

SAHAPTIN INDIAN LANGUAGE-I  
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Adjectives and Adjectival phrases

The *adjective modifies a noun* and is *attributive* when it modifies the head of a noun phrase. For example, *red* has an attributive function in /the *red* chair, *Jane's* in *Jane's hat*.

In Sahaptin *luts'a* is attributive to: Jayn-mi *luts'a takmaal*. Jane's red hat. Following is a list of adjectives and adjectival phrases. Numbers are usually identified as adjectives: John-mi áwa *páxaptit* k'usima. John has fifty horses.

Prefixes

The following prefixes are found with adjectives and mark the maximizer and minimizer of the adjective pattern. *may-*, *xanay-*, *inim-* are some examples.

1.                      *may-kitu* tkw'anatik.                      Walk a little faster.  
                         *may-nch'i* anik taatpas..                      Make your dress a little larger.  
                         *may-iksiks* shatay winpk.                      Take a smaller blanket. >  
                         *may-<sup>z</sup>imiti* tutik.                      Stand a little lower.

The following sentences *xanay-suffix* can modify a noun or adjective.

2.                      { *xanáy-iksiks* iniit awa.                      His house <sup>is</sup> somewhat small.  
                         *xanáy-~~tkw~~'i* iwa.                      This is some kind of day.  
                         *xanay* wiyat pawa.                      They are some distance away.

Following prefix *inim-* modifies the adjective, noun, verb, and adverb.

3.  
*Inim-nch'i* wixá awa pinmiyuuk. His feet are much larger than his  
*Inim kitu* iwayxtixa niimiyaw.                      He runs much faster than we do.  
*Inim-kiwapa* ayiksha ayat niimiknik.                      The woman is sitting completely separate from us.

## Additional Vocabulary

Adverb modifying the adjective.

- |    |                |                 |                          |                      |
|----|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 4. | wit'u-lway     | too slow        | <i>can be wit'u-lway</i> | <i>can do</i>        |
|    | wit'u-laxuyxt  | too hot         |                          | <i>long spelling</i> |
|    | wit'u-kw'ishim | too mischievous |                          |                      |
|    | wit'u-chxaw    | too fat         |                          |                      |

Adjective /lwaay/ slow prefixed by the emphasizer /atá/ = equals the phrase:  
much too slow

- |    |            |               |
|----|------------|---------------|
| 5. | atá-lwaay  | much too slow |
|    | atá-chxaaw | much too fat  |
|    | atá-kitu   | much too fast |

Colors modify nouns

- |    |                                   |                               |
|----|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 6. | Chmuk a <sup>9</sup> a iwáynasha. | The black crow is flying      |
|    | Plash latit ilatísha.             | The white flower is blooming. |
|    | <u>Kuyx</u> nukshay iwinanína.    | The white weasel ran away.    |

Noun roots can be adjectives, and adjectives can be adverbs or nouns.  
There are many ways Sahaptin roots function in this language.

## Homework

From page 1.

1. Develop six progressive present tense sentences. Select two patterns each from group 1,2,3.

From page 2.

2. Write six past tense sentences using adverbial/ adjective/ and prefixes.

From page 2

3. Write six future tense sentences using animate and inanimate adjectives **to modify animate/inanimate nouns.**