

Chapter 3. Using attached pronouns

The focus of many verbs is action, and in fact, they are often defined as “action words” like “Run!” Because verbs focus on action, they also often include information about **who** is acting. Kawaiisu has at least ten suffixes that can be attached to verbs to distinguish between:

- the person who is doing the talking (called the *first person*),
- the person that the speaker is talking to directly (called the *second person*),
- and the people or things that the speaker is talking about (called the *third person*).

Languages also often make a distinction between how many are doing the verb, for example *singular* (one person), and *plural* (more than one person). So these Kawaiisu suffixes show the same kinds of information as free-standing pronouns like ‘I, you, he, she, they and it’ in English. (See “Chapter 4 for a quick reference of free-standing Kawaiisu pronouns.) They must always be attached to a verb though so here they are called “attached pronouns.” Free-standing pronouns can compliment these suffixes in a sentence but attached pronouns can also work alone to form a whole and proper Kawaiisu sentence.

Kawaiisu has many of the same pronouns as English for example nü’ü = I, im = you, and shi’im = they. Kawaiisu pronouns have some differences though you may not have encountered:

- Kawaiisu doesn’t specify whether a *third person* is male or female. There are no direct translations for “he,” “she,” “him,” and “her.”
- Kawaiisu specifies whether a *third person*, the one being spoken about, is close by or far away, in physical distance and in time.
- Kawaiisu specifies whether a *third person*, the one being spoken about, is animate (can move about by itself) or inanimate (can’t move about by itself).
- Kawaiisu makes a distinction between *singular* (one person), and *plural* (more than one person) like English, but it also has a special way of showing the *dual*. This is used when talking about two people, rather than one person or many people.

Here are examples that show attached pronouns in Kawaiisu sentences next to free-standing ones in English sentences. Notice how the Kawaiisu verbs change to show who is doing or receiving the action.

I talked.	Abiginün.	1 st person singular
You talked.	Abiginaam.	2 nd person singular
He talked.	Abiginaan.	3 rd person singular (someone close by)
	Abigineen.	3 rd person singular (someone far away)
Feed me.	Ka’atiivaadün.	1 st person singular
Feed him.	Ka’atiivaadiin.	3 rd person singular
Feed them.	Ka’atiivaadüm.	3 rd person plural

Recognizing subjects and objects

In Kawaiisu, attached pronouns can function as the subject or the object of a sentence, and sometimes even both, so to understand how to properly use them, you'll need to recognize the difference between subject and object. In a sentence, the one doing the action is the *subject* and the one the action is being done to is the *object*. For example:

John is sleeping. John plays football.

In both of these examples, John is the subject of the sentence. The first sentence, *John is sleeping*, has only one noun, *John*. The second one has two nouns, both a subject and an object (John is the subject, *football* is the object).

The object of a sentence is typically the person or thing that is affected or changed by an action, The object is the receiver of an action or activity. For example:

My father knows John. Mary sees us.

In the first example, my father is the subject and John is the object of the sentence. In the second example, Mary is the subject and us is the object.

Using attached pronouns on verbs ending in -d and -n

As you may have already read in Chapter 2, that except for some commands, you must add one of the suffixes, either **-d** or **-n**, to the end of a verb to make it a good Kawaiisu word. The attached pronouns look different depending on whether they added to a verb ending with **-d** versus a verb ending with **-n**, so we will treat these two cases separately. Here is a summary of the differences:

- Attached pronouns are required on -n verbs.
- Attached pronouns are optional on -d verbs.

Using attached pronoun suffixes on -d verbs

A -d verb often ends in -d by itself, but an attached pronoun can come after -d too.

☺☐☞ ROOT + d

☺☐☞ ROOT + d + attached pronoun

Using attached pronouns on -n verbs

A verb cannot end in -n by itself: -n must have an attached pronoun after it.

☹☛☞ ROOT + n

☺☐☞ ROOT + n + attached pronoun

This table summarizes the attached pronouns after the -d verb suffix that can act as either the subject or the object in a sentence.

			-d + attached pronoun
Singular	Subject	Object	
1st person	I	me	-dün(i)
2nd person	you	you	-dum(i)
3rd person, animate	s/he	her/him	-diin(a)
3rd person, inanimate, close by	this/these	this/these	-daak(a)
3rd person, inanimate, far off	that/those	that/those	-diik(a)
Dual	Subject	Object	
1st person	we two	us two	-düm(ü)
2nd person	you two	you two	-düm(ü)
3rd person, animate	these two, they	those two, them	-düm(ü)
3rd person inanimate (close by)	these two	these two	-daak(a)
3rd person inanimate (far off)	those two	those two	-diik(a)
Plural	Subject	Object	
1st person plural	we all	us all	-düm(ü)
2nd person plural (y'all)	you all	you all	-düm(ü)
3rd person plural, animate	they	them	-düm(ü)
3rd person inanimate (close by)	these things	these things	-daak(a)
3rd person inanimate (far off)	those things	those things	-diik(a)

Quick reference - Agreement suffixes after the – dü verb suffix

Example sentences with -d verbs

The following sentences show how native speakers were recorded using attached pronouns on -d verbs.

-ün(i) ‘first person singular object (me)’

Im tütüvitiivaadün(i)!

‘Teach me!’

Im pükeevaadün(i).

‘You watch me.’

-um(i)

Nü'ü pishaawidum(i).

'I like you.' (second person singular object (you))

Nü'ü kukivaadum(i).

'I'm going to shoot you.' (second person singular object (you))

Nü'ü tachinakwevaadum.

'I am going to knock you down.' (second person singular object (you))

Nanoos nukidum.

'You were dancing by yourself.' (second person singular subject (you))

-iin(a)

Imi naakeevaadiin hakapaniiz!

'Listen to it/the Hakapaniiz!' (third person singular, animate object (him))

Nü'ü kukivaadiin.

'I'm going to shoot him (a deer).' (third person singular, animate object (him))

Su'um tüwügeediin eepizh tseheneen.

'They helped the boy pick up them/the apples.' (third person singular, animate object (him))

Kukidiin uween ta'ntibüz momo'o.

'She shot the man and the woman.' (third person singular, animate subject)

-üm(i) 'animate plural (subject or object)'

This includes first person dual (we two) and plural (all of us), second person plural (y'all), and third person plural (they/them). It is restricted to animate things.

Tawa kapaan po'o üügkweevaadüm(ü).

'We're all going to get in the water.' (subject, we)

[Yu]waat su'uvois uus pükeevaadüm(i).

'I thought I'd never see you (two) again.' (object, you two)

[*waat* is a contraction of *yuwaat*]

Nü'ü pükeedüm su'umü.

'I see them.' (object, them)

-aak(a), -iik(a)

Nü'ü hü'ütiivaadaaak yu'uvün.

'I'm going to make my legs better.' (inanimate object, plural)

Nü'ü pishaawidiiika.

'I like it.' (inanimate object, singular)

The following table shows free-standing pronouns and their corresponding attached pronouns for -n verbs. Attached pronouns can act as either a subject or an object in a sentence.

	attached pronouns
Singular	
1st person nü'ü (I/me)	-ün(i)
2nd person im(i) (you, one person)	-aam(i)
3rd person animate, shi'in (he/him, she/her) (close by)	-aan(a)
3rd person animate, su'un (he/him, she/her) (far off)	-een(a)
3rd person inanimate shi'id (this thing) (close by)	-aak(a)
3rd person inanimate su'ur (that thing) (far off)	-eek(a)
Dual and Plural	
1st person dual tama (we two/us two)	-üm(i)
1st person plural towa (we all/us)	-üm(i)
2nd person plural müme (you two) (y'all)	-aam(i)
3rd person animate shi'im (they/them) (close by)	-aam(i)
3rd person animate su'um (they/them) (far off)	-aam(i)
3rd person inanimate shi'id (these things) (close by)	-aak(a)
3rd person inanimate su'ur (those things) (far off)	-eek(a)

Table. Quick reference – Attached pronouns after the – n verb suffix

Example sentences with -n verbs

The following sentences show how native speakers use attached pronouns on –n verbs.

-ün(i)

Hüveezünün uutsiküs.

‘I got up this morning.’

Yuwaat nü'ü chipinüna meenün unoroa su'una kumhan.

I'm not going to ride [a horse] I said to my husband.

-aam(i)

Apiikweevaanaam.

‘(We tell) you (to) go to sleep.’

Yoinaam?

Did you drive?

-aan(a), -een(a)

Uus pidünaanaaga'a!
'He's coming again!'

Chipinaan.

He climbed.

Pogwitüm pagüüz ka'aneen.
'(Two) bears ate them/the fish.'
Suvois muu kianeen.
And then he just laughed.

-üm(i)

Su'uvois tawa karünümi kapaan evipiich kahne.
'So we all lived in a little house.'

-aam(i)

Yuwaat nünübakivaanaam.
'Don't fight!'
Müme mahanaam kwichiz(e) suutuuv.
You all have been washing dishes all day.

-aam(i)

Ne'etiinaam kuhna.
'They built a fire.'
Hagare samanenaame?
Why did they do that?

-aak(a), -neek(a)

Pishaanaaka!
'It's pretty!'
Han nooginaak hiibüz(e)?
Who has been buying these clothes?
Edü tsakakweeneek.
'The gun/it got stuck.'

Ko'oneekkeen yu'uviin?
It cut his leg?

Using multiple agreement suffixes

Just like other suffixes, you sometimes find more than one attached pronoun on a verb.

Chibikweeneeken. ‘He climbed on (the bicycle).’

Root: *chibi-* (*chipi-*) ‘climb’

Suffixes: *-kwee*, *-n*, *-eek* (3rd person singular object, it), *-een* (3rd person singular subject he)

Atawa wüzünvaanaakün iva’an? ‘I’m going to put it on top?’

Root: *wüzün-* ‘put down’

Suffixes: *-vaa*, *-n*, *-aak* (3rd person singular object, it), *-ün* (1st person singular subject, I)

In the first example, *-eek* is the attached pronoun for the object of the sentence (the thing the boy climbs on), whereas *-een* is the subject of the sentence (the boy, the one doing the climbing). In the second example, *-aak* is the object of the sentence (the thing that’s being put down, in this case a picture), *-ün* is the subject of the sentence (the speaker, the person who will put it down, the same person who is saying the sentence.)

Verbs ending in *-n* can include attached pronouns that act as the subject or object of a sentence, or both. Here are some examples of both subjects and object (the subject suffix and its translation are shown underlined, and the object suffix and its translation are shown in bold):

Su’uvois im wüzünvaanaaakaam iva’an.

‘So you’ll put **it** here.’

Su’uvois manikweeneekün.

‘I was doing **something** (with my hands).’

Wineekweeneenüni iva’an tiipü.

‘She threw **me** down on the ground.’

When there is more than one attached pronoun, the first one (the one closest to the verb root) is almost always inanimate *-eek* or *-aak*, as in examples (3) and (4). However, it is sometimes another animate noun, as in examples (5) and (6).

Verbs ending in *-n* might also be able to contain more than one object when a verb has additional nouns associated with it, but there are only a couple of examples of this found so far, both involving the verb root *wüzü-* ‘put’:

Im wüzünvaaneekeen unuwe’e ta’ntipüzi lamesa iva’an.

‘(You) put **it** with the man by the table.’

When there is more than one attached pronoun, the order of suffixes is as follows:

3rd person inanimate + 3rd person animate + 2nd person + 1st person

This order remains the same no matter what roles the nouns play in the sentence (whether they are subject or object). For example, *-ün* is the first person singular subject in example (4), but the first person singular object in example (5). In both examples *-ün* comes after the attached pronoun.

Note: So far we have found no examples of a *-d* verb with both a (plural) subject and an object. It needs to be checked whether this is impossible or just unusual.