

S/he’s Finding (It, Him) – Neutral, Living

Reviewed by JW

a²¹hwa²hti²³ha² (It) / a²¹ji²²hwa²hti²³ha² (Him)

/a²¹/, v.tp-o/p, Equivalent Root, JW p.37, CED p.26

PRC	-hwa ² hti ²² h-	Present	
		ji ² hwa ² hti ²³ ha ²	<i>I'm in the process of finding it.</i>
		ji ²² wa ² hti ²³ ha ²	<i>I'm in the process of finding him/her.</i>
		a ²¹ gi ² hwa ² ht ²³ ha ²	<i>S/he, It is in the process of finding me.</i>
		hi ² hwa ² hti ²³ ha ²	<i>You're in the process of finding it.</i>
		hi ²² hwa ² hti ²³ ha ²	<i>You're in the process of finding him/her.</i>
		ja ² hwa ² hti ²³ ha ²	<i>S/he, It is in the process of finding you.</i>
		a ²¹ hwa ² hti ²³ ha ²	<i>S/he's in the process of finding it.</i>
		a ²¹ ji ²² hwa ² hti ²³ ha ²	<i>S/he's in the process of finding him/her.</i>
NCMP	-hwa ² hti ²² sg-	Past	
		ji ² hwa ² hti ²² sgv ²³ ?i ²	<i>I was in the process of finding it.</i>
		ji ²² wa ² hti ²² sgv ²³ ?i ²	<i>I was in the process of finding him/her.</i>
		a ²¹ gi ² hwa ² hti ²² sgv ²³ ?i ²	<i>S/he, It was in the process of finding me.</i>
		hi ² hwa ² hti ²² sgv ²³ ?i ²	<i>You were in the process of finding it.</i>
		hi ²² hwa ² hti ²² sgv ²³ ?i ²	<i>You were in the process of finding him/her.</i>
		ja ² hwa ² hti ²² sgv ²³ ?i ²	<i>S/he, It was in the process of finding you.</i>
		a ²¹ hwa ² hti ²² sgv ²³ ?i ²	<i>S/he, It was in the process of finding it.</i>
		a ²¹ ji ² hwa ² hti ³ sgv ²³ ?i ²	<i>S/he, It was in the process of finding him/her.</i>
		Habitual	
		ji ² hwa ² hti ³ ho ³ ?i ²	<i>I find it [habitually].</i>
		hi ² hwa ² hti ³ ho ³ ?i ²	<i>You find it [habitually].</i>
		a ²¹ hwa ² hti ³ ho ³ ?i ²	<i>S/he, It finds it [habitually].</i>
CMP	-hwa ² htv ²² h-	Past	
		ji ²² hwa ² htv ²² hv ²³ ?i ²	<i>I found him/her.</i>
		a ²¹ gi ² hwa ² htv ²² hv ²³ ?i ²	<i>I found it. (or) S/he, It found me.</i>
		hi ²² hwa ² htv ²² hv ²³ ?i ²	<i>You found him/her.</i>
		ja ² hwa ² htv ²² hv ²³ ?i ²	<i>You found it. (or) S/he, It found you.</i>
		a ²¹ ji ²² hwa ² htv ²² hv ²³ ?i ²	<i>S/he, It found him/her.</i>
		u ²¹ hwa ² htv ²² hv ²³ ?i ²	<i>S/he, It found him/her/it.</i>
		gv ²¹ hwa ² htv ²² hv ²³ ?i ²	<i>I found you.</i>
		sgi ² hwa ² htv ²² hv ²³ ?i ²	<i>You found me.</i>
		Future	

		da ² ji ² hwa ² htv ²² hi ²	<i>I will find it.</i>
		da ² ji ²² hwa ² htv ²² hi ²	<i>I will find him/her.</i>
		dv ²² gi ² hwa ² htv ²² hi ²	<i>S/he, It will find me.</i>
		ti ² hwa ² htv ²² hi ²	<i>You will find it.</i>
		ti ²² hwa ²² htv ²² hi ²	<i>You will find him/her.</i>
		da ² ja ² hwa ² htv ²² hi ²	<i>S/he, It will find you.</i>
		dv ²¹ hwa ² htv ²² hi ²	<i>S/he, It will find it.</i>
		dv ²¹ ji ²² hwa ² htv ²² hi ²	<i>S/he, It will find him/her.</i>
		da ² gv ²² hwa ² htv ²² hi ²	<i>I will find you.</i>
		da ² sgi ² hwa ² htv ²² hi ²	<i>You will find me.</i>
IMM	-hwa ² ht/a ²	Command	
		hi ² hwa ² hta ²	<i>Find it!</i>
		hi ²² hwa ² hta ²	<i>Find him/her!</i>
		Immediate Past	
		ji ² hwa ² hta ⁰	<i>I just found it!</i>
		ji ²² hwa ² hta ⁰	<i>I just found him/her!</i>
		a ²¹ gi ² hwa ² hta ⁰	<i>S/he, It just found me!</i>
		hi ² hwa ² hta ⁰	<i>You just found it!</i>
		hi ²² hwa ² hta ⁰	<i>You just found him/her!</i>
		ja ² hwa ² hta ⁰	<i>S/he, It just found you!</i>
		a ²¹ hwa ² hta ⁰	<i>S/he, It just found it!</i>
		a ²¹ ji ²² hwa ² hta ⁰	<i>S/he, It just found him/her!</i>
INF	-hwa ² htv ² hd/i ²	Basic Infinitive	
		ji ²² hwa ² htv ² hdi ²	<i>For Me to find him/her.</i>
		a ²² gi ² hwa ² htv ² hdi ²	<i>For Me to find it. (or) For Him/Her/It to find me.</i>
		hi ²² hwa ² htv ² hdi ²	<i>For You to find him/her.</i>
		ja ² hwa ² htv ² hdi ²	<i>For You to find it. (or) For Him/Her/It to find you.</i>
		u ²² hwa ² htv ² hdi ²	<i>For Him/Her/It to find him/her/it.</i>
		a ²¹ ji ²² hwa ² htv ² hdi ²	<i>For Him/Her/It to find him/her/it.</i>

NOTES: In English, to “find” something tends to refer to a specific moment in most use-cases—in other words, it’s a “Completive” verb in a kind of fundamental way. That’s not how it works in Cherokee—the verb is easily understood in both NCMP and CMP contexts. However, the NCMP “I was finding it” conjugation is basically synonymous with “searching for (it).” To be “in the process of finding something” is essentially the same thing as “searching” for it, with the precise moment the “finding” occurs simply being the *end* of that “finding” process. The act of is a process (of *searching*) that flows forward to a conclusion (of *finding*).

Root Formula:

/hwa²ht/
“Find”

+

/ i²²h /
Processive Adv. Suff.
“In the Process of”

=

/hwa²hti²²h/
Compound Root

=

Approx. Literal Meaning

“In the process of finding (it)”

Classification: This classificatory verb is dual-purpose—it can be used for both Neutral (solid, compact, etc.) and Living Objects. Distinction between the two classes of Object is easily accomplished by Pronoun selection (Set A for inanimate Neutral objects, Animate Object pronouns for Living objects, Set B also used).

SENTENCES:

Gohusdi yagvsgalanela, ahida a²¹hwa²hti²³sgo³?i².
/ something / whenever it’s hidden / it-easy / he finds it /
When something is hidden [from him], he finds it easily. (CED)

Nigvnahtv jiga⁰te²³no³²i²³do³²hv², si²³dv³³ a²¹gi²nu²²lv²³hv³sgv² a²²gi²hwa²htv²hdi²³?i².
/ all over / I’ve been [or was] looking around / definitely still / I’ve been failing / for me to find it /
I’ve looked all over and I still can’t find it.

Gihli saloli wa²¹ji²²hwa²htv²²hv² i²²tlu⁰gv⁴⁴?i³.
/ dog / squirrel / it found it there / tree-place [or “at, in the tree”] /
The dog found a squirrel in the tree.

Elisihnv “osd agehya ti²²hwa²hti²²sg³³sdi²wu³” a²¹ki²no²²he²³hlv³sgo³nigohilv’i.
/ and grandma / “good / woman / you will be finding her” / she tells me / always /
Grandma’s always telling me to find a good woman.

Nihidvnogwu⁰ ! Ji²gv²¹hwa²hta⁰!
/ definitely you now / I just found you /
There you are! I found you! (Said by or to a child, as in a game)

Usdi kanvsulv witakanvga, ti²hwa²htv²³hi² uhnadidla.
/ little / room / there you look / you will find it / towards there /
Go look in the closet, you’ll find it there.

Nudale digilvhwsdane⁰hdi a²²gi²hwa²htv²hdi² a²¹gwa²du²²li² nigalsdi.
/ different, another / my job / for me to find it / i want it / to happen /
I’d like to find somewhere else to work.

Ganyeg aktosdohdi i²²ni²hwa²hta².
/ dangerous, horrible / movie[†] / you and I find it /
Let’s [you and I] find a horror movie [to watch].[‡]

[†] Lit. “it is a thing for watching,” “a thing to be watched.”
[‡] The “to watch” at the end of the English translation is not directly contained anywhere in the Cherokee—except in the noun for “movie,” which already includes the verb “watch it.” To literally say “let’s find an it’s-watched for us to watch” is redundant and unnecessary in Cherokee. Technically, it’s a bit redundant in the English, too—“Let’s find a movie” is perfectly comprehensible without explaining that the movie is “to watch.”

Ji²yo⁴⁴hli² jigesv⁴, agwv⁴⁴sa²wu⁰dv³³ jiga²isv²i.
A²¹gwa²le²²na²³hi³dv² jigesv²i.
So²ihnv yvwi ji²ji²²hwa²htv²²hv⁴,
a²gwe²³hna³?i² iyusdi agwadantv.
Do²²ja²li²²he²³li³²ji²³da³²sdi² ge²²sv⁴⁴?i².

/ I-child / when it was / alone / I was going /
/ I had become lost / then it was /
/ and other / person / when I found him /
/ I-wealthy / that way / I was thinking it /
/ we are each other’s happiness /

*When I was young, I was walking alone.
I got lost along the way.
When I found another,
I felt rich.
Man is the joy of man.[†]*

RELATED WORDS: “Finding Oneself Somewhere,” a²¹da²²hwa²htv²²hi²³do³²ha², No. 006; “S/he’s Visiting (Him),” a²¹ji²²hwa²htv²²hi²³do³²ha², No. 114; “S/he’s Finding (It) – Long,” a²¹yv²²hwa²hti³ha², No. 306; “S/he’s Finding (It) – Flexible,” ga²na³²hwa⁰hti³ha², No. 463; “S/he’s Finding (It) – Liquid,” ga²ne²²hwa²hti³ha², No. 474; “S/he’s Seeing (It, Him),” a²¹go²²hwa⁰hti³ha², No. 073.

[†] A very loose translation of Hollingsworth’s English version of the *Poetic Eddas, Havamal*, verse 47. “Young was I once / I walked alone / and bewildered seemed in the way / then I found me another and rich I thought me / for man is the joy of man.”