

Summary of Facebook postings by Berkeley Karuk group, November 8-14, 2015

Ayukîi koovúra! November is about the body, continuing what we did in September, but focusing on the lower body.

November 8

From the dictionary:

apkúruh • thigh

November 9

Shan Davis káru Vina kunpiip:

ápsiih • leg

November 10

Vina upiip:

panani'ápsiih tóo kúha. • My leg hurts.

pa- = the

nani- = my

'ápsiih = leg

tóo = tá + u-

tá = has done or be in a state

u- =it

kúha = to hurt

November 11:

Vina upiip:

hûut tu'fin pami'ápsiih? • What's wrong with your leg?

hûut = how

t- = has done or be in a state

u- = it

fin = have something wrong with

pa- = the

mi- = your

ápsiih = leg

Comment:

In this sentence we see an important rule of Karuk spelling at work: when two vowels come next to each other in a complex word, it is sometimes spelled with a ' between the vowels. So tu'fin, not tuín and pami'ápsiih not pamiápsiih. The ' tells us to not blend these two vowels together, but pronounce them with a glottal stop in between, like in English uh-oh.

November 12

Vina upiip:

pamu'ápsiih xâapki. • Kick his leg.

pa- =the

mu- = his

'ápsiih = leg

xâap = step

-k(u) = to

-i = command marker

Comment:

The verb xâapki is literally "step to it". Vina translated it as "kick"!

November 13

Alvis (Bud) Johnson káru Shan Davis kunpiip:

átraax • arm

November 14

Vina upiip:

pananu'átraax vúra uum ipshûunkinich. • Our arms are too short.

pa- = the

nanu- = our

átraax = arm

vúra = indeed

uum = is

ipshûunkinich

Comment:

In English arms is marked for plural with -s, since we are talking about more than one arm. In Karuk there is no plural marker on átraax. It has the same form as it would in "my arm" panani'átraax. In Karuk only words for people and higher beings are marked for plural, like áraar "Indian person" and áraar-as "Indian people, relatives"