Shughni ‘Um’

The *um* particle only occurs in sentences containing the first person singular.

(1) *woxum*
    fall-
    ‘I fall.’

(2) *ozum* wεxt
    I-
    fell
    ‘I fell.’

(3) wεrdum oz hoš vod
    he(dat)- I(nom) like (past)
    ‘He liked me.’

(4) oz + ta wεxtum
    I + (future tense) fall-
    ‘I will fall’

(5) guxtum hud
    meat- ate
    ‘I ate meat.’

Distribution

In sentences in the present and future tense, *um* is suffixed at the end of the verb as in (1) and (4). In the past tense however it appears suffixed to the first word of the clause as in (2) and (3).

In the case of (6), the *um* suffices to the first word of the clause, which in this case is the verb, in the same position as the other form in the past tense (2).

(6) wεxdum
    fell-
    ‘I fell.’

The *um* suffices to the whatever the first word of the clause is in the past tense, whether it is the subject of the sentence as in (2) and (3), or to the verb (6), or to the object (5).

In the present tense *um* suffices to the verb at the end of the sentence (7) and (8). In the future tense it also suffices to the end of the verb as in example (4), and the tense marker is suffixing to the first word. It might be tempting to conclude that tense is keeping *um* from suffixing there, however it is possible that it follows the same pattern as the present tense regardless.
(7) oz noš tatad daakum
I apricot father give-
‘I give father the apricot.’

(8) mo + tatad oz noš daakum
my + father(dat) I(nom) apricot give-
‘I give my father apricot.’

List of um in sentences:

waľum ‘I weave’
*ozum waf ‘I weave’
wiftum ‘I wove’
*ozum wift ‘I wove’

woxum ‘I fall’
wɛxdum ‘I fell’
ozum wɛxt ‘I fell’
ozta wɛxtum ‘I will fall’
*oz wɛxtum ‘I fell’
ozum nə wɛxt ‘I didn't fall’
nəwɛxtum ‘I didn't fall’
oz momkin woxum ‘I might fall’

ozum guxt hud ‘I ate meat’
guxtum hud ‘I ate meat’
*guxt hudum ‘I ate meat’
*oz guxt hudum ‘I ate meat’

ozum šint ‘I laughed’
šintum ‘I laughed’

pidzum ‘I cook’
ozum paxt ‘I cooked’
paxtum ‘I cooked’
*oz paxtum ‘I cooked’
oz momkin pizum ‘I may cook’
oz boyad pidzum ‘I must cook’

ozum wiŋt wɛ ‘I saw him’
ozum wiŋt wam ‘I saw her’
ozum tə wiŋt ‘I saw you’
ozum xa wiŋt ‘I saw myself’
*oz xa wiŋtum ‘I saw myself’
ozum to wiŋt ‘I saw you’
wiŋtum to ‘I saw you’
wiŋtum xa ‘I saw myself’
ozum wam ðost wiŋt ‘I saw her hand’

oz daakum ‘I give’
*ozum daak ‘I give’
ozta daakum ‘I will give’
oz noš daakum ‘I give apricot’
*noš oz daakum ‘I give apricot’
oz noš tatad daakum ‘I give father the apricot’
oz noš motatad daakum ‘I give my father apricot’

ozum wam žinj ‘I like her’

wεrdum oz hoš vod ‘he liked me’
wεrdum oz hoš nΙst ‘he didn't like me’
wεrdta oz hoš yadum ‘He will like me’ (not culturally appropriate)

ozum tort yordam čud ‘I helped you’

ozum we peist ‘I asked him’
ozum aswε peisxt čae pεxt ‘I asked him who cooked’

Compiled by Ginny Anderson.