

Ktunaxa Grammar Rules-

Section #4: Meaning and Use of the words “Taxa” and “Taxas”

The Following is **Section #4** of the Ktunaxa Grammar Rules and is meant to show the meaning and use of the words “Taxa” and “Taxas”.

(Referenced from Grammar Rules Booklet- Acknowledgements to the KKLK).

Ktunaxa

English Description

“Taxa” is an exclamatory word meaning “now” or “then” and can be used alone or in a sentence. It also shows that something is happening presently (or “right now”).

Taxa (by itself)	=	“Now” or “Then” (in a present state)
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“Taxa” Alone- When you use the word “taxa” **by itself**, you must look to **the current situation for meaning/context.**

Examples:

Taxa! (when leaving)	=	Let’s go! (now)
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Taxa. (when beginning a meal)	=	It’s time to eat. (now)
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Taxa! (when stopping an action)	=	Enough! Stop! (now)
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Taxa (in a sentence)	=	Used in a sentence it also means “now”.
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Examples:

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Taxa maʔə ʔa ʔiʔʔan. = Stop crying, now.

Taxas kin huqna? = Are you already finished? /
Now, are you done?

Taxa, ʔunu! = Go, now!

Taxas = (Connector word used in a story)

“Taxas” is a **connecting word used in storytelling or a description** and means **“now...”, “finally...”, “already...”, “and then...” & “and so....”**. It is often used at the beginning of a sentence but can also be used in the middle or at the end of one.

Examples:

Taxas, hu wu·kati niʔ kamnuqʔu nupqu. = Finally, I saw the white bear.

Used Relating to time:

Pikaks ʔin ʔukit saqwumni ʔakitʔaʔnis. = Everyone must already be gathered at your house. You should already- **“be there.”** or **“have left.”**

Taxas.
Xman ʔa ʔinaxi.

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Used during Storytelling:

Nupsakitʔanaxi-ǰ pikaks paʔ cxaʔ siʔ
ciʔmiyitsi-ǰ **taxas** qaqanaʔ =
ʔityiksiʔik.

He was still out there hunting
and then he realized it was
dark. And so, he made camp.

“ǰxaʔ” in the above story is a future tense marker, meaning “will”, “shall” or “is going to”. “cxaʔ” is sometimes shortened to just “ǰ”.
