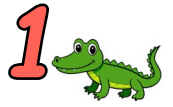




Amarĩñña Säwasäw



came

PERFECT(SIMPLE PAST)

SUFFIXES

SINGULAR

1p	ine	mäṭtahu	I came	-hu
2pm	antä	mäṭtah	you came	-h
2pf	ančĩ	mäṭtaš	you came	-š
3m	issu	mäṭta	he came	-a
3f	iss ^w a	mäṭtačč	she came	-čč

PLURAL

1p	iñña	mäṭtan	we came	-n
2p	innantä	mäṭtaččihu	you came	-aččihu
3p	innässu	mäṭtu	they came	-u

RESP.

2p	irso	mäṭtu	You came	-u
3p	issaččäw	mäṭtu	He/She came	-u



- David, Addis Abäba mäče mäṭtah? Helen, when did you come to Addis?
- tilant Addis Abäba mäṭtahu I came yesterday to Addis.

- Helen Ityop'iya mäče mäṭtaš? When did you come to Ethiopia?
- kä 6(siddist) wär bäfit. antäss? I came to Ethiopia 6 months ago

- basu mäṭta. Here comes the bus!
- :) :

- Helen Addis Abäba mäče mäṭtačč? When did Helen come to Addis?
- kä 2(hulätt) qän bäfit. 2 days ago.



- käyät mäṭtaččihu? Where did you come from?
- käBahir Dar mäṭtan. We came from Bahir Dar.



- Helen inna David käyät mäṭtu? Where did David and Helen come?
- käAmerika mäṭtu. They came from USA

mäče - when
tilant - yesterday
basu - the bus

käyät- from where, kä - from
kä bäfit - ago
inna - and

ṭ - glottalized(explosive) sound
č - ch as in church
ç - j as in joke
š - sh as in she
ž - as j in 'je' in french



Amarīñña Säwasäw



came

PERFECT(SIMPLE PAST) NEGATIVE

SUFFIXES

SINGULAR

1p	ine	almättahum	I didn't come	al ... ahum
2pm	antä	almättahim	you didn't come	al ... ahim
2pf	ančī ⚠	almättašim	you didn't come	al ... ašim
3m	issu	almättaam	he didn't come	al ... am
3f	isswa	almättačim	she didn't come	al ... čim

PLURAL

1p	iñña	almättañim	we didn't come	al ... añim
2p	innantä	almättaččihum	you didn't come	al ... aččihum
3p	innässu	almättaum	they didn't come	al ... um

RESP.

2p	irso	almättaum	You didn't come	al ... um
3p	issaččäw	almättaum	He/She didn't come	al ... um

- David, lämin biro almättahim?
- amoñ näbbär.

David, why didn't come the office?
I was sick.

- Helen, lämisa lämin almättašim?
- gize alnabbäränim

Why didn't you come for lunch?
I didn't have time.

- David biro mättä?
- ay, almättaam.

Did David come to the office?
No, he didn't come.

- Helen Addis Abäba mättäčč?
- ay, almättaččim

Did Helen came to Addis?
No, she didn't come.

- säwočču mättä?
- ay, gäna almättaum.

Did the people come?
No, they didn't come.



lämin - why
amoñ - i feeling sick
lä - for
misa - lunch
biro - office

ay - no
gize - time
säwočču- the people
gäna - yet

ƒ - glottalized (explosive) sound
č - ch as in church
g - j as in joke
š - sh as in she
ž - as j in 'je' in french



that came

RELATIVE PERFECT(PAST?)

SINGULAR	1p	ine	yämät̥t̥ahut	that I came	yä ... t̥
	2pm	antä	yämät̥t̥ahaw	that you came	yä ... aw
	2pf	anči	yämät̥t̥ašiw	that you came	yä ... iw
	3m	issu	yämät̥t̥aw	that he came	yä ... w
	3f	iss'wa	yämät̥t̥aččiw	that she came	yä ... iw
PLURAL	1p	iñña	yämät̥t̥anaw	that we came	yä ... aw
	2p	innantä	yämät̥t̥aččihut	that you came	yä ... t̥
	3p	innässu	yämät̥t̥ut	that they came	yä ... t̥
RESP.	2p	irso	yämät̥t̥ut	that You came	yä ... t̥
	3p	issaččaw	yämät̥t̥ut	that He/She came	yä ... t̥

yä- relative element (that, which)

(-ä/i)w, -t̥ relative article (the / it)

In Amharic, it is common to use relative clauses. For example, instead of directly asking 'Where do you come from?', it is more natural to say, 'From what country is it that you came?'

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ David, yämät̥t̥ahaw kāmīn hagär näw? ● ![ine] yämät̥t̥ahut kä-Amerika näw. | <p>David, where are you from?
I am from the US.</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Helen, yämät̥t̥ašiw kāmīn hagär näw? ● ![ine] yämät̥t̥ahut kä-Kenya näw. | <p>Helen, where are you from?
I am from Kenya.</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Tomas yämät̥t̥aw kāmīn hagär näw? ● Tomas yämät̥t̥aw kä-İngliz näw. | <p>Where is Tomas from?
Tomas is from England.</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Lisa yämät̥t̥aččiw kāmīn hagär näw? ● Lisa yämät̥t̥aččiw kägärmän näw. | <p>Where is Lisa from?
Lisa is from Germany.</p> |

! Note the personal pronouns in Amharic are usually omitted.

kāmīn - from what
hagär - country
kä - from
näw - is

t̥ - glottalized (explosive) sound
č - ch as in church
ğ - j as in joke
š - sh as in she
ž - as j in 'je' in french

➔ Further reading on this - Amharic Textbook, Wolf Leslau Page: 332

