

DEVELOPING GUESSWORK STRATEGIES

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THE DETERMINER IN SAHAPTIN

Determiners are words like English, *a, an, one, this, any, no, some, their*; they pattern like *the*. These function words, and others like them, determine that sooner or later a noun or pronoun will follow them.

<u>iwinsh</u>	a man
awinshma	the men
<u>ichi nch'i k'usik'usi</u>	this big dog <i>implied</i>
<u>ikw'ak pshwa-nmi iniit.</u>	that house <u>made</u> of stone/that stone house
ikw'ak iwinsh	that man
ikwmak awinshma	those men
ttuush ikks k'usik'usima	some small dogs
tl'aaxw pshwapshwa-nmi iniitiniit	all of the stone houses

A *determiner* precedes (goes before) the noun in most cases in Sahaptin. Caution: when the determiner modifies a noun that is *singular, dual, plural*; the *determiner* must also correspond: *ikw'ak iwinsh*(one man); *ikw'iinik awinshin*(two men); *ikw'mak awinshma*(more than two men).

When there is an unknown word between the determiner and the noun, then it must be an *adjective* that modifies the noun;

ikw'ak laxs <u>k'ayu</u> iwinsh	that one skinny man
ikwiinik <u>napu</u> k'puul awinshin	those two short men
ikwmak <u>mitaaw</u> kkaatnam awinshma	those three tall men

When a word ends with [ki], [*łwaay-ki*] slow+ly: It is an adverb.

I-tkwanati-sha łwaay-ki,

"He is walking slowly."

Adverbs answer the question "how, what, where". An adverb can express concepts of time [*tipa*], place [*pa, kan. yaw*], degree [*txaw*], manner [*ki, ni, yi*], and number [*singular, dual, plural*], similar to an adjective without changing the meaning:

<i>Aw iwa mitaatipa</i>	"It is now 3 o'clock"
<i>Na'ilas iwa iniitpa.</i>	" Mom is at home."
<i>Watim iwacha laxuyxtxaw.</i>	"Yesterday was the hottest."
<i>Sapkitwani i-sinwiya.</i>	"He spoke carefully."
<i>Chaw tuyi awa iwinsh.</i>	"Her husband is destitute." (he has nothing