

Nimipuutimt Volume 3

28:34

(9 pgs.)

Nez Perce Language Pledge

Vera Sonneck (Nimipuutimtiki – In the Nez Perce Language.) 7-28-03

Nez Perce Leadership Motto

Vera Sonneck (Nimipuutimtiki) & Angel Sobotta - translator. Revised 5-12-04 (some static)

ABC's

Vera Sonneck & Bessie Scott (added on 10-13-04)

Respect Mother Earth Terms

Vera Sonneck (Nimipuutimtiki – In the Nez Perce Language.) 7-28-03

Name Places

Angel Sobotta (English)Vera Sonneck & Bessie Scott (Nimipuutimtiki.) 12-7-03

Names of Tribes

Angel Sobotta (English)Vera Sonneck & Bessie Scott (Nimipuutimtiki.) 12-7-03

Typed by Angel Sobotta Nez Perce Language Program 7-28-03 ©

Nimipuutimt

(In the parenthesis below are the body movements that go with the pledge)

cukwenéewit, Know it

(With both hands point to the sides of the head, by your temples)

hitéemeneewit, Learn it

(With both hands, reach out with palms facing up and pull in towards body, closing palms)

técukwe, Teach it

(With both hands, throw palms out in front of you like you are giving away something)

c'ixnéewit, Speak it

(With right hand, up to the mouth and hand rounded, throw hand out, palm open)

titooqanáawit, Live it

(With right hand, tap heart twice)

wiyéeleehesn, Everyday!

(With both arms & hands extended on the outside, bring them in for sunrise & out for sunset)

Nez Perce Leadership Slogan (Revised)

***nimîipuu mimiyoóôxat hic'iiqteenix**

Nez Perce leaders speak

tim'néepkinix

from the heart

***hiwsîix qa'ánin',**

They are respectable or have good character

***wiwéepcux, wiwáaq'is 'ewsîix néekt,**

Intelligence, Healthy mind,

***ciláakt kaa hewléexhewlex**

body and spirit.

kúnk'u 'imamáhinaq'in

Always ready to be of service

hiwsîix wapáyatat'as nimîipuu titóoqapx.

to their Nez Perce people.

5-12-04 Revised by Adult Class. Recorded on Volume 4 as well. Some static.

*A few changes were made to this Nez Perce Leadership & Wellness Slogan in 2006. The recording and the words which can be found on CD volume 5.

Nimipuutímt Spelling System:

á = short a sounds like the a's in Dakota. Ex: háham - men.

áa = long a sounds like the a in hall or paw. Ex: táamsas – Wild Rose

é = short e sounds like the e in echo. Ex: síwe – forehead.

éé = long e sounds like the a in wack. Ex: wééptes – golden eagle.

i = short i sounds like the i in it. Ex: tít – tooth.

íi = long i sounds like the e's in bee. Ex: píips - bones

o = short o sounds like the o in potato & Arapaho. Ex: tóhon – pants.

óo = long o sounds like the o in oh, tone. Long o doesn't glide into a w. Ex: sooyáapoo – Euro American

u = short u sounds like the u in put and look. Ex: sílu – eye.

úu = long u sounds like the bold in pooh or through. Ex: húusus – head

aw = sounds close, but not exactly the same as the ow in towel. Ex: láwtiwaa – friend.

ay = sounds like the bold in mine or pie. Ex: tamtáayn-news or laymíwt-youngest one.

eey = sounds like the word “Aye”. Ex: Méeywi – morning.

ew = sounds close, but not exactly the same as the ow in towel. Ex: tewlíikt – tree.

c = sounds like the ts in “hits”. Ex: cíicyele – purple.

ł = Special l sound. Put the tip of the tongue on the roof of mouth & when trying to say the “l” sound, air comes out of the sides of the mouth. Ex: léepłep – Butterfly.

q = The “back k” sounds close, but not exactly the same as the k in ketchup. Ex: géhep-bobcat.
There is no English sound equivalent to a q.

x = soft “x” hunch up your tongue close to the top of your mouth. Start to say the k sound & then move your tongue down just a little. Ex: tátx – fawn.

â = The uvular or “back” x. It is formed much like the soft x, but farther back in the mouth. Ex: túuâ -

ᵶ = The same as the above. The ᵶ is an updated font which will be used in the future. tobacco.

' = the glottal stop, for popping & stopping sounds. Say the word That like Tha', you cut it off, it's a half consonant, like “Uh oh!” Ex: wáaqo'- now.

Consonants that Pop and Creak: p'-’ilp’ílp red, t'-mít’ip elderberry, k'-sík’em horse, c'-c’éew’cew ghost, q'-ciq’áamqal dog, m'-tim’íne heart, n'-tin’úun male mountain sheep, w'-w’áaw’a fish hook, y' tíy’et laughter, l' hamól’ic cute.

Letters not included in the nimipuutímt spelling system:B, D, F, G, J, R, V, Z REVISÉD 8-21-07

Mother Earth Terms

'eqiicqitx wéetesne

“Take Care of the Earth”

wéetes qicxnew'éet

“Stewards of the Earth”

cáapkil'akitx

“Pick it up!”

cáapkil'ax!

Pick it up!

wéetesne 'éetx 'apaqa'áño'

“Respect the earth”

píke 'ée qa'áño'

“Respect your mother”

'ewqîin

“Throw away”

cáapkil'ax tîim'es!

Pick up the paper!

Nez Perce Name Places

Agatha, ID _____	tukeespe (tu-kehs-pa APS)	
Anatone, WA _____	'enetoyñ	
Arrow Junction (HC) _____	yaxtooyñ	Refers to a bench, knoll up there. Shadow resting on a bench. tooyñ = lengthening shadows.
Asahka, ID _____	'asaqa	
Asotin (HC) _____	hesuutin'or Hesutiin	The place of many eels (name source). The oldest inhabited village in Eastern Washington, dating back over 8,500years. (GF)
Boise (HA) _____	qapqapa'ala	
Boise/Walla Walla (HC) _____	páasxa	
Canada (GF) _____	kincocnim wéetes	Named after King George I of England.
Celilo (HC) _____	silayloo	
Clarkis, Mountain near Clarkis (APS) _____	tu-yahl-ko-lum	
Clarkston, WA (the other side of River) (HA) _____	simiinikem neqeeey	
Clarkston, WA (The place below Clarkston) (APS) _____	'al'pawawaii	Place of plant called "Ahl-pa-ha"
Clearwater River - The place along (Unit 70) _____	kuumkxtoyn	The place where shadows are falling.
Colfax, WA (GF) _____	ti'natpa'ama	Seat of Whitman County
Columbia River _____	xuyelp	The Great River.
Cottonwood (HA) Area of many cottonwood trees. _____	qapqapiin	Area of many Cottonwood trees.
Cottonwood (HC) _____	qapqap	Qapqap is Cottonwood Tree.
Cottonwood Creek area (HA) _____	maaqa	
Cottonwood Creek Myrtle _____	toy-yoy-mekhs	Referring to the rocky point above Myrtle/Cottonwood Creek (APS)
Coyote Gulch – West of Coyote Gulch (HA) _____	ciwiikte	
Craig Mountain (GF) _____	weeyekinwees	A place where one goes to seek a guardian spirit; also related to the word weeyekin. It is also known as teyemexs, or the distant mountain.
Culdesac (HA) _____	kaltaspa	
Culdesac (GF) _____	tiqiikespe	The Landing Place/Descend to bottom.

Elk City (GF)	tatlohisnima	The place of many ground squirrels
Ferdinand (HA)	palxóockin	
Garden Gulch (GF)	paplawam	Village Site at Lapwai Creek.
Grangeville (HC)	sayxsayqiin	Smooth scouring rush-water plant
Tolo Lake (GF)	'alwan'iwetem	Place where Wooley Mammoth bones were located.
Hatwai	héetwey	
Juliaetta (GF)	yeqe	To spill or throw out.
Kamiah (GF)	qemyexp	Comes from qemu or Indian Hemp.
East Kamiah (HA)	nikise	
Kendrick (GF)	hey'uxcpe	Place of Cottontail Rabbits.
Kendrick (HC)	yeqe	
Kooskia (GF)	leewikees	Shelf and deep pool where Salmon Refers to a basalt shelf in the river with a pool below it where salmon gathered. This was a major fishery place.
Lapwai (GF)	léepwey	From the word "Butterfly" - leeplep
Lenore (The Eddy) (HA)	s'uuley (px)	
Lewiston (GF)	simiinekem	Convergence of two rivers (confluence of Snake & Clearwater Rivers, but can be the confluence of any river.)
Little Salmon (HC)	múulpel'	
Lo Lo Trail	khoo-say-ne-ise-kit	
Lochsa River (GF)	láqsa	Rough water - A Selix (Salish) word.
Mason Bt, Talmaks (HC)	táalmaxs	Summer Campground for Nez Perce Presbyterians.
McComas Meadows Camp 58 (GF)	pinéem	Emerge from the woods into a Meadow.
Meadow Creek (Church Town) (HA)	wit'ixp	
Mission Creek (GF)	'aysnima	Refers to the place of Parsnips.
Moscow, ID (HA)	tatxinma	Place of many fawns.

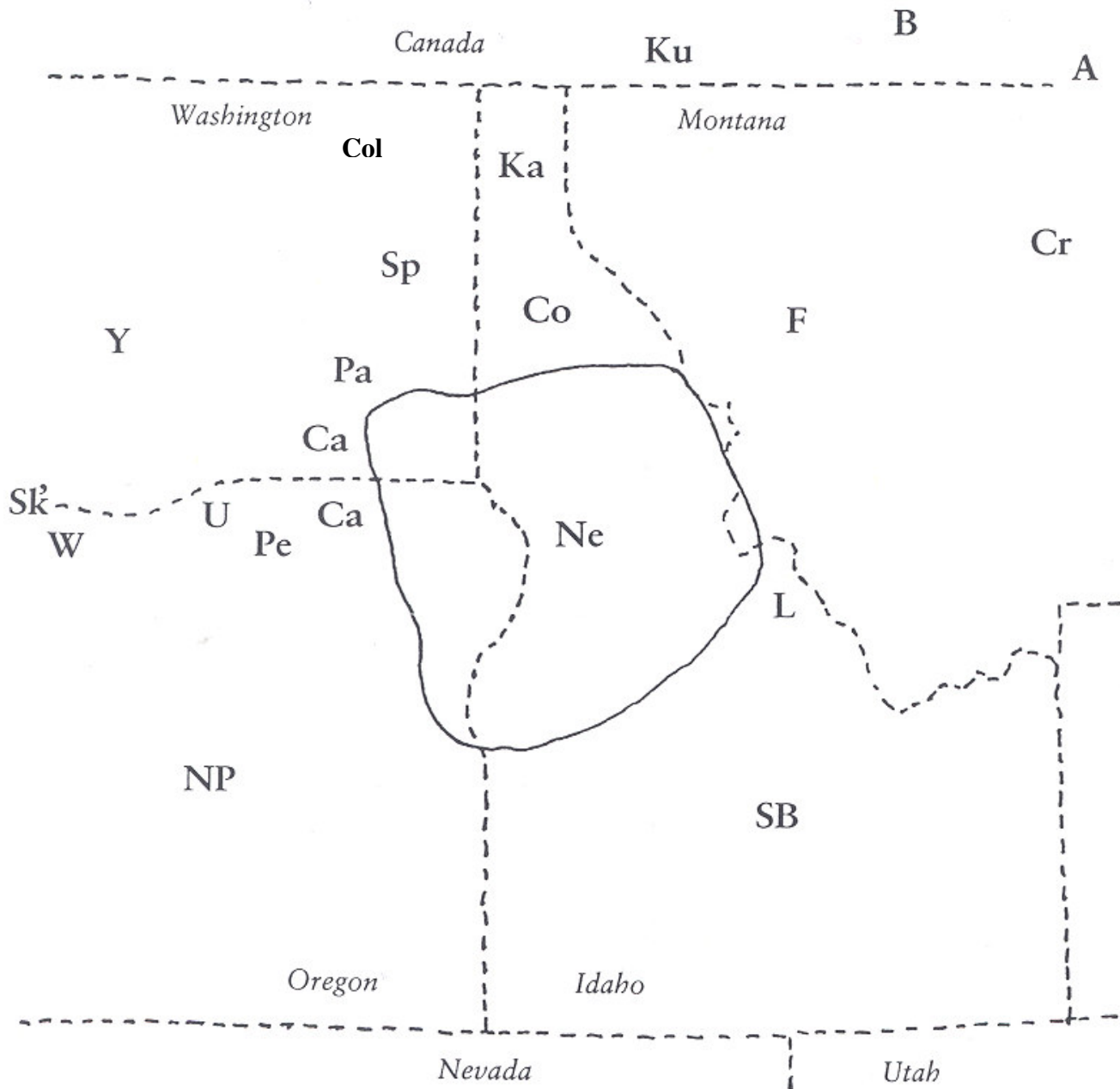
Mud Springs (APS)	<u>tse-tekh-pa (ciitexpe)</u>	
Musselshell (HA)	<u>séewi'snime</u>	From the word mussel. This is the area of 1st encounter with L& C expedition.
Nez Perce, ID (GF)	<u>'alya</u>	Seat of Lewis County.
Oklahoma Territory (GF)	<u>'iyeq'iispe</u>	The hot place.
Orofino, ID (HC)	<u>téewe</u>	
Orofino people	<u>tewéepuu</u>	
Pacific Ocean (GF)	<u>'eteyekuus</u>	Big Water.
Palouse, Pullman area (HA)	<u>pelúucpe</u>	
Payette Lake	<u>pe'xseliitkuus</u>	
Peck, ID (HA)	<u>pipyuuninma</u>	
Pendleton, OR (HA)	<u>nixyaawii</u>	
Pierce, ID (GF)	<u>tawaanwaw'am</u>	Headwaters of Orofino Creek.
Pilot Knob, mountain east of Grangeville	<u>tam'loyicmaxs</u>	Sacred mountain west of Newsome Creek.
Pomeroy WA. Area, Pataha Creek (HA)	<u>patáha</u>	
Potlatch Creek (APS)	<u>yukh-toyn (yaǰtóoyñ – same as Arrow Junction.)</u>	
Prairie (HA)	<u>texpe'em</u>	
Rapid River (GF)	<u>yawwinma</u>	Cold Water from the Mountains.
Red River (GF)	<u>tukpanwaw'am</u>	Headwater of South Fork Clearwater
Reubens, ID area (APS)	<u>ah-lut-le-koots</u>	
Riggins, ID (GF)	<u>múlpe</u>	Large Village at Mouth of Little Salmon.
Salmon River (HA)	<u>naco'x kuus</u>	Salmon water.
Salmon River (GF)	<u>tamanma</u>	Comes from the word Tamaca: Someone or something laying down on its side.
Selway Falls (APS)	<u>te-kam-pa</u>	
Seven Devils Mountains (GF)	<u>siseqiymeǰs</u>	Mock Orange (Syringa)
Slate Creek (HA)	<u>'iyeesnime</u>	
Snake River (GF)	<u>weyikespe</u>	Where the Nez Perce had a major crossing point.
South Fork (GF)	<u>leq'exc or tukupe</u>	Dirty water caused by mining.
Spalding (GF)	<u>'iyiwewiy</u>	Estuary of Lapwai Creek.

Split Rocks (GF)	<u>tipa'xliwam</u>	Ancient campground at Rocky Canyon.
Spokane, WA (HA)	<u>tikemtuustim</u>	Falls above.
Stites (HA)	<u>welwelhiituukpe</u>	
Thunder Hill (HA)	<u>yewninwees</u>	North Lapwai Village just below Thunder Hill.
Tom Beall (HA)	<u>sew'iise</u>	
Troy, or area - (HA)	<u>wináha</u>	
Tucannon (HA)	<u>tukeeywewiy</u>	
Tucannon River (APS)	<u>took-kahl-la-toin</u>	
Umatilla (HA)	<u>wey'ilet'pu'</u>	
Walla Walla (HA)	<u>páasxa</u>	
Wallowa Band of Nez Perce (GF)	<u>wal'wama</u>	
Wallowa River (GF)	<u>wal'awa</u>	The winding river.
Wawawai, WA (HA)	<u>wawaawawiy</u>	
Weippe (GF)	<u>'oyayp</u>	The place of many bears.
Whitebird (GF)	<u>lamáta</u>	Precipitous or bothersome passage.

Names of Neighboring Tribes

A Assiniboine	<u>wihnen'iipel'uu</u> ('iseqúulkt qúul V)	Ne Nez Perce	<u>nimiipuu</u> N (niimíi)
B Blackfoot	<u>'isq'óyxnix</u> N	NP Northern Paiute	<u>hey'úuxcpel'uu</u> N (héey'uxc)
Ca Cayuse	<u>weyíiletpuu</u> N	Pa Paloos	<u>pelúucpuu</u> N (pelúuc)
Co Coeur d'Alene	<u>'iskíicu'mix</u> N	Pe Pendleton	<u>nixyáawiipoo</u> N (nixyáawii)
Col Colville	<u>páapspaloo</u>	SB Shoshoni Bannock	<u>tiwélqe</u> N
Cr Crow	<u>'isúuuxe</u> N	Sk' Sk'in	<u>tike'éspel'uu</u> N (tiké's)
F Flathead	<u>séelix</u> N	Sp Spokane	<u>heyéeynimuu</u> N (héeyey)
Ka Kalispel	<u>qem'éospel'uu</u> N (qém'es)	U Umatilla	<u>hiyówatalampoo</u> N (hiyówatalam)
Ku Kutenai	<u>kuuspel'úu</u> N (kúus)	W Wasco	<u>wecq'úupuu</u> N (wecq'úu)
L Lemhi	<u>lémhaay</u> N	Y Yakima	<u>lexéyuu</u> N

N – Noun V – Verb (in parentheses – the root of the word.)



The Nez Perce and Their Neighbors

A	Assiniboine	wihneńi·pelu·	Ne	Nez Perce	ni·mí·pu· ni·mí· N
		ʔiseqú·lkt qú·l V	NP	Northern Paiute	heýú·xcpełu· hé·yuxc N
B	Blackfoot	ʔisqóyxnix N	Pa	Paloos	pelú·cpu· pelú·c N
Ca	Cayuse	weyí·letpu· N	Pe	Pendleton	nixyá·wi·po· nixyá·wi· N
Co	Coeur d'Alene	ʔiskí·cuʔmix N	SB	Shoshoni Bannock	tiwélqe N
Cr	Crow	ʔisú·xe N	SK	Skin tike	ʔéspelú· tikéʔs N
		Col Colville	Sp	Spokane	heyé·ynimu· hé·yey N
F	Flathead	sé·lix N	U	Umatilla	hiyówatalampo· hiyówatalam N
Ka	Kalispel	qémé·spelú· qémes N	W	Wasco	wecqú·pu· wecqú· N
Ku	Kutenai	ku·spelú· kú·s N	Y	Yakima	lexéyu· N
L	Lemhi	lémha·y N			