

SAHAPTIN INDIAN LANGUAGE
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StudentL_____

SPECIFIERS AND POSTPOSITIONS
Revised

This unit will teach how to recognize the prefixes and suffixes in Sahaptin prepositions.

The following are examples of postpositional phrases:

wat'uychnik $\dot{\text{i}}$ niitpa	in front of the house
wat'uychnik lataampa	in front of the table
wat'uychnik átmupiilpa	in front of the car

Each of these examples contains some noun ($\dot{\text{i}}$ niit, lataam, átmupiil) preceded by **wat'uychnik** which is the *specifier* of the preposition **-pa** in the prepositional phrase **$\dot{\text{i}}$ niitpa**, 'in the house'.

NOTE: Postpositions in Sahaptin correspond to *prepositions* in English. (In Sahaptin, the preposition indicator is placed **after** the noun or pronoun that shows the relationship, such as location, time, or direction, between the noun or pronoun and another word. (*kan*, toward; *-pa*, at; *yaw*, to; and *-pa*, in.) **Prepositional phrase** in Sahaptin *lataampa* indicates **where** an object is located. In English, *The book is in the library.* 'in the library' is the preposition to indicate where the book is located.

Ayat (N) itutisha(3d person present tense VP) **wat'uychnik (specifier) $\dot{\text{i}}$ niitpa**(preposition)

The woman is standing in front of the house.

You can say: **Wat'uychnik $\dot{\text{i}}$ niitpa itutisha ayat.** and mean the same thing.

SHORT SENTENCES

Note:

1. Aswan itutisha χ alukt kwaywaychaashpa. The boy is standing under the bridge.
2. Miyanashma pałk'iwisha χ wiimichnik pnut'awaaspa. The children are playing on top of the bed.
3. Ap'uus i-łk'iwisha χ alukt aykawaaspa. The cat is playing under the chair.

ASSIGNMENT

Translate three sentences below, and identify the **noun, verb phrase, tense, specifier, and preposition**. **Underline the specifier.**

Example: Pt'ilima pałk'iwisha shp'awitpamápa.

Pt'ilima	girls plural noun
pa-	personifier- plural
pałk'iwisha	are playing (progressive) verb phrase, present tense
ast	inside
shp'awitpama	ball field (place to play ball)
shp'awitpamapa	preposition 'at the ball field'

Pt'ili'in pawinanii-sha winaiitpamápa.

pt'ili'n	to girls	dual noun
pa-	personifier,	dual.
yaxwnint	wade (wade around in water)	
yaxwninxá-	are wading	
chiishpaynk	along the creek/waterway/river	(not Columbia)

Amiisma pawast'ulakshana wanapaynk.

Amiisma	boys
pa-	_____
wats'ulakt	_____
wats'ulakshana	_____
chiish	_____
chiishpaynk	_____

Łmamatuma papa-kw'imasha shk'iish pátatpa.

Łmamatuma	_____
papa	_____
kw'ima	_____
kw'imasha	_____
shk'iish	_____
patat	_____
patatpa	_____

New VOCABULARY

YáXwnin	wading in water/creek
chiishpaynk	along the water/creek
wats'ulak	fish with hook and line
shk'iish	shade/shady place

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