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SAHAPTIN INDIAN LANGUAGE
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KKANAYWIT SAPSIKW'AT

Purpose:

The students are encouraged to memorize set phrases, sentences and sequence of sentences. (1) The lines are predictable (SVC) and useful in Sahatin conversation. (2) The lines contain dialect and expressions of the Yakama language and other "frozen" pieces of language such as greetings. (3) The lines contain useful examples of a particular grammatical construction and can serve as model sentences for future reference. (4) The students will progress into reading and writing the target language.

Basic Description:

Kkanaywit means "a piece of assigned work"; the goal is to memorize brief daily conversation. It usually centers around a common everyday activity involving two people (speaker and listener). It is composed of short sentences in a limited number of exchanges. The longer sentences become more difficult to memorize.

Discussion is confined to everyday conversation. Good control of conversation can be expanded to include other styles. Examine the following greetings and farewells.

GREETINGS IN ENCOUNTER: (1) is the speaker; (2) is the listener.

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|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Mish nam wa? | How are you? |
| 2. Shix nash wa, ku mish nam wa imk? | I'm fine, and how are you? |
| 1. Shix xiish wa inch'a. | I too, am fine./ I'm fine too. |

GREETINGS AT HOME VISIT:

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|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Ay! | Hello! (diphthong is short) |
| 2. Ashim xitway. | Come in, my friend/relative. |
| 1. Kumish, awnash ashayksh. | Okay, I'm coming inside now. |

FAREWELL AT HOME VISIT:

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|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Awnash paysh winasha. | I believe I'll go now. |
| 2. Ii aw. Awnam shix paxtwaayaksh. * | All right. It was good of you to come visit me. * |
| 1. Shix nam pinanaknuwita. | Take care of yourself. |
| 2. Kuumish, ikushxiish aw kuta. | All right, I will do that. |
| 1. Anach'axi mash k'inuta. | I'll see you again. |
| 2. Ii aw. | Okay. |

important word. recognize. as a relative

ay!
amen
Asham
wife