

S/he’s Finding (It) – Flexible

Reviewed by JW Webster

ga²na³²hwa⁰hti²³ha²

/ga²¹/, v.tp-o(flex), Equivalent Root, JW p.144, CED p.104

PRC	-x ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ hti ²² h/a ²	Present	
		ji ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ hti ²³ ha ²	<i>I’m in the process of finding it (flexible).</i>
		hi ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ hti ²³ ha ²	<i>You’re in the process of finding it (flexible).</i>
		ga ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ hti ²³ ha ²	<i>S/he’s in the process of finding it (flexible).</i>
NCMP	-x ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ hti ²² sg-	Past	
		ji ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ hti ²² sgv ²³ ?i ²	<i>I was in the process of finding it (flexible).</i>
		de ³³ ji ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ hti ²² sgv ²³ ?i ²	<i>I was in the process of finding them (flexible).</i>
		hi ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ hti ²² sgv ²³ ?i ²	<i>You were in the process of finding it (flexible).</i>
		ga ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ hti ²² sgv ²³ ?i ²	<i>S/he was in the process of finding it (flexible).</i>
		de ³³ ga ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ hti ²² sgv ²³ ?i ²	<i>S/he was in the process of finding them (flexible).</i>
		Future	
		ji ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ hti ²² sge ³³ sdi ²	<i>I will be in the process of finding it (flexible).</i>
		hi ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ hti ²² sge ³³ sdi ²	<i>You will be in the process of finding it (flexible).</i>
		ga ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ hti ²² sge ³³ sdi ²	<i>S/he will be in the process of finding it (flexible).</i>
		Future Command	
		wi ² hi ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ hti ²² sge ³³ sdi ²	<i>Go find it (flexible)! (or) Go look for it (flexible)! Lit., “there you will be in the process of finding it (flexible).”</i>
CMP	-x ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ htv ²² h-	Past [†]	
		a ²¹ gi ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ htv ²² hv ²³ ?i ²	<i>I found it (flexible).</i>
		ja ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ htv ²² hv ²³ ?i ²	<i>You found it (flexible).</i>
		u ²³ na ³² hwa ⁰ htv ²² hv ²³ ?i ²	<i>S/he found it (flexible).</i>
		du ²³ na ³² hwa ⁰ htv ²² he ³³ ?i ²	<i>S/he [reportedly] found them (flexible).</i>
		Future	
		da ² ji ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ htv ²³ hi ²	<i>I will find it (flexible).</i>
		do ³³ da ² ji ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ htv ²³ hi ²	<i>I will find them (flexible).</i>
		ti ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ htv ²³ hi ²	<i>You will find it (flexible).</i>
		do ³³ ti ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ htv ²³ hi ²	<i>You will find them (flexible).</i>

[†] Note on Translation of CMP Past Index Forms: The only translated meaning provided here is “Pronomial person found *it* (flexible).” Of course, these verbs can technically translate in more ways than just this—because the Set B pronomials used on CMP Past forms can mean either “pronomial person finds it” or “it finds pronomial person.” However, because this classificatory verb applies only to inanimate flexible objects, the “it finds person” meaning is unlikely to be heard or said outside of metaphorical or poetic contexts. For this reason, only the “person finds it” meaning is provided in the translations. This will be a common pattern on Classificatory verb entries throughout this document.

		da ² ga ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ htv ²³ hi ²	S/he will find it (flexible).
		do ³³ da ² ga ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ htv ²³ hi ²	S/he will find them (flexible).
IMM	-x ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ ht/a ²	Command	
		hi ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ hta ²	You find it (flexible)!
		ti ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ hta ²	You find them (flexible)!
		Immediate Past	
		ji ² ji ³ na ³² hwa ² hta ⁰	I just found it (flexible)!
		ji ² hi ³ na ³² hwa ² hta ⁰	You just found it (flexible)!
		ji ² ga ³ na ³² hwa ² hta ⁰	S/he just found it (flexible)!
INF	-x ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ htv ² hd/i ²	Basic Infinitive	
		a ²² gi ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ htv ² hdi ²	For me to find it (flexible).
		di ²² gi ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ htv ² hdi ²	For me to find them (flexible).
		ja ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ htv ² hdi ²	For you to find it (flexible).
		di ²² ja ³ na ³² hwa ⁰ htv ² hdi ²	For you to find them (flexible).
		u ²³ na ³² hwa ⁰ htv ² hdi ²	For him/her to find it (flexible).
		di ²² ?u ²³ na ³² hwa ⁰ htv ² hdi ²	For him/her to find them (flexible).

Notes: Like the other “Finding (It)” verbs, the PRC and some NCMP forms can be used synonymously with “searching for” or “looking for” something—because that’s what being “in the process of finding” something means. This verb uses the /ga²/ Prefix in the 3rd Person Singular, suggesting it is different from other kinds of “finding” which use /a²¹/--specifically, that this kind of “finding” or “searching for” is a more private action, the kind of thing one does not often see strangers do in public. This makes sense, since the most common Flexible objects one may search for or find is probably clothes—and when someone’s looking for their clothes, they’re probably at home getting dressed—or at least, *you’d hope* somebody’s not having to look for their clothes out in public too often.

Make note of the Pronomial Tone shift caused by this verb’s Root. The falling tone is “baked-in” to the first syllable of the Root, so the last syllable of the Pronomial rises to complete the long high tone pattern.

Root Formula:

					Approximate Literal Meaning			
/na ³² /	+	/hwa ² ht/	+	/i ²² h/	=	/hwa ² hti ²² h/	=	“In the process of finding a flexible object”
Flexible		True Root		Processive		Compound Root		
Morpheme		Find		“In the Process of”		PRC Stem		
				PRC Stem				

Alternative Pronunciations: Most other verbs built with the “Finding” Root /hwa²ht/ are often pronounced with the /a/ syllable cut, as /hwa⁰ht/. Dropping that syllable is basically ubiquitous with this particular verb—you’re almost always going to drop that syllable, but pronouncing it fully would still be understood as a valid alternative.

SENTENCES:

Hadlv ja²na³²hwa⁰htv²³he³ adadlosdi?

/ where / you found it / a belt /

Where did you find the belt? (CED)

Yansi hawiya a²²gi²na³²hwa⁰htv²hdi² agwadulvhv, asehn tladvyo didana’nv wi²yv²¹na³²hwa⁰hti²³ho³ kohiyv jigi.

/ buffalo / meat / for me to find it / I wanted / but / I guess not / one can’t find it / store / around this time / it is /

I wanted to find some buffalo meat, but I guess you[†] just can’t find it at the store nowadays.

Sakonige ahnawo u²²na³²hwa⁰htv²hdi² udulvhv, asehn dalonigegwu de²²ga³³na³²hwa⁰htv²²hv²³?i².

/ blue / a shirt / for her to find it / she was wanting / but / only yellow / she was finding them /

She wanted to find a blue shirt, but she was only finding yellow ones.

Agwasulo ga³³ne²²hli⁰di²³sgv a²²gi²na³²hwa⁰htv²hdi², so’ihnv nigad digwahnawo da²¹gi²na³²hwa⁰htv²²hv²³?i²—agwasulo nigesvna.

/ my pants / I was trying it / for me to find them/ and others / all / my clothes / I found them / but / my pants / without /

While I was trying to find my pants, I found all my other clothes—except my pants.

RELATED WORDS: “Finding Oneself Somewhere,” a²¹da²²hwa²htv²²hi²³do³²ha², No. 006; “S/he’s Visiting (Him),” a²¹ji²²hwa²htv²²hi²³do³²ha², No. 114; “S/he’s Finding (It, Him) – Solid, Living,” a²¹hwa²hti²³ha², No. 113; “S/he’s Finding (It) – Long,” a²¹yv²²hwa²hti³ha², No. 306; “S/he’s Finding (It) - Liquid,” ga²ne²²hwa²hti³ha², No. 474; “S/he’s Seeing (It, Him),” a²¹go²²hwa⁰hti³ha², No. 073.

[†] In English, “you” is often used for general statements, without reference to any specific actor. In sentences like “whenever *you* start a fire, something burns” the pronoun “you” isn’t really referring to the 2nd Person “you.” Instead, it more broadly denotes a theoretical/unknown actor, or “anyone.” Cherokee has a specific Pronoun for this use—the 3rd Person “Object Focus” pronouns. So don’t get tripped up if /V²¹/ or /o²¹/ are translated into English as “you.” This translation is caused by an unintuitive quirk of English pronouns—not a reflection of the underlying Cherokee meaning. Bottom line, *don’t* use 2nd Person Pronouns to mean “anyone” in Cherokee, even if that’s how it ultimately would translate into English.