

Okó Kuéndo Váli

Twenty Short Stories

Tu'un na ñuu Nuu Tiaxín xí'in
na iinka ñuu xiyo oeste Skuíya

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Tutu yó'o íyo oko kuéndo nduvi xa'á
kití xí'in na yuví. Íyo kuéndo siki
xí'in kuéndo tati ini.
Ná kusií ini-ndo ka'vi-ndo-ña.

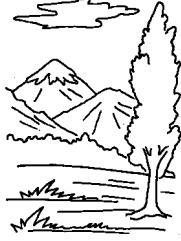
This is a collection of short stories
reflecting the rich oral traditions and
culture of the Mixtec people.

Ña'a káchi ini tutu yó'o

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A review of reading Mixtec

In Mixtec every vowel has one or two tones. Tones are “*the melody*” that we use to pronounce words. Tones are very important in Mixtec. In fact, some words can only be told apart by their tone. For example:



yuku ‘plant’

yukú ‘mountain’

yúku ‘yoke’

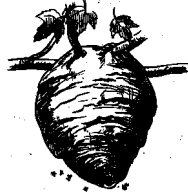
These three words in Mixtec are written using the same three letters: y-u-k-u. However, since they are pronounced with different tones, we write them with special symbols to tell them apart.

Now let’s look at how we use these symbols.

1. When a vowel in a syllable has a low tone, we underline it like this: a, e, i, o, u.



siki



yoko



sutu

2. When a vowel in a syllable has a mid tone, we leave it with no mark: a, e, i, o, u.



ita



kolo

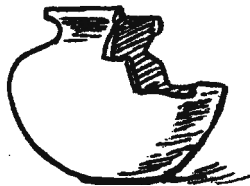


isu

3. When a vowel in a syllable has a high tone, we put an accent mark over the vowel: á, é, í, ó, ú.



lírú

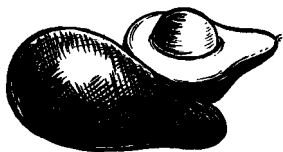


lá'ví



kóndó

Usually each vowel has only one tone, but sometimes there are vowels that have two tones. The circumflex (^) is used when the tone falls, like in the words **kîni** ‘pig’ or **kâní** ‘long’. The caron (ˇ) is used when the tone rises, like in the word **tĩna** ‘dog’. Look at these examples:



tĩchi



xǔ'un



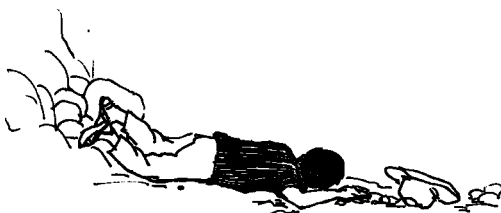
yâá

We also use the caron when we want to show that something happened in the past. In the following examples you can see some words that are written with two tones on one vowel.



Nđakăxin-ñá kití vixi kûni-ñá.

She picked out the fruit she wants.



Nđakăva-ra.

He fell down.



Ndakäya kua'á na yuví ve'e-na.

A lot of people gathered at their house.

The apostrophe (') is the character that represents a brief pause in in the pronunciation of words. Read the following words with this pause, also called a glottal stop.



ve'e



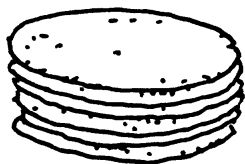
kó'ó



sa'má

You might notice that this sounds a lot like the pause in the English word, “uh-oh.” In Mixtec we always write this with an apostrophe (') , not with a hyphen (-) like we do in English.

In Mixtec, the letter **x** is pronounced like the **sh** in English. Read the following words:



xitá



xiyo

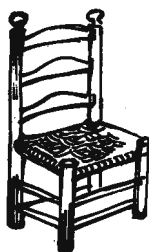


xa'á

In Mixtec the letters **ku** is pronounced like the **qu** in the English word “queen.” The letters **ti** and **ndi** are sounds we don’t have in English. Read the words below to hear how we pronounce these letters.



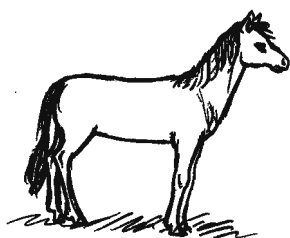
itia



tiayu



ndiuxí



kuáyu



tikuíti



ndia'yu

Before beginning our stories, we have one last thing to review. We will look at how we write the tones that indicate the negative form. When we write the negative form, we use the umlaut (¨) over the first vowel in the word.

When we want to say in Mixtec that something is good or that something is not good, we just change the tones of the word:

va'a ‘good’ and **vä'a** ‘not good’. Look at these other examples:

| | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| x<u>a</u>t<u>u</u> | <i>spicy</i> | x<u>î</u>n<u>i</u> | <i>knows</i> |
| xä<u>t</u>u | <i>not spicy</i> | x<u>î</u>n<u>i</u> | <i>doesn't know</i> |
| u'<u>v</u>i | <i>difficult</i> | k<u>û</u>n<u>i</u> | <i>wants</i> |
| ü'<u>v</u>i | <i>not difficult</i> | kök<u>û</u>n<u>i</u> | <i>doesn't want</i> |
| v<u>e</u>e | <i>heavy</i> | k<u>û</u>xi | <i>rusting</i> |
| v<u>ë</u>e | <i>not heavy</i> | kök<u>û</u>xi | <i>not rusting</i> |
| kue'<u>e</u> | <i>fierce</i> | kútóo | <i>likes</i> |
| ku<u>ë</u>'e | <i>not fierce</i> | kökútóo | <i>doesn't like</i> |

Now, on to our stories!



Nána

Tá nìxiyo lo'o Láló ra kini va'a nìxiyo-ra.

Ña ikán ndi'i kīj ndíso nána-ra-ra tá kuā'an-ñá yukú á
ya'vi.

When Lalo was little he was very difficult.
Because of that, every day his mom carried him
when she would go to the hills or marketplace.

*Vocabulary words are reviewed in the lexicon starting
on page 32



Saa

Tá s̥avǎ'a Ndióxi̯ ndi'i ñǎ'a nuú ñu'ú yó'o, ra
s̥avǎ'a-ra ta nuú saa ná ndachí-ri ndiví ra kata-ri
nuú-ra tá na'a.

savǎ'a - made, did

ñu'ú - earth, dirt

ndachí - to fly

-ri - pronoun for animals, fruits,
round things

ndiví - sky, heaven

kata - to sing

When God made everything on this Earth,
he made all types of birds to fly in the sky and sing
to him every morning.



Ká'vi

Ndi'i kǐí xá'an Lety xí'in José skuéla chi
kútóo-na kutu'va-na tiaa-na xí'in ña ka'vi-na. Tá
xǎ kǐxǎa-na ve'e-na ké'é-na tarea-na, ra ká'vi-na
iin kuéndo nuú kǔ'va lo'o-na tákua ná kǔsǔn-ñá.

| | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| ndi'i | - every, each |
| xí'in | - with, and |
| kútóo | - likes |
| kutu'va | - to study, to learn |
| kíxaa | - arrives at home |
| ké'é | - doing homework or taking a test |
| ku'va | - sibling of the opposite gender |
| kusun | - to sleep |

Every day, Lety and José go to school because they like learning to write and to read. When they get home they do their homework and they read a story to their little sister to get her to go to sleep.



Kîni

Nîxiyo iin kîni tí káchi saá,

"Vá'a ndíva'a kée-i chi kókáchíñu-i ta ndi'i kîí
kíxaa-na táxi-na núní, xítá xí'in tiŭxan ko'o-i."

Ta ndakujin iinka kîni, ra káchi-ri saá,

"Köchá'vi-yo xá'á ñá'a xíxi-yo xí'in chiñu chi
xí'in kuñu-yo chá'vi-yo xá'á-ña tá xá'ní-na-yo xíxi-
na."

ndīva'a - very much

kée - turns out

kökáchíñu - not working

táxi - giving

nuní - corn

tiŭxan - slop

ko'o - to drink

köchá'vi - aren't paying

chá'vi - paying

xá'ní - killing

There was a pig who said, "Things are turning out very well for me because I don't work but every day they arrive and give me corn, and tortillas, and slop to drink.

And another pig answered, saying, "We don't pay for what we eat with work because we pay with our flesh when they kill us and eat us."



Tindôó

Íyo iin tindôó kuâán, ra ve'e-ri kúú xǎ'á
vi'ndiá. Ña ikán kǐ'in-ri kua'an-ri.

Ndanǐ'í-ri nǔú íyo iin tú tǐchi. Ikán íyo tǐchi.
Ra kua'an-ri ya'vi xǐko-ri míí tǐchi ikán, ra ná kana
xǔ'un-ri kuiin-ri iin ñǎ'a sání'í-ri nána-ri.

| | | | | | |
|-----------|---|--------|-----------|---|--------------|
| ṭĩndôó | - | spider | tú ṭĩchi | - | avocado tree |
| kuâán | - | single | x̣ĩko | - | to sell |
| ṿĩ'ndiá | - | cactus | kuiin | - | to buy |
| nḍaṇĩ'í | - | found | ṣaṇĩ'í | - | to give |

There is a spider who is single, and he lives at the base of a cactus. He took off and went somewhere.

He found an avocado tree. It had avocados. He went to the market to sell those avocados and when he gets money he will buy something to give to his mother.



Ita

Íyo iin ita ña naní ita kuáún, ña kuáan kúú-
ña. Tá yóó julio táa ọkọ ụxá-ri kíkáá-na xátia-na-ña,
ra kǔ'va ná xínu-ña vikó ndij, chi saá xíníñú'u-na-ña
katún-na tǒso ndij-na. Ta xíníñú'u tu-na-ña ku'ụn-ña
xí'in-na kamisándo saá chi sándakutú-na ikán va.

ita kuaún - marigold

kíxáá - starting

xátia - throwing

kǔ'va - like that

xinu - to complete

ndii - the dead

katún - to tie

tǒso - floral arch

kamisándo - cemetery

sándakutú - decorating

There is a flower called a marigold, it is orange. When July comes, around the 27th, they start spreading seeds so the flowers will be ready in time for Day of the Dead, because they need them to tie to the floral arches of the dead. They also take them to the cemetery and to make decorations.



Tiin

Iin ichí niki'vi iin tiin naní Tóño ve'e na
kuíka. Suu tá kuni-ri kana-ri ra nitiin-ri xa'á ve'e.
Ikán nixa Pépe ra chindieé tá'an-ri xí'in-ri ra
kana-ri ini yavi ikán. Ña ikán va'a ná'a
ndákitá'an Tóño xí'in Pépe vichin.

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| n <u>ik</u> i'vi | - entered |
| ku <u>í</u> ka | - rich |
| k <u>u</u> n <u>i</u> | - wanted |
| n <u>i</u> t <u>i</u> in | - got stuck |
| n <u>i</u> x <u>a</u> a | - arrived |
| ch <u>i</u> ndieé tá'án | - helped out |
| y <u>a</u> v <u>i</u> | - hole |
| ndákitá'án | - hangs out, gets together |

One time a mouse named Toño got into the house of some rich people. But when he wanted to leave he got stuck under the house. So then Pepe arrived and helped him get out through a hole. Now Toño and Pepe are very close friends.



Tutún

Iin ichí nìxà'àn nána María xà'á tutún yukú. Tá xà kìxaá-ñá chikaa-ñá tutún sàtá uru sàna-ñá, ra kóníxini-ñá ínuu iin tisûn sàtá tutún, ra tųvi-ri nda'á-ñá. Ikán kìxaá ká'un nda'á-ñá ra kóníchikaa kuà'á ka-ñá tutún sàtá uru sàna-ñá.

ichí - time, instance

nixá'an - went

tutún - wood

sata - back

uru - donkey

könixini - didn't see

ínuu - on top of

tisûn - wasp

tuvi - stung

ká'un - burning

One time Maria's mom went to get firewood from the hills. When she started loading firewood on her donkey, she didn't see a wasp on the wood and it stung her hand. Her hand started burning and she couldn't load a lot more wood on her donkey's back.



Nu'u

Tá nixiyo lo'o ra Lálo, ra kixaá kána
nu'u-ra, ra chíkaa-ra iin yu'va lo'o xa'á-ña. Iin
ní saá kii nixita-ra mií yu'va lo'o ikán tá ná taya
xa'á nu'u-ra, ra kama kana-ña.

Tá xikuáa ra kixaa-ra ve'e-ra, ra kixaá-ra
sisiki-ra xí'in ku'va lo'o-ra. Ná ikán tin yu'va
lo'o nu'u-ra ra nixita-ña-ña, ra kana-ña. Saá kuu
tá kana nu'u Lálo.

kixaá - started

kána - coming out

nu'u - tooth

yu'va - string

xa'á - foot, base

níí - whole, total

kíí - day

nixǎ́ - pulled

taya - to loosen

kama - fast

xikuáá - afternoon

sísikí - playing

tjin - grabbed

kuu - was

When Lalo was little and one of his teeth was starting to fall out he tied a string around the base of it. All day long he pulled on that string to loosen that tooth so it would fall out quickly.

When it was the afternoon and he got home, he started playing with his little sister. That's when she yanked on that string and the tooth came right out. And that is how Lalo's tooth fell out.



Vixí

Íyo iin ñuu naní San Juan Piña ra ikán
kána kuá'á vixí, ra mií vixí ikán íxíko-na-ña
ya'vi Skuíya á sava tu-na íxíko-na nūú nā
mástro. Chi tá xā íyo vikó, ra tává-na-ña nā vālí
táxá'a-na ra ikán chínúu-na iin vixí xíní-na.

| | | | |
|-------|---------------|---------|-------------------|
| kána | - comes out | Skuíya | - Juxtlahuaca |
| kua'á | - a lot, much | vikó | - party, festival |
| vixí | - pineapple | na váli | - children |
| ixíko | - sells | táxá'a | - dancing |
| ya'vi | - market | chínúu | - puts on top of |

There's a town called San Juan Piñas where a lot of pineapples grow and the people sell those pineapples in the Juxtlahuaca market or they sell them to teachers. That's because when there are festivals, the children take them and dance and place the pineapples on their heads.



Táta-ñá

Tá nixiyo lëe ñá Rosa tótóo kú'vi-ñá. Kíxáá
-ñá xáku-ñá ra ikán kúndá'vi ini táta-ñá-ñá, ra
ndáki'in-ra-ñá númi-ra-ñá tákua ná kuäku ka-ñá.
Suu vichin ra kútóo nĩ'i va-ñá Rosa ná numi-ra-ñá.

| | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| lěe | - baby |
| tótóo | - frequently |
| kú'vĭ | - gets sick |
| kíxáá | - starting |
| kúndá'vi ini | - feeling compassion |
| númi | - holding |
| kuäku | - not cry |
| vichin | - now |

When Rosa was a baby she would get sick all the time. She would start to cry and her dad would feel sad for her, so he would pick her up and hold her so that she wouldn't keep crying. Now Rosa likes him to hold her all the time.



Ve'e

Ve'e táta xá'nu-yu kúú iin ve'e ndo'o ká'nu
vạ'a, ra ve'e táta-i kúú iin ve'e ña tavíke ta xịní-ña
kúú lámina.

Ve'e táta xá'nu-yu vixin vạ'a ini ña ikán tá
nduví, ra tá ñuu vixin vạ'a ini-ña. Ve'e táta-i ra i'ní
ini-ña nduví, ra tá ñuu ndixa ndaa vixin ini-ña. Suu
kútóo-yu uvị saá va-ña.

| | | | |
|------------|----------------|------------|-----------|
| táta xá'nu | - grandpa | ñǎu | - night |
| ndɔ'o | - adobe brick | nduví | - daytime |
| tavíke | - cinder block | vixin | - warm |
| lámina | - sheet metal | ndixa ndaa | - truly |
| vixin | - cold | uvi | - two |

My grandpa's house is a big adobe brick house and my dad's house is a cement block house with a sheet metal roof.

My grandpa's house is cold inside in the daytime, but when it is night it is nice and warm. My dad's house is hot inside in the day but at night it is really cold inside. But I like both types.

Leso



Iin ichí xíka nuu-ri leso xíxi-ri itia, ra ikán ndanĩ'í-ri tiokó válí ndíso-ña ña'a kuḗ'an-ña xí'in-ña yavi-ña. Xini leso ña ndixa ndaa vee ña ndíso-ña.

Ra ikán nixa'an-ri ki'in-ri iin leka lo'o, ra nika'an-ri xí'in-ña ná taán-ña ña'a ña ikán ra chindieé tá'an-ri xí'in-ña. Saá ndixa sav'a ña tiokó válí ra sakutú-ña leka ikán. Xindiso leso leka nixa'an-ri xindiaka-ri-ña ve'e tiokó, ra ikán sav'a mí-ña tiokó válí iin vikó xa'a leso, ña va'a ini-ri.

| | | | |
|----------|---------------|----------|-------------------|
| xíka nuu | - hanging out | leka | - bag |
| itia | - grass | taán | - put |
| ndanĩí | - encountered | sakutú | - filled up |
| tiokó | - ants | xindiso | - carried on back |
| ndíso | - carrying | xindiaka | - carried |
| yavi | - hole | vikó | - party |

One time a rabbit was wandering around eating grass and she came across some little ants that were carrying things to their ant colony. The rabbit saw that the things they were carrying were very, very heavy.

The rabbit went and got a little bag and told the ants to put all the things into the bag and she would help them with it. The ants did so and filled up the bag. The rabbit picked up the bag and carried it on her back and carried the ants to their ant colony. The little ants threw a party for the rabbit, because she was so good.



Luvî

Tá x̣á íyo vikó nuú n̄ ñuu Kiyaa, ra kána luvî táxá'a-ri. Sava kána-ri vikó ndika'a, á vikó sísikí xí'in vikó x̣á'un. Kána tu iin ñá sí'i ká'nu v̄a'a, ra ká'an-na móna xí'in-ñá. Xi'na yé'e chíñu kixáá-na táxá'a-na tá ndi'i ra kuá'an-na ȳa'vi.

| | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| vikó | - party or festival |
| Kiyaa | - Coicoyán |
| kána | - comes out |
| luvî | - turtle |
| vikó ndika'a | - Lion Festival |
| vikó sísikí | - Carnival |
| vikó x̣a'ũn | - Independence Day |
| ñá sí'i | - woman |
| yé'e chíñu | - courthouse patio |

When there are festivals in the town of Coicoyán de las Flores, a papier-mâché turtle comes out and dances. Sometimes it will come out for the Lion Festival, also called Carnival, and also for Independence Day. There is also a huge woman that they call a doll. First they start dancing in the courtyard of the courthouse and when they are done there they go to the market place.

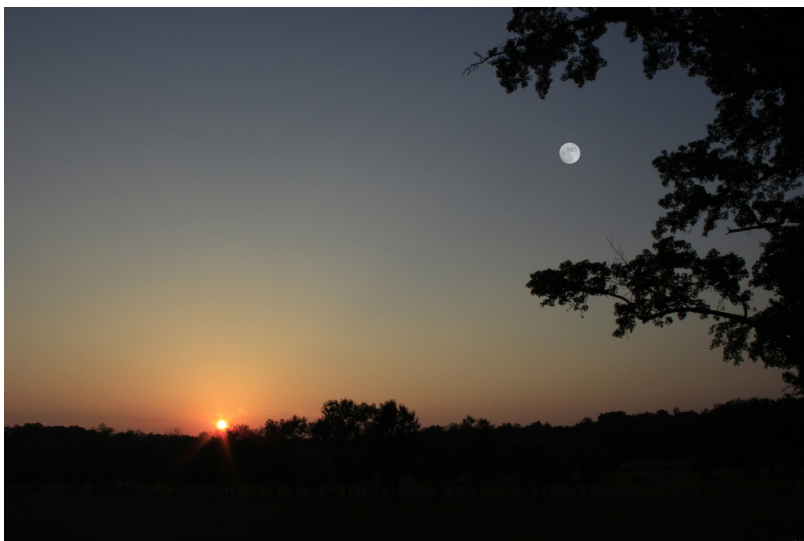


Lírú

Iin ichí nĭkĭ'vi iin lírú ndukuí'na-ri ini ve'e
tĭna. Tá xĭni tĭna ra nĭsaá-ri ra ndakĭ'in-ri kua'ān-ri
satá lírú. Suu tá nĭxaa-ri kaxí-ri lírú ra iin taji-ri
ká'á-ri nuú-ri ra lalá-ri nuú tĭna ra iin xíkotuví mií rí
tĭna kua'ān-ri chi kini ndĭva'a xá'ān láxa lírú ra
kóníkuví ka ka'ní-ri lírú kaxí-ri.

| | | | |
|-----------|--------------|----------|----------|
| iin ichí | - one time | lálá | - peed |
| lírú | - skunk | xíkótuví | - rolls |
| ndukuí'na | - steal | xá'an | - smells |
| tǐna | - dog | láxa | - urine |
| nǐsǎá | - got angry | ka | - more |
| tǎnji-ri | - the animal | | |
| ká'á-ri | turned tail | | |

One time a skunk got in to steal from a dog's house. When the dog saw it, it got mad and it took off running after the skunk. But when it reached the skunk and went to bite it, all of a sudden the skunk turned tail and sprayed the dog. The dog fell to the ground and rolled away because the skunk's spray smelled so bad. The dog was never able to kill that skunk.



Yóó

Saá ndátú'un-na xá'á yóó. Tá savă'a Ndióxi ña ndíí ra kútóo ndíva'a yóó-ña chi nduvi ndíva'a yé'e-ña. Ta kixaá kûni tûvi yóó xí'in ña ndíí, suu káchi Ndióxi:

—Yó'o, Ña Ndií, tá nduví yé'e-un, ta yó'o, Yóó, tá ñûu yé'e-un.

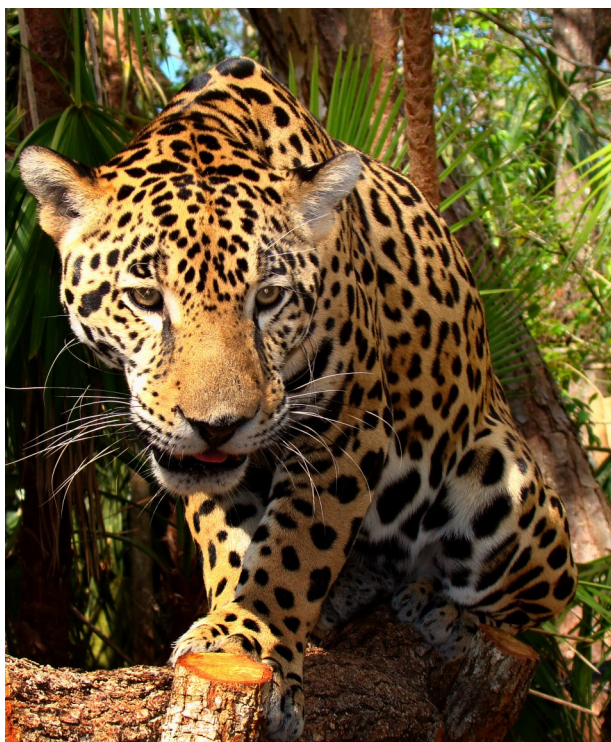
Ra kúsuchí ini yóó chi kûni ka-ri ña ndíí. Ikán xîni Ndióxi ña kúsuchí ini yóó. Ikán káchi-ra ná koo iin kíí tá ná kuvi ndakitá'án ña ndíí xí'in yóó, ta ña ikán kúú-a káchi-yo tá káyu yóó.

| | | | |
|----------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| ndátú'un | - chatting | nduví | - daytime |
| ñā ndj́í | - sun | ñūu | - night |
| ndīva'a | - so much | kúsuchí ini | - is sad |
| yé'e | - shines | kūni | - won't see |
| kīxaá | - started | koo | - will be |
| túvi | - dawns | káyu | - burns |

This is what they say about the moon. When God made the sun the moon liked it so much because it shone so brightly. It wanted to rise with the sun, but God said,

"You, sun, when it is daytime you will shine, and you, moon, when it is night you will shine."

And the moon was so sad because it wouldn't see the sun anymore. God saw that the moon was sad. So he said there would be one day when the sun could be together with the moon, and that is what we call when the moon burns.



Kuiin

Nìxìyo iin kuiin ká'nu vạ'a yukú ra kútóo-ri kaxí-ri kuñu. Ñạ ikán xạ'ní ndi'i-ri kití yukú. Suu tá ndi'i kití ra kịxaá-ri ndákáni ini-ri xạ'á kọó chin milá chin sakíín chin ndikuĩ kití kuẹ'ẹ tí xíka nuú ñu'ú. Ta kóníkundieé ni ka-ri, ra xaxí-ri iin kọó ta kọkǎa kúú-ri ikán. Ñạ ikán nìxì'ì tí kuiin xí'in ndutiá xạtu yu'ú kọkǎa.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| kui <u>i</u> n | - tiger | milá | - lizard |
| yukú | - hills | sakíín | - spiny lizard |
| k <u>u</u> ñ <u>u</u> | - meat | ndikuŭi | - all |
| xá'ní | - killed | nuú ñu'ú | - upon the ground |
| ndákáni ini | - thinking | köníkundieé | - couldn't handle |
| koó | - snake | ko <u>k</u> ăa | - rattlesnake |
| chin | - and | ndutiá x <u>a</u> t <u>u</u> | - venom |

There was a really big tiger who lived in the hills and it really liked to eat meat. She killed all of the wild animals. Then when she had finished off all the animals she started thinking about snakes, and small lizards and spiny lizards and all other kinds of wild animals that crawl upon the ground. She couldn't take it any longer and she ate a snake but it was a rattle snake. And that's how the tiger died, from the venom of the rattle snake.



Tichi

Nixiyo iin tú tichi ra nixiyo kua'á tichi nda'á-tu. Suu iin k_ijí nixaa xitō'o-tu ki'in-ra tichi ra uvi ndáá-ri ndiáá va'a k_i'in-ra, ra ndakí'in-ra kua'an-ra, ra íyo iin tichi lo'o ña xa kûni ku'un xí'in-ra. Suu kuíi n_i'i va-ri täan ka kuu ndiáá-ri.

Ra saá kixi tuku-ra iinka k_ijí va, ra xa kúsuchí mií ini ña tichi lo'o yó'o chi kökûni-ra ku'un-ña xí'in-ra.

Ra niya'a un_a k_ijí ra saá kixăa iin ndo'ó ká'nu xí'in-ra ra ndakuto'ni-ra nuú ña tichi lo'o ra káchi-ra saá,

"Vichin ndixa xa va'a ku'un-un xí'in-i chi xa ndiáá va'a satá-un."

Ra ndakí'in-ra-ña kua'an-ña xí'in-ra xiko-ra ya'vi.

| | | | | | |
|----------|---|--------------|------------|---|-------------|
| tú tǐchi | - | avocado tree | tāan | - | still not |
| nda'á | - | branch | kixi | - | came |
| xitǒ'o | - | owner | niya'a | - | passed |
| uvī ndáá | - | just two | ndaḱuto'ni | - | looked over |
| ndiáá | - | black | ndḱ'ó | - | basket |

There was an avocado tree and it had a lot of avocados on its branches. One day the owner arrived to pick some avocados. He picked just two of them, nice black ones, and then he left. There was one little avocado that wanted to go with him, but it was still so green; it hadn't started to turn black yet.

The owner came back another day, and the little avocado was so sad because the owner didn't want to take it.

A week later the owner came back, this time with a large basket and he looked at the little avocado and said,

"Well, now you can certainly go with me because your skin has turned very nice and black."

Then he picked it and took it to the market to sell.



Má'a

Iin kǐí nǐxǎǎ iin má'a xǎ'á itu-ra táta José kaxí-ri itu-ra, ra kǒnǐxini-ri ñǎ ikán xíka sǎ'e lo'o táta José, ra tá xǐni-ra-ri ra xínu-ra kuǎ'an-ra. Ra ikán ndakoo-ra leka nduú vǐxǐ ñǎ xǎxí-ra. Ra xǐni mií má'a ikán nduú vǐxǐ, ra ndǎkǐ'in-ri-ña kuǎ'an-ña xǐ'in-ri.

Ra mií ǎǎ lo'o ikán nǐxǎ'an-ra ndatú'un-ra xǐ'in táta-e ñǎ xǐni-ra iin má'a, ra ndǎkǐ'in mií táta-ra tuxǐi ra kuǎ'an-ra ka'ní-ra-ri, ra mií má'a yó'o kǐxaá-ri xǎxí-ri nduú vǐxǐ. Suu tá kûni-ri kokó-ri-ña ta nǐtǐin-ña sukún-ri, ta nǐxǐ'i-ri, ra tá nǐxǎǎ ka táta José ra xǎ nǐxǐ'i va-ri, ra ikán ndǎkǐ'in-na-ri kuǎ'an-ri xǐ'in-na kuxi-na.

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------|----------|--------------|
| nixaa | - arrived | nixa'an | - went |
| má'a | - raccoon | ndatú'un | - to tell |
| itu | - corn field | tuxĭi | - rifle |
| köníxini | - didn't see | kokó | - to swallow |
| nda <u>koo</u> | - left behind | sukún | - throat |
| nduú vixi | - candy | nixi'i | - died |

One day a raccoon arrived at Jose's dad's corn field to eat up the corn. It didn't see that Jose's dad's little boy was walking there, and when he saw it he took off running. He left behind the bag of candy he was eating. The raccoon saw the bag of candy and it grabbed it and left with it.

The little boy went and told his dad that he had seen a raccoon, and his dad grabbed a rifle and went to go kill it. That raccoon had begun eating the candies. But when it tried to swallow the candy, it got stuck in its throat and it died. When Jose's dad arrived the racoon was already dead, so he grabbed it and took it with him for them to eat.



Tiáká

Iin kí nítá'vi uní tiáká válí. Níká'an nána-ri xí'in-ri ná kána-ri yu'ú ítia, chi tín ná válí-ri á kaxí cholí káchi-ñá xí'in-ri. Ta könítiaa só'o uví-ri ta níxa'an-ri yu'ú ítia. Ikán tjin ná válí-ri ra kuá'an-ri xí'in-na kuxi-na, ta ndáá iin ndáá-ri kíndoo. Ta sá ká'an-ri ikán saá, "Ná-e kúú-a íyo yu'ú ítia ñá ikán kökûni nána-yo taxi-ñá-yo ku'un-yo, ra nachun köníndikó ka ñani-yo kíxaa-na?"

Ra ndakí'in-ri kuá'an-ri tá lo'o lo'o nuú-ri tává-ri ra xini-ri ndée uví ná válí, ta kûni-na tiin-na mií rí tiáká lo'o yó'o! Ra saá kíxaa-ri tiáká lo'o ndá'yu-ri ra xínu-ri níxaa-ri nuú nána-ri, ra ndaá kí saá köníxá'an ka-ri yu'ú ítia.

| | | | |
|-----------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| nīṭa'vi | - hatched | könítiaa so'o | - didn't listen |
| tiaká | - fish | na válí | - children |
| käna | - not go out | ndée | - are |
| yu'ú itia | - river's edge | nachun | - why |
| cholí | - crab | ndaḡ kī saá | - since then |

One day three fish hatched. Their mother told them not to leave and go out to the edge of the river, because kids might catch them or they might be eaten by a crab. Two of the fish didn't listen and went to the edge of the river. There they were caught by some children who took them home to eat, and only one little fish was left. It thought to itself, "What is it about the edge of the river that our mother won't allow us to go there, and why haven't my siblings come back?"

The little fish left going little by little until it saw two children, and they wanted to catch that fish! That little fish started to scream and swam as fast as it could back to its mother, and since that day it has never again gone out to the edge of the river.

Lexicon

| Ch | | |
|----------------|---|---------------|
| chá'vi | - | paying |
| chêé | - | elder |
| chíkạ | - | applies, puts |
| chin | - | and |
| chĩndieé tá'án | - | helped out |
| chínúu | - | on top of |
| chĩvǎ'a | - | stored safely |
| cholí | - | crab |

| E | | |
|----|---|---|
| -e | - | pronoun for something already mentioned |

| I | | |
|----------|---|----------------------|
| ichí | - | time, instance, road |
| íí | - | husband |
| iin ichí | - | one time |

| | | |
|-----------|---|--------------------|
| ínuu | - | leading, on top of |
| ita kuaún | - | marigold |
| itia | - | grass |
| itu | - | corn field |
| íxiko | - | selling |

K

| | | |
|-----------|---|-------------------|
| ka | - | more |
| kama | - | fast |
| kamisándo | - | cemetery |
| kána | - | coming out |
| käna | - | not go out |
| ka'ní | - | to kill |
| kata | - | to sing |
| katún | - | to tie |
| ká'un | - | burning, stinging |
| káyu | - | burns |
| kée | - | turns out |
| kẹe | - | to enter |

| | | |
|---------------|---|---------------------------------|
| ké'é | - | doing homework or taking a test |
| kíí | - | day |
| kití vixi | - | fruit |
| kíxaa | - | arrives at home, here |
| kíxáá | - | starting |
| kíxaá | - | started |
| kíxi | - | sleeping |
| kíxi | - | came |
| Kiyaa | - | Coicoyán de las Flores |
| köchá'vi | - | aren't paying |
| kolo | - | tom turkey |
| køkää | - | rattlesnake |
| kökáchíñu | - | not working |
| kokó | - | to swallow |
| köníkundieé | - | couldn't handle |
| könítiaa so'o | - | didn't listen |
| köníxini | - | didn't see |
| koo | - | will be |
| köö | - | is not |

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------|
| koó | - | snake |
| ko'o | - | to drink |
| kuá'a | - | red |
| kuá'á | - | much, a lot |
| kuâán | - | single, not married |
| kuäku | - | not cry |
| kuayu | - | garbage |
| kuiin | - | to buy |
| kui <u>i</u> n | - | tiger |
| kuíka | - | rich |
| kuiya xaá | - | New Year |
| kúnda'vi ini | - | feeling compassion |
| kundee | - | to be |
| kündieé | - | can't handle |
| kundixi | - | to wear |
| kü <u>n</u> i | - | won't see |
| k <u>u</u> n <u>i</u> | - | wanted |
| kuniñú'u | - | to use, to need |
| ku <u>ñ</u> u | - | meat |

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| kúsuchí ini | - | is sad |
| k _u s _u n | - | to sleep |
| kútóo | - | likes |
| kutu'va | - | to study, to learn |
| k _u u | - | was |
| k _u 'va | - | sibling of the opposite gender |
| kǔ'va | - | like that |
| kuvi | - | can, able |
| kú'v _i | - | gets sick, is sick, is hurting |
| kuxi | - | to eat |

L

| | | |
|--------------------|---|-------------|
| lálá | - | peed |
| lámin _a | - | sheet metal |
| láxa | - | urine |
| lěe | - | baby |
| leka | - | bag |
| leso | - | rabbit |
| lírú | - | skunk |

| | | |
|------|---|--------|
| luvî | - | turtle |
|------|---|--------|

M

| | | |
|--------|---|----------|
| má'a | - | raccoon |
| makíla | - | 5 liters |
| milá | - | lizard |

N

| | | |
|--------------|---|--------------------------|
| na váli | - | children |
| na ve'e | - | family |
| ná'a | - | appears |
| nachun | - | why |
| ná'nu | - | big (plural) |
| nda'á | - | hand, branch |
| ndaá kii saá | - | since then |
| ndachí | - | to fly |
| ndákáni ini | - | thinking |
| ndákitá'an | - | hangs out, gets together |

| | | |
|------------|---|------------------------|
| ndákoo | - | leaves |
| ndákoo | - | left behind |
| ndákuto'ni | - | looked over, inspected |
| ndandōso | - | forgot |
| ndándukún | - | hunting, looking for |
| ndanĩ'í | - | found, encountered |
| ndatú'un | - | to tell, to chat |
| ndátú'un | - | telling, chatting |
| ndáva | - | jumping |
| ndée | - | are |
| ndiáá | - | black |
| ndii | - | the dead |
| ndi'i | - | each, every |
| ndíkaa | - | is, is in |
| ndiko | - | to grind |
| ndikuĩ | - | everything, everyone |
| ndíso | - | carrying |
| ndiva'a | - | very much |

| | | |
|-------------|---|-----------------------|
| ndiví | - | heaven, sky |
| ndixa ndaa | - | truly |
| ndixí | - | corn on the cob |
| ndo'ó | - | basket |
| ndo'ó | - | suffered, experienced |
| ndo'o | - | adobe brick |
| ndukuí'na | - | to steal |
| ndutiá xatu | - | venom |
| nduu | - | to become |
| nduú vixi | - | candy |
| nduví | - | daytime |
| níí | - | whole, total |
| niki'vi | - | entered |
| nina | - | only |
| nisaá | - | got angry |
| nita'nu | - | broke |
| nita'vi | - | hatched |
| nitia'yu | - | rotted |
| nitin | - | got stuck |

| | | |
|----------|---|---------------------------------|
| n̄x̄aa | - | arrived |
| n̄x̄a'an | - | went |
| n̄xi'i | - | died |
| n̄x̄itá | - | pulled |
| n̄xiyo | - | was |
| n̄ya'a | - | passed |
| númi | - | holding |
| nuní | - | corn |
| núú | - | kind or type, face, in front of |
| núú ñu'ú | - | upon the ground |
| n̄u'u | - | tooth |

Ñ

| | | |
|-----------|---|-----------------------|
| ñá chêé | - | older woman |
| ñ̄a ikán | - | therefore, that's why |
| ñ̄a ndj́í | - | sun |
| ñá sí'i | - | woman |
| ñuñú | - | honey |
| ñuu | - | town |

| | | |
|------|---|-------------|
| ñũu | - | night |
| ñu'ú | - | earth, dirt |

R

| | | |
|-----|---|---|
| -ri | - | pronoun for animals, fruits, round things |
|-----|---|---|

S

| | | |
|-----------|---|--------------------|
| sákánuu | - | mixing or stirring |
| sakíín | - | spiny lizard |
| sákunu | - | causes to chase |
| sakutú | - | filled up |
| sana | - | domesticated |
| sándakutú | - | decorating |
| sáni'í | - | to give |
| sásikí | - | playing |
| sata | - | back |
| sata'ví | - | hatching |

| | | |
|--------|---|----------------------|
| savǎ'a | - | made, did |
| sísikí | - | playing |
| Skuíya | - | Santiago Juxtlahuaca |
| sqó | - | peel or husk |
| súka | - | sugar |
| sukún | - | throat |
| suu | - | but |

T

| | | |
|-------------------|---|------------------------|
| taán | - | put |
| tään | - | still not |
| takuě'e | - | injured |
| tan̄ji-ri ká'á-ri | - | the animal turned tail |
| táta xá'nu | - | grandpa |
| tavíke | - | cinder block |
| táxá'a | - | dancing |
| táxi | - | giving |
| taya | - | to loosen |

| | | |
|------------|---|--------------|
| tiǎ'á kûun | - | salsa |
| tiáká | - | fish |
| tiin | - | to grab |
| tĭin | - | grabbed |
| tĭna | - | dog |
| tĭnaná | - | tomato |
| tĭndôó | - | spider |
| tĭñuñú | - | honey bee |
| tiokó | - | ant |
| tisûn | - | wasp |
| tiųún | - | turkey hen |
| tiŭxan | - | slop |
| tĭvi | - | round |
| tóká | - | basket |
| tőso | - | floral arch |
| tótóo | - | frequently |
| tú tĭchi | - | avocado tree |

| | | |
|---------|---|--|
| -tun | - | pronoun for things made of wood, machines |
| tundǒ'ó | - | suffering |
| tutún | - | wood |
| tɔvi | - | stung |
| túvi | - | seems |
| túvi | - | dawns |
| tɔví | - | rolled over |
| tɔxǎi | - | gun, rifle |

U

| | | |
|----------|---|----------|
| uru | - | donkey |
| ɔvi | - | two |
| ɔvi ndáá | - | just two |

V

| | | |
|--------|---|-------------------|
| vichin | - | now, today |
| vikó | - | party or festival |

| | | |
|--------------|---|------------------|
| vikó ndika'a | - | Lion Festival |
| vikó sísikí | - | Carnival |
| vikó xa'un | - | Independence Day |
| vi'ndiá | - | cactus |
| vixí | - | pineapple |
| vixin | - | warm |
| vixin | - | cold |

X

| | | |
|----------|---|----------------|
| xá'a | - | hominy |
| xa'á | - | foot, base |
| xá'an | - | goes |
| xá'an | - | smells |
| xa'ní | - | killed |
| xá'ní | - | kills |
| xási ini | - | eats breakfast |
| xátia | - | throwing |
| xa'tún | - | wooden box |

| | | |
|----------|---|---------------------------|
| xí'í | - | mushroom |
| xí'in | - | with, and |
| xíka nuu | - | hanging out |
| xíko | - | to sell |
| xíkótuví | - | rolls |
| xíkuáá | - | afternoon |
| xína'á | - | the past, a long time ago |
| xíndiso | - | carried on one's back |
| xínu | - | to complete |
| xítiáku | - | existed, lived |
| xito | - | uncle |
| xítõ'o | - | owner |
| xítu | - | weeding |
| xíxá'ñu | - | eats in the afternoon |
| xixi | - | aunt |
| xíxi | - | eats, eating |
| xíxíni | - | eats dinner |
| xíyó | - | griddle |

Y

| | | |
|------------|---|------------------|
| yasín | - | tasty |
| yavi | - | hole |
| ya'vi | - | market |
| yé'e | - | shines |
| yé'e chíñu | - | courthouse patio |
| yoo | - | pitcher |
| yukú | - | mountain, hills |
| yu'ú itia | - | river's edge |
| yū'va | - | string |

