

Buffalo and Thípi

Week 5: September 23 - September 26

Themes:

Thipi (tipis)

Buffalo & Buffalo Hides

(Lakota) Language Learning - Active vs. Passive

There are four different skills of language learning that are necessary regardless of which language you are learning:

- Reading
- Listening
- Writing
- Speaking

These skills are directional:

- Listening and Reading come TO us (this is passive learning)
i.e. from the letters or from someone speaking
- Writing and Speaking come FROM us (this is active learning)
i.e. from our typing/pencil or from our own mouth

Although our language traditionally was not a written language, it is still important to find a balance between these four different skills.

Many people try to learn only passively and not actively. For example, when you are learning vocabulary with flashcard or an audio cd you are learning passively, as soon as you start speaking or writing yourself your learning becomes active and this will help you to retain more information.

ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT IS IT OKAY TO MAKE MISTAKES!

Everyone learning a new language makes mistakes- it's how we learn! Do not let your fear of making a mistake hold you back from speaking Lakota. If you are afraid of others making fun of you practice on your own or find someone that you trust to practice with.

the four skills of **Language Learning**

speaking

everyone makes mistakes when learning a new language. it's how we learn!

don't be afraid to make mistakes!

record yourself!

record yourself and practice until you feel comfortable

practice with fluent speakers!

find someone you feel comfortable enough to speak with, they can help you with listening as well!!!

reading

read anything and everything!

read whenever possible, it's a good way to learn new vocabulary

never too old for children's books!

children's book can be a good reading tool, they provide basic and repeating structures

audio recordings!

find or record your own audio recordings to listen to in the car or on your cellphone or mp3 player

writing

make flash cards!

when learning new vocabulary writing it down can help you remember it

write a short story!

be creative and use your language skills, write a short story or make your own book

listening

online videos!

look for online videos by fluent speakers and other learners, if possible watch movies or cartoons in the language

Counting 0-99

To count in Lakota you must know the basic words for 1-10 and then remember how to use the patterns of how to count number above ten (10+):

1	wáŋčĭ
2	núŋpa
3	yámni
4	tópa
5	záptaŋ
6	šákpe
7	šakówiŋ
8	šaglóŋŋ
9	napčiyunka
10	wikčémna

Pattern for 11-19 (add aké-)

11	akéwaŋži
12	akénuŋpa
13	akéyamni
14	akétopa
15	akézaptaŋ
16	akéšakpe
17	akéšakowiŋ
18	akéšaglóŋŋ
19	akénapčiyunka

Pattern for 20-99 (put the number in the correct place wikčémna # aké #)

20	wikčémna núŋpa
30	wikčémna yámni
44	wikčémna tópa (tob) akétopa
57	wikčémna záptaŋ akéšakowiŋ
99	wikčémna napčiyunka akénapčiyunka

Some other things to note:

- when counting “one” you do not say “waŋží” but rather “wáŋčĭ” - wáŋčĭ is not used outside of counting like “one, two, three...”
- the numbers two and four are the only numbers that get shortened - núŋm/num (núŋpa) and tób (tópa)

Talking about Colors

There are two ways to ask about colors depending on what you are asking about.

If you are asking about an object you use the word “oówa”:

Wíyatke kiŋ hé oówa tókča he? What color is that cup?

Wíyatke kiŋ hé šá. That cup is red.

But, if you’re asking about something with hair or fur, you use “hín”:

Igmú kiŋ hé hín tókča he? What color is that cat?

Igmí kiŋ hé ěí. That cat is brown.

Practice asking about what color different object are around the house. Use pictures of animals and ask what color they are. These are simple patterns that allow you to ask and say a lot of different things!

Talking about Buffalo

This week we learned about buffalo. There are different words for buffalo, the most common is tħatħánka which literally means “buffalo bull”, you could also use ptéħčaka (a generic term for buffalo) or pté which can refer to buffalo in a generic sense or a buffalo cow. Using pictures of buffalo, ask different questions:

Tħatħánka kiŋ táku tókħuŋ he? What is the buffalo doing?

Tħatħánka kiŋ nážiŋ. The buffalo is standing.

Tħatħánka kiŋ íŋyaŋke. The buffalo is running.

Tħatħánka kiŋ wóte. The buffalo is eating.

Tħatħánka kiŋ pħeží yašlá. The buffalo is grazing (grass).

Pté kiŋ hé hín tókča he? What color is the buffalo?

Pté kiŋ ěí/ģísape. The buffalo is brown/dark brown.

Pté kiŋ tħánka náíŋš čík’ala he? Is the buffalo big or little?

Pté kiŋ tħánka. The buffalo is big.

Ptéħčaka tóna waŋláka he? How many buffalo do you see?

Ptéħčaka waŋžíla waŋbláke. I only see one buffalo.

Ptéħčaka záptaŋ waŋwíčablake. I see five buffalo.

Vocabulary

English	Lakota	Conjugation
red	šá	
orange	zíša	
yellow	zí	
green	tǎ́hózi	
blue	tǎ́hó	
purple	tǎ́hóša	
pink	šástaŋ	
white	ská	
gray	hǎ́ota	
black	sápA	
brown	ǵí	
1	wáŋči	
2	núŋpa	
3	yámni	
4	tópa	
5	záptaŋ	
6	šákpe	
7	šakówiŋ	
8	šaglǒǵaŋ	
9	napčíyunka	

English	Lakota	Conjugation
10	wikčémna	
11	akéwaŋži	
12	akénuŋpa	
13	akéyamni	
14	akétopa	
15	akézaptaŋ	
16	akéšakpe	
17	akéšakowiŋ	
18	akéšagloŋaŋ	
19	akénapčiyuŋka	
Buffalo People	Pté Oyáte	
buffalo (generic)	ptéhčaka	
buffalo, buffalo cow	pté	
buffalo, buffalo bull	tħatháŋka	
buffalo hide	ptehá	
ruminant hide	tħahá	
buffalo horn	ptehé	
buffalo skull	ptephá	
buffalo herd	ptéhčaka optáye	
to stand	nážiŋ	1s: nawážiŋ 2s: nayážiŋ 1p. nauŋžiŋpi

English	Lakota	Conjugation
to run	íŋyaŋka	1s: waíŋmnaŋke 2s: yaíŋnaŋke 1p: uŋk'íŋyaŋkapi
to eat	wótA	1s: wawáte 2s: wayáte 1p: waúnyutapi
to graze grass	p̄heží yašlá	1s: blašlá 2s: lašlá 1p: uŋyášłapi
to be large	t̄háŋka	1s: math̄háŋka 2s: niťháŋka 1p: uŋťháŋkapi
to be little	čík'ala	1s: mačík'ala 2s: ničík'ala 1p: uŋčík'alapi
only one	waŋžíla	