

Nido de Lenguas: Clases

Class 8 – April 15, 2021

GOALS

- To learn the numbers from 1 to 10
- To learn about plurals
- To learn how to count people and animals
- To explore the significance of the *Guelaguetza* festival



The *Guelaguetza* festival in Santa Cruz

Workshop on the Languages of Meso-America
University of California, Santa Cruz
wlma.ucsc.edu/nidodelenguas/

1. Dialogue from last class

Did you memorize the final dialogue from our last class? Get ready to perform it with one of your classmates!

Raquel: **E ba belho'o?**
'Are you back?'

Bat belho'o?
'When did you get back?'

Raul: **O'ó, neje belha'a.**
'I just arrived yesterday.'

Raquel: **Gak dzak tsiu'?**
'How are you?'

Raul: **Nha' lha'nh bida', kwents gaka' rmedzw.**
'I came to be cured.'

Raquel: **Bi xhenh dzekdu'?**
'What's wrong?'

Raul: **Lastuma shlha yitsja'nh.**
'My head hurts a lot.'

Ba uya'a lhu doktor, ba we'eja' rmedzw.
'I went to the doctor and took medicine.'

Bitu dziyaka'.
'I haven't gotten better.'

Raquel: **Tsjawiu' lhia Xwanha' llah, kwents yiyaku'.**
'You should go and see Doña Juana, so she can treat you.'

Raul: **Ka lha'nh gunha'!**
'That's what I'll do!'

Exercise

Perform the dialogue with one of your classmates for everybody else.

2. Counting in Zapotec

Let's learn how to count to 10 in Zapotec!

tu	1	xup	6
tsupe	2	galle'	7
chone	3	xu'nh	8
tap	4	gah	9
gayu'	5	chi	10

Exercise A

Maestra Fe will show you a math problem (simple addition or subtraction) and ask you to solve it in Zapotec.

Addition and subtraction

Addition

Gak de tsiu' chi xu' _____, nha' _____?

'How many do you have when you add _____ to _____?'

Subtraction

Gak dzega'an tsiu' chi nhuxu'u _____, nha' utsinu' _____?

'How many are there when you have _____ and take away _____?'

Exercise B

Now, it's your turn to quiz your fellow students. Taking turns asking and answering the following math problems, using the formulas above.

(a)
 $2 + 3 = ?$

(b)
 $5 + 1 = ?$

(c)
 $10 - 3 = ?$

(d)
 $7 + 2 = ?$

(e)
 $7 - 1 = ?$

(f)
 $9 - 4 = ?$

(g)
 $4 + 4 = ?$

(h)
 $8 - 6 = ?$

(i)
 $5 + 4 = ?$

(j)
 $7 + 3 = ?$

(k)
 $6 - 2 = ?$

(l)
 $9 - 8 = ?$

Tarjetas

You can memorize these the numbers using digital flashcards:

<https://babel.ucsc.edu/tarjetas/numbers/>

3. Plurals

We have already learned several words for describing people and animals:

People

bi'i nhu'ulhe	'girl (niña)'
bi'i xyag	'boy (niño)'
bene' nhu'ulhe	'woman (mujer)'
bene' xyag	'man (hombre)'

Animals

jia	'rooster (gallo)'
beku'	'dog (perro)'
xhidw	'cat (gato)'
bedzjw	'turkey (guajolote)'

Usually, we have used these nouns in the singular to refer to just one individual:

Nha' ze bi'i nhu'ulhe'nh.

'There is the girl (standing).'



But it is possible to use a noun to refer to more than one individual in the plural *without changing its form*:

Nha' zjaze bi'i nhu'ulhe'nh.

'There are the girls (standing).'

Instead, it is the form of *the verb* that changes: for *ze* 'stand', you add the plural prefix *zja-*. Here are a few more examples of this plural prefix in use:

Nha' zjaze bedzjw'nh.

'There are the turkeys (standing).'

Nha' zjadzi' bene' xyage'nh.

'There are the men (sitting).'

Nha' zjade xhidw'nh.

'There are the cats (lying down).'

Notice that this is different from both English and Spanish, which change the form of the noun in the plural (by adding the suffix *-s*).

(continued on next page)

Exercise

Maestra Fe will show you a picture. Describe what person(s) or animal(s) you see. Don't forget, to describe an individual's location you have to mention its position (standing, sitting, or lying down)!

How to describe where something is located

Singular

Nha' ze/dzi'/de _____'nh.

there standing/sitting/lying down

'There is the _____.'

Plural

Nha' zja-ze/dzi'/de _____'nh.

there plural-standing/sitting/lying down

'There are the _____s.'

4. Using numbers

Of course, it is possible to describe how many individuals there are using numbers:

<u>tsupe</u> beku'	'two dogs (dos perros)'
<u>gayu</u> ' bi'i nhu'ulhe	'five girls (cinco niñas)'

Again, the form of the noun does not change, even though the numbers may describe more than one individual.

To ask how many individuals there are, you use the question word **bale** 'how many':

<u>Bale</u> beku'nh zjaze nha'?	'How many dogs are there (standing)?'
<u>Bale</u> bi'i nhu'ulhe'nh zjadzi' nha'?	'How many girls are there (sitting)?'

To answer these questions, you might respond as follows:

Nha' zjaze <u>tsupe beku'nh</u> .	'There are two dogs.'
Nha' zjadzi' <u>gayu' bi'i nhu'ulhe'nh</u> .	'There are five girls here.'

How to describe where more than one thing is located

Question

Bale	_____ 'nh	zja-ze/dzi'/de	nha'?
how many		standing/sitting/lying down	there

'How many _____ are there?'

Answer

Nha'	zja-ze/dzi'/de	_____ 'nh.
there	standing/sitting/lying down	

'There are _____ s.'

Exercise

Maestra Fe will show you a picture. Describe how many people or animals there are.

5. Final dialogue: *Guelaguetza*

On the third Sunday of July, people from all over the world come to Oaxaca City for the annual *Guelaguetza* festival. In the Zapotec language of the Valley, the word *guelaguetza* means to share with others without receiving anything in return (in **Laxup**, this idea is called **uzunh**).

The government invites people from across the state of Oaxaca to come and present their culture to visitors from other countries and elsewhere in Mexico. They share their dances, music, and languages, so that everybody can see, hear, and taste a little bit of Oaxaca in one day.

In California, Oaxacan communities also organize *Guelaguetza* festivals. In Santa Cruz, Senderos puts on the festival in May. There are also *Guelaguetzas* every year in Los Angeles and Fresno.

The *Guelaguetza* in Oaxaca City will take place soon. Beto and Raquel have been invited to participate:

Beto: Lastuma dzebeshkeda' eya'a *Guelaguetza*'nh!
'I'm so excited to dance in the *Guelaguetza*!'

Raquel: Bats xhen tso'o?
'When are you leaving?'

Beto: Wxe'nh cha'a La'nh.
'I go to Oaxaca tomorrow.'

Raquel: Bale llah'nh suu' nha'?
'How many days will you stay?'

Beto: Gayu' llah'nh sua' nha'.
'I will be there for five days.'

Raquel: E uzalhenha' lhe'?
'Can I go with you?'

Beto: Wenhshka gak Ini!
'The *fiesta* will be a lot of fun!'



Exercise

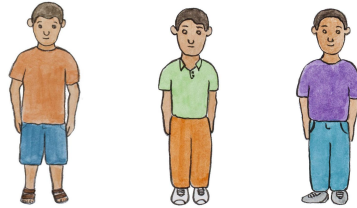
Listen carefully to Maestra Fe recite the dialogue above. Then repeat each sentence after her.

You can listen to the final dialogue online here:

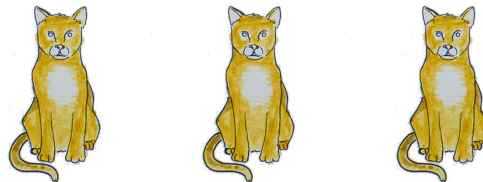
<https://wlma.ucsc.edu/nidodelenguas/clases/2021/8-dialogue.mp3>

6. Homework

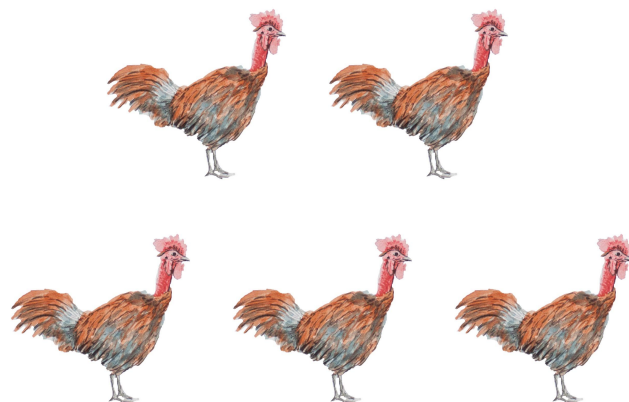
6.1. *Counting.* Describe how many animals or people there are in each image below. Use both a number and a noun.



(a) _____



(b) _____



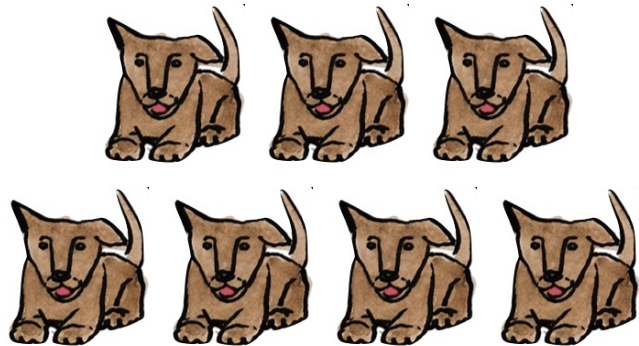
(c) _____



(d) _____



(e) _____



(f) _____

6.2. *Building sentences.* Now, for each imagine above, construct a complete sentence describing what individuals there are (using the formulas from Section 4).

(a) _____

(b) _____

(c) _____

(d) _____

(e) _____

(f) _____

6.3. *Memorize.* Listen to the final dialogue online several times:

<https://wlma.ucsc.edu/nidodelenguas/clases/2021/8-dialogue.mp3>

Then, memorize the dialogue. Practice being both Beto and Raquel. If you can, practice with your classmates too. We will start our next class by asking students to perform the dialogue.