TLINGIT LITERACY SESSION

Yukon Native Language Centre Whitehorse, Yukon

March 5-7, 2003

Hosted by
Staff of Yukon Native Language Centre

Guest Instructor:

Dr. Jeff Leer

Alaska Native Language Center University of Alaska Fairbanks



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

General	
Table of Contents	
List of Participants	3
Schedule	
	•
Linguistics	•
Tlingit Consonant Chart	6
Kinship	
Example of a Simple Family Tree	
Example of a Simple Family Tree Diagram	8
Interor Tlingit Clans	
Interior Tlingit Clan Diagram	11
Kinship Sentences	
My Clan	
My Father's Clan	13
Dialect Variations	
Sisters and Brothers	15
Given Names	16
Relatives and Friends	17
Singlar, Vocative and Plural Terms	
Brothers and Sisters	18
Parents, Aunts and Uncles	19
Children, Nephews and Nieces	20
Grandparents and Grandchildren	
Reciprocals (Natural Pairs of Relatives)	
Words and Expressions	
"Walking To" expressions	24

Verb Paradigms	
Eating	25
Drinking	
Holding	26
Sentences provided by Margaret Bob	
Fish Names	29
Cooking Sentences	•
Fish Name and Picture Chart	
Iemories	•
Photograph Collage	35
Photograph Identifications	
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LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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SCHEDULE

	Wednesday, March 5	Thursday, March 6	Friday, March 7
9:00 am	Opening Prayer Kinship: Tlingit Literacy Workshop May 6-8, 1985 Clan Chart	Checking Margaret Bob's sentences	Family tree sample: kinship terms Kinship Charts
10:45 am	Kinship sentences: Dictation Interior clans	Checking Margaret Bob's sentences (continued) Conjugations: eating and drinking	Siblings, parents, aunts and uncles: Vocative, plural, and talking about
12 noon	lunch	lunch	lunch
1:00 am	Kinship sentences	Fish names and cooking sentences	Mary Anderson's beadwork Spruce bark hat Jeff's gift Kinship: Vocative, plural, and talking about
2:45 am	"Walking to" sentences Kinship sentences (continued)	Family trees: p 20-21, 1985 Literacy Session Reviewing kin terms	Reciprocals Wrap-up

Tlingit Consonant Chart

	Labial lips		Alve tongue tip b	eolar pehind teeth		Ve middle of to roof of	ngue against	back of ton	ular gue touches ick of throat		ottal chords
					(s	Stops top off the brea	ith)			n	
							rounded		rounded		rounded (rare) (Note: 2)
Plain		dâ weasel	dlèt snow	dz èt ladder, bridge, stairs	j âji snowshoes	g án firewood	gwêł bag	ghâ (raven call)	ła ghw án tie it into a bow	nay•á (you folks) go!	ana.wèch (usually) wear. it
Aspirated followed by a puff of air		tá sleep	tlâ mother	tsâts bear root, hedysarum	ch àn mother-in- law	k âni brother/ sister-in- law	kwêy mark, landmark	khâ man	khwân people from	·	·
Glottalized released with a popping sound		t' á king salmon	tl'átk earth, ground	ts'ats'î bird	ch' âk' eagle	k'ínk' fermented fish heads	k'wát' egg (not fish egg)	kh'atèł pitcher	kh'wátl pot		
				(bre	ath flows throu	Fricatives gh narrow oper	ning creating fri	ction)			
Plain			łûł fireweed	sà name	s h à mountain	xíxch' frog	xw ê whew!	xhát me, I	xhwàgùt I went	hás they, them	y <u>à</u> na hw ên is swim- ming along
Glottalized produced with vocal chords closed			ł'àk dress	s'ìkh smoke, cigarette		x'âx' apple	x'wán longjohns	xh'é mouth	xh'wâł' down feathers	,	
					(softer, you	Sonorants can sing them			Ś		
Nasal vibration through nasal cavity	mâ-sá? how? (Note 2)	ná' here; take it				•					
Nonnasal	w àkh <i>eye</i>		dalèyí trout		y á this						

•Note 1: rounded w and hw do not occur in the Teslin dialect

*Note 2: m does not occur in the Carcross dialect

KINSHIP

Example of a Simple Family Tree for Mary and Tom Williams

Person	Name	Clan	Moiety
Mother (Mary)	S'igaxhshâk'w	Yanyèdí	Ghùch
Mother's Mother	Khinxh.ashì		
Mother's Father	Xh'agûk'	Ishkìtàn	Yêil
Father (Tom)	Nêxh'w	Khàch.ádi	
Father's Mother	Sèdu.ù	-	
Father's Father	Nèsdêw	Yanyèdí	Ghùch
Children			,
(Anna)	Kudagàn		
(Shorty Jackson)	Wakhnàs		

Alternate Spellings

Dâkh ká *Interior* Dakhká

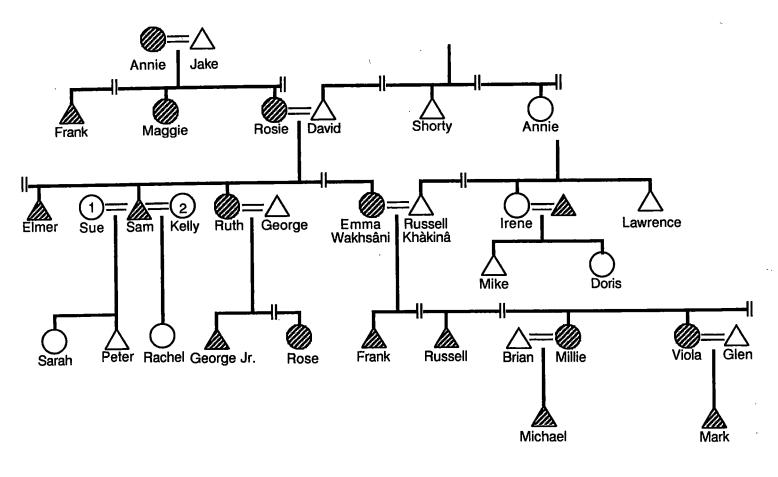
Êł' ká *Coastal* Eł'ká

Ayân stranger (referring to Southern Tutchone)

Dâkh kakhwân Dakhkakhwân

Êł' kakhwân Eł'kakhwân

Partial Family Tree of Emma Sam



Man, Wolf Moiety

Man, Crow Moiety

Woman, Wolf Moiety

Woman, Crow moiety

INTERIOR TLINGIT CLANS

Man

Yanyèdí

Dakhł'awèdí

Ghànaxh.ádi

Ishkitàn

Kùkhhittàn

Dèshitàn

Woman

Yanyèdishâ

Dakhł'awshâ

Ghànaxhshâ

Ishkitàn Shâwu

Kùkhhittàn Shâwu

Dèshìtàn Shâwu

Origin of Clan Names

There are many other clans and house groups among the Coastal Tlingit, but a number have apparently not survived. Traditionally there were 100 or more.

Clan names are most frequently formed by adding -.ádi or -èdí to a place name. When referring to a woman, a form ending in -shâ is used. This may replace the -.ádi or -èdí.

Examples:

Ghànáxh: a bay near Ketchikan

Ghànaxh.ádi : the clan of that area, or a male member of the clan

Ghànaxhshâ: a female member of the clan

Dâkh Ł'êw: the interior sands

Dakhł'awèdí: the clan of that area, or a male member of the clan

Dakhł'awshâ: a female member of the clan

Some clan names are made by adding -tan to a house name. The combination -hittan can be translated "house group". When referring to a woman, -hittan shawu is used.

Examples:

Ishkahít : fishing hole on house, house on fishing hole (Chilkat River)

Ishkitan: the clan based on that house, or a male member of the

Ishkitan Shawu: a female member of the clan

Kùkhhít: pit house

Kùkhhittàn : the clan based on that house, or a male member of

the clan

Kùkhhittàn Shâwu: a female member of the clan

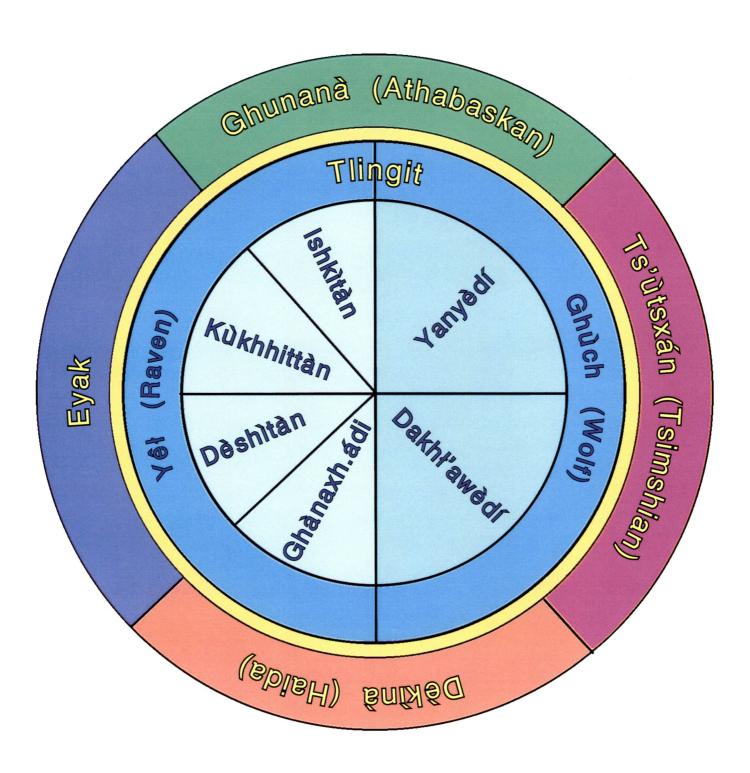
Dèshuhít: house at the end of the trail

Dèshitàn: the clan based on that house, or a male member of the

clan

Dèshìtàn Shâwu: a female member of the clan

Interior Tlingit Clans Nà



KINSHIP SENTENCES

My Clan

- Dàkhw.à nàxh sá isitì?
 What clan are you?
- 2. Kùkhhittàn shâwu áyá xhát. *I am Kùkhhittàn. (woman speaking)*
- 3. Yanyèdishâ áyá xhát.

 I am Yanyèdí. (woman speaking)
- 4. Ishkitàn shâwu áyá xhát. *I am Ishkitàn. (woman speaking)*
- 5. Yanyèdí áyá xhát. *I am Yanyèdí. (man speaking)*
- 6. Ishkitàn áyá xhát.

 I am Ishkitàn. (man speaking)

My Father's Clan

- A. I îsh khu.a dê dàkhw.à nàxh sá sitì?

 So what clan is your father's then?
- B. Yanyèdí áwé. He's Yanyèdí.
- C. Yanyèdí yádí ásí we.é.

 Oh, so you're a child of the Yanyèdí.
- A. I îsh du îsh dàkhw.à nàxh sá sitì.

 So what clan is your father's father then?
- B. Ishkitàn áwé. He's Ishkitàn.
- C. Ishkìtàn dachxhán ásí we.é.

 Oh, so you're a grandchild of the Ishkìtàn.

 or
- C. Du tûnáxh áwé Ishkìtàn dachxhánxh xhat wusitì. It's through him that I am a grandchild of the Ishkìtàn.

Dialect Variations

Dàkhw.à nàxh sá isitì?

Dàkhw.à nà sáwé yê iyatì?

Dàkhw.à nà sáwé yê iditì? (Teslin)

What clan are you?

Dàkhw.à nàxh sá sitì?

Dàkhw.à nà sáwé yê yatì?

Dàkhw.à nà sáwé yê diti? (Teslin)

What clan is s/he?

Dàkhw.à nàxh sá satîyin?

Dàkhw.à nà sáwé yê tîyin?

Dàkhw.à nà sáwé yê datîyin? (Teslin)

What clan was s/he? (now deceased)

Må sá duwasâkw?

What is his/her name?

Mâ sá dusâgun ?

What was his/her name? (now deceased)

Sisters and Brothers

- I shátxh gí khudzitì?

 Do you have an older sister? (female speaking)
- I shátxh gí khustîyin?

 Did you have an older sister? (female speaking)
- I shátxh gí ch'ù khudzitì?

 Is your older sister still alive? (female speaking)
- À, axh shátxh khudzitì.

 Yes, I have an older sister.(female speaking)
- À, axh shatxhi hás has khudzitì.

 Yes, I have older sisters. (female speaking)
- I kîk' gí khudzitì?

 Do you have a younger sister? (female speaking)

 Do you have a younger brother? (male speaking)
- Ą, axh kîk' khudzitì.

 Yes, I have a younger sister. (female speaking)

 Yes, I have a younger brother. (male speaking)
- Axh kik'i yán has khudzitì.

 I have younger brothers/sisters.
- Axh kik'i yán has shayadihên.

 I have lots of younger brothers/sisters.
- Tlêk, tléł axh shátxh khùstí.

 No, I don't have an older sister. (female speaking)

Kha tsu tlél axh kîk' khùstí.

And I don't have a younger sister either. (female speaking)

Kha tsu tl'éł axh îk' khùstí.

And I don't have a brother. (female speaking)

Tlêk', tléł axh húnxhw khùstí.

No, I don't have an older brother. (female speaking)

Kha tsu tléł axh kîk' khùstí.

And I don't have a younger brother. (female speaking)

Ch'a tlênáxh khuxhdzitì.

I'm an only child.

Given Names

Àdû sàyí sáwé i yát wuduwatî?

Who were you named after?

(literally - whose name was given to you?)

Axh lîlk'u sàyí axh yát wuduwatî.

I was given my grandmother's/grandfather's name.

Ch'a i yáxh ghùch wudushàyí dudlighàs.

It's against the rules to marry a wolf like yourself.

Relatives and Friends

axh ìn à my clan relative

axh ìn àx'w my clan relatives (coastal)

axh in à hás my clan relatives (interior)

axh xhùní my relative (all purpose name), my

friend

axh xhùnx'í my relatives (all-purpose name), my

friends

axh khusaxháni my beloved (friend), my love

Wâ sá i î kàwahâ?

How is s/he related to you?

Axh tlâk'w yáxh axh î kàwahâ.

She is like an aunt to me.

SINGULAR, VOCATIVE AND PLURAL TERMS

Brothers and Sisters

(talking about)	English	Vocative (calling)	Plural
axh shátxh	my older sister (woman)	shátxh	axh shatxhi hás
axh húnxhw	my older brother (man)	húnxhw	axh hunxhu hás
axh kîk'	fmy younger sister (woman) my younger brother (man)	kík'	{axh kîk' hás } {axh kik'i yán}
axh dlàk'	my sister, any age (man)	dlák'	axh dlàk' hás
axh îk'	my brother, any age (woman)	ík'	axh îk' hás

Parents, Aunts and Uncles

	(talking about)	English	Vocative (calling)	Plural
same clan	axh tlâ	my mother	atlî	axh tlà hás
opposite clan	axh îsh	my father	îsh	axh îsh hás
same clan	axh tlâk'w	my mother's sister	tlâk'w, atlî	axh tlâk'w hás
same clan	axh kâk	my mother's brother	kâk	axh kâk hás
opposite clan	axh àt	my father's sister	àt	axh àt hás
opposite clan	axh sáni	my father's brother	sáni, îsh	axh sani hás

Children, Nephews and Nieces

	(talking about)	English	Vocative (calling)	Plural
	axh sî axh sîk'	my daughter (of a woman) my sister's daughter (of a woman) my brother's daughter (of a man)	· sík'	axh sîk' hás
	axh yît axh yîtk' (diminutive)	my son my sister's son (of a woman) my brother's son (man)	yítk'	axh yîtk'i hás
	axh yádi	my child		axh yátx'i
same clan	axh kêłk'	my sister's child (of a man)	kéłk'	axh kèlk'i hás
opposite clan	axh kâłk'u	my brother's child (of a woman)	káłk'w	axh kàłk'u hás

Grandparents and Grandchildren

(talking about)	English	Vocative (calling)	Plural
axh lîlk'w	<pre>{my grandmother } {my grandfather }</pre>	lîłk'w	{axh lîlk'u hás } {axh lilak'w hás }
axh dachxhán	my grandson my granddaughter	chxhánk'	axh dachxhanx'i hás axh dachxhanx'i yán
	my little grandchildren		axh dachxhanx'i sâni

Reciprocals (a natural pair of relatives)

Pa	nir .	1	Plural
wùsh kik'idâ	a pair of brothers a pair of sisters	wùsh kik'i yán	a group of brothers a group of sisters
		wùsh kàni yán	a group of brothers-in-law a group of sisters-in-law
wùshdashây	husband and wife		
wùsh kikyátx'i	twins (beside each ot children)	her	
wùsh dachxhanx'i y	yán ∫ <i>grandma and grandd</i> ∫ <i>grandpa and grandc</i> i	child }	

WORDS AND EXRESSIONS

Comparison of ax words

hat s'âxwgroundhog s'àxhling cod s'âxh'devil's club s'áxt'

"Hat" may be an ancient diffused word:

Tlingit s'âxw

So. Tutchone ts'at

Proto-Ath. *ch'aXt

Eyak ch'iyaht

Common Words and Expressions

Yak'ê áwé. It is good.

Ayáxh áwé. That's right, or that's how it is.

Yak'ê ágí? Is it good?

À, yak'ê. Yes, it's good.

Tlêk', tléł ushk'é. No, it's not good.

A dàk'áts'i. The thorns around it.

Ts'ats'î. Bird.

Ts'ùtàt. *Morning.*

Tâch lits'ùxhk. She is moving in her sleep.

Át wułis'îs. It is blowing in the wind.

Sî. Doll.

Axh sîyi. *My doll.*

"WALKING TO" EXPRESSIONS

Du hídidé yà nagút.

He is walking to his (own) house.

Du hídidáxh yà nagút.

He is walking from his (own) house.

yàxhdé yà nagút.

She is walking to the lake shore.

yàxhdáxh yà nagút.

She is walking from the lake shore.

yàxhdé kkhwagût axh lîłk'u nèlídáxh.

I'm going to walk to the lake from my grandmother's house.

Ash hídidé yà nagút.

He is walking to her house. (not his own house)

"Ash" refers to the central character in the story, the one with whom the narrator most strongly identifies. In this case, it is the woman. If it were the man, we would translate:

She is walking to his house.

VERB PARADIGM : CONJUGATIONS

Ac		Action	Command	
Eating				
1.	Xhaxhá.	I am eating it.	•	•
2.	Ìxhá.	You (one) are eating it.	Xhá!	Eat it!
3.	Axhá.	S/he is eating it.	•	
4.	Tùxhá.	We are eating it.		
5.	Yìxhá.	You (folks) are eating it.	Yixhá!	Eat it!
6.	Has axhá.	They are eating it.		
7.	Duxhá.	People are eating it. It's being eaten. One is eating it.		

Drinking (a cold drink)

1. Xhadaná. I am drinking it.

2. Idaná. You (one) are drinking it. Idaná! Drink it!

3. Adaná. S/he is drinking it.

4. Tudaná. We are drinking it.

5. Yidaná. You (folks) are drinking it. Yidaná! Drink it!

6. Has adaná. They are drinking it.

7. Duná. People are drinking it.

It's being drunk.
One is drinking it.

Holding

1. Xhalashát. I'm holding it.

2. Iłashát. You (one) are holding it. Ghałshât! Hold it!

3. Alshát. S/he is holding it.

4. Tułashát. We are holding it.

5. Yilashát. You folks are holding it. Ghaylashât! Hold it!

6. Has alshát. They are holding it.

7. Dułshát. People are holding it.

It's being held.
One is holding it.

SENTENCES PROVIDED BY MARGARET BOB

Tlingit Language Instructor Teslin Elementary School

- 1. Tlêkhw kahîni xhadaná. I'm drinking juice.
- 2. Shî xh'ahât kamduwagwáł, àdé nagú. Somebody's knocking on the door, go there.
- 3. Tayìdé dê nagú. (1 child)

 Tayìdé dê nay.á. (more than 1 child)

 It's time to go to bed now.
- 4. Naxhtùxhêx'w dê.

 Lets go to sleep now.
- 5. Dà sá iya.áxh?

 What did you hear?
- 5.b Dà sá iya.áxhch?

 What do you hear (now)?
- 6. Êł' axh jit sa.ín.

 Hand me the salt (in a container).
- 7. Dà sáwé ilashát?

 What are you holding?
- 8. Gúx'à áyá xhalashát. I'm holding a cup.
- 9. Gúx'à ilashát.

 You are holding a cup.

- 10. Xh'ahât xh'êt shután. Close the door.
- 11. Xh'ahât hêde shunatàn. *Open the door.*
- 12. Gùx' sá gaghìtâ?

 Where are you going to sleep?
- 13. Ch'a wé t'â káx' kukhatâ.

 I'm just going to sleep on the floor.
- 14. Dà sáwé ìxhá?

 What are you eating?
- 14b. Sakwnên t'ûs'i xhaxhá.

 I'm eating toast.
- 15. Dà sáwé idaná?

 What are you drinking?
- 16. Taxhhîni áwé xhalûk. *I'm drinking meat soup.*
- 17. Dì xhadaná.

 I'm drinking tea (cold).

FISH NAMES

1. tùwìne big rich whitefish found in Sidney Lake

(name provided by Gladys Johnston)

Yàna.èt Xhâdi Sidney Lake

2. nà.ilè type of whitefish found in lakes east of

Little Atlin Lake (name provided by Mary

Anderson)

3. xh'wât' Dolly Varden

4. t'ási grayling

5. s'âxh' ling cod

6. t'á king salmon or chinook salmon

7. ł'ùk coho salmon

8. tîł' chum salmon or dog salmon

9. ghàt sockeye salmon

10. dashdané sucker

11. ûn round whitefish (least cisco)

12. xhât yádi lake whitefish

13. shìsh inconnu

14. dalèyí lake trout

15. tàsłèyí northern pike

COOKING SENTENCES

- 1 Tùwìne kałas'úk.

 Fry the rich whitefish.
- 2. S'ìkh atayì yê na.ù wé nà.ilè. Smoke the whitefish.
- 3. Xh'wât' satá.

 Boil the Dolly Varden.
- 4. T'ási xh'àn gùknáxh ghatusa.ì.

 We're going to cook grayling by the fire.
- 5. S'âxh' tl'ûghu kałas'úk. Fry the ling cod liver.
- 6. T'á sha.útl.

 Boil the king salmon (to make soup).
- 7. Ł'ùk łatsík.

 Cook the coho salmon on a stick.
- 8. Tîl' stùx tûde nas.ìn.

 Put the chum salmon in the oven.
- 9. Ghàt kalakhásh kûxtin.

 Steam the sockeye salmon with rice.
- 10. Dashdané sha.útl.

 Boil the sucker fish (to make soup).

- 11. Ûn ghalghìkh.

 Hang the round whitefish on a string over the fire.
- 12. Xhât yádi xh'àn kanaxh sa.í.

 Cook the lake whitefish over the fire.
- 13. Shìsh naldàk.

 Bake the inconnu under the fire.
- 14. Dalèyí sha.útl yêł téxhitín.

 Boil the lake trout with onions.
- 15. Tàslèyí latsík.

 Cook the northern pike on a stick.

Names of Fish in Tlingit



Ghàt Sockeye Salmon



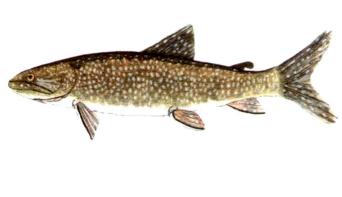
T'á Chinook or King Salmon



Ł'ùk Coho Salmon



Tîł' Chum or Dog Salmon



Dalèyí Lake Trout



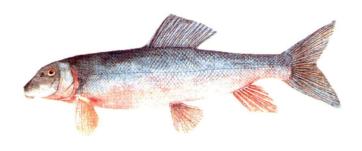
Ûn Round Whitefish or Least Cisco



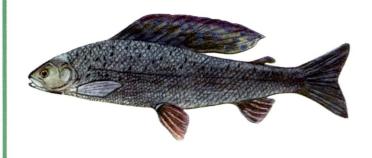
Xhât yádi Lake Whitefish



Shìsh Inconnu



Dashdané Sucker



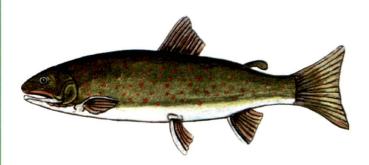
T'ási Arctic Grayling



S'âxh' Ling Cod or Burbot

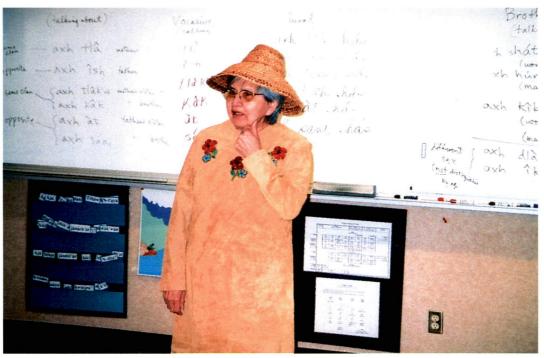


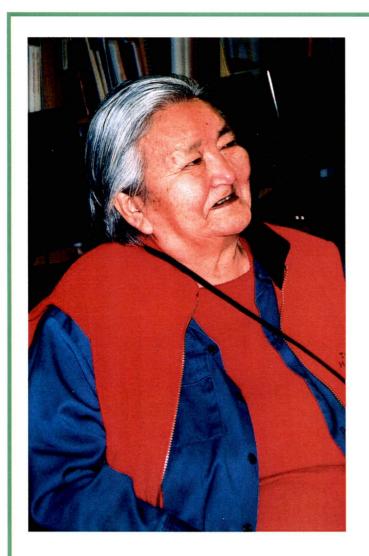
Tàsłèyí Northern Pike

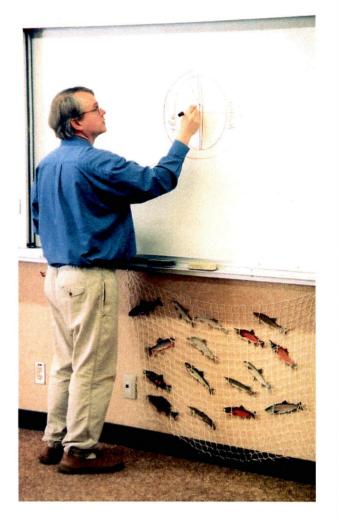


Xh'wât' Dolly Varden











Tlingit Literacy Session - March 2003 - YNLC







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Photograph Identifications

Page

35: top: back row: Margaret Bob, Pauline Peters, Lorraine Dawson, André

Bourcier, Emma Sam, Jeff Leer, Jo-Anne Johnson, Mar-

garet Workman

front row: Mary Anderson, Josephine Holloway, Willie Campbell,

Winnie Atlin

bottom: Mary Anderson

36: top left: Gladys Johnston

top right : Jeff Leer

bottom: group working

37: top: Lorraine Dawson, Mary Anderson

bottom left: Winnie Atlin, Jeff Leer, Lorraine Dawson

bottom right: Jeff Leer, Gladys Johnston, Pauline Peters

38: top left: Mary Anderson

top right: Emma Sam

bottom left: Mary Anderson

bottom left: Sandy Anderson, Mary Anderson

39: top left: Winnie Atlin, Jo-Anne Johnson

top right: Jo-Anne Johnson, Margaret Bob

bottom: Josephine Holloway, Mary Anderson

40: top: Jeff Leer, Josephine Holloway, Willie Campbell

bottom left: Lorraine Dawson, Jo-Anne Johnson

bottom right: Jo-Anne Johnson, Gladys Johnston

