# Making Dugout Canoes: <br> A Sliammon Text Told by Agnes McGee* 

Watanabe, Honoré<br>Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies

This paper presents a Tla'amin (Sliammon) text narrated by the late Mrs. Agnes McGee in 2001. A morphological analysis, glosses, and an English translation are provided for each line in the original Sliammon. The content is about the traditional way of making dugout canoes from cedar trees.

Keywords: Sliammon, Salish, North America, text

1. Introduction
2. The text

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. About Sliammon

"Sliammon" refers to the people of the Tla'amin (Sliammon) First Nation, which is situated just north of the city of Powell River (tiysk ${ }^{w}$ at) in British Columbia, Canada. In this paper, Sliammon is also used to refer to their traditional language. ${ }^{1}$

### 1.2. About this text

This text was narrated by the late Mrs. Agnes McGee (1923-2005) on Aug. 30, 2001. It was recorded by me, Honoré Watanabe; I was the only other person present in the room. The duration of the text is about 2 minutes 50 seconds. It was subsequently transcribed and translated in a collaborative effort with the late Mrs. Marion Harry on Aug. 10, 2010. Further clarification on some words and the content described in the text was provided by Mrs. Elsie Paul. The linguistic analyses (phonological and grammatical) were all done by me.

In this text, Mrs. Agnes McGee describes how dugout canoes used to be made. A similar description of making dugout canoes among the First Nations Peoples of the Northwest

[^0]Coast can be found in Stewart (1984: 52-57). As the procedure is described in this text, a dugout canoe was carved out of a single cedar tree. The inside is hollowed out, and the outside is carved into its shape. Then, the outside is singed (or scorched) in order to make it durable and water-resistant. In this text, Mrs. McGee explained that the inside of the canoe was also singed. The canoe is then half-filled with water. (Stewart 1984: 54 explains further that heated rocks would be put into the water to steam the cedar in order to soften it.) Then, sticks are propped between the gunwales to widen the edges. After this process has been completed, and the canoe has cooled down, it is brushed with cedar boughs. This is a traditional way of perfoming a blessing. Mrs. McGee explains that the whole process was time-consuming and that people assisted each other. ${ }^{2}$
The audio file, along with this text, will be available on the following website:
http://honorewatanabe.com

### 1.3. The format

The text is presented in §2, first in Sliammon only (§2.1, in phonemic representation), second in its English translation (§2.2), and third with morphological analysis (§2.3). The line numbers, from 1 to 51 in parentheses, all correspond between these three subsections.
In $\S 2.3$, each line of the text is presented in a five-line format. The five lines respectively present the following:

1. The phonetic transcription in square brackets.
2. The phonemic representation with segmentation of morphemes.
3. The morphophonemic representation.
4. The gloss for each morpheme.
5. The free translation in English. (This is followed by the line ID in my original data.)

The phonetic transcription (i.e., the first line) is usually not included in presentations of texts of this kind; however, it is included here because the 'orthography' used in the Tla'amin community basically corresponds to the phonetic level, rather than the phonemic one.

Where one line of the text begins or ends is sometimes not entirely clear, as expected of natural discourse. Speakers may restart a sentence ('false starts'), pause in the middle of a sentence, or may add a word or phrase after a sentence. False starts and stumbles are written in parentheses in the first line (the phonetic transcription). The footnotes in §2.3 provide further notes and observations. The speakers are identified by their initials in the footnotes.

### 1.4. Linguistic notes

For a description of the grammar of Sliammon, I refer the readers to Watanabe (2003). Additional short explanations are provided in the footnotes in §2.3.
The phonemic inventory of Sliammon includes the following: $p, t, t^{\theta}, \lambda, \check{c}, k, k^{w}, q, q^{w}$, P, $p^{\prime}, t^{\prime}, t^{\prime \theta}, \lambda^{\prime}, \check{c}^{\prime}, k^{\prime}, k^{w}, q^{\prime}, q^{w}, \check{y}, g, \breve{J}^{\prime}, g^{\prime}, \theta, s, \not, \check{s}, x^{w}, x^{x}, x^{w}, h, m, n, l, y, w, m^{\prime}, n^{\prime}, l^{\prime}$,

[^1]$y^{\prime}, w^{\prime}, i, u, a, \partial .^{3}$ The primary stress generally falls on the first vowel of the word. The secondary stress (and/or high pitch) is distinctive, and when it does not follow the basic trochaic pattern, it needs to be marked. However, much remains to be investigated in terms of the prosody of Sliammon. See Watanabe (2003) and references cited therein for details.
Many features of natural discourse are observed in this short text. In Mrs. McGee's speech, as one can hear from the recording, the articulation of words is quite 'soft', for example, her glottalization of obstruents is rarely realized as ejective (with a 'popping sound' effect), and her glottal stop (?) is usually not realized with a full closure of the glottis. Rather, they are realized with a slight constriction in the larynx, the effect of which is creakiness in the adjacent vowel.
Mrs. McGee omits the oblique marker (2ə) entirely in this text. Noun phrases (or determiner phrases) are either 'direct' or 'oblique' in Sliammon; the former is unmarked whereas the latter is preceded by the oblique marker proclitic. The subjects of intransitive clauses and the objects of transitive clauses are expressed by direct NPs, if expressed overtly. Basically all other NPs are expressed by oblique NPs. If NPs that refer to the agent of semantically transitive clauses are expressed overtly, the predicate is usually marked as passive, and the agent NP is expressed in an oblique NP. The omission of the oblique marker is not unique to Mrs. McGee's speech; rather, it is observed often in all the speakers I have worked with. Fluent speakers can, of course, insert it back in appropriate places, if asked specifically to do so. The text presented here is as Mrs. McGee told it, that is, I did not insert the oblique marker where it would appear in slow and careful speech. Because of the phonemic form of this clitic, and since schwas ( $\partial$ ) are prone to be weakened, or deleted entirely, especially in allegro speech, the oblique marker can be quite elusive to the ears of non-native speakers. When we used to work together on recordings of texts like this, Mrs. Marion Harry was able to catch the slightest trace of the clitic, if there was one. Notably, even she did not find any oblique markers used in this text.
For the record, the transcription of the consonants of the root $\sqrt{ } x^{w} \partial t q^{w}$ - on line 37 has been quite problematic. As in many other cases, the velar-uvular contrast is often very hard to discern, and, as described above, glottalization of obstruents can be very 'soft'. I have transcribed this root earlier with $x^{w}, k^{w}, k^{w}, q^{w}$. What appears to be the cognate in Sechelt, the neighboring Coast Salish language immediately to the south, is $x^{w} \partial t^{\prime} q^{w}-\partial m, x^{w} \partial t^{\prime} q^{w}-a ́ t$ 'scrub (it)' (Beaumont 2011). ${ }^{4}$ Cognate forms in Sechelt usually match perfectly with Sliammon forms, with regular sound correspondences (e.g., Sechelt $l$ : Sliammon $y, w$ ), and the Sechelt form suggests the velar $x^{w}$ and the glottalized $t^{\prime}$. However, Mrs. Marion Harry's careful observations and intuition confirmed that the last two consonants of the root are a plain (non-glottalized) $t$, followed by $q^{w} .{ }^{5}$ She was, however, not too confident

[^2]about the first consonant. Judging from the phonetic realization of the following vowel, I write $x^{w}$ for the first consonant, since if it were $x^{w}$, the schwa would be expected to surface more like [u].

## 2. The text

### 2.1. The text in Sliammon


(2) hrytas naPa...
(3) hu y̌aq'atigas təx̣əm?ay.
(4) tih.
(5) qax̣mut p'ap'imit.
(6) č’’tigas.
(7) $\theta a x^{w}$ ins tihs $x a \neq$ 'it.
(8) həytəm ga.
(9) $t^{\prime \theta}$ ip'igayitom.
(10) huy t'əlq ${ }^{\mathrm{w}}$ amtəm.
(11) $\mathrm{x}^{\mathrm{w}} \mathrm{ux}{ }^{\mathrm{w}}$ mut t'ət'əlq${ }^{\mathrm{w}}$ amtom.
(12) huynum ga tan' Piy naPa X'ox̣təm.
(13) X'əx̣təm.

(15) huy 才'əx̣təm.
(16) アəy?ay'təm X'əx̣təm.
(17) Pəwk'w atəm X'əx̣təm.
(18) $\mathrm{k}^{, \mathrm{w}}$ qqinstum ta $^{2}$ qay'a.
(19) $\mathrm{x}^{\mathrm{w}}$ âX'igən tə ${ }_{\checkmark}$ qay'a.
(20) $\mathrm{k}^{\prime \mathrm{w}} \partial \nless q i t ə m$.
(21) huy Riy $\theta a h \theta a h q i t ə m$
(22) tas qwal's p'iq'iq'.
(23) $\theta i \theta h i t s t u m ~ g a . . . ~ P i y . . . ~$
(24) X'əx̣təm $\mathrm{k}^{\mathrm{w}}{ }^{\mathrm{w}}$ RaPasł'qəm.
(25) huy ga... huy ga tan' جiy naßa č'am'amatəm.
(26) huy ga Piy naPa $x^{w}$ ipitəm təx̣əmRay.
(27) $x^{w}$ ipamtəm.
(28) miya to Pa4təgams X'əx̣təm taPat.
(29) $\mathrm{k}^{\prime W} \partial t^{\wedge}$ načtom to naia huy̌as to ${ }_{\smile}$ Rasq'am'.

(31) X'əx̣it ga tə Rałtəgəm' Riy tə Rasł'qəm'.
(32) hi $\mathrm{k}^{\mathrm{k}} \mathrm{a} \mathrm{x}^{\mathrm{w}}{ }_{\checkmark} \mathrm{x}^{\mathrm{w}} \mathrm{ux}{ }^{\mathrm{w}} \mathrm{S}$ Pวy'.
(33) $x^{w}$ әčamas $k^{\prime w}$ əq.
(34) ${ }^{(2) w k ' w}$ ga huy tan' Riy naPa...
(35) $\mathrm{p}^{\mathrm{w}}{ }^{\mathrm{w}}$ satəm $\theta \mathrm{u} . . . \mathrm{q}^{\prime \mathrm{w}}$ it.
(36) huy t ${ }^{\prime \theta} \partial$ x $^{\mathrm{w}}$ amtəm.
(37) $x^{w}$ วtq ${ }^{\prime w}$ atəm tə ${ }^{\text {naPa }} q^{\prime w}$ aygas.
(38) huy ga tan'. hihiw qax̣mut s p p'ap'im.
(39) qəx̣ayamutuł X'aRa才'x̣ay.

(41) Rąəymitigas nəx ${ }^{w}$ iyit.
(42) həhy̌ətigas.
(43) Put hananəm naPa... qəx $\mathrm{s}_{\smile}$ p'ap'im,

(45) č'agatawł.
(46) pəpyaPam č'ač'gatawł s s $x^{w} u x^{w} u \not{ }^{\text {(4) }}$
(47) č'agatigas ga $\theta u$ to ${ }_{\checkmark}$ naPa ǰuju.

(49) $\theta \mathrm{u}$ č'agatəm sk ${ }^{\mathrm{w}}$ aq X'aRa才'x̣ay.
(50) Pəymutuł namPuwit s x $^{\mathrm{w}} u \underset{x^{w} u}{ } \mathrm{u}$.
(51) $x^{w} a$ ? ga sčaPat. $x^{w} u k^{w} t k^{w}{ }^{\mathrm{w}}$ nam'. 'That's it. ${ }^{6}$

### 2.2. The text in English translation

(1) 'Our parents always handled their canoes.'
(2) 'They would make them.'
(3) 'They would go and fell a cedar.'
(4) '[It would be] big.'
(5) 'It was a lot of work for them.'
(6) 'They would cut it.'
(7) 'It would be a big, hard job.'
(8) 'They would make it.'
(9) 'They would carve each end to a point.'
(10) 'Then, they would carve out its inside.'
(11) 'It would take a long time to carve out the inside.'

[^3](12) 'They would finish it, then they would singe it [the outside of the canoe].'
(13) 'They would singe it.'
(14) 'They would light up pitch [tree resin].'
(15) 'Then, they would singe it.'
(16) 'They would singe it really good.'
(17) 'They would singe it all over.'
(18) 'They would pour water into it.'
(19) 'It would be half full of water.'
(20) 'They would pour it in there.'
(21) 'Then, they would place props in it [to keep the edges open].'
(22) 'until it would widen.'
(23) 'They would keep the cross pieces propped in there.'
(24) 'They would singe the outside.'
(25) 'That would be finished, and they would cool it.'
(26) 'Then, they would brush (sweep) it with cedar [boughs to bless it].'
(27) 'They would sweep the inside of it.'
(28) 'They would even singe the inside.'
(29) 'They would turn it over when they finished the outside.'
(30) 'They would turn it over, then singe its inside.'
(31) 'The inside and the outside would be singed.'
(32) 'It would be good for a long time.'
(33) 'It would not crack.'
(34) 'That would be all done, and...'
(35) 'They would bring it and put it in the water ... (at the) beach.'
(36) 'Then, they would wash the inside.'
(37) 'They would scrub the charcoal [off].'
(38) 'That would be done. It used to be a lot of work.'
(39) 'There used to be a lot of elders.'
(40) 'They all really knew how to make a canoe.'
(41) 'They did their canoes by themselves.'
(42) 'They were making it.'
(43) 'If it was too much work,'
(44) 'other elders would go.'
(45) 'They would help each other.'
(46) 'They always helped each other a long time ago.'
(47) 'They would go and help the one who was having a difficult time.'
(48) '[If] he could not finish his [canoe].'
(49) 'Some elders would go and help him.'
(50) 'It used to be really good what they were like a long time ago.'
(51) 'Not now. There is nobody like that. That's it.'

### 2.3. The text with analysis


PaPaymitam'uł naPa to ms 才'ax̣'ax̣ wi


to naPa nəx wiys.
to naPa nəx ${ }^{\mathrm{w}} \mathrm{iy}$-s
DET ${ }^{\text {R.FILLER }}$ canoe-3poss
'Our parents always handled their canoes.' (AM-DuGOUT.001)
(2) [héytıs na: ...]
həytas napa...
həy-t-as naPa
make-ctr-3erg r.filler
'They would make them.' (AM-DUGOUT.002)
(3) [hoǰáq'ste'gìs tóx̣ımPay]
hu ǰaq'atigas təx̣əm?ay.
hu ǰaq'-a-t-ig-as tox̣əmPay
go fall-lv-ctr-Pl-3ERG cedar
'They would go and fell a cedar.' (AM-DUGOUT.003)
(4) $[t i:]$
tih.
tih
big
'[It would be] big.' (AM-DUGOUT.004)
(5) [qíxmot p'á $p$ 'è'mèt]
qəx̣mut p'ap'imit.
qəx̣-mut p'ap'i-m-it
many-very work-mDL-3pl.poss
'It was a lot of work for them.' ${ }^{8}$ (AM-DUGOUT.005)

[^4](6) [č'íte' $g_{\Lambda} s$ ]
č'ətigas.
č'ət-t-ig-as
cut-ctr-pl-3erg
'They would cut it.' (AM-DUGOUT.006)
(7) [ $\theta$ úx ${ }^{w}$ ens tî́ ${ }^{h}$ s x̣á: $\lambda^{\prime}$ ’èt]

| $\theta \partial x^{w}$ ins | tihs | xat'it. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\theta \partial x^{w}$ in-s | tih-s | xat'it |

like/similar-3poss big-3poss difficult
'It would be a big, hard job.' (AM-DUGOUT.007)
(8) [héytəmga]
həytəm ga.
həy-t-əm ga
make-ctr-Pass $\underbrace{\text { MTG }}$
'They would make it.' ${ }^{9}$ (AM-DUGOUT.008)
(9) [t ${ }^{\prime \theta}$ ह́p' $\left.\varepsilon g a ̀ y \varepsilon t ə ̀ m\right] ~$
$t^{\prime \theta}$ ip'igayitəm.
$t^{\prime}{ }^{\text {in }}$ ' ${ }^{\prime}$-ig-ayin-t-zm
sharpen-PL-end-ctr-pass
'They would carve each end to a point.' (AM-DUGOUT.009)
(10) [hóy t'ílq${ }^{\mathrm{w}}$ àmt mm ]
huy t'alq ${ }^{\text {w }}$ amtəm.
huy t'əlq${ }^{\mathrm{w}}$-am-t-əm
then hollow.out-inside.of.container-ctr-pass
'Then, they would carve out its inside.' (AM-DUGOUT.010)


$\underline{x}^{\mathrm{w}} u \underline{x}^{\mathrm{w}}$-mut $\quad$ t'ə $\sim \mathrm{t}^{\prime} \partial \mathrm{lq}^{\mathrm{w}}$-am-t-əm
long.time-very IMPF~hollow.out-inside.of.container-ctr-pass
'It would take a long time to carve out the inside.' (AM-DUGOUT.011)
(12) [hóynomga tán' Pi nas ... 才'íxtom]
huynum ga tan' Piy naPa... X'əxtəm.
huy-nu-m ga tan' Piy naßa X'əx.-t-əm
finish-ntr-pass $\smile$ mtG dem and r.filler singe-ctr-pass
'They would finish it, then they would singe it [the outside of the canoe].'
(AM-DUGOUT.012)

[^5]（13）［ $\lambda$＇inxtom］
夫＇əx̣təm．
才＇əx̣－t－əm
singe－ctr－pass
＇They would singe it．＇（AM－DUGOUT．013）
（14）［ $\mathrm{x}^{\mathrm{w}}$ á？wetəm $\mathrm{k}^{\mathrm{w}} \mathrm{na}^{\cdot} \mathrm{q}^{\mathrm{w}}{ }^{\text {áRweł］}}$
$x^{\mathrm{w}}$ aw＇itəm $\quad \mathrm{k}^{\mathrm{w}}{ }^{\mathrm{u}}$ naPa $\mathrm{q}^{\mathrm{w}}$ aw＇ił．
$x^{\mathrm{w}}$ aw＇－it－t－əm $\quad \mathrm{k}^{\mathrm{w}}{ }_{\text {u }}$ naPa $\quad \mathrm{q}^{\mathrm{w}}$ aw＇ił
burn－STV－CTR－PASS DET ${ }^{\text {d．FILLER }}$ pitch
＇They would light up pitch［tree resin］．＇（AM－DUGOUT．014）
（15）［hoy 才＇íxtım：：］
huy X＇əx̣təm．
huy X＇əx̣－t－əm
then singe－ctr－pass
＇Then，they would singe it．＇（AM－DUGOUT．015）
（16）［？íỉày＇tom X＇íx̣tom］
PəyRay＇təm $\quad$＇əəx̣təm．${ }^{10}$
ใәу～Ray＇－t－əm X＇əx－t－əm
pL～do．carefully－CTR－PASS singe－CTR－PASS
＇They would singe it really good．＇（AM－DUGOUT．016）
（17）［？ú＇k＇watəm X＇íxtəm］
Rəwk＇watəm X＇əxtəm．

all－LV－CTR－PASS singe－CTR－Pass
＇They would singe it all over．＇（AM－DUGOUT．017）
（18）［k’wúqqenstom təqá̂ye］
$\mathrm{k}^{\text {＇w }}$ əłqinstum to qay＇a．
$\mathrm{k}^{\prime \text {＇w }}$ əł－qin－stu－m to qay＇a
spill／pour－mouth－caus－pass DET water
＇They would pour water into it．＇（AM－DUGOUT．018）
（19）［ ${ }^{w}$ wáp才’egən tə qáPyع］

x $^{w}$ ar才＇igən ta qay＇a
half．full ${ }^{\text {DET }} \checkmark$ water
＇It would be half full of water．＇（AM－DUGOUT．019）

[^6](20) [ $\mathrm{k}^{\text {'w }}$ v́łqধtəm]
$\mathrm{k}^{\text {’w }}$ əłqitəm.
$\mathrm{k}^{\text {'w }}$ əl-qi-t-əm
spill/pour-mouth-ctr-pass
'They would pour it in there.' (AM-DUGOUT.020)
(21) [hoy Ri` $\theta$ áh $\theta$ ahqètəm]
huy Piy $\theta a h \theta a h q i t ə m^{11}$
huy Piy $\theta$ ah~ $\sim$ ah-qi-t-əm
then and RDPL~prop-mouth-CTR-PASS
'Then, they would place props in it [to keep the edges open]' (AM-DUGOUT.021)
(22) [...təs qw ${ }^{w}$ v's p'éq' $\left.\varepsilon q^{\prime}\right]$
tas qual's p'iq'iq'.
tos $q^{\mathrm{w}} \mathrm{ol}^{\prime}-\mathrm{s} \quad \mathrm{p}^{\prime}$ iq'~iq'
reach come-3poss wide $\sim$ INC
'until it would widen.' (AM-DUGOUT.022)
(23) [( $\theta \varepsilon \theta h \varepsilon . ..) \theta \varepsilon ́ \theta h z ̀ t s t o m g \grave{\Lambda} ~ . . . ~ P i: ~ . . .] ~]$.
$\theta i \theta$ hitstum ga... Piy...
$\theta \mathrm{i} \sim \theta \mathrm{h}-\mathrm{it}-\mathrm{stu}-\mathrm{m}$ ga Piy
PL $\sim$ prop-stv-caus-pass ${ }^{\text {mTG }}$ and
'They would keep the cross pieces propped in there.' (AM-DUGOUT.023)

X'əx̣təm $\mathrm{k}^{\mathrm{w}}$, ?aPasł'qəm.

singe-ctr-PASS DET ${ }^{\circ}$ RDPL~outside-MDL
'They would singe the outside.' (AM-DUGOUT.024)

huy ga... huy ga tan' Piy naקa č'am'amatəm.
huy ga huy ga tan' Piy naPa č'am'~am-a-t-əm

'That would be finished, and they would cool it.' (AM-DUGOUT.025)

[^7]
huy ga Piy naPa $\mathrm{x}^{\text {wipitem tex̣əm?ay. }}$
huy ga Piy naPa $\mathrm{x}^{\mathrm{w}}$ ip-i-t-əm taxəm?ay
then $\mathrm{c}_{\mathrm{mtg}}$ and r.filler sweep-lv-ctr-pass cedar
'Then, they would brush (sweep) it with cedar [boughs to bless it].' (AM-DUGOUT.026)
(27) [ $\mathrm{x}^{\mathrm{W}}$ í'pàmtəm]
$\mathrm{x}^{\mathrm{w}}$ ipamtəm.
x ${ }^{\text {wip-am-t-əm }}$
sweep-inside.of.container-ctr-PASS
'They would sweep the inside of it.' (AM-DUGOUT.027)
(28) [mi: təRíłtəgəəms オ'íx̣təm tá?t]
miya ta」 Paftəgams X'əx̣təm taPat.

even DET_inside<EPEN>-inside.of.container-3poss singe-CTR-PASS DEM
'They would even singe the inside.' (AM-DUGOUT.028)

$\mathrm{k}^{\prime,}$ ət $^{\prime \theta}$ načtəm to naPa huǰas to $\mathrm{t}_{\smile}$ Pasq'am'.
$\mathrm{k}^{\prime,}$ ət $^{\prime \theta}$-nač-t-əm to naPa huǰ-as to ${ }_{\smile}$ Pasq'-am'
turn.over-bottom-CTR-PASS DET ${ }_{\smile}$ r.FILLER finish-3CNJ.SBJ DET $\smile$ outside-mDL
'They would turn it over when they finished the outside.' (AM-DUGOUT.029)


$\mathrm{k}^{\prime,} \partial t^{\prime \theta}$-nač-t-əm huy $\lambda^{\prime} \partial \mathrm{x}$-t-əm $\mathrm{k}^{\mathrm{w}}{ }_{\text {, Payigił-s }}$
turn.over-bottom-Ctr-pass then singe-ctr-pass det inside.boat-3poss
'They would turn it over, then singe its inside.' (AM-DUGOUT.030)




'The inside and the outside would be singed.' (AM-DUGOUT.031)


hi $\mathrm{k}^{\mathrm{jw}} \mathrm{a} \quad \mathrm{x}^{\mathrm{w}}$, $\mathrm{x}^{\mathrm{w}} \mathrm{ux}{ }^{\mathrm{w}}-\mathrm{s} \quad$ Рəy’
it's ${ }_{\smile}$ QUot NMLZ ${ }_{\smile}$ long.time-3poss good
'It would be good for a long time.' (AM-DUGOUT.032)

$\mathrm{x}^{\mathrm{w}}$ ə čamas $\quad \mathrm{k}^{\prime \mathrm{w}}$ әq. ${ }^{12}$
$x^{w}$ a? čam'-as $\quad k^{\prime \prime}{ }^{\prime} \partial q$
neg why/how-3cnu.sbu split
'It would not crack.' (AM-DUGOUT.033)
(34) [?ú:k ${ }^{\text {'W }} \mathrm{g}_{\Lambda}$ hóy tán' Ri:na: ...

Pəwk'w ga huy tan' Piy naPa...
?əwk'w ga huy tan' Piy naPa
all _mtg finish dem and r.filler
'That would be all done, and...' (AM-DUGOUT.034)
(35) [póq ${ }^{\text {w }}$ satəmӨó: ... $q^{\text {'w }}$ ét]
pəq $^{\mathrm{w}}$ satəm $\quad \theta \mathrm{u} . . . \mathrm{q}^{\text {'w it. }}$
pəq $^{\mathrm{w}} \mathrm{s}-\mathrm{a}-\mathrm{t}-\partial \mathrm{m} \quad \theta \mathrm{u} \quad \mathrm{q}^{\prime \mathrm{w}}$ it
fall.into.water-LV-CTR-PASs go beach
'They would bring it and put it in the water ... (at the) beach.' (AM-DUGOUT.035)
(36) [hoy to óx ${ }^{\mathrm{w}}$ àmtàm]
huy $t^{\prime \theta} \partial x^{\mathrm{w}}$ amtəm.
huy $\mathrm{t}^{\text {, }} \partial \mathrm{x}^{\mathrm{w}}$-am-t-əm
then wash-inside.of.container-CTR-PASS
'Then, they would wash the inside.' (AM-DUGOUT.036)


$\underline{x}^{\mathrm{w}} \partial \mathrm{tq} \mathrm{q}^{\text {'w }}-\mathrm{a}-\mathrm{t}-\partial \mathrm{m} \quad$ tə $\quad$ naPa $\quad \mathrm{q}^{\text {'w }}$ aygas
scrub-LV-CTR-PASS DET R.FILLER charcoal
'They would scrub the charcoal [off].' (AM-DUGOUT.037)
(38) [hóyg $\frac{1}{}$ tán' hehew qíx̣mò:t sp'árp'èm]
huy ga tan'. hihiw qəx.mut s p'ap'im.
huy ga tan' hihiw qax̣-mut s, p'ap'i-m
finish ${ }_{\smile}$ MTG DEm very many-very nMLz ${ }_{\smile}$ work-mDL
'That would be done. It used to be a lot of work.' (Am-DUGOUT.038)

[^8]（39）［qńx̣ayemotoł X＇á？a｀オ’x̣ày］
qəx̣ayamutuł 才＇aPa才＇x̣ay．
qəx̣－aya－mut－uł $\quad$＇aPa～才＇x̣ay
many－person－very－PST PL～elderly．person
＇There used to be a lot of elders．＇（AM－DUGOUT．039）



really all all know－NTR＜STV＞－PL－3ERG IMPF～make－A．INTR
$\mathrm{k}^{\mathrm{w}}{ }_{\iota}$ nəx ${ }^{\mathrm{w}}{ }^{\text {iq．}}$
$\mathrm{k}^{\mathrm{w}}{ }_{\mathrm{J}}$ nəx ${ }^{\mathrm{w}} \mathrm{i} \ddagger$
$\mathrm{DET}_{\smile}$ canoe
‘They all really knew how to make a canoe．＇（AM－DUGOUT．040）
（41）［？á\｛eymète＇gas núx ${ }^{\text {wìyıt }}$ t］
PaPəymitigas nəxwiyit．
Ra～？วуm－（m）i－t－ig－as nəx ${ }^{\text {wiy－it }}$
RDPL～do．by．oneself－rlt－CTR－PL－3ERG canoe－3pl．poss
＇They did their canoes by themselves．＇（Am－DUGout．041）
（42）［．．．háhy̌ıtè̀ gìs $]^{14}$
həhǰatigas．
hə～hy̌－ə－t－ig－as
IMPF～make－EPEN－CTR－PL－3ERG
＇They were making it．＇（AM－DUGOUT．042）
（43）［？ót hánınəm na：．．qáx̣s p＇árp＇èm］
Put hananəm naPa．．．qəx̣ s p＇ap＇im，
Put hanan－əm naPa qəx sup＇ap＇i－m
if excess－mdl r．filler many nmlz work－mdL
＇If it was too much work，＇（AM－DUGOUT．043）
（44）［ $\theta$ ó＇heyt tə sk ${ }^{\mathrm{W}}$ áq X＇áRa＇X＇x̣ày］
$\theta u$ hiyt to ${ }^{\text {sk }}{ }^{\text {w }}$ aq X＇aPa夫＇x̣ay．
Ou hiyt to $\operatorname{sk}^{\mathrm{w}}$ aq $\quad$ X＇aPa～才＇xay
go 」CLT ${ }^{\text {DET }} \smile$ remaining PL～elderly．person
＇other elders would go．＇（AM－DUGOUT．044）

[^9](45) [(č'eg $\Lambda .$.$) č'égatawt]$
č'agatawt.
č'ag-a-t-awł
help-lv-CTR-RCP
'They would help each other.' (AM-DUGOUT.045)



always PL~help-Lv-CTR-RCP NMLZ long.time-PST
'They always helped each other a long time ago.' (AM-DUGOUT.046)

č'agatigas ga $\quad \theta \mathrm{u}$ ta ${ }_{\mathrm{J}}$ naia ǰuju. ${ }^{16}$


'They would go and help the one who was having a difficult time.' (AM-DUGOUT.047)

$\mathrm{x}^{\mathrm{w}}$ ə čamas huǰəx ${ }^{\mathrm{w}}$ as $\mathrm{k}^{\mathrm{w}}{ }_{\text {}}$ na?s.
$\mathrm{x}^{\mathrm{w}} \mathrm{a}$ ? čam'-as huǰ-əx ${ }^{\mathrm{w}}$-as $\mathrm{k}^{\mathrm{w}}{ }^{\mathrm{w}}$ na?-s
neg why/how-3cnu.sbj finish-ntr-3erg det possess-3poss
'[If] he could not finish his [canoe].' (AM-DUGOUT.048)
(49) [ $\theta$ ó č č' $́ g a t a ̀ m ~ s k ~ w a ́ q ~ X ' a ́ ? a ' X ' x ̣ a ̀ y] ~$
$\theta u$ č'agatəm skwaq X'aPa才'x̣ay.
$\theta$ u č'ag-a-t-әm sk ${ }^{w}$ aq X'aPa~才'x̣ay
go help-lv-CTR-Pass remaining pl~elderly.person
'Some elders would go and help him.' (AM-DUGOUT.049)
(50) [?ímotoł námPùwtt sx ${ }^{\mathrm{w}}$ ơ $\mathrm{x}^{\mathrm{w}}$ ot]

Pəy-mut-uł nam-Puw-it s $\mathrm{s}_{\mathrm{x}}{ }^{\mathrm{w}} \mathrm{ux}{ }^{\mathrm{w}}$-uł good-very-PST similar-PST-3pl.poss NMLZ long.time-PST
'It used to be really good what they were like a long time ago.' (AM-DUGOUT.050)

[^10]

```
x wa? ga sčaPat. x w wk w
```



```
NEG MTG now NEG DET similar
```

'Not now. There is nobody like that. That's it.' (AM-DUGOUT.051)

## Symbols and Abbreviations

| $\smile$ | clitic boundary | MTG | mitigator |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\sim$ | reduplication boundary | NEG | negator |
| 1 | first person | NMLZ | nominalizer |
| 2 | second person | NTR | noncontrol transitive |
| 3 | third person | OBJ | object |
| A.INTR | active-intransitive | OBL | oblique |
| CAUS | causative | PASS | passive |
| CLT | clitic | PL | plural |
| CNJ | conjunctive | POSs | possessive |
| CTR | control transitive | PST | past |
| DEM | demonstrative | QUOT | quotative |
| DET | determiner | RCP | reciprocal |
| DIM | diminutive | R.FILLER | rhetorical filler |
| EPEN | epenthesis | RDPL | reduplication |
| ERG | ergative | RLT | relational |
| IMPF | imperfective | SBJ | subject |
| INC | inchoative | SBR | subordinate |
| INDC | indicative | SG | singular |
| LV | link vowel | STV | stative |
| MDL | middle |  |  |

## References

Beaumont, Ronald C. 2011. Sechelt dictionary. Sechelt: Sechelt Indian Band.
Stewart, Hilary. 1984. Cedar: Tree of life to the Northwest Coast Indians. Vancouver/Toronto: Douglas \& McIntyre; Seattle/London: University of Washington Press.
Thompson, Laurence C., and M. Terry Thompson. 1985. "A Grassmann's Law for Salish". In Veneeta Z. Acson and Richard L. Leed (eds.), For Gordon H. Fairbanks. (Oceanic Linguistics Special Publication, No. 20.)
Watanabe, Honoré. 2003. A morphological description of Sliammon, Mainland Comox Salish, with a sketch of syntax. Endangered Languages of the Pacific Rim Publication Series. A2-040. Suita (Osaka): Osaka Gakuin University.
Watanabe, Honoré. 2014. "A note on the Sliammon language". In Elsie Paul in collaboration with Paige Raibmon and Harmony Johnson (eds.), Written as I remember it: Teachings (?əms taPaw) from the life of a Sliammon elder. Vancouver: UBC Press. pp.xiii-xxii.
Watanabe, Honoré. 2022. "A Sliammon text: 'Blackfish', as told by Mary George". Asian and African Languages and Linguistics 16. Fuchu: Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa. pp.309-328.


[^0]:    * My deepest gratitude goes, first and foremost, to the late Mrs. Agnes McGee for sharing this story with me and teaching me her traditional language. I am grateful also to the late Mrs. Marion Harry for working through this text with me, and to Mrs. Elsie Paul for clarification on some of the words used in it. I am thankful to the Tla'amin (Sliammon) community and to my other language teachers: the late Mrs. Mary George and the late Mrs. Annie Dominick. I also thank the two anonymous reviewers for their comments. Thanks also to Allison Silver Adelman for editorial assistance. My research on Sliammon has been supported by various agencies, most recently by JSPS (KAKENHI, Grant Numbers 19H01253 and 19K21627). Needless to say, I assume full responsibility for my analyses and any errors in the data.
    ${ }^{1}$ What to call the language, however, is not a simple matter. The term RayRayüəm is now increasingly used. See Watanabe (2003: 2-3) and Watanabe (2014: xiii-xiv) for details.

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ Stewart (1984: 52) writes that it took two men about two months to make a canoe of about 7.6 m or 25 ft .

[^2]:    ${ }^{3}$ In addition, two morphophonemes //L// and //L'// need to be posited. They are realized, depending on the environment, as $\nsubseteq \sim y \sim w$ and $\Varangle \sim y^{\prime} \sim w^{\prime} \sim$, respectively. The Americanist phonetic symbols are used in this paper. Where they differ, the IPA equivalents are as follows: $\mathrm{x}=\overparen{\mathrm{t}}, \check{\mathrm{c}}=\overparen{\mathrm{t}}, \check{\mathrm{j}}=\overparen{\mathrm{d}_{3}}, \check{\mathrm{~s}}=\int, \mathrm{x}=\chi$.
    ${ }^{4}$ I have converted the Sechelt orthography to the symbols used in this paper.
    ${ }^{5}$ In four Salish languages, Spokane-Kalispel-Flathead, Okanagan, Shuswap, and Tillamook, a phonological process, which is referred to as 'Grassmann's Law' for Salish is observed; in this process, the first of two consecutive glottalized obstruents is deglottalized (Thompson and Thompson 1985). The sequence $t q^{w}$ in the Sliammon word in question appears as if this process has applied when compared to the Sechelt form; however, two consecutive glottalized obstruents are not uncommon

[^3]:    ${ }^{6}$ The English phrase, 'That's it', was uttered by A.M. to mark the end of her narrative. It is included here for the sake of record.

[^4]:    ${ }^{7}$ I am using the gloss 'RDPL' for reduplicants when the reduplicative process involved is not clear.
    ${ }^{8}$ A more literal translation would be 'Their work was a lot.'

[^5]:    ${ }^{9}$ The predicate is in passive, and the literal translation would be 'it was made'. Passive predicates, especially with an unspecified agent, are often translated by native speakers as 'they did X', as in this line.

[^6]:    ${ }^{10}$ This line consists of two passive predicates，and it might be better analyzed as two lines．

[^7]:    ${ }^{11}$ The word $\theta a h \theta a h q i t \partial m$ is analyzed as $\theta a h \sim \theta a h-q i-t$-əm, with the lexical suffix -qin 'mouth (inside), voice, language, food, eating, mouth of cup (or cup-shaped object)' (Watanabe 2003: 342). The loss of $n$ before $t$ is a regular process. However, the root is only attested in this line and in line (23). E.P. (p.c. 2017) did not recognize this word. The root should likely be posited as $\sqrt{ } \theta \partial h-$, judging from the form in line (23), in which the vowel is deleted. The CV plural reduplication takes the form $\mathrm{Ca} \sim$ or $\mathrm{Ci} \sim$, if the root vowel is a schwa (Watanabe 2003: 377). In line (21), the vowel $a$ can be analyzed as ə lowered by the following $h$.

[^8]:    ${ }^{12}$ This is a type of negative construction, which is referred to as 'emphatic negation' (Watanabe 2022). The full construction would be $x^{w} a$ ? čam'-as Piy $k^{w} \partial q$ (Piy 'and'). The segments before Piy are often reduced significantly, as in this line.

[^9]:    ${ }^{13}$ The word həhya？əm is derived from the root $\sqrt{ } h ə \check{\jmath}$－．The consonant $\check{j}$ is expected to be realized as $\check{j}$ before a vowel，as in this form，and as $y$ before another consonant or a word boundary．This regular $\check{j} \sim y$ alternation is occasionally violated in casual and allegro speech．See line 42，where the same segment of the same root is realized as $\check{j}$ ．
    ${ }^{14}$ A．M．is stumbling in the beginning here，and the entire line is quite difficult to hear．

[^10]:    ${ }^{15}$ This is the only instance of this word in my corpus. The form that means 'always' and is most often used is paya?. Other forms that also mean 'always' include: paya?am, papayaPam, papayam. These are obviously all derived from paya?, with what appears to be a suffix $-V m$ (which could be the middle suffix), and in the latter two a CV~ reduplication. The difference in the meanings or their use of the different forms is unclear at this point.
    ${ }^{16}$ This is the sole instance of the word $\check{y u j u}$ in my corpus.

