (=large crêpe made
from Teff flour)

sta par. and (N1 sta N2)

ənkulal n. egg(s)

-a cf. ənkulala "a piece of egg" par. marker of unit noun

2-5		
wades	pro.	wherefrom
ketem	n.	town, city
2-6		
ən (sg.c.) ənnə (sg.m.) ənna (sg.f.) ənnək ^w (pl.)	pro.	this, these
ben	n.	room; class
wuxa, wəxa	pro.	how many, how much?
kəntanti/a // kəntantka (pl.)	n.	pupil, student
zəkuna (3.pl.pres.)	vi.	(there) are (se trouver), exist
šuxacka	num.	thirty 30
ŋərji / ŋərja	n.	man, male
laŋŋarŋa	num.	twenty 20
xuna / xun, xunaxun	n.	woman, female
2-7		
jer / jerki Nr	n.	son, jerki "children=Kinder"
jera / jerki Nr	n.	daughter
catka (3.sg.f. / 2.sg.c.pres.)	vt.	have
laŋŋa	num.	two 2
šuxa	num.	three 3
-o, -e, -wa	par.	object / contrasting / particularizing marker for noun respectively with suffix <i>-zero</i> , <i>-u</i> , <i>-i</i> , <i>-a</i>
caka (pres.1.sg.), caya (pres.3.sg.m.), cata (pres.2.sg./3.sg.f.), inf. cayŋ	vt.	have
dek(a)	adv.	well, fine
ligisi / leges.x ^w a, inf. leges.əŋ	vi.	grow up, become tall
-imbu (3.pl.juss.)	par.	until, till
yinis (3.pl.juss.) < ney / nə.x ^w a, inf. nəŋ	vi.	say

2-8	
waymi	n. price
cəkka	num. ten 10
bərr	n. Birr (=Ethiopian money unit, 1US\$= about 8.6 Birr, 2005)
cəlle	adv. a little
kəbri/a, inf. kebrəŋ	adj. expensive, dear
gatiw (3.sg.m.)	exp. no, it's no so.
qəcci	adj. cheap
2-9	
sen / senka Nr = ce / ceri Nk	n. brother
sena / senka Nr = čuja / cerri Nk	n. sister
sedḏa	num. four 4
o	exp. oh!
menč / menčka,	adj. many, much
inf. minčij "be many"	
wuxanti/a	pro. what order / number?
k ^w anti/a	num. fifth
2-10	
waša	pro. where to?
kataxa (2.sg.fut.) < ka / kas.x ^w a,	vi. go
inf. kasəŋ	
gebel	n. market
-a	par. to (locative)
kasaxa (1.sg.fut.) < ka / kas.x ^w a,	vi. go
inf. kasəŋ	
2-11	
əmpəl.a	num. one 1
ənkulala	n. egg (-a: singulative marker)
2-12	
wada	pro. where?
zəkε, zəkix ^w (pres.rel.2.sg.), inf. zəkuj	vi. exist in some place
əmmi = əmmamma (addr.)	n. Mama, Mammy
ənda	pro. here

ənjicci ɲəna, inf. ənjiccəŋ "bake, cook"	n.	kitchen hut
aw / yintu.xa, inf. yintəŋ = antəŋ 2-13	vi.	come
dəmi	n.	age
siɖicka	num.	forty 40
walta	num.	six 6
amet 2-14	n.	year
wani > wanə-y	pro.	when?
itopya	p.n.	Ethiopia
-xa	par.	to, for (benefactive)
tintux = tintəx^w (2.sg.past.rel. < tintuxa)	vi.	come (=aw / yintu.xa)
soxet	n.	week
fəna	n.	before, ago; prior to
antux (1.sg.past.rel. < antuxa), inf. antəŋ 2-15	vi.	come (=aw / yintu.xa)
əndarma da	pro.	with / by what (<i>lit.</i> at/in what)?
natte	pro.	to here
konki, k^wanki	n.	language
-(ə)ŋ	par.	infinitive marker
kənti / kəntə.x^wa, inf. kəntəŋ 2-16	vt.	learn, study
afa f. Nk = ager m. Nr	n.	homeland, country, native region
walaka	pro.	how long, how far?
əčči (pres.sg.f.), inf. əččiŋ	vi.	be far, remote (N is afa)
laŋŋeta	num.	seven 7
lixa	num.	hundred 100
laŋŋitti lixa	num.	seven hundred 700
əččite (3.f.pres.), inf. əččətəŋ	vi.	be far (N is ager)
mekina	n.	car
gerk / gerəkka	n.	day

kac / kac.x^wa , inf. kacəŋ 2-17	vt.	take (time),use up,consume
zəkini = nuru	n.	everyday life
watŋa	pro.	how?
dek	adj.	fine, good
səgenaxan = əsgenaxan	exp.	thank you cf. inf. amesegenəŋ "thank"
2-18		
əndarma-s	pro.	how, by means of what?
babur	n.	train; steamer
rumbəlla, ərrumbəlla	n.	airplane
xista	par.	till, until, as far as
otobis	n.	bus

2.1 Sentence / Lexeme Example 2

-əs	for	kurs-əs əndarma zək^wa? What is there for the breakfast?
sta	and	kurs-əs anki <i>sta</i> ənkulal zək^wa. There is Injera and egg(s) for the breakfast.
xa	to	wan-əy itopya <i>xa</i> tintəx^w(= tintux)? When did you come to Ethiopia?
-(ə)s	with, by	mekina-s laŋŋa gerka kacə. It takes two days by a car.
ka	emphatic	an <i>ka</i> ənda-x, ənjicici ŋəna da. <i>As for</i> me I'm here in the kitchen.
des fəna	ago	empəl soxet <i>des fən</i>-ax natte antux. I came here one week <i>ago</i> .
-a xista	till, until	natte-<i>wa</i> <i>xista</i> ki babur-əs antux. <i>Till</i> here I came by train.

2.2 Accusative / Contrast

a# > a-wa, i# > e, u/C# > u/C-o

wuxa senka ^w a cata?	< senka
how many brothers and sisters have you?	
šuxa ŋərja ^w a sta sedɔ̃a xun ^o caka.	< ŋərja / xun
I have three male(s) and four female(s).	
laŋŋa xun ^o caka, ŋərja ^w a kuci cakaya.	< xun
I have two female(s) but no male.	
sen ^o ki sena ^w a ki cakaya.	< sen / sena
I have neither brother nor sister.	
kobbe caka, debter ^o kuci cakaya.	< kobbi / debter
I have a pen, but have not a notebook.	

2.3 Infinitive Ending: --- (ə)ŋ

natte antux k^wanke kəntəŋ-ax.

It is to learn(< for to learn) the language that I came here.

2.4 Verb Paradigm

2.4.1 kasəŋ: "go"

	imper.	past	past rel.	present	fut.	pres.rel.
3.sg.m.		kas.x ^w a	kas.ux ^w	kas.ε	kas.awi	kas.aw
3.sg.f.		kat.x ^w a	kat.ut	kat.ε	ka.t.ati	ka.t.at
2.sg.c.	ka	kat.x ^w a	kat.ux	kat.ε	ka.t.axa	kat.ax
1.sg.c.		kas.x ^w a	kas.ux	kas.ε	kas.axa	kas.ax
3.pl.c.		kas.una	kas.unk ^w	ka.sana	kas.ank ^w i	kas.ank ^w
2.pl.c.	kasan	kat.una	kat.unx	ka.tana	kat.anxa	kat.anx
1.pl.c.		kan.x ^w a	kan.ux	kan.ε	kan.axa	kan.ax

2.4.2 yintəŋ / antəŋ: "come"

	imper.	past	past rel.	present	fut.	pres.rel.
3.sg.m.		yint.uxa	yint.ux	yint.ε	yint.awi	yint.aw
3.sg.f.		tint.uxa	tint.ux	tint.ε	tint.ati	tint.at
2.sg.c.	aw	tint.uxa	tint.ux	tint.ε	tin.taxa	tint.ax
1.sg.c.		ant.uxa	ant.ux	ant.ε	an.taxa	ant.ax
3.pl.c.		yint.una	yintu.nu	yint.ana	yint.a.na	yint.ank ^w
2.pl.c.	awan	tint.una	tintu.nu	tint.ana	tint.ana	tint.anx
1.pl.c.		antun.uxa	antun.u.x	antən.ε	antn.axa	antn.axa

Lesson 3 : Existential Verb

Conversation 3

(3-1)

- (Excuse me), is there a post-office around here?
- (yig^wen), ən zura-muri da busta ɲəna zək^wa ma?
- Yes, it is beside/near that big building.
- yiga, an dənɲulli gəmb naqta da zək^wa.

(3-2)

- How many pupils are there here now?
- ɲəši ənda wuxa kəntantka-y zəkun?
- There are six boys and seven girls.
- walta ɲərja sta laɲɲeta xun zəkuna.

(3-3)

- Is there coffee?
- bun zək^wa ma?
- Yes, there is, but no sugar.
- yiga zək^wa, šəkk^war kuci əlla.

(3-4)

- Almaz, where is (pol.) your mother?
- almaz, kəču wada-y zəkun?
- (She) is at home.
- ɲən da zəki.

(3-5)

- Where is your (pl.) school?
- ɛntoji-su kənti ɲəna wada-y zəkəx^w(= zəkux)?
- It is at Arat-kilo and very near from here.
- arat-kilo da-x, ən des malɲa digi yax.

(3-6)

- Hey boy, where are your father and mother today?

- mamuš, kə tala sta kə ču naka wada-y zəkun?

- Today (they are) in the market.

- naka gebel da-x.

Conversation lexeme 3

3-1

yig ^w ən [urban exp.]	gre.	excuse me
ən zura-muri da	par.	around here
busta ɣəna	n.	post office
zək ^w a 3.sg.m., zəki f., zəkuna 3.pl.	vi.	exist, inf. zəkun
an (sg.c.), annə (sg.m.), anna (sg.f.)	pro.	that
dəngulli/a	adj.	big
gəmb	n.	building
naqta < inf. naqin "be near, at side"	n.	side; beside

3-2

ɣəši	n.	now
ənda	pro.	here
walta	num.	six 6
laŋɣeta	num.	seven 7

3-3

bun	n.	coffee
šək ^w ar	n.	sugar
kuci	par.	but, however
əlla	par.	not exist; no (opp. of yes)

3-4

yi/kə/ɣi tala / ču Nk < tabəl / č ^w a Nr	n.	my / your / his, her father / mother
zəkun (relat.3.sg.pol./pl.) < zəkuna	vi.	exist in some place, inf. zəkun
ɣən	n.	house, home

3-5

kənti ɲəna	n.	school
-a	par.	binding marker; diminutive marker cf. kənti ɲəna "lesson house-a= school"
əntoji-su (2.pl.) + kənti ɲəna (Nsg.m.)	pro.	your (pl.) school.Nr
zəkəx^w (rel. = zəkux)	vi.	cf. zəkx^wa "exist"
ən des	pro.	from here
malɲa	adv.	very, much
digi m., dega f.	adj.	near

3-6

mamuš	n.	(hey) boy
kə tala sta kə ču (< tabəl / č^wa)	n.	your father and mother =parents
naka	n.	today
gebel	n.	market

3.1 Verb Paradigm gem "descend" / inf. geməŋ (Tone is based on Hetzron's work)

3.1.1 affirmative

	past	perf.	pres.
3.sg.m.	gem.x ^w à	gem.a	gem.é
3.sg.f.	gemt.óx ^w à	gemt.a	gemt.é
2.sg.c.	gemt.óx ^w à	gemt.a	gemt.é
1.sg.c.	gem.x ^w à	gem.a	gem.é
3.pl.c.	gem.únà	gem.ka	gem.ánà
2.pl.c.	gemt.únà	gemt.óka	gemt.ánà
1.pl.c.	gemn.óx ^w à	gemn.a	gemn.é

	future	gerund	juss./impe.
3.sg.m.	gem.áwi	gem.amá	gem.ós
3.sg.f.	gemt.áti	gemt.ata	gemt.ós
2.sg.c.	gemt.áxá	gemt.ata	gém!
1.sg.c.	gem.áxá	gem.ata	gem.ós
3.pl.c.	gem.ank ^w i	gem.kamá	gem.ínis
2.pl.c.	gemt.anxa	gem.tókamá	gem.án!
1.pl.c.	gemn.axa	gem.nana	gem.nós

3.1.2 negative

	past	present	future	subj. / proh.
3.sg.m.	gem.aya	gém.ala	gemati.wi	gem.atí.ta
3.sg.f.	gemt.aya	gém.ala	gemati.ti	gem.atí.ta
2.sg.c.	gemt.aya	gem.ála	gemati.xa	gimé(-ki)!
1.sg.c.	gem.aya	gem.ála	gemati.xa	gem.atí.ta
3.pl.c.	gem.kaya	gém.ala	gemati.nk ^w i	gemat.ínta
2.pl.c.	gemt.ókaya	gém.ala	gemati.nxa	gimmén(-ki)!
1.pl.c.	gemn.aya	gemn.ála	gemnati.nxa	gemn.atínta

3.2 Verb Paradigm zək^wa "exist" / əlla "not exist (invar.)"

	pers.pron.	afform.pres.	rela.	negative pres.(invar.)
3.sg.m.	ŋi	zək ^w a	zəkux~ zəkəx ^w	
3.sg.f.	ŋi	zəki	zəkix ^w	
2.sg.c.	ənt	zəki	zəkix ^w	
1.sg.c.	an	zək ^w a	zəkux~ zəkəx ^w	
				əlla
3.pl.c.	ŋaji	zəkuna	zəkuna	
2.pl.c.	əntoji	zəkina	zəkin	
1.pl.c.	ənoji	zək ^w na	zək ^w nix	

Lesson 4 : Possessive, Adjective and Demonstrative

Conversation 4

(4-1)

- What is this thing called in Awi Language?
- ənnə dib awŋi-s əndarma-y ste?
- It is called "blackboard"
- "carki sank" ste.

(4-2)

- Is your home large?
- kə x^wa əssan ma?
- No, it is very narrow.
- əlla, malŋa cəbab yax.

(4-3)

- Is Addis Abeba a big city?
- addis abeba dəngulli ketem ma?
- Yes, it is bigger than all(=it's a city that exceeds all).
- yiga, wəllik^w des xəsaw ketem yax.

(4-4)

- Is he (pol.) a good doctor (pol.)?
- ŋa guud akimka ma?
- Yes, he is a very good doctor.
- yiga, malŋa guud akimka yax.
- No, he is not so good doctor.
- ayy, malŋa guud akim gatiw.

(4-5)

- Where are good and big shops?
- guudka sta xəsantka sukka wada-y zəkun?
- They are in Piyassa.
- piyassa da zəkuna.

(4-6)

- Who is she (pol.)? Isn't she (pol.) your mother?
- ənniŋa ay-əy? kə ču ganku(= gatink^wi) ma?
- No, she is my aunt.
- əlla, yi akəsta-x(=y-akəsta-x).

(4-7)

- Whose are these books?
- ənni mecaŋka ak^w-əy?
- One is mine and another one is Almaz'es.
- əmpəl ki yəw, əlliw ki almaz-u.

(4-8)

- How many boys and girls(=male and female children) in this room?
- ənnə ben ax da wəxa ɲərja sta xun əncari zəkun?
- There are twenty boys and ten girls.
- laŋɲa ɲərja sta cəkka xun əncari zəkuna.

(4-9)

- How many brothers and sisters have you, Agalu?
- wəxa senkawa-y cata, agalu?
- I have two sisters but no brother. How about you, Khira?
- laŋɲa xuno caka, ɲərje kuci cakaya. ənt sa xəra?
- I have neither brother nor sister.
- an ka seno ki senawa ki cakaya.

(4-10)

- Whose (f.) is this cat (f.)? Is it yours, Almaz?
- ənna anɟučča at-əy? kət ma, almaz?
- It isn't mine but my friend's (f.).
- yit gititi, yi acceba-st ax.

(4-11)

- What is that big building?
- an dəngulli gəmb əndarma-y?
- It is Ethiopian National Bank.
- "itopya-w ager-u bank" yax.

(4-12)

- Who is that beautiful girl?
- anna kərca anqa(~ancaxa) ay-əy?
- Which (f.) one? Tall one or short one?
- wašena-y? leggesema ma deddeŋa-y?
- Short one.
- deddeŋa.
- She is my sister.
- ŋi ka yi ččuja-x.

(4-13)

- How many houses are there in this village?
- ən da muri da wəxa ŋən zək^wa?
- There are about twenty.
- ban laŋŋarŋa yax anku zəkuna.

Conversation lexeme 4

4-1

ən (c.) ənni (m.), ənna (f.) / ənnək ^w (pl.)	pro.	this / these
an (c.) anni (m.), anna (f.) / annək ^w (pl.)	pro.	that / those
dib	n.	thing, substance
awŋi	n.	Awi Language
-ŋi	n.	language
-s	par	by, with; in
carki sank	n.	blackboard
carki/a	adj.	black, inf. carkətəŋ "be black"
sank	n.	board, door

4-2	
x ^w a = xo Nk	n. home, family
əssan, inf. əssanəŋ	adj. large, wide
cəbab, inf. cebebəŋ	adj. narrow, small
4-3	
dənguli (l.), dəndulli (h.)	adj. big, large
ketem	n. town, city
wəlliw (m.), wəlliwa (f.) / wəllik ^w (pl.)	adj. other, another
xəs / xəs.x ^w a, inf. xəsəŋ, xəsanti/a adj.	vi. be bigger, be greater, exceed
4-4	
guud	adj. good
akimka (pol.) < akim	n. doctor
ayy = əlla = gatiw	cxc. no (opp. of yes)
malŋa ... gatiw (3.sg.m.)	phr. is/are not so ...
4-5	
suk / sukka	n. shop, store
4-6	
ənni ŋa	pro. this person (pol.c.)
gank ^w = gatink ^w (3.c.pol.)	vi. not to be
yi akəsta = y-akəsta	n. my aunt
4-7	
mecaf / mecafka	n. book
aw (sg.m.), at (sg.f.) / ak ^w (pl.)	pro. whose
əlliw (sg.m.), əlliwa (sg.f.) / əllik ^w (pl.)	pro. the other(s)
ki	par. marker of contrast/opposition
kəw (m.), kət (f.)	pro. your, yours
-u ~ w	par. marker of possession, cf.almaz-u "Almaz'es" itopya-w ager-u bank "Ethiopia's nation's bank > Ethiopian National Bank"
4-8	
ben	n. room, class

ax	n.	inside
əncari	n.	children, boys
laŋŋarŋa	num.	twenty 20
cəkka	num.	ten 10
4-9		
sen / senka Nr	n.	brother; Geschwester
sena / senka Nr	n.	sister, brother(s) and sister(s)
...ki...ki + Neg.	par.	neither...nor
4-10		
ən (c.) ənnə (sg.m.), ənna (sg.f.); ənnik ^w (pl.)	pro.	this / these
an (c.) annə (sg.m.), anna (sg.f.); annik ^w (pl.)	pro.	that / those
angučči/a // angučka	n.	cat
yəw (m.), yit (f.) / yək ^w (pl.)	pro.	my, mine
acceb.a Nk / Nr	n.	friend
su (sg.m.), st (sg.f.); sk ^w (pl.)	par.	possessive marker before Nr
4-11		
ager Nr (= afa Nk)	n.	nation, land, homeland
C-u, V-w (sg.m.)	par.	possessive marker (sg.m.)
bank	n.	bank
4-12		
annə (m.), anna (f.)	pro.	that
kərçi/a	adj.	cute, beautiful, handsome
anqa / anqanqa	n.	maiden, young woman, virgin; Miss(= Amh. wayzarit)
əncay / əncari	n.	boy
əncaxa / əncaxari	n.	girl
wašini (m.), wašena (f.)	pro.	which?
liggisimi (m.), leggesema (f.)	adj.	tall, long, inf. legesəŋ "be long"
deddeŋ.a	adj.	short
yi cce / cceri Nk	n.	my brother
= yəw sen / yək ^w senka Nr		
yi ččuja / cceri Nk	n.	my sister
= yit sena / yək ^w senka Nr		

4-13

muri	n.	village
ban + Num.	par.	about, approximately
yax anku	vi.	be alike

4.1 Genitive Expression

your father's father:	kə tala- <i>s</i> tala [Nk m. -s Nk m.]
your father's brother:	kə tala- <i>su</i> sen [Nk m. -su Nr m.]
your father's brothers:	kə tala- <i>s</i> ceri [Nk m. -s Nk pl.]
your father's brothers:	kə tala- <i>sk</i> ^w senka [Nk m. -su Nr pl.]
your mother's mother:	kə ču- <i>s</i> č ^w a [Nk f. -s Nk f.]
your mother's sister:	kə ču- <i>st</i> sena [Nk f. -st Nr f.]
your mother's sisters:	kə ču- <i>sk</i> ^w senka [Nk f. -sk ^w Nr pl.]
your brother's job:	kə cce- <i>su</i> əncəxi [Nk m. -su Nr m.]
your sister's job:	kə ččuja- <i>su</i> əncəxi [Nk f. -su Nr m.]
my friend's (m.) dog (m.):	yi acceb- <i>su</i> gəseŋ [Nk m. -su Nr m.]
my friend's (f.) dog (m.):	yi acceba- <i>su</i> gəseŋ [Nk f. -su Nr m.]
my friend's (f.) cat (f):	yi acceba- <i>st</i> angučča [Nk f. -st Nr f.]
my friends' (pl.) cats (pl):	yi accebka- <i>sk</i> ^w angučka [Nk pl. -sk ^w N pl.]
your (pat./mat.) uncle (=your parent's brother):	ke tala- <i>s/ču-s</i> ce [Nk c.-s Nk m.] =kə tala- <i>su/ču-su</i> sen [Nk c.-su Nr m.] =k-aga
my (pat./mat.) aunt (=your parent's sister):	yi tala- <i>s/ču-s</i> čuja [Nk f.-s Nk f.] =yi tala- <i>st/ču-st</i> sena [Nk f.-st Nr f.] =y-akəsta
a university student (m.):	yunbersiti- <i>w</i> kəntanti
a university student (f.):	yunbersiti- <i>t</i> kəntanta
university student (pl.):	yunbersiti- <i>k</i> ^w kətantka
their (pl.) teacher's (m.) name (m.):	ŋaji- <i>su</i> kəncanti- <i>w</i> səm [Nr m.-u/w Nr m.]
your (pl.) teacher's (f.) name (m.):	əntoji- <i>st</i> kəncanta- <i>w</i> səm [Nr f.-u/w Nr m.]
our teacher's (pol.) name (pol.):	ənoji- <i>sk</i> ^w kəncantkə- <i>k</i> ^w səmka [Nr pl./pol. -k ^w Nr pl./pol.]

the university student's (m.) dog (m.)	yunbersiti- <i>w</i> kəntanti- <i>su</i> gəseŋ
the university student's (f.) cat (f.)	yunbersiti- <i>t</i> kəntanti- <i>st</i> angučča
the university student's (pl.) horses (pl.)	yunbersiti- <i>k^w</i> kəntanti- <i>sk^w</i> feres
Kebede's / Almaz'es book (m.):	keddede- <i>w</i> / almaz- <i>u</i> mecaf
Abebe's son and Abeba's daughter:	abebe ya sta abeba ja = abebe- <i>w</i> jer sta abeba- <i>t</i> jera
this her silver and gold cross (m.acc.):	ən <i>sa</i> ŋiw <i>sa</i> bərr- <i>u</i> <i>sa</i> sta work- <i>u</i> <i>sa</i> miskile
his horned and maned livestock (pl.acc.):	ŋik ^w <i>sa</i> jən jə- <i>k^w</i> <i>sa</i> sta gammə- <i>k^w</i> <i>sa</i> kamkawa

4.2 Possessive Pronoun + Possessed Nk / Nr

4.2.1 possessor: pronoun + possessed: Nk (kinship noun)

	kinship n. (sg.m.)	kinship n. (sg.f.)
3.sg.c.	ŋi tala (father)	ŋi ču (mother)
2.sg.c.	kə ra (son)	kə ja (daughter)
1.sg.c.	yi cce (brother)	yi ččuja (sister)
3.pl.c.	ŋa tala	ŋa ču
2.pl.c.	əntu ra	ənt ču
1.pl.c.	ən ce	ən čuja

	kinship n. (pl.)
3.sg.c.	ŋi cceri (brothers and sisters)
2.sg.c.	ki ri (sons and daughters)
1.sg.c.	yi cceri (brothers and sisters)
3.pl.c.	ŋa cceri
2.pl.c.	ənt ri
1.pl.c.	ən ceri

4.2.2 possessor: pronoun + possessed: Nr (regular noun)

	regular n. (sg.m.)	regular n. (sg.f.)
3.sg.c.	ɲiw biri (ox)	ɲit əll ^w a (cow)
2.sg.c.	kəw gəsən (dog)	kət angučča (cat)
1.sg.c.	yəw firisi (horse)	yit bəqla (mule)
3.pl.c.	ɲaji-su čen (bull)	ɲaji-st dax ^w ara (ass)
2.pl.c.	əntoji-su fəyeli (goat)	əntoji-st əll ^w a (cow)
1.pl.c.	ənoji-su biri (ox)	ənoji-st bəpla (mule)

	regular n. (pl.)
3.sg.c.	ɲik ^w bera (oxen) / nora (cows)
2.sg.c.	kək ^w gəsənka (dogs) / angučka (cats)
1.sg.c.	yək ^w feres (horses) / bəqəl (mules)
3.pl.c.	ɲaji-sk ^w bera (oxen)
2.pl.c.	əntoji-sk ^w nora (cows)
1.pl.c.	ənoji-sk ^w dax ^w ara (asses)

Vocaburary 4

4.1

taləb Nr, tala Nk	n.	father
č ^w a Nr, ču Nk	n.	mother
sen, sena / senka Nr	n.	brother, sister / Geschwester
ra, ya / ri Nk	n.	son
ja / riNk	n.	daughter
jer, jera / jerki Nr	n.	son, daughter / Kinder
ce / ceri Nk	n.	brother
čuja / ceri Nk	n.	sister
aga Nk	n.	uncle
akəsta Nk	n.	aunt
acceb.a Nk / Nr	n.	friend
mecaf	n.	book
firisi, feres / feres	n.	horse, mare
bərr	n.	silver;Ethiopian money unit Bərr

work	n.	gold
miskili	n.	cross
jənji	n.	horn
gamm	n.	mane
kimi / kimka	n.	livestock, cattle
4.2.2		
biri / bera	n.	ox
əll ^w a / nora	n.	cow
gəseŋ / gəseŋka	n.	dog
angučča / angučka	n.	cat
bəqla / bəqəl	n.	mule
čən	n.	bull
dax ^w ara / dax ^w ar	n.	ass

Lesson 5 : Possessive Expression

Conversation 5

(5-1)

- Kebede, how many brothers and sisters have you?
- kabbede, wuxa senkawa cata?
- I have two brothers but no sister. How about you, Almaz?
- laḡḡa senka caka, senawa kuci cakaya. ənt sa, almaz?
- I have neither brother nor sister. I am an only child.
- seno ki senawa ki cakaya. an ḡixuč-ax.

(5-2)

- Have you a notebook and a pen?
- debtero sta kobbe cata ma?
- I have a pen but no notebook.
- kobbe caka, debtero kuci cakaya.

(5-3)

- Mrs. Eva, how many children have you (pol.)?
- agala awwa, wuxa jerki-əy catka?
- I have five boys and a girl.
- ank^wa ḡərjawa sta əmpəla xunawa caka.

(5-4)

- How many rooms are there in your home / house?
- kə x^wa da wuxa ben zək^wa?
- There are a sitting room, a dining room and two bedrooms.
- salon, məgəb ḡəna sta laḡḡa xag ḡəna zək^wa.

(5-5)

- Is he (pol.) rich (pol.)?

- *ŋa adərka ma?*

- Yes, he has (pol.) a large farm.

He has (pol.) also many horned and maned livestock.

- *yiga, malŋa əssano ərše cayka.*

menčka jənjə-k^w sa sta gammə-k^w sa kəmkawa kila cayka.

(5-6)

- Have you (pl.) lessons on Saturdays?

- *kədami-s kənte catka ma?*

- No, on Saturday and on Sunday we have no lesson.

They are (our) holidays (< rest days).

- *əlla, kədami-s sta adg^wi-s kənte canaya.*

ərfetə-k^w gerəkka-x.

Conversation lexeme 5

5-1

caya (aff.pres), cayaya (neg.pres.) (3.sg.m. / 1.sg.)	vt.	have, possess; cf. paradigm of this lesson
cata (aff.pres), cataya (neg.pres.) (3.sg.f. / 2.sg.)	vt.	have, possess; cf. paradigm of this lesson
caka (aff.pres), cakaya (neg.pres.) (1.sg.)	vt.	have, possess; cf. paradigm of this lesson

kuci

ŋi xuči pro. alone, only

5-2

debter n. notebook

kobbi n. pen

5-3

jer m., jera f. / jerki pl. n. son, daughter, children

ank^wa num. five 5

əmpəl.a num. one 1

5-4	
x ^w a Nk	n. home, house, residence
ben	n. room
salon	n. sitting room, drawing room
məgəb ɣəna	n. dining room (< food / meal room + binder -a)
xag ɣəna	n. bedroom
N1 N2-a	pat. binding marker xag "bed" + ɣən-a "room + binder -a" > bedroom
5-5	
ader	n. rich person
əssan.a (inf. əssanəŋ)	adj. large, wide
ərši	n. farm
menči (inf. minčiŋ)	adj. many, much
jenji / jənjəka	n. horn
gamm / gamməka	n. mane
kəmi / kəmka (f.)	n. livestock, cattle jenj-u kəmi: cow, ox, bull, goat, sheep gamm-u kəmi: mule, donkey, horse
5-6	
kədami	n. Saturday
-s	par. on (day), with / by (instru.)
kənti	n. lesson (in school), education
adg ^w i	n. Sunday
ərfeti	n. rest, holiday
gerki / gerəkka	n. day

5.1 caya: "have"

	pers. pron.	present	past	pres.neg.	past neg.
3.sg.m.	ŋi	cay.a	caya šix ^w a	cay.aya	cayaya šix ^w a
3.sg.f.	ŋi	cat.a	cata štix ^w a	cat.aya	cataya štix ^w a
2.sg.c.	ənt	cat.a	cata štix ^w a	cat.aya	cataya štix ^w a
1.sg.c.	an	cak.a	caka štuxa	cak.aya	cakaya štuxa
3.pl.c.	ŋaji	cay.ka	cayka šina	cay.kaya	caykaya šina
2.pl.c.	əntoji	cat.ka	catka ština	cat.kaya	catkaya ština
1.pl.c.	ənnoji	can.a	cana šnuxa	can.aya	canaya šnuxa

5.2 possessive noun + possessed noun

5.2.1 possessor Nk + possessed Nk

	"father's brother" (=pat. uncle)	"mother's sister" (=mat. aunt)
3.sg.c.	ŋi tala-s ce	ŋi ču-s čuja
2.sg.c.	kə tala-s ce	kə ču-s čuja
1.sg.c.	yi tala-s ce	yi ču-s čuja
3.pl.c.	ŋa tala-s ce	ŋa ču-s čuja
2.pl.c.	ənt tala-s ce	ənt ču-s čuja
1.pl.c.	ən tala-s ce	ən ču-s čuja

	"brother's / sister's children" (=nephews / nieces)
3.sg.c.	ŋi cce-s / ččuja-s ri
2.sg.c.	kə cce-s / ččuja-s ri
1.sg.c.	yi cce-s / ččuja-s ri
3.pl.c.	ŋa cce-s / ččuja-s ri
2.pl.c.	ənt ce-s / čuja-s ri
1.pl.c.	ən ce-s / čuja-s ri

5.2.2 possessor Nk + possessed Nr

"father's Nr sg.m."

- 3.sg.c. **ŋi tala-su biri** (ox)
2.sg.c. **kə tala-su firisi** (horse)
1.sg.c. **yi tala-su gəseŋ** (dog)

- 3.pl.c. **ŋa tala-su biri** (ox)
2.pl.c. **ənt tala-su firisi** (horse)
1.pl.c. **ən tala-su gəseŋ** (dog)

"moher's Nr sg.f."

- 3.sg.c. **ŋi ču-st əll^wa** (cow)
2.sg.c. **kə ču-st bəqla** (mule)
1.sg.c. **yi ču-st angučča** (cat)

- 3.pl.c. **ŋa ču-st əll^wa** (cow)
2.pl.c. **ənt ču-st bəqla** (mule)
1.pl.c. **ən ču-st angučča** (cat)

"sons' / daughters' Nr pl."

- 3.sg.c. **ŋi ra-sk^w bera** (oxen)
2.sg.c. **kə ra-sk^w nora** (cows)
1.sg.c. **yi ra-sk^w bəqəl** (mules)

- 3.pl.c. **ŋa ja-sk^w bera** (oxen)
2.pl.c. **ənt ja-sk^w nora** (cows)
1.pl.c. **ənn ja-sk^w bəqəl** (mules)

5.2.3 possessor Nr + possessed Nk

- 3.sg.c. ɲiw čen-s tala (bull's father)
 ɲit nusa-s č^wa (baby-calf's mother)
 ɲik^w gəseŋka-s ri (dog's children)
- 2.sg.c. kəw firisi-s ce (horse's brother)
 kət angučča-s ja (cat's female child)
 kək^w angucka-s ri (cats' children)
- 1.sg.c. yəw gəseŋ-s ya (dog's male child)
 yət əll^wa-s ja (cow's female child)
 yək^w nora-s ri (cows' children)
- 3.pl.c. ɲaji-su gəseŋ-s ya (dog's male child)
 ɲaji-st dax^wara-s ja (ass'es female child)
 ɲaji-sk^w angučka-s ri (cats' children)
- 2.pl.c. ətoji-su čen-s ya (bull's male child)
 ətoji-st angučča-s ja (cat's female child)
 ətoji-sk^w nora-s ri (cows' children)
- 1.pl.c. ənoji-su firisi-s ya (horse's male child)
 ənoji-st feresas-s ja (mare's female child)
 ənoji-sk^w dax^war-s ri (asses' children)

5.2.4 possessor Nr + possessed Nr

- 3.sg.c. **ɲiw čən-u jənji** (bull's horn)
 ɲit əll^wa-t new (cow's calf)
 ɲik^w tay-k^w latka (sheep's fat-tails)
- 2.sg.c. **kəw sen-u gəseŋ** (brother's dog)
 kət taya-t gəlgela (ewe's lamb f.)
 kək^w dəx^war-k^w cəmarka (donkeys' tails)
- 1.sg.c. **yəw fəyeli-w ɲari** (goat's head)
 yit dax^wara-t gəlgela (ass'es female child)
 yək^w feres-k^w lukka (horses' legs)
- 3.pl.c. **ɲaji-su čen-u cəmar** (bull's tail)
 ɲaji-st əll^wa-t musa (cow's baby-calf f.)
 ɲaji-sk^w bəqəl-k^w yingəka (mules' hooves)
- 2.pl.c. **əntoji-su biri-w aay** (ox'es hide / skin)
 əntoji-st č^wa-t mokena (she-goat's young one f.)
 əntoji-sk^w gəmel-k^w lukka (camels' legs)
- 1.pl.c. **ənnoji-su čen-u bul** (bull's hump)
 ənnoji-st sena-t angučča (sister's cat)
 ənnoji-sk^w dax^war-k^w gamməka (donkeys' manes)

Vocaburary 5.2

5.2.4

jənji	n.	horn
new	n.	calf
cəmar	n.	tail
lək^w, luk / lukka	n.	leg
ying	n.	hoof
aay	n.	hide
gamm	n.	mane
ančari	n.	claw
gəmela / gəmel	n.	camel
bul	n.	hump

Lesson 6 : Personal Pronoun

Conversation 6

(6-1)

- Hi.
- tino yən.
- Hi.
- əsgenaxan(= səgenaxaŋ), tino yən.
- I am Almaz. What is your name?
- an almaz stɛ. ənt ay-əy sti?
- My name is Khira.
- xəra stɛ.

(6-2)

- What is your (pol.) name?
- əntəw səm ayy(= ay-əy)?
- My name is Agalu. And you (pol.)?
- yəw səm agalu-ax. əntu sa?
- My name is Kebede Haylu.
- yəw səm kebede aylu stɛ.

(6-3)

- Is he (pol.) your father?
- ŋa kə tala ma?
- No, he is my uncle.
- gatiw, yi aga-x(= y-aga-x).
- Is he your father's brother (pol.)?
- kə tala-s cerri ma(~kə tala-sk^w senka ma)?
- No, he is my mother's brother.
- gatiw, yi ču-s ce ax(~yi ču-su sen yax).

(6-4)

- Is your school near to your home?

- kəw kənti ŋəna kə x^wa-s digi ma?

- No, it is very far.

- gatiw, malŋa əčči-ax.

- Is the building new?

- ənn gəmbi skawi ma?

- It is a little old.

- cəlle waliji ax.

(6-5)

- Is she your sister?

- ŋi kə ččuja ma?

- Yes she is my sister.

- yiga, yi ččuja-x.

- Is she elder than you?

- kə des xəstanta ma?

- No, she is younger than I.

- gatit, yi des əncanta-x.

(6-6)

- Is this big dog (m.) yours?

- ənnə dəngulli gəseŋ kəw ma?

- It isn't mine but my friend's / relative's (m.).

- yəw gatiw, yi acceb-u / wədaj-u.

(6-7)

- What is your brother's job?

- kə cce-su əncəxi əndarma-y?

- He is an engineer / constructor.

- gəmbini-ax.

- And your sister's ?

- kə ččuja-su sa?

- She has no job. She studies now at the university(=is a university student).

- əncəxe cataya. naka yunbersti da kənti(~ yumbersti-t kəntanta-x).

(6-8)

- My children (*lit.* my sons), what (< who) is (m.) the name of your (pl.) teacher called?

- yi ri, əntoji-su kəncanti-w səm ay ste?

- She (pol.) is called (pol.) Miss Ayda.

- ŋa anqa ayda stana.

- Is she a good (pol.) teacher (pol.)?

- gudka kəncantka ma?

- Yes, she is a very excellent and beautiful lady (*lit.* woman).

- yiga, malŋa kərca sta šegga xuna-x.

Conversation lexeme 6

6-1

tino yən

imp. hi!, good day!

(Amh. *ṭena yəṣṭəlləññ*)

əsgenaxan

imp. answer to the preceding greeting, thank you.

ste, sti (pres.1./2.sg.)

v. be called / named

6-2

əntəw (pol.)

pro. your < əntu: you (pol.)

6-3

yi / kə cce (Nk)

n. my / your brother

yi / kə čuja (Nk)

n. my / your sister

yəw / kəw sen (Nr)

n. my / your brother

yit / kət sena (Nr)

n. my / your sister

ce / ceri Nk = sen / senka Nr

n. brother

čuja / ceri Nk = sena / senka Nr

n. sister

ra, ya / ri Nk = jer / jerki Nr

n. son

ja / ri Nk = jera / jerki Nr

n. daughter

kə tala-s ce = kə tala-su sen

n. your (pat.) uncle
(=your father's brother)

yi ču-s ce = yi ču-su sen

n. my (mat.) uncle
(=my mother's brother)

kə tala-s čuja = kə tala-st sena	n.	your (pat.) aunt (=your father's sister)
yi ču-s čuja = yi ču-st sena	n.	my (mat.) aunt (=my mother's sister)
yi / kə / ŋi Nk-s Nk c. (Nk is a kinship noun) (Nr is a normal noun) ŋiw sen st jera-t angučča		=yi/ kə / ŋi Nk-su Nr (m.) / st Nr (f.) "brother"=Nk: (c)ce, Nr: sen "sister"=Nk: (č)čuja, Nr: sena his brother's daughter's cat (= his niece's cat)
kəw sena-su jer-u gəseŋ		your sister's son's dog (= your nephew's dog)
yək^w senka-sk^w jer-k^w bera		my brothers' (and) sisters' children (= my nephews' (and) nieces' oxen)
annojisk^w tala-s sta ču-s senkə-k^w nora 6-4		our parents' brothers' (and) sisters' cows (=our uncles' and aunts' cows)
digi, inf. digəŋ "be near"	adj.	near
malŋa	adv.	very, much
əčči, inf. əččiŋ "be far"	adj.	far, remote
gəmbi	n.	building
skawi/a	adj.	new
cəlle	adv.	a little
waliji (m.) waleja (f.), inf. walijəŋ 6-5	adj.	old, aged
kə čuja = kət sena	n.	your sister
xəstanti/a, inf. xəsəŋ "exceed"	adj.	old, elder, big
əncanti/a, inf. ənciŋ "be less, thin" 6-6	adj.	younger
dəngulli/a (h.), dənguli/a (l.)	adj.	big
gəseŋ	n.	dog
wədəja	n.	related person, relative
Nk (sg.m.)-su Nr (sg.m.)	par.	yi acceb-su gəseŋ "my friend's (m.) dog"

Nk a (sg.f.)-su Nr (sg.f.)	par.	yi acceba-st angučča "my friend's (f.) cat"
6-7		
Nk (sg./pl.)-s Nr (sg./pl.)	par.	yi cce-s/ččuja-s/cceri-s ri "my brother's /-' and sister's /-) children=my nephews and nieces"
əncəxi, inf. əncaxəstəŋ gəmbini	n.	job, work
	n.	constructor, engineer, gəmbi "building"
naka	adv.	at present, now, today
yumbersiti	n.	university
da	par.	in, at
kənti / kəntə.x ^w a / kəntə (m.), kənti (f.)	vt.	learn, study, (inf.) kəntiŋ
kəntanti/a	n.	student, pupil
Nr1 (sg.m./f.) -t Nr2 (sg.f.)	par.	N2 (sg.m.) of N1 (sg.f.) yumbersti-t kəntanta "university girl student"
Nr1 (sg.m./f.) -u/w Nr2 (sg.m.)	par.	N2 (sg.m.) of N1 (sg.m.) əntoji-su/-st kəncanti/a-w səm "your (pl.) teachers' names"
anqa	n.	virgin; Miss
guudka kəncantka (ka=plurality of politeness)	n.	a good teacher (pol.c.)
kərçi/a	adj.	excellent, good
šeggi/a	adj.	cute, beautiful, handsome
xuna / xun, xunaxun	n.	woman, wife

Lesson 7 : Particularising Marker and Object Marker

Conversation 7

(7-1)

- Whose is this little (male) child?
- ənni cəlli sər aw-əy?
- He is Mrs. Abeba's son.
- agala abeba ya-x.
- How about that big girl?
- anna dəngulla/xəsanta sa?
- She is Mr. Abebe's daughter.
- agal abebe ja-x.

(7-2)

- Today I saw a camel (f.) on the way.
- naka dad da əmpəla gəmelawa kantəx^wa.
- How is it like (of which kind is it)?
- wata k^wa-t sa-y?
- Very big one
- malḥa dəngullawa.

(7-3)

- Where from have you bought this pretty ring?
- ənnə sa šegge tibane wades jewtux?
- I bought (it) at Piazza yesterday.
- ayḥa piyassa des jeppuxa.

(7-4)

- Where does your (pol.) elder daughter live now?
- xəsanta əntu ja ḥəši wada-y zəkix^w?
- She is in Harar and my younger daughter is in Gondar.
- arer da-x. əncanta yi ja ki gonder da-x.

(7-5)

- Who hit this my little son?
- ənnə sa əncante yi ra sa ay-əy tasəx^w?
- Your neighbour's son hit (him).
- kə walana-s ya tasx^wa.

(7-6)

- How much old are your children (how much (and) how much are your children's ages)?
- ki ri-su dəmi wuxa wuxa-y(=wəxa-y)?
- The elder (m.) is nine (years old) and the younger (f.) is six year old.
- xəsanti sesta, əncanta ki walta ametka-x.

(7-7)

- Who is that beautiful woman.
- anna šegga xuna ay-y?
- She is my friend Haylu's wife.
- yi acceb aylu qqa-x.

Conversation lexeme 7

7-1

cəlli/a, celle (adv.) "a little"	adj.	small, little, tiny
sər (m.), səra (f.); sərəsəri (pl.)	n.	baby, child, boy, girl
agala, wizaru	n.	Mrs., Madame
yi ra / yi ri Nk	n.	my son / my children
yi-ja / yi ri Nk	n.	my daughter / my children
jer / jerki Nr	n.	son, children
jera / jerki	n.	daughter, children
ya (m.), ja (f.); ri (pl.)	n.	someone's son / daughter / children
anqa	n.	Miss; maiden, virgin
agal	n.	Mr.
agala = wizaru	n.	Mrs.
dəngulli/a	adj.	big, elder
xəsanti/a	adj.	big, elder

7-2

naka	n.	today
kant / kantə.x ^w a / kantɛ, kanti	vt.	see, look
dad	n.	way, road
dad da		on the way
əmpəl.a	num.	one 1
gəməla (f.)	n.	camel
wani k ^w a-w (m.) wata k ^w a-t (f.)	adv.	what status/kind, how (=status)?
k ^w a	n.	kind, species, status
-wa, -o, -e	par.	particularising / object marker

7-3

šeggi/a	adj.	nice, pretty, beautiful
jippi / jewu-xa (3.sg.m.), jewtu-xa (2.sg.f.), jeppu-xa (1.sg.c.)	vt.	buy
tibani	n.	(finger-)ring
ayŋa	n.	yesterday

7-4

ŋəši	n.	now
əncanti/a	adj.	young(er), little

7-5

tas / tas.x ^w a, tasəŋ	vt.	hit, strike
walana Nk	n.	neighbour
ya (m.), ja (f.) Nk	n.	child, boy, girl

7-6

kə [+Nk sg.]	pro.	your
cf. ki ri "your children"		
dəmi	n.	age
sesta	num.	nine 9
walta	num.	six 6
amet	n.	year, years old

7-7

yi / kə / ŋi qqa Nk (=xuna Nr)	n.	my / your / his wife
aylu qqa	n.	Haylu's wife

Lesson 8 : Postposition (I)

Conversation 8

(8-1)

- Where is the station / place of the train?
- babur-u səfri wada-y?
- It is at the end of this road.
- ənnə dad-u widwidi da-x.

(8-2)

- What is your job?
- kəw əncəxi əndarma-y?
- I am a university student (m.) and have no job.
- an yunbersiti-w kəntanti yax, əncəxe cakaya.
- And your father's job?
- kə tala-su əncəxi sa?
- He is a doctor.
- akim yax.

(8-3)

- Whose (m.) is this pen?
- ənnə kobbi aw-əy?
- My friend Yohannes'es.
- yi acceb yiwannəs-u yax.

(8-4)

- Mama, how long is the giraff's neck!
- əmmi, tarinki-w gurgəm(=g^wərgəm) watɲa liggisimi-y!
- Yes, the elephant's trunk is also long.
- yiga, ənni-w kumbi kila liggisimi yax.

(8-5)

- For whom did you buy this dress? For your daughter or your sister?
- ənn sa səyo jewtux ays-əy? kə ja-s ma kə ččuja-s-əy?
- For my elder daughter.
- xəsanta yi ja-s yax.

(8-6)

- Why(=for what) did you (pol.) come to Ethiopia?
- itopyawa əndarmada-y tintunu?
- I came to teach English.
- ənglizɟe kənciŋ-s antuxa.

(8-7)

- Almaz, where is your brother now? Is he at home?
- almaz, kə cce ɲəši wada-y zək^wa? ɲən da ma?
- Yes, he is in the bathroom.
- yiga, qusicci ɲəna da zək^wa.

(8-8)

- What is Injera made / baked from?
- anki əndarma des ənjicəste?
- It is made from Teff.
- tafi des ənjicəste.

(8-9)

- When is the breakfast(-time)?
- kurs-u giz wani-əy?
- The breakfast is from seven(=one) to nine(=three) and half.
- kurs-u giz əmpəl des šuxa saata sta kindi xista-x.

(8-10)

- How do you drink tea? With milk or lime?
- šaye əndarmas-əy zəqew, xoši-s(=x^waši-s) ma lumini-s?
- I would like it with milk, please (< please, let it be with milk for me).
- ader, x^waši-s yaxa-yəs.

(8-11)

- By what/how did you go to Harar, by bus or by train?
- arer-a əndarma-s katəx^w, otobis-əs ma babur-s-əy?
- As far as Diredawa I went by train and then by bus.
- dəredewa-wa xista ki babur-əs, an des əngra ki otobis-əs kasx^wa.

(8-12)

- Are you fine, Almaz?
- deketa ma almaz?
- I am fine but have the work is much (on me)!
- I have no time to rest from morning till evening.
- deketa, yaxes gu əncəxi minče.
- səgəl des kəmo xista furicce gizo cakaya.

(8-13)

- Until what time will you stay at the office today?
- naka wuxa saato xista biru da səxte?
- I always stay till seven(=one) o'clock in the evening.
- xullu čif kəm des əmpəlo saato xista zək^wε.

(8-14)

- In Ethiopia which city is the oldest of all?
- itopya da wəllak^w des wašini ketem-əy məngisu?
- You don't know?! It is Axum.
- taqqaya ma?! aksum yax.

(8-15)

- When did you come to Ethiopia?
- itopyawa wani-əy tintux?
- I came a month ago.
- əmpəl arfi des fəna antuxa.

(8-16)

- Where are going?
- wuša-y kataw?

- I'm going to the Piassa to buy a dress for my daughter.
- yi ja-s kəbiso jəwŋ-a piyassawa kasaxa.

(8-17)

- How is the hyena's cry?
- əx^wi-w dəməc watŋa-y?
- It is like human laughing.
- aqqi-w sta əxtita gi yax.

(8-18)

- How cute is your boy! His eyes are like as yours.
- ki ra watŋa šeggi-əy! ŋiw əll kəw sta gi yax!
- The nose and the mouth is like his father's.
- əssan sta xəmbi ŋi tala sta gi yax.

(8-19)

- About what shall I talk?
- əndara dəqq^wəs-əy?
- Tell (us) a little about your family.
- kə ŋənt aqq-u sa cəlle dəqq^wi.

(8-20)

- What did he (pol.) write about Ethiopia?
- ŋa itopya-s əndara-y cafun?
- He wrote (pol.) of Ethiopian people's culture.
- itopya-w zəb baylu sa cafuna.

(8-21)

- How do you drink coffee, with sugar or black.
- buno əndarmas-əy zəqew, šəkk^war-s ma naxise-y?
- Without sugar. Sometimes I drink with salt.
- šəq^war gatita. əmpəlani əmpəlani čiwi-s zəqə.

(8-22)

- It is impossible to cut this cord without scissors nor knife.
- mək^wraçita axu kara gatita ənnə sa sibago tank^wcəŋ kalistala.

- You can cut it with (your) teeth.
- ənnə sa ərkw^wi-s tank^wcəŋ kaliste.

Conversation lexeme 8

8-1	
babur	n. train, railroad, steamer
səfri	n. position, place; station
babur-u səfri	n. railroad station
ənn, ənnə, ənni (m.sg.)	det. this
dad	n. road, way
-u, -w, -t, -k ^w ; -su, -st, -sk ^w	par. genitive marker
-o, -e, -wa	par. object / particularising marker
widwidi	n. end, extremity
da	par. at, in, on
8-2	
yunbersiti	n. university
kəntanti/a	n. student, pupil
sa	n. as for, how about
8-3	
aw (sg.m), at (sg.f.); ak ^w (pl.)	pro. whose (cf. ay: who)
acceb.a (Nk/Nr)	n. friend
8-4	
əmmi, əmmamma	n. Mama
tarinki	n. giraff
g ^w ərgəm, gurgəm	n. neck
watŋa!	n. how!
liggisimi (m.), leggesema (f.)	adj. long, tall
ənni	n. elephant
kumbi	n. trunk (of an elephant)
8-5	
səy	n. cloth, dress
ay-s	pro. for whom?
8-6	
əndarmada-y	pro. for what?, for what purpose?
ənglizŋi	pr.n. English

kəncəŋ (inf.) 8-7	vt.	teach
yi cce / yi cceri Nk	n.	my brother Nk
yi ččuja / yi cceri Nk	n.	my sister Nk
sen (m.), sena (f.); senka (pl.) Nr 8-8	n.	brother, sister; Geschwester Nr
anki	n.	Injera (Amh. ənjarə)
tafi	n.	Teff
ənjic / ənjici.x ^w a / ənjicəste (pres.pass.) 8-9	vt.	bake, make
giz	n.	time
saat	n.	hour, o'clock
kindi	n.	half
xista 8-10	par.	till, until
šayi	n.	tea
əndarmas-əy	pro.	with what, how
zəq / zəq.x ^w a	vt.	drink
xoši, x ^w aši	n.	milk
-s	par.	by, with
lumini	n.	lime, lemon
ader	adv.	please
yaxəs (3.sg.m.juss.)	vi.	let it be
yax-ayəs (3.sg.m.juss.)	vi.	let it be. for him / her / me / them / us (3./1., sg./pl.)
8-11		
katəx ^w (past.rel.2.sg. < kat.x ^w a)	vi.	go / ka / kas.xwa, inf. kasəŋ
otobis	n.	bus
andes əngra 8-12	par.	then, after that, from there
dikiti (f.), deketa (f.)	adj.	fine, well
yaxes gu	phr.	but, however
minč / minčə.x ^w a, inf. minčiŋ	vi.	be much, be numerous
səgəl, səgla	n.	morning, in the morning

kəm, kəmmani	n.	evening
furicci < furi / furu.xa (vi.), inf. furin	n.	rest
8-13		
naka	n.	today
biru	n.	office (< Fr. bureau)
səq / səx.x ^w a / səxε, inf. səxəŋ	vi.	remain, stay
8-14		
des	par.	than, from
wašini (m.), wašena (f.)	pro.	which?
ketem	n.	town, city
walla m., wallawa f., wallakw pl.	adj.	all
məngisu	adj.	ancient, old
yaqqi / yaqqu.xa (neg.pres. yaqqaya)	vt.	know, inf. aqqəŋ, yaqqəŋ
8-15		
wani-əy	pro.	when?
arfi	n.	week
fəna	par.	ago, before
8-16		
wuša-y	pro.	to where?
kəbis	n.	dress
jəwəŋ (inf.)	vt.	buy
8-17		
əxwi	n.	hyena
dəməc	n.	voice, roar
watŋa-y	pro.	how?
aqqi / aq, aqka	n.	human being, person
əx ^w tita < əx ^w axit / əx ^w axi.x ^w a	n.	laughter, inf. əxoxin, əx ^w axin
gi	par.	like, as
8-18		
šeggi/a	adj.	cute, nice, beautiful
əll	n.	eye
əssan	n.	nose
xəmbi	n.	mouth

N sta gi yax 8-19	phr.	resemble, look like N
dəqq ^w i / dəxu.xa = dibis / dibsə.x ^w a	vt.	tell, talk, inf. dəxuŋ = dibsəŋ
ŋənt-aq Nk	n.	family
cəlle 8-20	adv.	a little
ŋa (pol.)	pro.	he, she
-s	par.	about, on, concerning
cafi / cafu.xa, inf. cafiŋ	vt.	write
zəb	n.	people (=Amh. hizəb)
baylu 8-21	n.	culture (=Amh. bahəl)
zəq / zəq.x ^w a, inf. zəqəŋ	vt.	drink
naxise-y	phr.	without sugar, black, without anything
N-a gatita	phr.	without N
šəkk ^w ar	n.	sugar
əmpəlani əmpəlani	adv.	sometimes
čiwi 8-22	n.	salt
mək ^w račiti	n.	scissors
kari	n.	knife
-a gatita	phr.	without
sibag	n.	string
tank ^w əcəŋ (inf.)	n.	break, cut (rope, string, thread)
ər ^w i	n.	tooth, teeth
- / kalistə.x ^w a / kaliste	vi.	be possible, be able

8.1 Verb Paradigm "until"

V-**ómba** (affor.) / V-**tímba** (neg.) + **hista** [Hetzron p.24]

afformative	V- ómba	negative	V- tímba
3.sg.m.	gem.ómba	3.sg.m.	gem.tímba
3.sg.f.	gemt.ómba	3.sg.f.	gemt.itímba
2.sg.c.	gemt.ómba	2.sg.c.	gemt.itímba
1.sg.c.	gem.ómba	1.sg.c.	gem.tímba
3.pl.c.	gem.ínimba	3.pl.c.	gem.tínimba
2.pl.c.	gemt.ínimba	2.pl.c.	gemt.ítínimba
1.pl.c.	gemn.ómba	1.pl.c.	gemn.itímba

Lesson 9: Postposition (II)

Conversation 9

(9-1)

- Where are your home and your father's home?
- kə x^wa (=xo) sta kə tala-s x^wa wada-y?
- Our houses are in Piazza. My house is beside my father's.
- ən x^wa piyassa da-x. yi x^wa yi tala-s x^wa naqət da-x.

(9-2)

- Is your (pol.) home inside Addis Abeba city?
- ənt x^wa addis abeba ketem axa da ma?
- No, it is outside the city. Therefore I come to the office by car.
- gatiw, ketem des seg da-x. ən yaxŋ-əs biru-a mekina-s ante.

(9-3)

- You boys, don't play in the house!
- əntoji əncari, ŋən axa da ənkren ki!
- OKay, daddy.
- yaxas, abbabba.

(9-4)

- Where is my watch?
- yəw saat wada-y zəkəx^w?
- It was on the salon-table.
- salon-u terepizi da əšix^wa.

(9-5)

- Mama, haven't you seen my cat (f.) somewhere?
- əmmamma, yit sa anguččawa wade-s ki kante ma?
- A little while before she was under your bed.
- cəlli giz des fəna kəw xag sər da əštix^wa.

(9-6)

- What lesson have you (pl.) after English class?
- ənglizji-w kənti giz ben des falenga əndar kənte catka?
- We have Amharic lesson.
- amxarji-w sa kənte cana.

(9-7)

- What do you do after the supper?
- ərbat des əngra əndara-y əncaxəsti?
- I watch the television for a while.
- cəlli gizo televijino(=televižon) kante.

(9-8)

- Almaz, there is tea in that my office. But there is no milk nor sugar.
- almaz, an da yəw da biru da šahi zək^wa, x^waši sta šəkk^war kuci əlla.
- Okey Papa, I will bring (them) now.
- yaxas abbi(=abbabba), ɲəši yakkaxa-x.

(9-9)

- Please eat and drink (pol.).
- ader x^wan zəqqan.
- I'm eating and drinking. It's very tasty food!
- x^we zəqe malɲa kərɔi məgəb yax!

(9-10)

- I'm going to market.
- gebel-a kasaxa.
- I'm going, too. Let us go together.
- an kila kasaxa. abru kanəns.
- OKay.
- yaxas.

(9-11)

- My son, what do you want, honey-water or yoghurt?
- yi ra, əndara-y fataw, burzo ma ərgo-y?
- I want both honey-water and yoghurt, Mama.
- burzo ki ərgo ki fate.

(9-12)

- Papa, what do you drink before supper?
- abbastba, ərbat des fəna əndara-y zəqew?
- I drink mead or (home-made) beer.
- məše axu səlxə zəqə.

Conversation lexeme 9

9-1

x ^w a (Nk)	n.	home, house(=ηən: Nr)
sta	par.	and
ən (with Nk)	pro.	our
naqət, inf. naqij "be near"	adj.	near, N da "beside"

9-2

ketem	n.	town, city
ax	n.	inside, N axa da "inside N"
gatiw (3.sg.m.)	n.	he/it is not (negative copula verb)
seg	n.	outside of (N des seg)
ən yaxη-əs	phr.	because of this, therefore

9-3

əncay / əncari	n.	boy
əncaxa / əncaxari	n.	girl
ənkri / ənkru.xa, inf. ənkrəη	vi.	play
yaxas	phr.	Okey
abbabba	n.	Papa, Daddy (addressing form)

9-4

saat	n.	watch; hour, o'clock
salon	n.	sitting room, drawing room
terepizi	n.	table

da	part.	on, in, at
əʃix ^w a (3.sg.m.), əʃtix ^w a (3.sg.f./2.sg.)	vi.	was / were, inf. əʃiŋ
əʃtuxa = əʃtəx ^w a (1.sg.)		
9-5		
əmmamma = əmmi	n.	Mama (addressing form)
sa	part.	focus/intensive marker
wades ki	pro.	somewhere
celli giz	phr.	a little while
xag	n.	bed
sər da	part.	under N
9-6		
ənglizŋi	n.	English Language
kənti	n.	lesson, education
giz	n.	time
ben	n.	room, class, subject
N des falenga	phr.	after
əndar N	pro.	what N?
amxarŋi	n.	Amharic Language
9-7		
ərbat	n.	supper
des əngra	phr.	after
ancacəsti / ancaxəst.x ^w a	v.	work, make, do, inf. ancaxəstəŋ
cəlle gizo	phr.	for a while
televijin = televižon	n.	television
kant / kantə.x ^w a, kanti.x ^w a	vt.	see, look (pres.) kante, kanti (perf.) kanta, kante, inf. kantəŋ
9-8		
ŋəʃi	adv.	now, at once
yakki / yagu.xa // (fut.) yakaxa	vt.	bring, inf. agəŋ, yagəŋ
9-9		
ader	adv.	please
xu / xu.xa / x ^w e, xuye, inf. xuŋ	vt.	eat
zəq / zəq.x ^w a / zəqə, inf. zəqəŋ	vt.	drink
malŋa	adj.	much, very; many
kərci/a	adj.	good, nice, tasty

məgəb	n.	food, plate, dish
9-10		
gebel	n.	market
ka / kas.x^wa / (fut.1.sg.) kasaxa	vi.	go
an	pro.	I
kila	par.	also, too
abru	adv.	together
kanəns (juss.1.pl.) < ka / kas.x^wa	vi.	go
yaxas	sen.	Okey, all right
9-11		
fataw (pres.rel.2.c.) < fat / fay.x^wa	vt.	want; look for
burəz	n.	honey-water
ərgu	n.	yoghurt
fate (pres.1./2.sg.) < fati / fay.x^wa	vt.	want, look for, inf. fayŋ
9-12		
zəqew (pres.rel.2.sg.)	vt.	drink
< zəq / zəq.x^wa		
məši	n.	mead
səlxi	n.	home made beer

Lesson 10 : Verb, Past

Conversation 10

(10-1)

- Who broke the window?
- meskoto ay-y duncux?
- Forgive (me) please Sir(=teacher). I broke (it) accidentally / unintentionally.
- ader maran kəntcanti. an dənget-s duncəx^wa.

(10-2)

- Who killed the big lion?
- xəsante wuže(= wuje) ay-y kux?
- My uncle killed with a spear.
- yi aga(=y-aga) ankassi-s kuxa.

(10-3)

- Whom did you asked the way?
- dado awa-y kastix^w?
- I asked a police, but he did not know either.
- əmpəlo foliso kastəx^wa, ŋi kuci yaqqaya.

(10-4)

- To whom did you send that letter? Did you send to your brother?
- an sa debdabbe ay-əs əncaxtux? kə ccə-s əncaxtəx^wa ma?
- Yes, I sent to him.
- yiga, ənc-aqay-x^wa.

(10-5)

- Where did you (pol.) pass the day-time before yesterday?
- ayŋa des ayŋa wada-y əštın?
- I passed the day in Debra Marcos.
- debra markos da əštəx^wa.
- Who was with you?
- əntu li ay-y əšix^w?

- My aunt and two of my sisters were (with me).
- yi akəsta(=y-akəsta) sta laŋŋa xun yi cceri əšina.

(10-6)

- Where is our classmate Aseffa now?
- ən ben-u acceb aseffa ŋəši wada-y zəkəx^w.
- He finished the study in America and became a doctor.
- amarika da kənte widama akim yaxuxa.

(10-7)

- Where did you (pol.) buy this your gold earring?
- ən sa kəw sa work-u sa gutəčče wades jewtux?
- I bought it at Piazza yesterday.
- ayŋa piyassa des jeppuxa.

(10-8)

- Today who is absent from the class?
- naka ben des ay-y yigux?
- Yahannes and Abeba are absent.
- yəwannəs sta abeba yiguna.

(10-9)

- Hailu, why were you late for shool today?
(=why didn't you come to school in time)
- ayilu, naka kənti-ŋəna əndarma-y arfedix^w?
(=saat-s əndarma-y tintaya su?)
- The bus broke down on the way.
Because of this I could not arrive in time.
- otobis dad da abelešəstx^wa.
ənnə yaxŋəs saat-s tamŋ-əs kalaya.

(10-10)

- Why didn't you take lunch?
- məsaxo əndarmay xuyaya?
- The work was so much that I had no time.
- əncəxi minča ma gizo cakaya štəx^wa.

(10-11)

- Today I have been at your office at twelve(=at six) o'clock just.
- naka kəw sa biyu-a cəkra laŋŋa saat-s anta štəx^wa.
- Sorry, I went out of office at eleven and half(=at five and half).
- mari, cəkra əmpəla sta kindi saat-s biru des fuxa.

(10-12)

- Hallo Almaz, has your father come back?
- alo almaz, kə tala yintuxa ma?
- Yes, he is now reading a newspaper in the sitting room. Shall I call (him) for you?
- yiga, ɲəši salon da gazite anbebe. əq^wtayc-es ma?
- Yes, please call (him) for me.
- yiga, ader əq^wt-ayc.

(10-13)

- Have you slept well last(=yesterday) night?
- ayŋa xara gudŋa xurix^wa ma?
- Thanks God, I slept well and even once I did not wake consciously (< didn't know to wake).
- temesgen, gudŋa xuruxa. əmpəlani la cəngo aqqaya.

(10-14)

- Yesterday who drove the car, you or your brother?
- ayŋa mekinawa ay-əy əštux, ənt ma kə cce-y?
- My brother Birhanu can drive better than me. Therefore(=for this being) it is he that drove.
- yi cce bəranu yi des keščama əštəŋ-s kale.
ən yaxŋ-əs əštux ŋi ax.

(10-15)

- At what time did you arrive at Gondar, at noon?
- wuxa saat-s gonder-a tambix^w? gud-s ma?
- No, I could not arrive at noon, I arrive in the evening.
- əlla, gud-s tamŋ-əs kalaya. kəmmani tampəx^wa.

(10-16)

- Have you (f.) seen my daughter?
- yi ja sa kantiya(= kante) ma?
- She was in front of the post-office.
- busta ɲəna fəna da əštix^wa.

(10-17)

- Where is my pen? Kebede, is it you that took it?
- yəw kobbi wada-y? kebede, ənt ma kacix^w?
- I did not take! It seems to me that Almaz take it.
- an kacaya. almaz kacix^w sa cegere.

(10-18)

- This affair/thing is not true! Who told so?
- ən dib wəna gatiw! ənta ay-y dəxux?
- It is true! I've seen it with my own eye.
- wən yax! yəw-s əll-əs an kanta.

(10-19)

- Didn't Hailu come to school also today?
- aylu naka kila kəntiɲəna yintaya ma?
- Yes (< no), for these days he was absent from school many times.
- yiga, ən mača kəntiɲəna des minčini yig^wa.

(10-20)

- Have you recently written a letter to your kinsman?
- digi-s kə zax-is debdabbe cafiya(= cafe) ma?
- I have not written for a long time.
- əlla, menčo gizo cafaya.

(10-21)

- Have you (pl.) understood what I said, pupils?
- an naw t^wa ma, kəntantka?
- We don't understand, Sir (<teacher). Please tell (us) once more.
- t^wayala, kəncanti. ader kabo dəqq^wan.

Conversation lexeme 10

10-1

meskot	n.	window
dunci / duncə.x ^w a, inf. duncəŋ	vt.	break
- / duntu.xa, inf. duntəŋ	vi.	break, be broken
mari / maru.xa, inf. mariŋ	vt.	forgive, have mercy
dənget-s	adv.	accidentally, not intentionally

10-2

xəsanti/a	adj.	big, elder
wuji	n.	lion
ay	pro.	who
kux (past.rel.3.m.) < ku / ku.xa	vt.	kill, inf. kuŋ
yi aga(=y-aga) Nk	n.	my uncle
ankassi	n.	spear, lance

10-3

dad	n.	way, road
aw	pro.	whom?
kasit / kastə.x ^w a, kasti.x ^w a	vt.	ask, inquire, inf. kasiŋ, kastəŋ
folis	n.	policeman
yaqqaya (neg.past.3.sg.m.)	vt.	know < yaqqi / yaqqu.xa, inf. aqəŋ, yaqəŋ

10-4

ay-əs	pro.	to / for whom?
debdabbi	n.	letter
əncəq / əncax.x ^w a, inf. əncaxəŋ	vt.	send

10-5

ayŋa des ayŋa	phr.	the day before yesterday
əšit / əši.x ^w a, əšti.x ^w a, əštə.x ^w a	vi.	pass the daytime, inf. əšiŋ
əntu li	pro.	with you (pol.)
yi akəsta (y-əkəsta) Nk	n.	my aunt
laŋŋa xun yi cceri	phr.	two of my sisters

10-6

ben-u acceb	phr.	classmate
kənti	n.	study, education

yaqqi / yaxu.xa, inf. yaxəŋ 10-7	vi.	become, be
work	n.	gold
gutəčči	n.	earring
jippi / jewu.xa, jewtu.xa, jeppu.xa 10-8	vt.	buy, inf. jewŋ
naka	n.	today
yikk ^w i / yigu.xa, (3.pl.) yiguna 10-9	vi.	be absent, not to come, remain, inf. yiguŋ
arfidi / arfedi.x ^w a	vi.	be late
saat-s	phr.	in time
dad da	phr.	on the way
- / abelašəstə.x ^w a, inf. abelašəstəŋ	vi.	break down
ənn yaxŋ-əs	phr.	therefore
tamp / tambə.x ^w a, inf. tambəŋ	vi.	reach, arrive
kalaya (neg.past.1.c.) < kali / kalu.xa 10-10	v.	can, be able, inf. kaliŋ
məsax	n.	lunch, dinner
xuyaya (neg. past.2.c.) < xu / xu.xa	vt.	eat
əncəxi	n.	work, labour
minča	adj.	much, many, a lot of
V (ger.) + ma	part.	as, because, since
giz	n.	time
ca kaya šətx ^w a (neg.past.1.sg.) 10-11	v.	had not
cəkra laŋŋa	num.	twelve 12
anta šətx ^w a	phr.	have been like that / approximately
mari / maru.xa	vi.	be sorry, forgive
cəkra əmpəla	num.	eleven 11
fi / fu.xa, inf. fiŋ	vi.	go out, come out

10-12

aw / yintu.xa	vi.	come, come home
salon	n.	sitting room
gaziti	n.	newspaper
anbip!, anbeban! / anbeb.x ^w a	vt.	read, inf. anbebəŋ
əqq ^w it / əqq ^w i.x ^w a / əq ^w tes (juss.1.c.)	vt.	call, inf. əq ^w iŋ, əq ^w t-ayc-es (juss.1.c.+2.c.) "shall I call for you?"

10-13

ayŋa xara	phr.	last night (<i>lit.</i> yesterday night)
gudŋa	adv.	well
x ^w əri / xuru.xa, xurix ^w a, inf. xuriŋ	vi.	sleep
temesgen	sen.	Thank (God)!
əmpəlani la	phr.	even once + neg.
cəŋ (inf.)	vi.	wake; get up, stand up
yaqqi / yaqqu.xa, inf. aqəŋ, yaqəŋ	vt.	know

10-14

mekina	n.	car
əšti / əštu-xa, inf. əštəŋ	v.	drive (livestocks, car)
ma	part.	or
keščama "do/make better and"	vi.	be better: inf. kešəŋ
ən yaxŋ-əs	phr.	therefore (<i>lit.</i> on this account)

10-15

wuxa saat-s	phr.	at what time?
tamp / tambə.x ^w a, tambi.x ^w a, tampə.x ^w a	vi.	arrive, reach, inf. tambəŋ, taməŋ
gud	n.	noon, gud-s: at noon
kəmmani	n.	evening(= kəm, kəmmičči)

10-16

yi ja [Nk]	n.	my daughter(=jera / jerki)
busta ŋən-a	n.	post office
N fəna da	phr.	in front of

10-17

kobbi	n.	pen, ball-point pen
kac / kac.x ^w a, kaci.x ^w a, inf. kacəŋ	vt.	take with / to, take away

- / ceger.x ^w a / cegerɛ, inf. cegerəŋ 10-18	sen.	seem, look like; resemble
dib	n.	affair, thing
wən	n.	truth
dəqq ^w i / dəxu.xa, inf. dəxuŋ	v.	tell
əll	n.	eye
kanta (perf.1.sg.) < kant / kantə.x ^w a 10-19	vt.	see, look (pres.3. kantɛ m., kanti f.), inf. kantəŋ
kənti ŋen-a	n.	school (<i>lit.</i> lessen house+binding marker -a)
ən mača	phr.	for these days
minčini	adv.	many times, so often
yig ^w a (perf.3.sg.m.) < yikk ^w i / yigu.xa 10-20	vi.	be absent, remain, inf. yiguŋ
digi-s	adv.	recently, lately
zax Nk	n.	kinsman, (remote) relative
debdabbi	n.	letter(=Brief)
cafi / cafu.xa / (perf.2.sg.) cafiya / cefe	vt.	write, inf. cafiŋ
menčo gizo 10-21	phr.	for long, for a long period
t ^w a (perf.3.sg.m.) < tu / tu.xa, inf. tuŋ	vi.	understand: enter, (Amh. gabba)
kabo	adv.	again, once more
dəqq ^w i / dəxu.xa inf. dəxuŋ	vt.	tell

10.1 Verb Paradigm ney / nə.x^wa "say"

affirmative

	past	rel.past	present	rel.pres.	jussive-imper.
3.sg.m.	nə.x ^w a	nə.x ^w	nε	naw	nəs
3.sg.f.	ni.x ^w a	ni.x ^w	ni	new	nis
2.sg.c.	ni.x ^w a	ni.x ^w	ni	new	ney!
1.sg.c.	nə.x ^w a	nə.x ^w	nε	naw	nəs
3.pl.c.	nuna	nunu	nana	nank ^w i	ninis
2.pl.c.	nina	ninu	nenā	nanxa	nan!
1.pl.c.	ənnə.x ^w a	ənnə.x ^w	ənnε	ənnana	ənnəs

negative

	past	present	jussive-prohibitive
3.sg.m.	na.ya	na.la	ni.tin
3.sg.f.	ni.ya	na.la	ni.tin
2.sg.c.	ni.ya	na.la	ne.ki!
1.sg.c.	na.ya	na.la	ni.tin
3.pl.c.	nəka.ya	na.la	ni.tin
2.pl.c.	nika.ya	na.la	nen.ki!
1.pl.c.	ənna.ya	ənna.la	ənni.tin

10.2 Verb Paradigm xu / xu.xa "eat", inf. xuŋ

affirmative

	past	rel.	perf.	pres.	rel.
3.sg.m.	xú.xa	xux	x ^w á	x ^w é	x ^w aw
3.sg.f.	xuyú.xa	xuyux	xuyá	xuyé	xuyaw
2.sg.c.	xuyú.xa	xuyux	xuya	xuye	xuyew
1.sg.c.	xu.xa	xux	x ^w a	x ^w ε	x ^w aw
3.pl.m.	x ^w éka	xú.na	xunu	x ^w ána	x ^w anu
2.pl.c.	xuyéka	xuyú.na	xuyunu	xuyána	xuyanu
1.pl.c.	xuná	xunú.xa	xunux	xúne	xunaw

	fut.	gerund.	progresive	rel.
3.sg.m.	x ^w áw	x ^w ama	x ^w awše	x ^w awšaw
3.sg.f.	xuyát	xuyata	xuyawšte	xuyawštaw
2.sg.c.	xuyéxa	xuyeta	xuyawšte	xuyewstaw
1.sg.c.	x ^w axa	x ^w ata	x ^w awšte	x ^w awstaw
3.pl.m.	x ^w ánku	x ^w ekama	x ^w awšana	x ^w awšanu
2.pl.c.	xuyánxa	xuyekama	xuyawštana	xuyawštanu
1.pl.c.	xunáxa	xunana	xunawšne	xunawšnaw

negative

	past	rel.	pres.	rel.	fut.
3.sg.m.	x ^w áya	+su	x ^w ála	x ^w atiw	x ^w átiw
3.sg.f.	xuyáya	+su	x ^w ála	x ^w atiw	x ^w átit
2.sg.c.	xuyaya	+su	x ^w ala	x ^w atiw	x ^w átixa
1.sg.c.	x ^w aya	+su	x ^w ala	x ^w atiw	x ^w atixa
3.pl.m.	x ^w ékaya	+su	x ^w ala	x ^w atinu	x ^w átinku
2.pl.c.	xuyékaya	+su	x ^w ala	x ^w atinu	x ^w átinxá
1.pl.c.	xunáya	+su	xúnala	xunatinu	xunátinxá