

TLINGIT LITERACY SESSION

Yukon Native Language Centre
Whitehorse, Yukon

October 6 - 7, 2015

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Native
Language
Centre*

2015

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Ms. Ruth Beattie	Carcross
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Ms. Bessie Jim	Carcross
Mr. Gary Johnson	Carcross
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Ms. Sarah Johnston Smith	Whitehorse
Mr. Sean Smith	Whitehorse
Ms. Danielle Van Bibber	Whitehorse
Ms. Tahyah Van Bibber	Whitehorse

Schedule

	Tues Oct 6	Wed Oct 7
<i>9:00</i>	Opening Prayer Introductions & Goals Listening Exercise using · k and k' Use of Gesture, Akwdakà Dialect Comparisons	Opening Prayer Awakening the Language - fluency Listening Exercise - k and kh
<i>10:45</i>	Comparison of Interior and Coastal Orthography	Numbering Things and People Lorraine's project
<i>noon</i>	<i>lunch</i>	<i>lunch</i>
<i>1:00</i>	Getting Dressed and Undressed	Tlingit Proverbs Tlingit Clans
<i>2:45</i>	Getting Dressed and Undressed (cont)	Personal and Honorary Names Wrap -up Closing Prayer

Interior Tlingit Alphabet

Consonants

		<i>Labial</i>	<i>Alveolar</i>	<i>Lateral</i>	<i>Sibilant</i>	<i>Shibilant</i>	<i>Velar</i>	<i>Rounded Velar</i>	<i>Uvular</i>	<i>Rounded Uvular</i>	<i>Glottal</i>	<i>Rounded Glottal</i>
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			ɬ	s	sh	x	xw	xh	xhw	h	hw
	glottalized			ɬ'	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	

Comparison of Coastal and Interior Orthographies

Basic Principle of Orthographic Design

The most important phonological information needs to be written "on the line".

Less important information can be written over or under the line if necessary for learners.

Writing Tlingit Vowels

Interior Tlingit is written with no vowel pairs . It has five vowels - a, e, i, u and sometimes o.

Coastal Tlingit uses vowel pairs to write the long vowels - aa, ei, ee, ou, oo.
So Coastal Tlingit has a ten vowel system.

Tones

High tone vowels are marked by adding a diacritic ´ . So short high tones are written á, é, í, ó and ú in both systems. Short low tone vowels are unmarked a, e, i, o and u in both systems.

In Interior Tlingit the tone marker ` is used for long low vowels, giving à, è, ì, ò and ù. Coastal orthography uses aa, ei, ee, ou and oo for these long low vowels.

Coastal orthography uses áa, éi, etc. for long high vowels. In writing Interior Tlingit, the tone marker ^ is used for long high vowels, giving â, ê, etc.

Other languages may use stacked diacritics like ấ to write a long high vowel. It is possible to write Interior Tlingit in this way, but we now use the diacritic markers that are easy to find and use, namely ´, ` and ^ in place of the harder to use diacritic set á, â and ấ.

Summary

Short Vowels				Long Vowels			
Coastal		Interior		Coastal		Interior	
<i>low tone</i>	<i>high tone</i>	<i>low tone</i>	<i>high tone</i>	<i>low tone</i>	<i>high tone</i>	<i>low tone</i>	<i>high tone</i>
a	á	a	á	aa	áa	à	â
e	é	e	é	ei	éi	è	ê
i	í	i	í	ee	ée	ì	î
o	ó	o	ó	ou	óu	ò	ô
u	ú	u	ú	oo	óo	ù	û

Comparison of Tlingit Dialects

it is windy / stormy

Teslin ayamditi

Carcross ayawditi

s/he poured it

Teslin akamsixà

Carcross akawsixà

a - ka - wu - si - xà

(between a V and C the wu- is shortened becoming w- outside of Teslin, which has m- instead)

rain

Teslin sîm / sîw̃ / sûw̃

Carcross sûw

Coastal sîw / sûw

s/he is playing

Teslin ashkùtyét

Carcross ashkùtét *(note the ellipsis of y)*

Coastal ashkùtyát *(imperfective)*

ash kawdliyat *(perfective - not used in Interior)*

it is white

Interior dlèt yáxh yatì
snow like it is

Coastal *the words are spelled the same but the whole*
(Haines) *combination is pronounced:*
dlèdáchhati (note the ellipsis of y)

S/he came here.

Interior Hàt uwagút.

Coastal Haat uwagút.

S/he went there.

Interior Àdé wùgùt.

Coastal Aadé woogoot.

There is free variation in the length of postpositions like -de, and other suffixes, e.g.

Àdê wùgùt. / Àadéi woogoot.

More examples of free variation in the length of certain suffixes or even words:

his land (àn / aan - town, land)

Interior du àní / du anî

Coastal du aaní / du aanée

yonder town

Interior yú àn / yû an

Coastal yú aan / yóo aan

that man

Interior wé khâ / wê khâ

Coastal wé káa / wéi káa

Clothing

1. I s'âxu shâxh ghìdatí.
your hat head-onto you put it
Put your hat on.

2. I tuxh'atâli xh'ùst idayíkh.
your pants feet-onto you pull it
Put on your pants.

3. I tuxh'atâli yê na.ù.
your pants you wear it (them)
Wear your pants.

4. I k'ùdás'i kâxh ghìdatí.
your shirt (possessed) on (surface) you put it
Put on your shirt.

5. I l'îx'wâni xh'ùst idayíkh.
your socks feet-onto you pull
Put on your socks.

6. I tsâx'i yê (daxh) na.ù.
your mitts you wear them (pl)
Wear your mitts.

7. I tsâx'i jinkàdé yê nasní.
your mitts hands-onto you put them
Put on your mitts.

8. Gùsú i ts'âx'i ?
where your mitts
Where are your mitts?

Clothing (cont)

9. Nâ yê shìnda.ù.
torso-on you put on clothes
Get dressed!
10. I nà.ádi kàdé yê nasní.
your clothing onto self you put them
Put on your clothes!
Get dressed!
11. I nà.ádi yê na.ù.
your clothing you wear it
Wear your clothes!
12. I nà.ádi nâdâxh yê nasní.
your clothing torso-off you put them
Take off your clothes!
Get undressed!
13. I ł'ix'wáni xh'ùsdâxh idayíkh.
your socks feet-off you pull them
Take your socks off.
14. I ts'âx'i jinkâxh idayíkh.
your mittens hands-off you pull them
I ts'âx'i i jinkâxh daxh yíkh.
your mittens your hands-off (plural) you pull
Take your mittens off.
15. I tukh'atâli xh'ùsdaxh idayíkh.
I t'ughatâli xh'ùsdâxh idayíkh.
your pants feet-off you pull it
Take your pants off.

Clothing (cont)

16. I k'ùdás'i nâdâxh kè idatí.
your shirt (possessed) torso-off up you take it
Take your shirt off.

17. I s'âxu shâdâxh kè idatí.
your hat head-off up you take it
I s'âxu i shâdâxh kè tí.
your hat your head-off up you take it
Take your hat off.

Numbering Things and People

Tlingit uses different words for counting humans and objects.

Numbers

Things		People	
<i>one</i>	tlêx'	<i>one man, a single person</i>	tlênaxh khô
<i>two</i>	dêxh	<i>two men</i>	dáxhnáxh khô
		<i>both men</i>	ch'ù dáxhnáxh khô
<i>three</i>	nás'k	<i>three men</i>	nás'gínáxh khô
		<i>all three men</i>	ch'ù nás'gínáxh khô
<i>four</i>	dàx'ùn	<i>four men</i>	dàx'ùnínáxh khô
<i>five</i>	kìjín, kèjín	<i>five men</i>	kìjínináxh khô
		<i>all five of you</i>	ch'u kìjínináxh yìwân
<i>six</i>	tlèdùshú	<i>six men</i>	tlèdùshûnáxh khô

Ordinals

Ordinal numbers refer to first, second, third etc.

Things	
<i>the first thing</i>	shux'a áyí
<i>second thing</i>	daxh.à
<i>third thing</i>	nas'gi.à
<i>fourth thing</i>	dàx'ùn à
<i>fifth thing</i>	kìjín à
<i>sixth thing</i>	tlèdushú à

shux'ânáxh à
the first person

Ts'ás Wa.é - Only You Shàn Tlâ ka Ànyàlahàsh

Discussion of Lorraine's Diploma Project, a toddler book.

1. Ts'as we.é ch'a we.êch â xhat
just you you do it me

shakakhghijâ (shakukhghijâ ¹)

you will show, tell, advise, teach

ch'a dà sá yê dà.ìnèyí yakhghìdlâkh.

whatever you you do you are going to achieve it

Only you can teach me that whatever you undertake, you can accomplish.

2. Yakhghìdlâkh.

You are going to get it done. (make it, achieve it, master it).

You can do it!

3. Axh wakhkàyíxh isitì.

my favourite person you are

You are my favourite (person). You are the apple of my eye.

I wakhkàyíxh xhat sitì

your favourite person I am

I am your favourite (person). I am the apple of your eye.

4. Łít a dàt shtukishtîkh ch'a dá sá yê dàxhanèyí.

don't concern yourself mentally

about what

I am doing

Don't mind what I am doing.

¹ shakakhghijâ, shakukhghijâ - note khgh here

5. I káxwè yaxh kaxhwaxhèjí nashùkh,
 your coffee turn over if I spill it you smile / laugh
 ághâ tsâ àxh ghałaghú.
 then only away you wipe it
 If I spill your coffee, just laugh and clean it up.

6. I tuwâdâxh łdakát axh jùní x'êgháxh
 because of you all my dreams true
 guxsatî.
 they will become
 You make my dreams come true.

Tlingit Proverbs

1. Naná kíká aya.û tá.
 death place arms sleep
 across from (possessed)
[Don't sleep too much;] it is a short trip from sleep to death.

2. Naná ùwayâ axh tàyí.
 death it resembles my sleep
My sleep is like death.

3. I tùwú yê yatì.
Your mind is like that. Your heart (inner being) is like that.

4. Yá łingit'àní ghèx' wùsh jín
 this world inside net each other's hands
 (embrace)
 tułashát yésú.
 we're holding now
Within (the net that is) the world, we hold hands together.

5. Łdakát yá t'átgi ká wùsh jín
 all this earth on each other's hand
 yè gaxhłulashât.
 we will hold
We will all join hands across the world.

6. I jintâxh wutuwatì hà khustiyí,
 your in the palm we have placed our life
 of the hand
 axh S'atí.
 my Lord
We have put our lives in the palm of your hands, Lord.

Tlingit Proverbs (cont)

7. Hà khustiyí khùnaxhtusa.à.

our life let us celebrate the day

Let us celebrate our lives.

8. Wûshnáxh ana.átch.

each other people get together (habitually)

People get together.

9. Wûshnáxh wuda.àt.

A coming together. (a gathering, celebration, meeeting, etc).

10. Sagú tin wûshnáxh kè mda.àt.

*joy with each other people
inter-connecting*

coming together, socialising

Coming together with joy.

Clans

Nà	<i>Clan, moeity</i>
Yêl nà	<i>Crow moeity</i>
Ghùch nà	<i>Wolf moeity</i>

1. Dàkhw nàxh sá isitì ?
Dàt nàxh sá isitì ?
Dàkhu nàxh sá isitì ?
Which clan are you?
2. Dàkhw nà sá we.é ?
Dàt nà sá we.é ?
Dàkhu nà sá we.é ?
Which clan are you?

Personal Names

Participants shared personal names and discussed their derivations.

Miscellaneous Vocabulary

1. Ch'a àdû sá ghaxhùxh!
Call someone else!
2. Khutghanahâ
Khutxh'anahâ
star
3. Shałákht
dunderhead (hard-headed / stubborn / disoddedient person)
4. Jikìdatáx'.
Bite your hand. (to keep from crying out)
5. Xh'akìdatáx'.
Bite your lip.
6. Wùch yáxh kudidâł.
They weigh the same. They are in balance.
7. Du nàwú
corpse
8. Hadlôw !
O my gosh!
9. Hàgalôy !
Holy smokes!
10. I gu.à yáxh x'wán !
I gu.àxh x'wán !
Keep up the good work!

11. K'e juwáltín.
Shame on you! (I am not impressed. / I am disgusted.)
12. jùn
dream
13. junkhú
in a dream
14. gùxh
slave
15. guxhkhú
slavery

Minimal Pairs

kûx	<i>rice</i>	k'ûx	<i>marten</i>
tá	<i>sheep</i>	t'á	<i>king salmon</i>
axh	<i>my</i>	àxh	<i>from there / away</i>
axh	<i>tàyí my sleep</i>	axh	<i>tayì under me</i>

Akwdakà - Gesture

There was a discussion about the importance of gestures. The use of gestures improves students' understanding because of its intuitive nature. One can use "beat boxing" to teach the glottalized stops and glottalized fricatives.

k and k'

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Examples of k

- | | |
|---------|---------------------|
| 1. kîṭ | <i>killer whale</i> |
| 2. kâst | <i>barrel</i> |
| 3. kûx | <i>rice</i> |

Examples of k'

- | | |
|------------|------------------------|
| 1. k'isâni | <i>boys, young men</i> |
| 2. k'únts' | <i>potato</i> |
| 3. k'ûx | <i>marten</i> |

k and k'

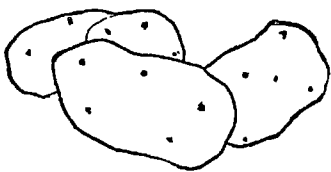


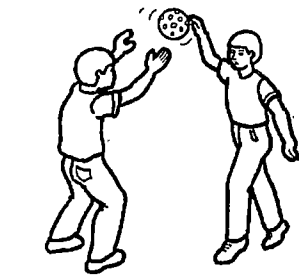
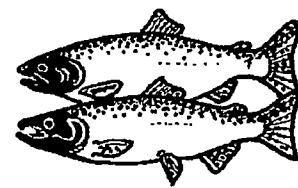
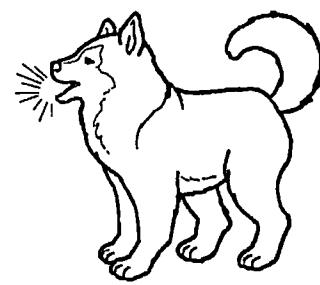


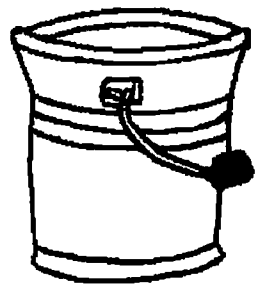

1. K'únts' aksa.êxh.
She is planting (growing) potatoes.
2. Kìjín dânà axh jiwú.
I have five dollars.
3. Àtlèn k'ìljâ ayamditì.
A big south wind is blowing hard.
4. K'isâni ash kulét.
The boys are playing.
5. Wé t'á àwak'éxh'.
He gaffed the king salmon.
6. Kètl daxh ashâ.
The dogs are barking.
7. Kâ yà anaskhúxh.
She is driving a car.
8. Kakên l'ix'wán aksané.
She is knitting wool socks.
9. Kâst kàdé akamsixà wé hîn.
He poured the water into the barrel.
10. K'ûx dùgú x'ûw̃ ìn wudix'û.
She put on a marten skin robe.

TLINGIT LANGUAGE

k and k'

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Write *k* and *k'* as you hear them.

1 	2 	3 	4 	5 
6 	7 	8 	9 	10 

k and kh

October 2015

Examples of k

- | | | |
|----|--------|------------------------------|
| 1. | kètł | <i>dog</i> |
| 2. | kút | <i>nest</i> |
| 3. | a kùwú | <i>its tail (fish, bird)</i> |

Examples of kh

- | | | |
|----|---------|-----------------------|
| 1. | khâ | <i>man</i> |
| 2. | khâs' | <i>stick, matches</i> |
| 3. | a khùwú | <i>its den</i> |

k and kh

Write *k* and *kh* as you hear them.

1. Wé kètł wêt hán.

The dog is standing there. (That dog there is standing.)

2. Wé yîs khâ kamdinét.

The young man is shivering.

3. Wé khâs' dàkèt wêt sa.ín.

The match box is lying there. (full)

Wé khâs' dàkèt wêt tán.

The match box is lying there. (empty)

4. Wé k'wát' kút kát kał.át.

The eggs are lying in the nest. (more than one round object)

Wé k'wát' kút kát katîn.

The egg is lying in the nest. (one round object)

5. Du kâni ìn yù xh'atł.atk.

She's talking to her brother-in-law.

He's talking to his sister-in-law.

6. Wé khênà yàk'áts'.
The awl is sharp.
7. Wé khákw xákwdi wêl tán.
The empty basket is lying there.
8. Nás'k khâ át has khîn.
Three men are sitting there.
9. Khumłigás'.
Khumłigûs'.
It got cloudy.

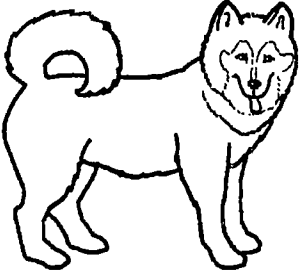



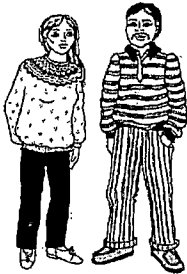
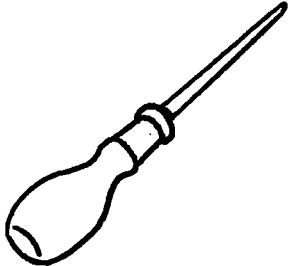
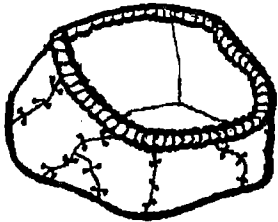

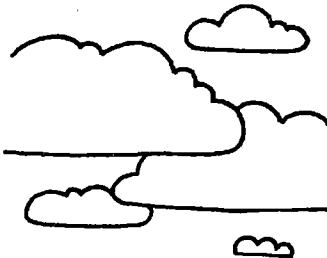
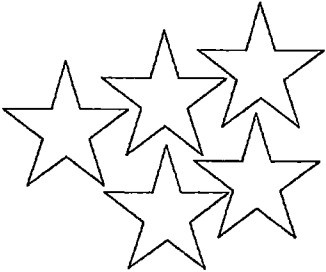
Khułigûs'.
It is cloudy.
10. Kìjín khutghanahâ duwatîn.
Five stars are visible.

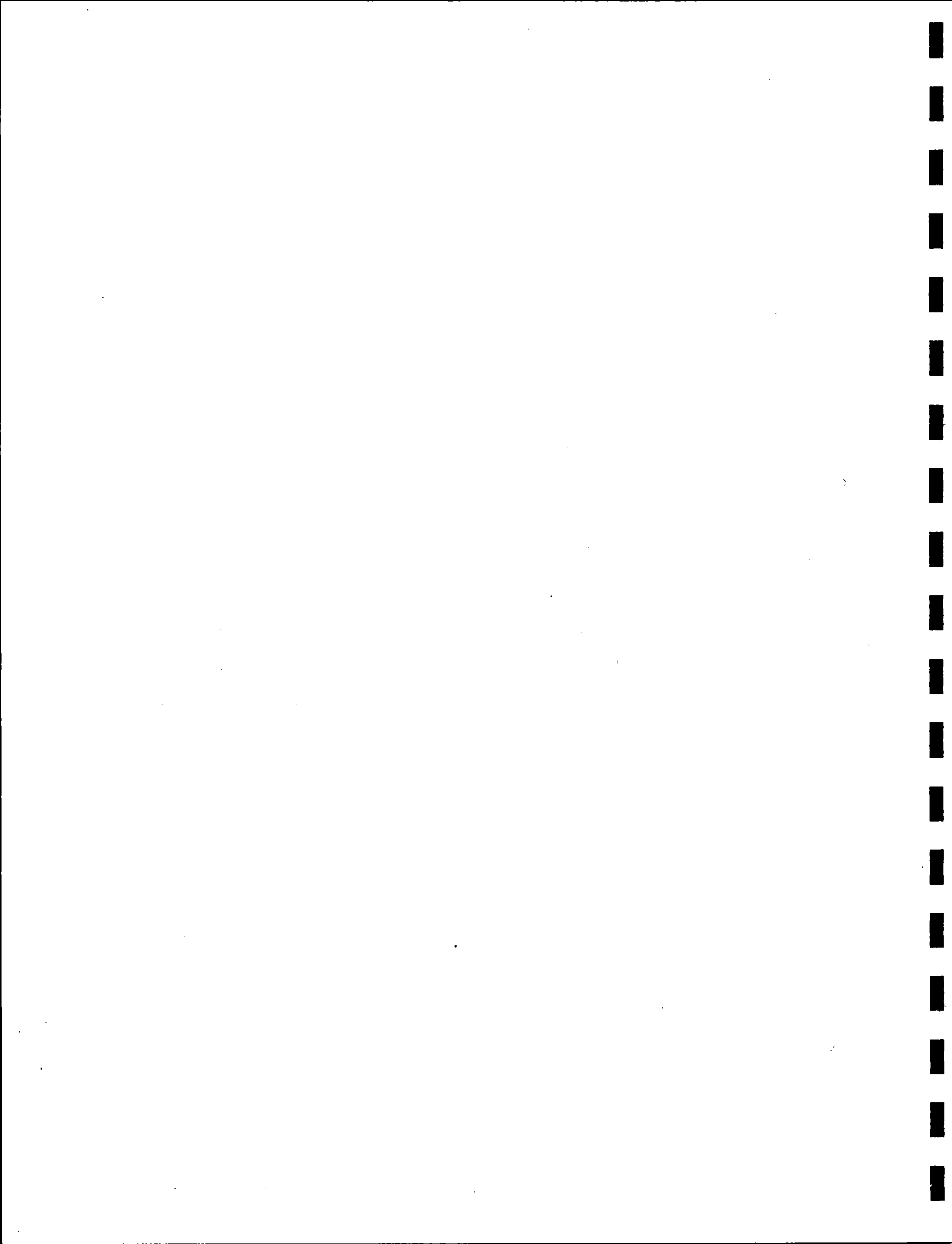
TLINGIT LANGUAGE

k and kh

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Write *k* and *kh* as you hear them.

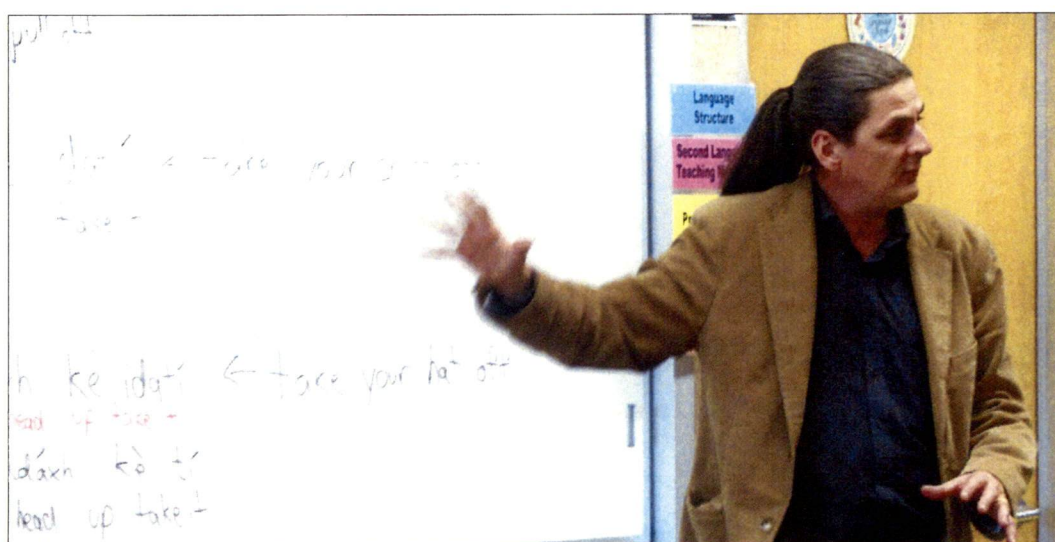
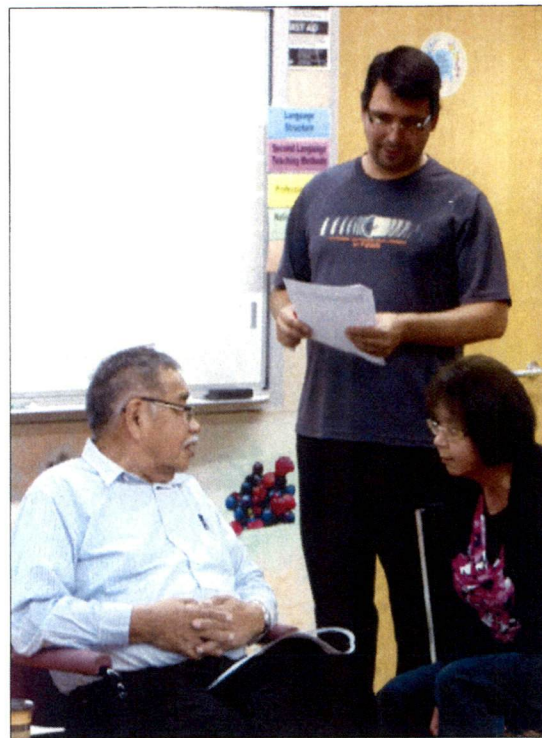
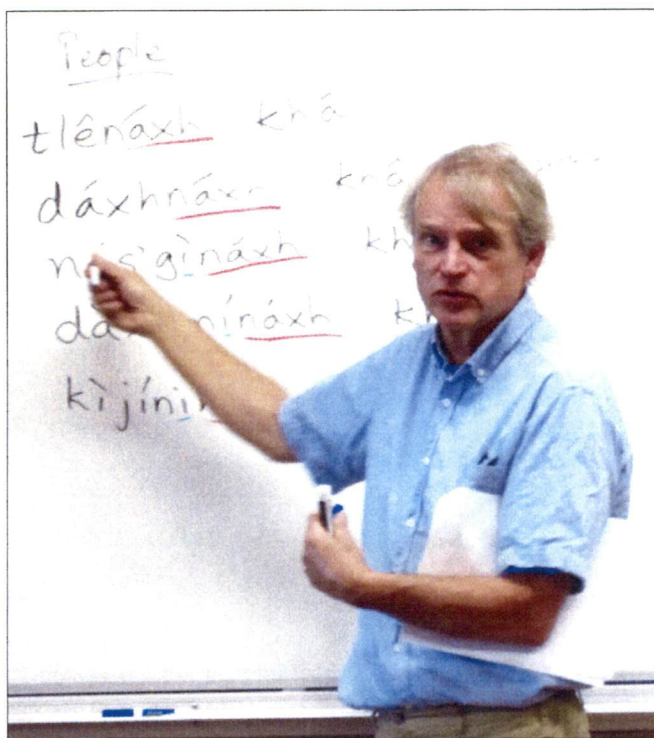
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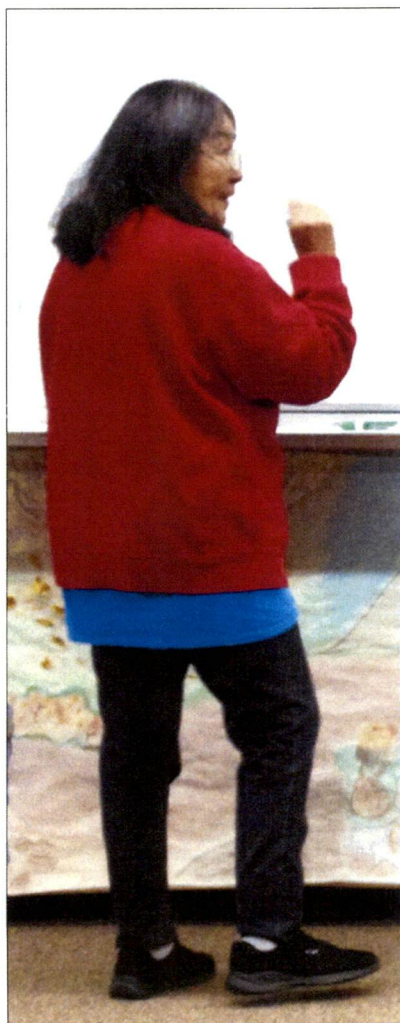


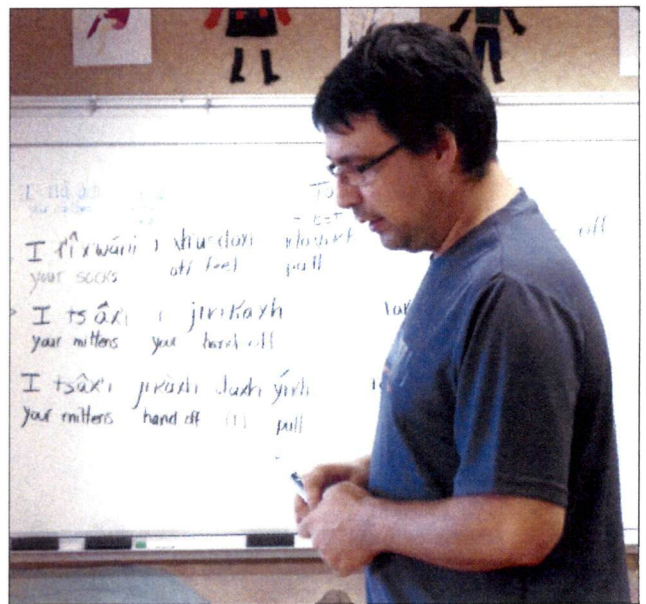


Standing: Sean Smith, Linda Harvey, Danielle Van Bibber, Tina Jules, Tahyah Van Bibber, Connie Jules, Barb Hobbis, Gary Johnson, Jeff Leer, Sean McDougall, Ruth Beattie, Deborah Baerg, Chris Cox, Pauline Sidney, Lorraine Dewhurst, Bessie Jim, Mary Allison

Sitting: Norman James, Jane Smarch, Sam Johnston holding his grandchild, Winnie Atlin, Bessie Cooley











Photograph Identifications

Page

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------|--|
| 29. | <i>centre:</i> | participants |
| 30. | <i>top left:</i> | Jeff Leer |
| | <i>top right:</i> | Sam Johnston, Sean McDougall, Ruth Beattie |
| | <i>centre:</i> | André Bourcier |
| | <i>bottom:</i> | Lorraine Dewhurst teaching the class |
| 31. | <i>top left:</i> | André Bourcier |
| | <i>top right:</i> | Connie Jules, Bessie Cooley |
| | <i>bottom left:</i> | Bessie Jim |
| | <i>bottom centre:</i> | Sam Johnston |
| | <i>bottom right:</i> | Chris Cox |
| 32. | <i>top left:</i> | Bessie Cooley |
| | <i>top right:</i> | Mary Allison |
| | <i>centre left:</i> | Norman James |
| | <i>bottom left:</i> | Sam Johnston, Connie Jules |
| | <i>bottom right:</i> | Sean McDougall |
| 33. | <i>top left:</i> | Sam Johnston, Gary Johnson |
| | <i>top right:</i> | Barb Hobbis |
| | <i>bottom left:</i> | Pauline Sidney |
| | <i>bottom right:</i> | Sarah Johnston Smith and her baby |
| 34. | <i>top left:</i> | Connie Jules, Sam Johnston, Jeff Leer |
| | <i>top right:</i> | Lorraine Dewhurst |

