TLINGIT LITERACY SESSION

Yukon Native Language Centre
Whitehorse, Yukon

September 27 - 28, 2012

*Yukon
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Language
Centre*

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General

Linguistics

Memories

Participants

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Schedule

	Thursday Sep 27	Friday Sep 28
9:00	Opening Prayer Welcome and Introductions Agenda	Creating a Listening Exercise: g and gh Expressions
10:45	Creating a Listening Exercise: k and kh	Types of Salmon and their Distribution Place Names *(cont)*
noon	*lunch*	*lunch*
1:00	Fishing with a Hook Place Names Related to Fish	Fishing with a Net Expressions *(cont)*
2:45	Fishing with a Hook *(cont)* Questions using Postpositions Minimal Pairs of Sounds	Conversation about Sleeping Wrap-up Closing Prayer

INTERIOR TLINGIT ALPHABET

Consonants

		Labial	Alveolar	Lateral	Sibilant	Shibilant	Velar	Rounded Velar	Uvular	Rounded Uvular	Glottal	Rounded Glottal
Stops	plain		d	dl	dz	j	g	gw	gh	ghw	.	.w
	aspirated		t	tl	ts	ch	k	kw	kh	khw		
	glottalized		t'	tl'	ts'	ch'	k'	k'w	kh'	kh'w		
Fricatives	plain			ł	s	sh	x	xw	xh	xhw	h	hw
	glottalized			ł'	s'		x'	x'w	xh'	xh'w		
Sonorants	plain	w		l		y						
	nasal	m	n									

Vowels and Tone

Short Vowels with low tone		Short Vowels with high tone		Long Vowels with low tone		Long Vowels with high tone	
i	u	í	ú	ì	ù	î	û
e	—	é	ó	è	ò	ê	ô
a		á		à		â	

k and kh

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Examples of k

1. kètl   *dog*

2. kûshdà   *otter*

3. kìjín   *five*

Examples of kh

1. khâ   *man*

2. khênà   *awl*

3. khâs'   *matches*

k and kh

Write k and kh as you hear them.

1. Khâs' axh jìwú.
    I have matches / a match.

    Khâs' axh jìt kasatán.
    Give me the match.

    Khâs' axh jìt kała.á.
    Give me the matches.

    Khâs' ágí i jìwú ? (T)
    Khâs' gí i jìhú ? (C)
    Do you have matches / a match?

    Khâs' gí tlêk' ?
    No matches?

2. Ts'ats'î kúdi xhàtîn.
    I see a small songbird's nest.

3. S'igèdí khîdu ałyêxh.
    The beaver is building a dam.

4. Khênà tín yê jiné.
    S/he is working with an awl.

    Khênà yê aya.û.
    S/he is using an awl.

5. Hîn wé kâst a kàxh yût kasaxá.
   Pour the water out of the barrel.

Hîn a kàxh yût kaxhích wé kâst.
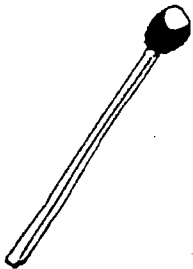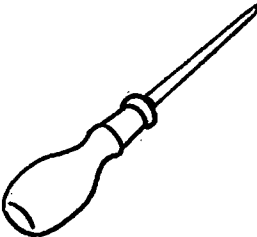   *Dump the water out of the barrel.*

Hîn kâsdi.
   Water barrel.
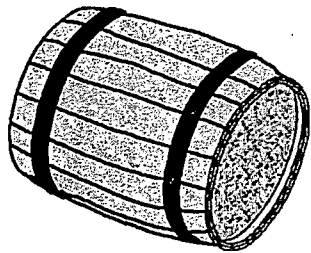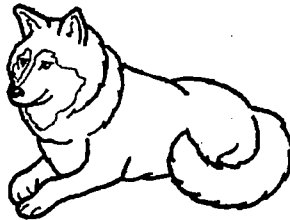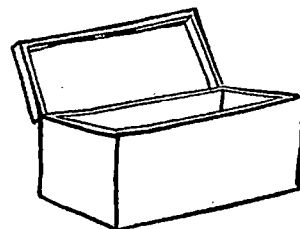
k and kh

Write k and kh as you hear them.

1	2	3	4	5

6	7	8	9	10

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Examples of **g**

1. gán   *firewood*

2. gùch   *small hill, knoll*

3. gàw   *drum*

Examples of **gh**

1. ghèwú   *fishnet*

2. ghùch   *wolf*

3. ghâtl   *pilot bread*

g and gh

Write g and gh as you hear them.

1. **Ghàkh   xhàtîn.**
    lynx   I see
    > *I see a lynx.*

2. **Gán   wêx'   kàwachák.**
    wood   over there   it is piled
    > *The wood is piled over there.*

3. **Ghùch   kadaghâxh.**
    wolf   it is howling / crying
    > *The wolf is howling.*

4. **Gháxh   kałas'úk. (T)**
    Gáxh   kałas'úk. (C)
    rabbit   you fry it
    > *Fry the rabbit!*

5. **Wé   gamdân   yà nashíx. (T)**
    Wé   gawdân   yà nashíx. (C)
    that   horse   it is running
    > *The horse is running.*

6. **Wé   gúx'à   kana.ûs' !**
    that   cup   you wash it
    > *Wash the cup!*

7. **Ghúkhł' hintàkxhàdí axhá.**
   swan   underwater roots   it eats it

   The swan eats underwater roots.
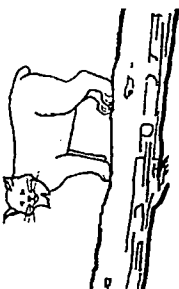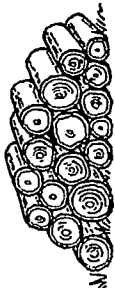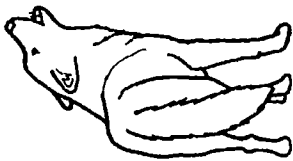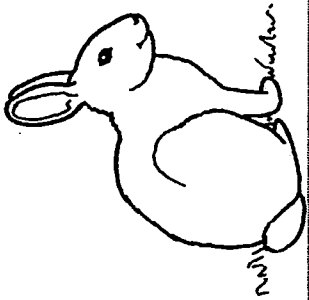
8. **Gûs' yà nałs'ís.**
   clouds   they are sailing along

   The clouds are sailing along.
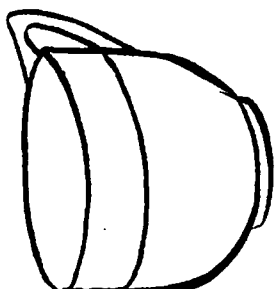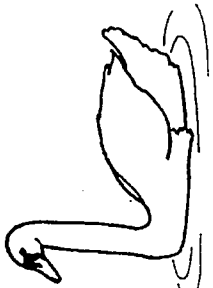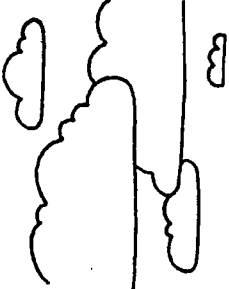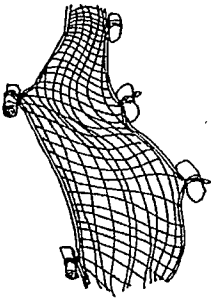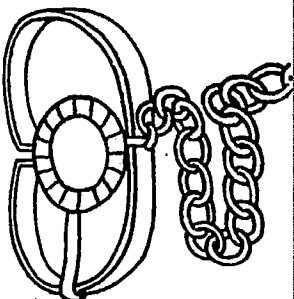
9. **Ghèwú dàk kayíkh !**
   fishnet   out   you stretch it

   Set the net!

10. **Ghàtâ yan satí !**
    trap   down   you lay it

    Set the trap!

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g and gh

Write g and gh as you hear them.

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10

Minimal pairs

axhá	*s/he is eating it*
à xhá	*s/he is eating some*
	eat some !
gùch	*small hill, knoll*
ghùch	*wolf*
kâ	*car*
khâ	*man*
gán	*wood*
ghán	*you know what?*

Fishing with a Hook

1. Dà sá yê adàné ?
   What is s/he doing?

2. Ast'èxh.
   S/he is fishing (with a hook).
   (t'èxh - fish hook)

3. Shałxhût'.
   S/he is casting.

4. Shukałxhàch.
   S/he is trolling.

5. Wé yadák'w ast'èxh.
   The boy is fishing (with a hook).

6. T'áse káxh ast'èxh. (C)
   T'ási káxh ast'èxh. (T)
   S/he is fishing (with a hook) for grayling.

7. Wé yadák'w t'ási káxh ast'èxh.
   The boy is fishing (with a hook) for grayling.

8. Dalèyí káxh ast'èxh.
   S/he is fishing (with a hook) for lake trout.

9. Ghwât káxh ast'èxh.
   S/he is fishing (with a hook) for rainbow trout.

10. T'á káxh ast'èxh. (T)
    S/he is fishing (with a hook) for king salmon.

11. Tîł' káxh ast'èxh. (T)
    S/he is fishing (with a hook) for chum (dog) salmon.

Fishing with a Hook (cont)

1. Dà sá yê adàné ?
   What is he doing?

2. Wé yadák'w t'ási káxh ast'èxh.
   T'ási káxh ast'èxh, wé yadák'w.
   The boy is fishing (with a hook) for grayling.

3. Dà sá yê adàné, wé yadák'w ?
   Wé yadák'w dà sá yê adàné ?
   What is the boy doing?

(or) Wé yadák'w áwé dà sá yê adàné ?
   As for the boy, what is he doing?

4. Wé yadák'w shakwshakàk káxh.
   The boy is fishing for broad whitefish (humpback whitefish).

5. Wé yadák'w tàsɬèyí káxh ast'èxh.
   The boy is fishing (with a hook) for pike.

6. Wé yadák'w shìsh káxh ast'èxh.
   The boy is fishing (with a hook) for inconnu.

7. Wé yadák'w xhàt káxh ast'èxh.
   The boy is fishing (with a hook) for fish (general).

Fishing with a Net

1. Dà sá yê adàné wé yîs khâ ?
   What is the boy doing?

2. **Ghèwú káxh dàk nashîn.**
   fishnet   *over*   *out*   *he is handling it*
   He is running the net out.

3. **Ghèwú dàk akanayíkh.**
   fishnet   *out*   *he is stretching it*
   He is setting the net out.

4. **Dà sá yê has adàné ?**
   What are they doing?

5. **Ghèwú dàk has akanayíkh.**
   fishnet   *out*   *they are stretching it*
   They are setting the net out.

6. **Dàt káxh sá has asghêw ?**
   What are they netting for?
   (verb stem is -ghêw or -ghêm in Teslin)

7. **Tàslèyí, xhât yádi kha s'âxh' káxh has asghêw.**
   They are netting for pike, whitefish and ling cod.

8. **T'îx' tayìnáxh ghèwú dàk kaghaxhtùyîkh. (T)**
   ice   *(via) underneath*   *fishnet*   *out*   *we will stretch it*
   We will set a net under the ice.

9. **Dà sá yidzighêw ?**
   What did you (one) net?

10. **Dà sá yìydzighêw ?**
    What did you (plural) net?

Types of Salmon and Trout

	Fish	English	Locations Found
1.	xhât	fish in general	everywhere
2.	t'á	king salmon	Yukon R, Alsek R, Tatshenshini R
3.	tîł'	chum salmon dog salmon	Teslin R, Nisultin R, White R, Kluane R
4.	ł'ùk	coho salmon	Old Crow (Porcupine R), Klukshu R
5.	ghàt	sockeye salmon	Klukshu R, Taku R
6.	châs'	pink salmon	not in Yukon
7.	àshát	steelhead	Alsek R, Taku R
8.	xh'âkw	spawning salmon (male red, hooked nose)	everywhere

Postpositions for Questions

Dàt _____ sá ...	_____ what ...?
post position	*preposition*

Dàt káxh sá ...   *for what?*

Dàt yis sá ...   *why? what for?*

Dàt nákh sá ...   *(running away) from what?*

Examples:

Dàt káxh sá ast'èxh?
> *What is s/he fishing for? (with a hook)*

Dà sá ast'èxh?
> *What is s/he catching? (with a hook)*

T'ási ast'èxh.
> *He is catching grayling. (with a hook)*

Place Name Origins (related to fish names)

1. Tetl'ani (*Southern Tutchone place name from Louis Smith*)
   Dog Salmon Slough (on Teslin River)

   *This name refers to a location on Teslin River that was utilized
   by members of more than one First Nation and language group.
   The name as pronounced by Mr. Smith in Southern Tutchone
   may well reflect a Tlingit origin. Note the following possible
   interpretation:*

   Tîł'   àní
   dog salmon country / land   - Tlingit

2. Khà   łîłk'u   xhâdi
   person's   grandparent   fish (possessed form)

   *This may be the same lake known by some Teslin speakers as
   Estsū Lúwe ("my gramma's fish(lake)") of Athabaskan origin.*

3. Ł'ukshú
   coho salmon - end of the run

   Klukshu

4. T'àkhú

   *Taku River. Taku is said to be short for T'àwákh Ghałakhú
   ("goose flood"), named from the fact that T'àwákh Êxh'i floods
   when the geese are nesting.*

5. Łuxh.àní
   whitefish.country

   Kluane Lake

   (Łù'àn Mãn *Southern Tutchone place name*)

Conversation about Sleep

1. **K'idên   gí   yidlisâ   nisdàt ?**
   well   question   you rested   last night

   How was your night? / Did you sleep well?

2. **K'idên   xhwadlisâ.**
   well   I rested

   I slept well.

3. **Tlêk',   khut   axhwàjûn.**
   no   astray   I dreamt

   No, I had bad dreams.

4. **Khut   tsé   gìjûn !**
   astray   don't dream

   Don't have bad dreams! (nightmares)

5. **Tlêk',   tlákw   kè   xhat   isgíłch.**
   no   all the time   up   I   kept waking

   No, I kept waking up all the time.

6. **Axh   łudíxh'   kamduwadúx'.**
   my   neck   someone tied it in a knot

   My neck is/was knotted.

7. **Axh   dixh'   kałshuk'xh.**
   my   back   it is cramping (right now)

   My back is cramping up.

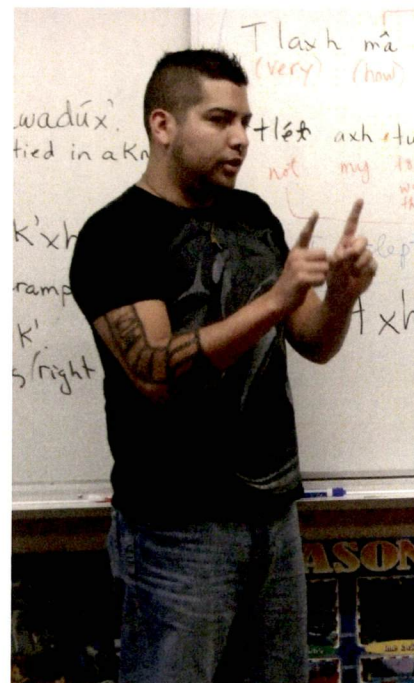8. **Tlaxh   mâ   k'idên   xhwatàyí   sáwé   tlêł**
   very   how   well   I slept   so   not

   axh   tuwâ   ushgú   shaxhwdanùgú.
   my   way of thinking   pleasant   I get up

   I slept so well so well I didn't want to get up.
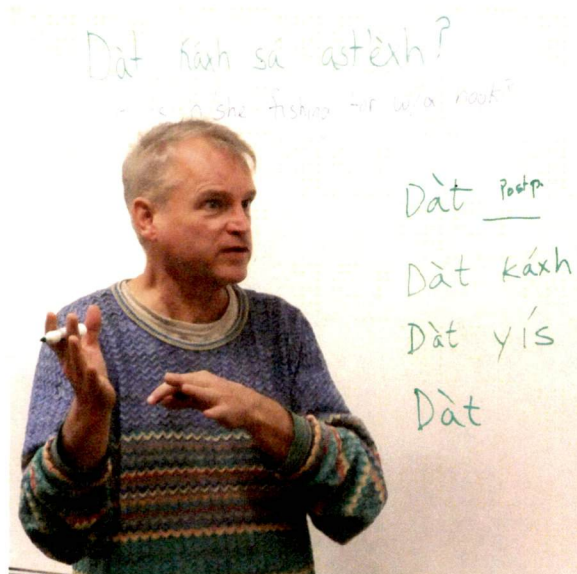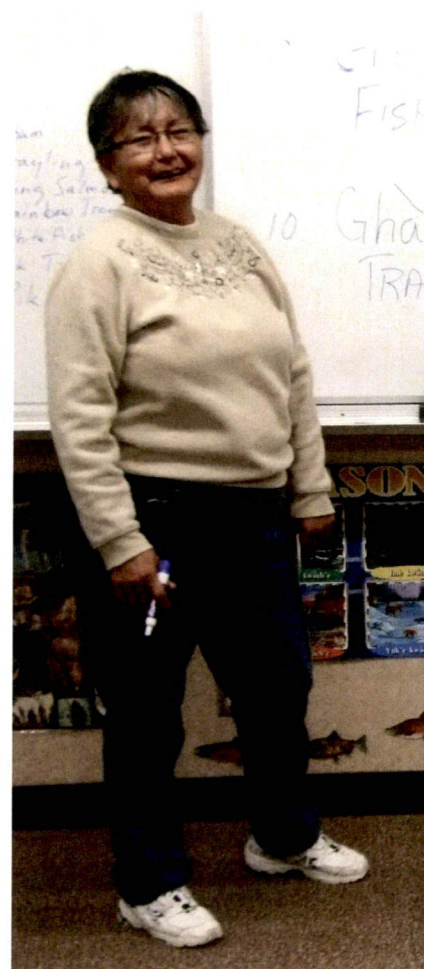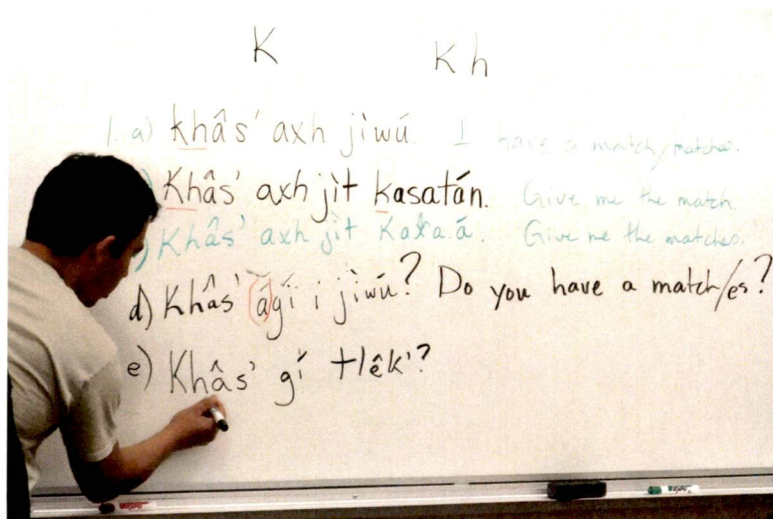
Expressions

1. Coffee shût xha.â.

   I'm sitting down to a cup of coffee.

2. Ch'a ànînáxh

   patiently

3. Shas'áxw!

   Put a hat on it!

4. Kwêy

   Mark, marker

5. Kwêyx'i sâni

   Little marks (diacritics)

6. Yak'êyi satùwú áwé.

   That is a good thought.

7. Khunasxhát' !

   Crack the whip! (literally, whip people!)

8. Axh   sàyí   t'ikâ   kìshxít !

   my   *name*   *beside*   *you (one) write*

   Axh   sàyí   sakwéy ! (sakwẹy)

   my   *name*   *you (one) mark, sign*

   Vote for me! (to one person)

   Axh   sàyí   yìysakwéy ! (yḷysakwẹy)

   my   *name*   *you (plural) mark, sign*

   Vote for me! (to more than one person)

K   Kh

1. a) khâs'axh jiwú. I have a match/matches.
   b) Khâs'axh jit kasatán. Give me the match
   c) Khâs'axh jit Koka.á. Give me the matches.
   d) Khâs'ágí i jiwú? Do you have a match/es?
   e) Khâs' gí tlêk'?

Dàt káxh sá astèxh?
Is he/she fishing for w/a hook?

Dàt _Postp_

Dàt káxh

Dàt yís

Dàt

Photograph Identifications

Page

23. *top left:*   Bessie Cooley, Connie Jules
    top right: Sean Smith
    centre left: Dr. Jeff Leer
    bottom: Sarah Johnston, Gary Johnson, Norman James

24. *top left:*   Margaret Bob, Bessie Cooley, Emma Sam
                    (behind) Pauline Sidney, Barbara Hobbis
    top right: Connie Jules
    centre left: Sarah Johnston
    centre right: Gary Johnson
    bottom: Pauline Sidney, Barbara Hobbis, Tina Jules

25. *top left:*   Sean Smith
    top right: Pauline Sidney
    centre left: Dr. Jeff Leer
    bottom: (front) Sean Smith, Margaret Bob, Bessie Cooley, Emma Sam
                    (behind) Pauline Sidney, Barbara Hobbis, Tina Jules

26. *top left:*   Margaret Bob
    top centre: Jason Harper, Charlene Baker
    top right: Barbara Hobbis
    bottom left: Emma Sam, Linda Harvey
    bottom right: Linda Harvey, Pauline Sidney, Connie Jules

27. *top left:*   Bessie Cooley, Linda Harvey
    top right: Norman James, Connie Jules
    bottom left: Sharon Shorty, Connie Jules
    bottom right: Linda Harvey, Heather Profeit