January 4 (Line)
Sonny upiip:

*ararachúupha nuu payêem nuchúupitih.* • We are talking our Indian language now.

*arara* = Indian person
*chúupha* = speech
*nuu* = we
*payêem* = now
*nu-* = we
*chúuphi* = to speak, *-tih* = in the middle of doing something

January 5 (Andrew)
Vina upiip:

*Kári iish úpaatvutih pa’axiich.* • And the child is taking a bath.

*kári* = and
*iish* = body
*ú-* = he, she, or it
*paatvu* = wash
*-tih* = in the middle of doing something
*pa-* = the
*’axiich* = child

Comments
This sentence means "taking a bath" or (more literally) "washing (his) body".

January 6 (Line)
Sonny upiip:

*súva nik numáheesh.* • I will see you later.

*súva nik* = so long
*nu-* = I to you
*máh* = see
*-eesh* = in the future

Comments
This example shows a very special thing about the Karuk language. Normally *ni-* is used when the person doing the thing is the speaker, as when Lucille said *ni-tharámpuuktiht* for "I am cooking acorn soup". But if the action involves the speaker doing something to or with the listener as in "I will see you later" the language marks that by using *nu-* instead of *ni-*. So *numáheesh* for "I will see you" but *nimáheesh* for "I will see him/her/it."
January 7 (Andrew)

Charlie upiip:

-naa káru ni’áhoovish. • I’m going to walk too.

-naa = I (separate word)
káru = also
ni- = I (prefix on the verb)
'áhoo- = walk, go
-vish = in the future

Comments

The ending that means "in the future" is sometimes -vish, as here, and sometimes -heesh or -eesh. It depends on what it’s added to.

January 8 (Line)

Sonny upiip:

-tá níthítiv payupsítanach uxraráritih. • I hear the baby crying.

tá = have done something or are now in a state
ni- = I
thítiv = hear
pa = the
yupsítanach = baby
u- = he/she/it
(i)xrara = cry
-tih = in the middle of doing it

The word Sonny used for baby — yupsítanach — can be broken down further:

yup = yuup = eye
siit = siit = mouse
-an(a) = ara = be like something
-ach = little

So, something like "little mousey-eye".

The word for baby also shows two important ways in which Karuk words can change when they are put together into one word:

1) double (= long) vowels can become short:
   yuup -> yup
   siit -> sit

2) r-sounds can become n-sounds, as in ara -> ana. This happens regularly when the diminutive (linguists' word for -ach and -ich, which both mean "little") is added to a word. So "mousey-eye" would be yupsítara with an "r", but "little mousey-eye" is yupsítanach with an "n".
And there are different ways of saying the word:

*Yupsitanich* (with "i" instead of "a" at the end)

*Yupsitaach* (with the "n" dropping out)

And there are different words for a newborn baby too:

*Ararápiit* = person-new

*Axichpìitiich* = child-new-little

*Ánupanach* = navel-be.like-little

*Anamahápiitich* = child-new-little

**January 9 (Andrew)**

Charlie upiip:

*Ta néekfuuyshur.* • I'm tired.

*Ta* = have done something or are now in a state

*Na-* = I (undergoing or experiencing something)

*Ikfuuyshur* = tired

**Comments**

Most Karuk verbs express that "I" am the subject with *ni*-, but some verbs use *na-* instead, like "be tired". Usually this means the subject "I" have undergone something or am in a state.

**January 10 (Line)**

*Ararápiit* • newborn baby

*Arará* = Indian person

*Piit* = new

In the other word for baby — *Yupsitanach* — the long *uu* of *yuup* "eye" and long *ii* of *siit* "mouse" both became short. In *Ararápiit* the long *ii* in *Piit* stays long because it is last in the word. The shortening rule always goes backwards: you add something to the end of a word and if the piece you added has the power to shorten vowels, a long *ii*, *aa*, or *uu* earlier in the word will become short *i*, *a*, or *u*.

You can see how the rule only goes backwards by comparing the word for baby — *Yupsitanach* — with the word for wildcat:

*Áhyuup* • wildcat

This word is made up of *áah* (fire) and *yuup* (eye). *Yuup* has the power to shorten vowels, so when it is added to *áah*, it shortens the *aa* to *a* and we get *áhyuup* for wildcat. *Áah* also has the power to shorten vowels, but because it comes before *yuup* in the word for wildcat, and because the shortening rule only goes backwards, the *uu* of *yuup* stays long. In *Yupsitanach yúup* comes at the beginning and when other pieces are added, the long *uu* gets short.