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SAHAPTIN INDIAN LANGUAGE 102 Virginia Beavert. Instructor-Developer Heritage College, Toppenish, WA 98948

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POSSESSIVES IN SAHAPTIN

When the possessor is a pronoun, the possessed noun has a pronoun affix. The following lists them.

my

your

his/her/it

lst person 2nd person 3rd person

Singular inmi/mi imink pinmink *plural* niimi imamink piimink

our your (pl) their

When the verb ends with a vowel, the possessive marker is /mi/, when it ends with a consonant it is marked with /nmi/. The following numbered sentences are structured in English, and (a) sentence is the way the natives say it.

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1. Ichi iwa inmi <u>k</u> ayli. a. Ichiish wa inmi <u>k</u> ayli.	This is my shoe.	na yayar ayik sha
2. Ichi awa pinmink <u>k</u> ayli. b. Ichi <u>k</u> ayli awa pinmink.	This is her shoe.	
3. Ichi iwa imink <u>k</u> ayli. c. Ichi mash wa imink <u>k</u> ayli.	This is your shoe.	
4. Ichi awa piimink <u>k</u> ayli. d. Piimink awa ichi <u>k</u> ayki.	This is their shoe.	
5. Ichi iwa imamink <u>k</u> ayki. e. Ichi matash wa imamink <u>k</u> ayli.	This is your (plural) sh	oe.

NOTE: how the position of the possessive change in Sahaptin; *mash wa*, and this modifies shoe; the plural *matash* before the verb *wa*. Definition in English becomes a problem when linguists insist upon using the AngloSaxon linguistic definitions of native languages. However, I feel that if the new method is easier for students to learn Sahaptin, then we can teach it in modern structure.

1. Na-yayas i'ayik-sha anachnik iniit-pa.	My (older) brother is sitting behind the house.
2. Mish imink pshit ikukut-sha?	Is your father working?
Two comma-(pat) 3. Ayatin pa-kw'ima-sha ilap-nan	The woman is visiting your mother
poer object man	
4. Hut i-wisaláti-sha yaamash-yaw.	Your dad is going hunting for deer.
5. Tiin-mami awa palalaay k'usik'usi-ma.	The people have a lot of dogs