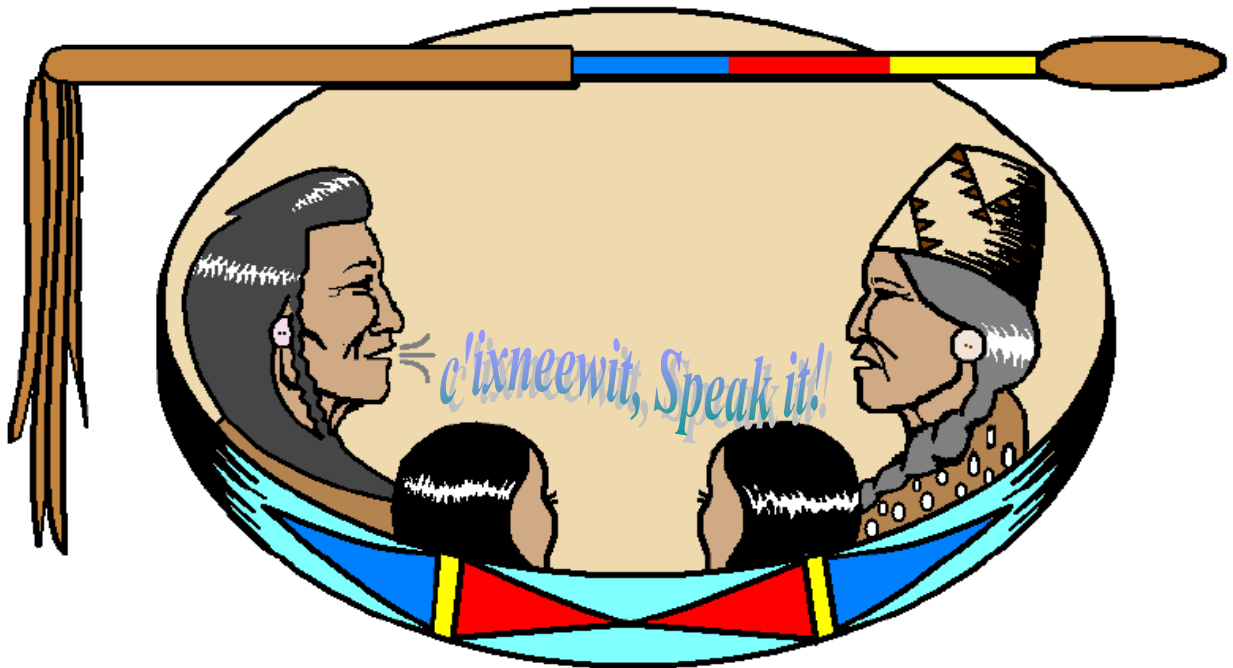


# Nimipuutímt Vol. 8

70 minutes 9 seconds

## *Nimipuutímt*



*“Heartbeat of our culture.”*

Horse Knowledge, Horse words & commands, Welcome & Swan Dance, Drum words  
From Cultural Camp: Song words 2009, Trade words/phrases, Trading Card Game words, Places  
2011, Feather work words 2011, Nez Perce Language Pledge, Pledge song and Spelling System.

## Volume 8 – 70 minutes & 09 seconds

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2. Horse words & commands	Ann McCormack, Vera Sonneck, Beatrice Miles	Pg 3 (8:27)
3. Welcome & Swan Dance & Drum	Bessie Scott, Florene Davis, Angel Sobotta	Pg 4-7 (8:09)
4. Song words (2009 Cultural Camp)	Bessie Scott & Angel Sobotta	Pg 7-10 (6:22)
5. Trade words/phrases (2011 CC)	Bessie Scott, Florene Davis, Angel Sobotta	Pg 10-11 (3:48)
6. Trading Card Game words(2011 CC)	Bessie Scott, Florene Davis, Angel Sobotta	Pg 11-13 (6:27)
7. Places (2011 CC)	Bessie Scott, Florene Davis, Angel Sobotta	Pg 13-14 (1:15)
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9. Nez Perce Language Pledge	Vera Sonneck	Pg 17 (1:17)
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11. Nimipuutimt Spelling System	Vera Sonneck & Bessie Scott	Pg 19 (9:39)

<b>Wepcuukúywit 'úus sík'em</b>	'Horse knowledge.'
<b>Sík'em</b>	'horse'
<b>Máamin</b>	'appaloosa horse'
<b>'esepéqicx sik'éemne</b>	'Catch the horse!' (s)
<b>'esepéqickitx sik'éemne</b>	'Catch the horse!' (pl)
<b>'etélkeke'yx sik'éemne</b>	'Lead the horse!' (s)
<b>'etélkeke'ykitx sik'éemne</b>	'Lead the horse!' (pl)
<b>'etélkeke'ykse sik'éemne</b>	'I'm leading the horse.'
<b>'etéelkeliix sik'éemne</b>	'Tie the horse!' (s)
<b>'etéelkelikitx sik'éemne</b>	'Tie the horse!' (pl)
<b>'etéelkelikse sik'éemne</b>	'I'm tying the horse.'
<b>'enkéewtelix sik'éemne</b>	'Untie the horse! (s)
<b>'enkéewtelikitx sik'éemne</b>	'Untie the horse!' (pl)
<b>'ewníix cíickana sik'éempe</b>	'Place the blanket on the horse!' (s)
<b>'ewníkitx cíickana sik'éempe</b>	'Place the blanket on the horse!' (pl)
<b>'ewníkíse cíickana sik'éempe</b>	'I am placing the blanket on the horse.'
<b>sapo'saapó's</b>	'Saddle.'
<b>sapo'saapo'sí sik'éemne</b>	'Saddle the horse!' (s)
<b>sapo'saapó'sitx sik'éemne</b>	'Saddle the horse!' (pl)
<b>sapo'saapó'siisa sik'éemne</b>	'I am saddling the horse.'
<b>hímpa'ayn</b>	'horse bit' (of a bridle)
<b>'ewníix téewt'esne sik'éemnim hímpe</b>	'Place the rope in the horse's mouth.' (s)
<b>'ewníkítx téewt'esne sik'éemnim hímpe</b>	'Place the rope in the horse's mouth.' (pl)
<b>kawó' wécey sik'éempe</b>	'Now get on the horse!'
<b>wécey</b>	'Get on!' (singular) *NPD pg 847
<b>wéecetx</b>	'Get on!' (plural)
<b>wécey sik'éempe</b>	'Get on the horse!' (s)
<b>wéecetx sik'éempe</b>	'Get on the horse!' (pl)
<b>kawó' 'imeetuléhne sik'éemkin'ix</b>	'Now get down or off from the horse' (s)
<b>kawó' 'imemeetuléhne sik'éemkin'ix</b>	'Now get down/off from the horse' (pl)
<b>Wécey</b>	'Ride!' (s) (as on a horse)
<b>Wéecetx</b>	'Ride!' (pl) (as on a horse)
<b>Wéecese sik'éempe</b>	'I'm horse riding.' (NPD pg 843)
<b>kíiye wécesix sik'éempe</b>	'We are horse riding.'
<b>'ehéetewisix sik'éemne wéecet'uyitpe</b>	'We love horse riding.'

'ehéetewise sik'éemne	'I love horses.'
Kawó' kúy 'i'yéewki	'Now go slow!' (s)
Kawó' kúutx 'i'yéewki	'Now go slow!' (pl)
Kawó' 'enkée'nix sik'éemne wepcúupx	'Now turn the horse to the right.'(s)
Kawó' 'enkée'nikitx sik'éemne cák'yaxpx	'Now turn the horse to the left.' (pl)
Kawó' 'enkéeckiliix sik'éemne	'Now turn the horse around!' (s)
Kawó' 'enkéeckiliikitx sik'éemne	'Now turn the horse around!' (pl)
'esepéequy	'Make the horse go!' (tapping it with feet.)
walisk'ós	'Horse whip.' (NPD pg. 825)
Wasátx sík'em	'Whip the horse! (s)
wasátkitx sík'em	'Whip the horse! (pl)
'oosátqsa	'I am whipping it.'
Kawó' 'esepéequkey'x sik'éemne	'Now gallop on the horse!' (s)
Kawó' 'esepéequkey'kitx sik'éemne	'Now gallop on the horse!' (pl)
Quqúkey'x	'Gallop!' (as commanding horse to gallop.)
Quqúkey'kse	'I'm galloping.'
Hiqúkey'kse	'He's galloping.'
Teeliklíikse	'I'm galloping around.'
Teeliklíix	'Gallop around!' (s) (when on a horse)
Teeliklíikitx	'Gallop around!' (pl) (when on a horse)
Péeyu	'hoof'
Sik'éemnim 'úus 'iléepqet	'Horse shoe'
Hiyalanwáas	'fence/corral'
'ipéelkiliikt	'fence/enclosure'
'eneestéelkeke'ykitx sik'éemne kelwíxnikeesx	'Lead them horses to the pasture.'
Wéecet'uyise	'I am breaking a horse.'
Wece'yéey'	'untamed'
Leq'éyleq'ey sík'em	'tame horse'

1. Appaloosa Horse	<b>máamin</b>
2. Horse	<b>sík'em</b>
3. Spotted, with dark	<b>téemsilpin'</b> - Spotted in general is <b>téemsilpin'</b>
4. Claw of bear	<b>hiyúumk'ipcuc</b>
5. Spotted Appaloosa (with bear paw claw)	<b>téemsilpin' hiyúumk'ipcuucin'</b>
6. Good	<b>tá'c/titá'c</b>
7. Bad	<b>qepsi's/qeqépsi's</b>
8. Incorrect	<b>wéet'u c'a'á</b>
9. Stop! ( <b>wéec'u</b> - singular) or use	<b>taláx/watáalkitx</b> or use <b>wéec'u kúuy/wéec'u kúutx</b>
10. Slow!	<b>'iyéewki</b> or use <b>'iyéewki kúuy/'iyéewki kúutx</b>
11. Go! (to move)	<b>kúuy/kúutx</b>
12. Come! (to me)	<b>kúum/kúumtx</b> or <b>kúumweye</b>
13. Back! (to go back)	<b>héelekipx/héelekipx kúutx</b> (ciklíice = I am returning.)
14. No!	<b>wéet'u</b>
15. Yes!	<b>'eehé'</b>
16. Turn (reining horse)	<b>nikée'nikse</b> (I rein the horse.) or
17. You turn the horse!	<b>'iim nikée'nix/nikée'nikitx</b>
18. Turn around!	<b>'imúucilpx/'imemúucilpx</b> or
19. Turn around!	<b>q'iilawn/q'iilawkitx</b>
20. They are turning around!	<b>hiq'iilawcix</b>
21. Left (opposite of right)	<b>cáky'axp</b>
22. Right (opposite of left)	<b>wepsúuxp</b>
23. Jump!	<b>wec'éeyn/wec'éeykitx</b>
24. To step over!	<b>'uusqéetey/'uusqéeteykitx</b>
25. Go uphill!	<b>q'uyímn/q'uyímkitx</b>
26. Go down/descend!	<b>téemix/téemikitx</b> (down hill is implied)
27. Feed! (the horses)	<b>'ekíwyex sik'éemne/'enéeskiwyex sik'éemne</b>
28. Eat!	<b>hípx/hipítx</b>
29. Breakfast	<b>méeytipt</b>
30. Morning	<b>méeywi</b>
31. Evening	<b>kuléewit</b>
32. Evening meal	<b>kulewiitipt</b>
33. Breaking a horse	<b>wéecet'uyit</b>
34. Ride! (a horse)	<b>'ewécey sik'éemne</b> – You ride the horse!
35. All of you ride the horses!	<b>'oykaloo 'ewéecetx sik'éemne</b>
36. They are breaking horses.	<b>Hiweecet'úyisix</b>

**Note:** The singular and the plural form is separated by a / . The ! is used to show that the word or phrase is a command.

<b>Wéetem 'úuyise?</b>	'Should you start?' (s) (add – AS)	Track 3: 8:09
<b>Wéetenm 'úuyisix?</b>	'Should we start?' (pl)	
<b>Wáaqo' kíiye 'úuyisix</b>	'Now we are beginning.'	
<b>Wáaqo' kíiye weecesíx</b>	'Now we are dancing.'	
<b>Pit'íin'/Pipít'in'</b>	'girl' (s)'girls' (pl)	
<b>Mic'yóoꝟo'm</b>	'Listen to me!' (s)	
<b>Mic'yóoꝟo'mtx</b>	'Listen to me!' (pl)	
<b>'imóosawx</b>	'Be quiet!' (s)	
<b>'imamóosawkitx</b>	'Be quiet!' (pl)	
<b>'imóotalx</b>	'Be still!' (s)	
<b>'imamóotalkitx</b>	'Be still!' (pl)	
<b>Mistálx</b>	'Pay attention!' (s)	
<b>Mistálqitx</b>	'Pay attention!' (pl)	
<b>Héxnim</b>	'look at me!' (s)	
<b>Héxnimtx</b>	'look at me!' (pl)	
<b>Piitk'áynim</b>	'watch me'	
<b>Suq'yéesem</b>	'copy me!' (s)	
<b>Suq'yéesemtx</b>	'copy me!' (pl)	
<b>Kii ku'ús</b>	'like this'	Pg 4

<b>Kuustíite</b>	‘the same’
<b>Kuustíite kuy</b>	‘Do the same.’ (s) (add – AS)
<b>kuustíite kúutx</b>	‘Do the same.’ (pl)
<b>Kex manáa kúuse</b>	‘Do what I do.’
<b>Kex manáa híce</b>	‘Say what I say.’
<b>’iléepsqu’yem</b>	‘Say what I say!” (s)
<b>’iléepsqu’yemtx</b>	‘Say what I say!” (pl)
<b>Ciléecit</b>	‘Swan Dance’
<b>Wetyétmes wéecet</b>	‘Swan Dance’
<b>Ciléecise</b>	‘I am dancing the Swan Dance.’
<b>Ciléecisix</b>	‘We are dancing the Swan Dance.’
<b>Hiciléecisix</b>	‘They are dancing the Swan Dance.’
<b>Qe’ciyéw’yew’ wéecet</b>	‘Welcome Dance.’
<b>Culíikcix</b>	‘We are going in a single file.’
<b>Culíikitx</b>	‘line up!’ (pl)
<b>Wiiculíikitx</b>	‘Stand in line!’ (pl)
<b>’anoqtiyaw’áat</b>	‘Person in lead’
<b>’etwíix ’anoqtiyaw’atóona</b>	‘Follow the leader.’ (s)
<b>’etwíikitx ’anoqtiyaw’atóona</b>	‘Follow the leader.’ (pl)

<b>Kawó' 'áatim 'anóoqtipx</b>	'Then arms to the front.'
<b>Kawó' 'áatim wepcúupx</b>	'Then arms to the right.'
<b>Kawó' 'áatim cák'yaxpx</b>	'Then arms to the left.'
<b>Kawó' 'áatim túuskex</b>	'Then arms up.'
<b>Weyecílpx</b>	'go around in a circle.' (s) (add -Angel )
<b>Weyecílpitx</b>	'go around in a circle.' (pl)
<b>Nexcéhem weyecílpitx</b>	'go around once'
<b>Nexcéhem</b>	'once'
<b>Lepéhem</b>	'twice'
<b>Lepítipx</b>	'second'
<b>Mitáatipx</b>	'third'
<b>Mitáham weyecílpitx</b>	'go around in a circle three times.'
<b>Cilpcíilpe</b>	'in a circle.'
<b>Tukepelíikse</b>	'I'm stretching my arms out on the side.'
<b>Tukepelíix</b>	'Stretch arms out on the side!' (s)
<b>Tukepelíikitx</b>	'Stretch arms out on the side!' (p)
<b>Tukepeléhtse</b>	'My arms are stretched out.'
<b>'imóoq'oc'acx</b>	'Bend your body.' (s)
<b>'imóoq'oc'áckitx</b>	'Bend your body.' (pl)



'imúcewteylex	'Bend your head down!' (s)
'imúcewteylekitx	'Bend your head down!' (pl)
'inécewteylekse	'I am bending my head down.'
Culeyléx	'Dive!' (s)
Culeyléekitx	'Dive!' (pl)
Culeyléekse	'I am diving in.'
Kawó' héenek'e túuskex	'Then again upward.'
Łéepłepx 'ípus	'Flutter hands.' (s)
Łéepłepitx 'ípus	'Flutter hands.' (pl)
Kiyáatksa	'I'm participating.'
Kiyáatko'	'I will participate.'
Kiyáatx	'Participate!' (s) (NPD 244)
Kiyáatkitx	'Participate!' (pl)
Pakiyáatko'	'We will take part.'
Weecéey	'Dance!' (s)
Weecéetx	'Dance!' (pl)
Hahácwal hikiwkiwíl'eciyecix	'The boys are drumming'
Wáaqo' kiiye pahináq'is	'Now we are finished.'
Watíisx kiiye pic'ixleyléeku'	'tomorrow we will record.'

<b>wáaqo' kiiye we'npsix</b>	Now we are singing.
<b>naqcicimk'áay'</b>	Only one. NPD pg 467
<b>we'npise</b>	I'm singing. NPD pg. 1050
<b>we'npsix</b>	We are singing.
<b>hiwe'npsix</b>	They are singing.
<b>hiwe'npsaqa</b>	He/she sang.
<b>we'nípx</b>	sing! (singular command) NPD pg. 1051
<b>we'npítx</b>	sing! (plural command)
<b>we'nípt</b>	song
<b>'uu'nipeey'six</b>	They sing for someone.
<b>We'npew'éet</b>	Singer
<b>Wa'nptaynaw'áat</b>	Singer (Horace Axtell hehíne 3-25-05)
<b>we'npleyléeke's</b>	phonograph, tape recorder: "(thing) to sing into"
<b>wa'nptáay'nas</b>	organ/piano
<b>hiwa'nptayntanix</b>	They typically singing together (different people – H. Axtell.)
<b>kiwkiwl'eciyew'éet</b>	Drummers (H. Axtell 3-25-05)
<b>kiwkiwil'eciyew'éet</b>	Drummers
<b>wekíwkiwne's</b>	Drum stick.

<b>qillóowawya</b>	Departing song for warriors.
<b>wéeyek wéecet</b>	Medicine Dance
<b>wéeyek wa'nptáyn</b>	Power Song
<b>'anaasmic'yóoǰo'ya</b>	I listen to others.
<b>'amc'iyóoǰo'ya</b>	I listened to it.
<b>sepúunme's</b>	Flute/trumpet or whistle made of horn. Also an instrument for blowing. Also an elk whistle made of an elderberry stalk
<b>sepúunmise</b>	I blow a horn. (I'm blowing a horn.)
<b>sepúunmit</b>	Blowing of horn
<b>sepuunmiyew'éet</b>	Flutist/trumpeter/whistle blower
<b>sepoonma's'áyn</b>	(elderberry) for whistle,
<b>hisepuunmitet'éese</b>	He is going to sound the flute/trumpet. (Kevin Peters)
<b>we'npíse tim'néepkin'ix</b>	I am singing from the heart.
<b>Sayáq'is we'nípt</b>	Beautiful song.
<b>Sayáq'ic we'nípt</b>	It is a beautiful song.
<b>K'uppípk'uppip (wéecet)</b>	Circle dance
<b>palǰóockin' wiyéecet</b>	Owl dance
<b>hey'uúǰc wéecet</b>	Rabbit dance
<b>ciléecit</b>	Swan dance

<b>ciléesise</b>	I'm dancing the swan dance
<b>pipit'ín' hipeciléeyu'</b>	The girls will dance the swan dance.
<b>páaxám</b>	Wardance
<b>páaxámca</b>	I'm wardancing
<b>páaxámnav'áat</b>	wardancer
<b>weecéese</b>	I'm dancing.
<b>Wáaqo' kiiye weecesíx</b>	Now we are dancing.
<b>Weecenew'éet</b>	Dancer
<b>Weecénwees</b>	dancing ground/place

\*The Nez Perce Dictionary spells the song words with the glottal ' before the **n** – we'nípt, but you may also see the spelling with the glottal ' stop after the **n** – wen'ípt

### Trading words/phrases

Track 5: 3:48

The People's Way of Trading	<b>Niimípuum taklaynáawit</b>
I'm trading/bartering	<b>Takláyca</b>
He/She is trading/bartering	<b>Hitkaláyca</b>
They are trading/bartering	<b>Hitkaláycix</b>
We are trading/bartering	<b>Núun takláycix</b>
Now we are trading/exchanging	<b>Wáaqo' núun kiiye píitkalaycix</b>
Switch/exchange! (plural)	<b>Takláykitx!</b>
Switch/exchange! (singular)	<b>'atkálayn!</b>
Can we trade/exchange?	<b>Wéetenm píitkalayno'qa?</b>
I don't want to trade.	<b>Wéet'u taklayn'ipáacwisa</b>
They are taking turns trading.	<b>Píitkalaycix</b>
How much (How much is it worth in trade)?	<b>Máciki?</b>
Should we trade your blanket (for) my coat?	<b>Wéetemn píitkalalycix 'imím cíicqan kaa 'iinim kapóo?</b>
We traded good.	<b>Ta'c kiiye píitkalayn.</b>

Trade route/road	Píitkalayninwaasnim 'ískit
Trading place	Píitkalayninwaas
Wedding trading ceremony	Misqóoyit
I'm wedding trading.	Misqóyíisa
I am wedding trading with her.	'amsqoyíisa
We are wedding trading.	Misqoyisíix
They are wedding trading.	Himsqoyisíix
He went to a wedding.	Himsqoyíitana
They went wedding trading.	Hipahimsqoyíitana
We are wedding trading with each other.	Pimsqoyisíix
for wedding trading	Misqoyíit'as

**Niimípuu words for the trading card game**

Track 6: 6:27

**Animals:**

Horse	Sík'em
Buffalo	Qoq'áalx
Salmon	Nacó'x
Elk	Wewúkye

**Roots/Plants/Berries:**

Bitterroot	hit'áan
Camas	Qém'es
Cous	Qáaws
Wild Tobacco	Hotóoto
Mountain Tea	Písqu
Huckleberry	Cemíitx
Sagebrush	Qémqem
Cous cous	qawsqáaws

**Clothing:**

Dress/Shirt (buckskin)	wispóolsam'x
Moccasins	walíim'lapqat
Tanned/smoked hide	cepée'leq'ulq'ulin'
Buffalo hide	Qoq'áalxnim wiispol

**Fishing:**

Fish net	Teqé's
Fish spear points	Kéetis
Large sinker	Tampícwa
Small Sinker	Tampícwa kúckuc
Net Gauge "for measuring"	Sepíinewit'ayn

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**Hunting:**

Arrowheads	wóolit
Bow	walíimtim'uni
Arrow Case	ce'lúuy
Sheep horn bow	tin'úunpeme walíimtim'uni
War Club	k'áplac

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**Horse Fixins':**

Horse Blanket	sahy'áayn
Horse Quirt	wahliskó's
Martingale	temúuheyqt
Saddle	sapo'saapó's
Women's saddle	tewíisnim sapo'saapó's

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**Storage:**

'meat bag'	nukúnm 'itétp'es
Cedar basket	wíix'a'pt
Cornhusk bag	qeqépe'
Parfleche bag/Indian suitcase	'isáaptakay

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**Tools:**

Mortar bowl basket	pískut
Pestle	píley
Axe Head	wáwyan'as
Knife	wálc
Scraper tool	tiw'alpá's
Metal Adze "Axe"	kicúynim wáwyan'as
Digging Stick	túuk'es
Carrier	'iseepé's

**House/Transportation:**

Tipi	coqóycoqoy
Canoe	líy'es
Canoe Paddle	wisalpó's

**Grooming:**

Comb	qeqé't
Tweezers	himtóoq'ayn

**Children:**

Cradleboard	tiké's
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**Misc:**

Drum	kiwkiwíl'ec
Eagle feather fan	weptéesnim wayáwyaw'nas
Pipe	keléemet
Saddle Pad, to prevent sores	sahy'áayn
Spoons	sóox
Stick Game bone pieces	Lóoxmit'as

**Small Trade Items:**

Elk Teeth	wewúkyenm tit
Wampum necklace w/shell	'amca'ámca
Wampum choker necklace	'amca wawáq'aqt

**Name Places:**

Track 7: 1:15

Celilo	Siláyloo
Big Hole Battlefield (Place of the buffalo calf.)	'ickum'seléexlixpe
Whitebird Battlefield	Lamáta.
Heart of the Monster	Tim'néepe
Smoking Place	Túuqitweespe
Indian Post Office	Táam'looyitpa
Pilot Knob	Tam'loyíicmaᵾs
Musselshell Meadows	Seewi'sníme
Wallowa	Wal'áwa
Lolo Pass	K'usey'ne'ískit

Coyote's Fishnet  
Packer Meadows

'iceyéeyenm teqé's  
wispin'ítpe

Packer Meadows was a traditional campsite of the Niimíipuu where they would dig roots –  
**wispin'ítpe** – “as one travels out of the timber, upon coming over the divide” - NPD pg. 545 and  
confirmed by Gordon Fisher 8-28-2008.

Feather work words – Gary Green NPAC workshop 2011

Track 8: 11:52

by Horace Axtell & Angel Sobotta 2011

Tu'ynú'suus	warbonnet, Bustle
Wéepes	Feather, golden eagle, quill
Weptéesiin'	with feather
Saq'antáayx	Bald eagle
Wep'ílkse	Hole maker, auger, gimlet I am drilling a hole.
Hiwep'ílkse	He/she is drilling a hole.
Weyep'íłke's	Hole, for making a...
Waliim'ástay/cúupilke's	Awl
P'íłin	Hole, a
Có'qt'oon'as	Needle, safety pin
Himtóoq'ayn	Tweezers
Capakíwksa (Capakak'íwka's)	Pincers, cutters, to cut wire
Me'éqs	Hide (fresh untanned)
Wíispol	Hide (tanned)
Wiyóosnin'	Stretched
Wiyóoswiyos	Stretch, easy to
Wiq'éetw'iqet wiyóoswiyos híiwes	The rubberband is easy to stretch. *Wiq'éetw'iq'et is also 'Prairie owl'.
Me'éqs liwyixlíwyix	Leather (polished, shiny)
Wel'éetp'et'es	Wrap/tie, a



Kícuy	Metal
Sapaalaqyaw'ít'as	Hanger (something to hang)
'inpó's	Handle
Múuyn	Steam, vapor
Siw'íwsiw'iw (liw'íw)	Shiny
Táxwee'ikt	Oil
Tiw'áyka's (Tiw'áyika's)	Oil, animal grease (used for hair)
List'exlíst'ex	Plaster, sticky (mud)
Q'aláwn	Beads
Q'alawníin	with beads
k'hip'ilip	Ribbon
'amca'amca	wampum shell
Sác'in'	decorated w/quills
Sac'iisin' (Sac'áasin')	with porcupine quills
'iin haníisa	I am making
'ipí haaníisa	He/she is making
'iin páaxamca	I am dancing (war)
'iin kúuse páaxamx	I am going to a war dance
Nikáatpilisa	I stretch/open up (mine)
Nikáatpolisa	I stretch (mine)
Wiyóos kúuse	I stretch it
Nikáapt'oqsa	I stretch by pulling
Wíilipt'oqsa (Wíipt'oqsa)	I am smoothing cloth (by stretching)
'ankáatpiliy	Stretch it (hide) out!
Wiyóosnin' híiwes	This is (all) stretched (out)
Cóoyapt'oqsa	I am ironing
Hicóoyapt'oqsa	He/she is ironing
Hitqemmúuyce	It is steaming (briefly).
Himmúuyce	It is steaming. Steam is rising.
Cuuyelíwkse (Cuuyelíwyikse)	I am shining it
Tiw'áayksa (Tiw'áayiksa)	I am applying oil (to my)
'alw'áayksa ('atw'áayiksa)	I am applying oil

Cóolq'oksa	I am pinning/tacking (mine) down.
Hilist'eqíce	It sticks
Hilist'éxnu'	It will stick
Cepéelist'ex!	Make it stick! (singular command)
Cepéelist'etx!	Make it stick! (plural command)
Cuulist'eqse	I am putting them together. I am sticking them together. (w/pins, needles)
Hicepéelist'eqse	He is making it stick by pressing it...
Tíim'e héepeype	Mark the center!
Cúup'ílkse	Make a hole (w/awl)
Cúutpipse	I stick in (where there is no hole).
Nikáac'aksa	I split with hand
Wilákxa/Wilákaksa (Wislac'ákxa)	I am splitting
Wáwc'aksa	I am splitting into pieces
Wíic'aksa	I am splitting (it) into 2 or more pieces
'isak'íwksa	I am cutting
'íin sác'asa	I am decorating w/porcupine quills
Sac'áasisa	I am working w/porcupine quills
'asac'áasa ('asac'áasisa)	I am decorating it w/porcupine quills
Híinaq'isa	I am finishing. I finished (híinaq'in')
Híinaq'itx!	Finish! (plural command)
Híinaq'ii	Finish! (singular command)
Sepée'lepsqu'yese	I am copying/mocking
Sepée'lepsqu'yesem	Copy/mocking me! (Singular command)
Sepée'lepsqu'yetemtx	Copy/mocking me! (Plural command)

# ***Nimipuutímt,*** The People's Language (Nez Perce)

*(In the parenthesis below is the sign-language that goes with the pledge.)*

## ***cukwenéewit,*** Know it

(With your right index finger point to the side of your head, by your right temple.)

## ***hitéemeneewit,*** Learn it

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

## ***téecukwe,*** 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.)

## ***wiyéeeleehesn,*** Everyday!

(With both arms and hands, extend them out to each side, palms up,  
so that you bring them out for sunrise and in for sunset.)

## Nez Perce Language Pledge Song

By Michael J. Penney

**wáaqo' kiiye qa'áncix**

*Now we are respecting*

**núunim nimipuutímt**

*our people's language.*

**wáaqo' wa'nptáaycix**

*Now we are singing.*

**cukwenéewit**

*Know it.*

**hitéemeneewit**

*Learn it.*

**téecukwe**

*Teach it.*

**c'ixnéewit**

*Speak it.*

**titooqanáawit**

*Live it.*

**wiyéeleehesn**

*Everyday.*

**yóx kaló' That's all**

**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.

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

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

ii = long **i** sounds like the **e**'s in **bee**. Ex: **piips** - 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: **lávtiwaa** – 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: **tewfiikt** – tree.

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

ɬ = 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: **léepɬep** – Butterfly.

q = The “back **k**” sounds close, but not exactly the same as the **k** in **ketchup**. Ex: **qéhep**-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.

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

ɣ̣ = The same as the above. The ɣ̣ 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'íl red, **t'**-mít'ip elderberry, **k'**-sí'k'em horse, **c'**-c'ée'w'cew ghost, **q'**-ciq'áamqal dog, **m'**-tim'í'ine 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      REVISED 8-21-07