Education Center Staff Nisenan Class: Commands Continued
Review sheet for Wednesday, October 30, 2023

We've been learning how to command people to do things. In today's class we learned how to tell people ***not*** to do things.

Telling one person <u>not</u> to do things…

We've learned verbs like *mey* 'to give' and *dəkə* 'to stand' and how to order a single person to do those things (we add the suffix *-p* to verbs that end in a vowel and add nothing to verbs that end in a consonant). How do we tell a person ***not*** to do those things? Compare these two commands:

Mey nik mɨyé!	'Give it to me!'
Mey<u>mén</u> nik mɨyé!	'<u>Don't</u> give it to me!'

What changed? We added the suffix *-men* to the verb. What do you think happens when we put *-men* on a verb that ends in a vowel, like *dəkə* 'to stand'? Compare these two commands:

*Dəkə**p**!*	'Stand!'
Dəkə<u>mén</u>!	'<u>Don't</u> stand!'

Since *dəkəmén* ends in a consonant, we do **not** add the suffix *-p*. This tells us that the negation suffix *-men* gets put on the verb **before** the command suffix *-p* (so we don't say **Dəkəpmén*). We can add *-men* to other verbs we know, like *iskit* 'to sit' and *etati* 'to show':

Iskít!	'Sit!'
Iskit<u>mén</u>!	'<u>Don't</u> sit!'
Etatíp nik mɨyé!	'Show it to me!'
Etati<u>mén</u> nik mɨyé!	'<u>Don't</u> show it to me!'

Telling a group of people <u>not</u> to do things…

We saw that we put the negation suffix *-men* on the verb before we add the singular command suffix *-p*. It works the same way with the plural command suffix *-wa*.

Uk'oywá!	'You all, go!'
Uk'oy<u>men</u>wá	'You all, <u>don't</u> go!'

Meywá nik mɨyé!   'You all, give me *mɨyé*!' (it)

Meymenwá nik mɨyé!   'You all, <u>don't</u> give me *mɨyé*!' (it)

Meewá papelí!   'You all, take *papél*!' (paper)

Mee<u>men</u>wá papelí!   'You all, <u>don't</u> take *papél*!' (paper)

Don't do it!

The verb *k'aa* means 'to do'. Here are some commands with the verb *k'aa* that might be useful.

<u>*K'aap*</u>*!*   'Do it!'   (to one person)

K'aa<u>mén</u>!   '<u>Don't</u> do it!' (to one person)

K'aawá!   'You all, do it!'

K'aa<u>men</u>wá!   'You all, <u>don't</u> do it!'

Practice

The commands below are addressed to just one person. Fill in the blanks.

(1)   *Hatíp!*   '**Stop**!'

_____*!*   '<u>Don't</u> **stop!**'

(2)   **Mey** *nik momí!*   '**Give** me *mom*!' (water)

_____ *nik momí!*   '<u>Don't</u> give me *mom*!' (water)

(3)   **Meep** *sɨk'ə́lyu!*   '**Take** *sɨk'ə́lyu*!' (scissors)

_____ *sɨk'ə́lyu!*   '<u>Don't</u> take *sɨk'ə́lyu*!' (scissors)

(4)   **Etatíp** *nik papelí!*   '**Show** me *papél*!' (paper)

_____ *nik papelí!*   '<u>Don't</u> show me *papelí*!' (paper)

The commands below are addressed to a group of people. Fill in the blanks.

(5)   *Iskitwá!*   '**You all, sit**!'

        _____*!*   'You all, <u>don't</u> sit!'

(6)   *Meewá inpaayutíyu!*   '**You all, take** *inpaayutíyu*!' (staplers)

        _____ *inpaayutíyu!*   'You all, <u>don't</u> take *inpaayutíyu*!' (staplers)

(7)   *Etatiwá nik mimée maa!*   '**You all, show** me your *maa*!*'* (hands)

        _____ *nik mimée maa!* 'You all, <u>don't</u> show me your *maa*!' (hands)

(8)   *K'aawá!*   '**You all, do it**!'

        _____*!*   'You all, don't do it!'

Please reach out to the Language Department at Language@ssband.org with any questions.

This review sheet, recordings of the language from this lesson, and solutions to the practice exercises above are available at https://bit.ly/ssbmieducationcenter.