

KAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

Kanza Language Project

*A Practical
Kanza Vocabulary*

ONLINE
EDITION

Spellings updated 03/13/2006

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Kanza Language Project
Kaw Nation of Oklahoma
Drawer 50

Kaw City, OK 74641

Phone 580.269.2552 · Fax 580.269.2301

language@kawnation.com

www.kawnation.com/langhome.html



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Introduction

This document contains a list of Kanza equivalents for approximately eight hundred of the most common English words used in ordinary conversations today. The entries are grouped by theme, and listed alphabetically by English word. One or more of the closest Kanza equivalents follows each of these English entries. Whenever possible, we have provided additional information about the Kanza entry. Sometimes this will be a literal translation of simplest unit parts, other times it will be a reference to sound-alike words, and other times it may even be a formula for the conjugation of a verb. The hope is that this document can be used in conjunction with other Kanza Language Project publications, such as *Kanza Language for Families and Communities, Vol. 1* (Copyright © 2003, Kaw Nation of Oklahoma), to give the Kanza language enthusiast a grammatical background for the proper use of the entries. The entries themselves come primarily from three decades of research of Dr. Robert Rankin. His tireless contributions to Kanza language preservation have made works such as these possible, even after the passing of the last fluent speakers, several of whom were his chief informants and close friends. This document was compiled by Kanza Language Project members Kelly Test and Justin McBride, and made possible in part through a grant from the Administration for Native Americans.

The Kanza Alphabet

Upper/Lower Case	Description	Example
A, a	like <i>a</i> in <i>fa<u>th</u>er</i> or like <i>u</i> in <i>bu<u>t</u></i>	<i>a</i> arm
Aⁿ, aⁿ †	nasal <i>a</i> , like the <i>au</i> n in <i>ha<u>un</u>t</i> , but the <i>n</i> is not pronounced fully	<i>aⁿhá</i> yes (female)
B, b	like English <i>b</i>	<i>ble</i> I go
C, c	like <i>ch</i> in <i>roa<u>ch</u></i>	<i>ceská</i> cow
Ch, ch	like the <i>ch</i> <i>b</i> in <i>bea<u>ch</u> ho<u>u</u>se</i>	<i>chiⁿ</i> strike
D, d	like English <i>d</i>	<i>dóⁿbe</i> look at
E, e	like <i>e</i> in <i>ea<u>ch</u></i>	<i>égo</i> like, as
G, g	like <i>g</i> in <i>go<u>t</u></i>	<i>gáxe</i> make
H, h	like <i>h</i> in <i>ho<u>t</u></i>	<i>ho</i> fish
I, i	like <i>i</i> in <i>pi<u>an</u>o</i>	<i>itá</i> egg
Iⁿ, iⁿ †	nasal <i>i</i> , like <i>in</i> in <i>thi<u>n</u>k</i> , but the <i>n</i> is not pronounced fully	<i>itáⁿga</i> gravel
J, j	like English <i>j</i>	<i>je</i> lake
K, k *	like <i>kk</i> in <i>bo<u>ok</u>ke<u>ep</u>er</i> or <i>k g</i> in <i>loo<u>k</u> go<u>o</u>d</i> , but not like <i>k</i> in <i>ki<u>ll</u></i>	<i>ke</i> turtle
Kh, kh	like <i>k h</i> in <i>loo<u>k</u> hea<u>l</u>thy</i>	<i>khága</i> 3 rd son
K', k' ?	like <i>k</i> , but pronounced alone, and then a catch in the throat	<i>k'óse</i> dice
L, l	like English <i>l</i>	<i>léze</i> striped
M, m	like English <i>m</i>	<i>miⁿ</i> blanket
N, n	like English <i>n</i>	<i>ni</i> water
O, o	like <i>o</i> in <i>st<u>ov</u>e</i> , also like <i>or</i> in British <i>o<u>r</u></i> , and sometimes like <i>oo</i> in <i>po<u>o</u>l</i>	<i>obáhaⁿ</i> wear
Oⁿ, oⁿ †	nasal <i>o</i> , like <i>on</i> in <i>do<u>n</u>'t</i> , but the <i>n</i> is not pronounced fully	<i>oⁿháⁿ</i> boiling
P, p *	like <i>p p</i> in <i>so<u>u</u>p po<u>t</u></i> or <i>p b</i> in <i>ju<u>m</u>p ba<u>ck</u></i> , but not like <i>p</i> in <i>pi<u>ll</u></i>	<i>pa</i> nose
Ph, ph	like <i>p h</i> in <i>to<u>p</u> ha<u>t</u></i>	<i>phóke</i> thud
P', p' ?	like <i>p</i> , but pronounced alone, and then a catch in the throat	<i>yp'íⁿze</i> blink
S, s	like English <i>s</i>	<i>sábe</i> black
Sh, sh	like English <i>sh</i>	<i>shábe</i> brown
T, t *	like <i>t t</i> in <i>at ti<u>m</u>es</i> or <i>t d</i> in <i>le<u>t</u> do<u>wn</u></i> , but not like <i>t</i> in <i>ti<u>ll</u></i>	<i>ta</i> deer
T', t' ?	like <i>t</i> , but pronounced alone, and then a catch in the throat	<i>t'óxa</i> bent
Ts', ts' ?	like <i>ts</i> in <i>ca<u>t</u>s</i> , but pronounced alone, and then a catch in the throat	<i>ts'e</i> dead
U, u	like <i>u</i> in <i>pu<u>r</u>e</i> , pronounced like <i>ee</i> in <i>nee<u>d</u></i> , but round the lips as for <i>oo</i>	<i>úbe</i> bird's tail
W, w	like <i>w</i> in <i>wa<u>sh</u></i>	<i>wahú</i> bone
X, x	like <i>h</i> in <i>hu<u>e</u></i> , somewhat like clearing the throat <small>FORM AND HOLD K BUT DON'T SAY IT. NOW EXHALE FORCEFULLY.</small>	<i>xléxlé</i> tattoo
Y, y	like <i>y</i> in <i>ye<u>s</u></i>	<i>yéba</i> jaw
Z, z	like English <i>z</i>	<i>zhi</i> yellow
Zh, zh	like <i>s</i> in <i>mea<u>s</u>ure</i> , <i>plea<u>s</u>ure</i> , or <i>leis<u>u</u>re</i> , or <i>g</i> in <i>beig<u>e</u></i> or <i>garag<u>e</u></i>	<i>zhíje</i> red
Gh, gh	like <i>x</i> above, but softer and with gargling or rattling vocal cords <small>FORM AND HOLD G BUT DON'T SAY IT. NOW TRY TO HUM THROUGH YOUR MOUTH.</small>	<i>ghagé</i> cry
' , ' ?	like the pause between the syllables in <i>uh-oh</i> , catch in the throat	<i>'oⁿ</i> use

Notes on the Use of the Kanza Alphabet

Nasal Vowels

The vowels *aⁿ*, *iⁿ*, and *oⁿ* (all marked with † above) are pronounced through the nose. In the Electronic Classroom and in e-mail, the superscript *n* often appears as a tilde ~ or as a capital *N*.

Tense Consonants

The consonants *k*, *p*, and *t* are not pronounced the same way at all in Kanza as they are in English. In Kanza, these three letters and the letter *c* (all marked with * above) are made almost twice as long, without any accompanying puffs of air, and with a little more voice. They come out sounding a little more like *kɛg*, *pɔb*, and *ɪd*, but run together. For example, *itá*, ‘egg,’ sounds almost like **eat-dah**. The letter *c* sounds almost half way between the English *ch* and the English *j*.

Glottal Consonants

The ‘ element in the consonants *k’*, *p’*, *t’*, and *ts’* is simply the Kanza letter ‘ (in these cases, it’s just preceded by another consonant). It can be thought of as just a slight pause, or catch made in the throat. This can sometimes sound like silence, or sometimes as just a tiny *uh* sound. In older texts, the ‘ is sometimes written as a question mark (?). For example, the *k’* in the word ‘*dice*’ appears as *k’óse* in older texts instead of *k’óse*, but both are pronounced almost like **k-oseh**. This sound is much more clearly understood in hearing than in text description.

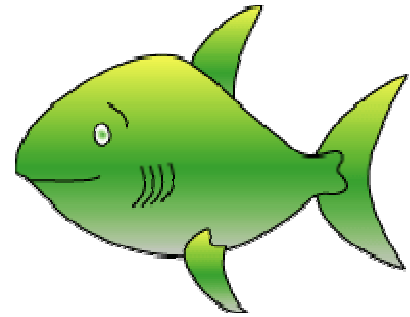
A Few Other Features

Some characters might cause confusion, but don’t let them trouble you.

- Kanza vowels do not sound much like English vowels. Think of them as a little closer to the vowels you see on the menu at Mexican or Italian restaurants (Kanza *a* sounds like the *a* in *taco*, Kanza *e* like the *e* in *queso*, Kanza *i* like the *i* in *pizza*, and Kanza *o* like the *o* in *wind*). Kanza *u* is a little different: It sounds a bit like what kids say when they step in gum on the street!
- The letters *c* and *ch* are both pronounced somewhat like English *ch*, but never like *k* or *s*.
- Kanza has no *f* sound. The Kanza letter *ph* sounds like a *p* followed by an *h*, and is never pronounced as in English *phone*.
- Kanza *x* is a very tricky sound to muster at times. It sounds like the very rough throat-clearing sound sometimes heard in German, Scots, or Hebrew words like *Bach*, *loch*, and *Chanukah*. It’s like a violent cross between *k* and *h*.

Animal—Common

animal	wajúta	
ant	shó ⁿ je yazube	“testicle biter”
bear, black	wasábe	“something black”
bear, grizzly or white	mí ⁿ cho	
bee	zha ⁿ ní walúshka	“sugar bug”
bird	wazhí ⁿ ga	“something small”
bluebird/blue jay	wazhí ⁿ ga tóho	“blue bird”
bug/insect/worm	walúshka	“creepy-crawly”
buffalo (bull)	cedó ⁿ ga	“male buffalo”
butterfly/moth	giyá ⁿ	
canary	wazhí ⁿ ga zihí	“yellow bird”
cardinal	wazhí ⁿ zhuje	“redbird (contracted)”
cat	iló ⁿ gahi ⁿ ga	
caterpillar, tarantula	walúshka hi ⁿ shce	“furry insect”
catfish	hóxcí	“real fish”
chicken	síka	
cow/beef	ceská	“white cow”
cricket	óyisísi ta ⁿ ga	“big jumper”
crow	kaághe	
deer	ta	
dog	shó ⁿ giidà, shóhi ⁿ ga	“pulling dog/horse (contracted) or little dog/horse”
duck	mí ⁿ gha zhi ⁿ ga	
fish	ho	
fly	yáphoyi ⁿ ge	
frog	cébuk’a	
goat/sheep	taskáhi ⁿ ga	“little white deer”
horse	shó ⁿ ge	
mouse	ichó ⁿ ga	
pig	kokósa, kukúsa	
rabbit	mashcí ⁿ ge	
snake	wéts’a	
squirrel	sí ⁿ ga	
turkey	síka ta ⁿ ga	
turtle	ke	



Animal—Less Common

alligator	íha ta ⁿ ga	“big mouth”
bat	cecésho zhi ⁿ ga	
beaver	zhábe	
blackbird (all black bird)	ma ⁿ líxta sabe	
bullfrog	cébuk’a ta ⁿ ga	“big frog”
buzzard	héga	
camel	ná ⁿ xahù taghe	“protruding back”
centipede/worm	walúshka kíyaha pa	“separate nose insect”
coyote	shó ⁿ mikase hi ⁿ zihí	“yellow fur coyote”
crane	békha ⁿ	
crawdad	má ⁿ shka	
dragonfly	cépoda	“snake feeder”
eagle	xuyá	
elephant	waká ⁿ da xoje	“gray god”
fox/wolf	shó ⁿ mikase	
flying squirrel	ichó ⁿ bláxe	“edge mouse”
gnat	baskóske hi ⁿ ga	
goose	mí ⁿ gha	
gopher	maní ⁿ ga	
granddaddy longlegs	húyu sceje	“long leg”

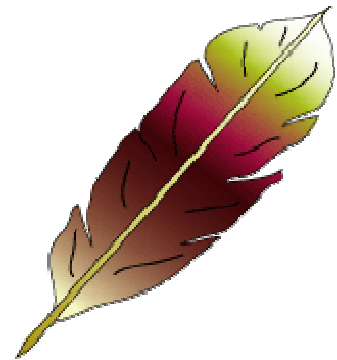
grasshopper	dadáze	
hawk	ledá ⁿ	
hawk, red tailed	úbe zihí	“yellow tail”
humming bird	giyá ⁿ wazhí ⁿ ga	“bird moth”
lightning bug	wadáya ⁿ yá ⁿ	
lizard	úzhe wama ⁿ yi ⁿ	“walking lizard?”
locust	báyo	
mole	na ⁿ bé xók’a	
mosquito	yáphoyi ⁿ ge pázota	“sharp nosed fly”
mule	na ⁿ tá ta ⁿ ga	“big ear”
opossum	sí ⁿ je shta	“bald tail”
otter/beaver	dohná ⁿ ge	
owl (small, not screech owl)	wapó ⁿ ga	
panther/mountain lion	iló ⁿ ga (iló ⁿ ga sí ⁿ je sceje)	“long tail cat”
peacock	wazhí ⁿ ga úbe sceje	“long tail bird”
pelican	mí ⁿ gha xoje	
perch	hobláska	“flatfish”
pigeon	yúta	
quail	shúta ⁿ ga	
raccoon	miká	
rat	ichó ⁿ ta ⁿ ga	“big mouse”
rattlesnake	wéts’a shekú	
screech owl	hiyádadaxe hi ⁿ ga	“little chatterer”
skunk	mó ⁿ ga	
spider	cíxowe	
wood-pecker	gadádaxe	
worm, earthworm	walúshka cúshuwe	

Animal—Parts

claw/finger	sháge	
feather, quill	mósho ⁿ	
feather, white undertail	skaále	
feather, white underwing	skágama ⁿ	
feather, wing	áhu mósho ⁿ	“wing feather”
fin	ho gáxa	
fur/feathers/body covering	hi ⁿ	
gills	ho yáge	
gizzard	walíxo ⁿ ge	
horn	he	
leg	hu	
shell/seashell	cíhoba	
tail	sí ⁿ je	
tooth/teeth	hi	
whisker	yébahi ⁿ	“jaw fur”
wing	áhu	

Body

ankle	sitáxe/húka ⁿ yushó ⁿ	
arm	a	
arm, below elbow	áozhi ⁿ ga	
arm, above elbow	ázho	
arm, next to shoulder	áuje	
armpit	dosú	
back	ná ⁿ ka	
beard	yéba í ⁿ hi ⁿ	“fur worn on jaw”
belly	ilózhu	
bladder, esp. of a buffalo	céni ⁿ ya	



blood	wabí ^a	
body	zhóga	
bone	wahú	
braids	héyo ^a ba	
brain, esp. of a buffalo	cenúzhu	
buttocks	ó ^a be	
breast	bazé	
calf	húka ^a ozhí ^a ga	
cheek	yéyoda	
chest	má ^a ge	
chin	yébahu	
ear	na ^a tá, nighúje	
elbow	ástohu	
eye	ishtá	
eyebrow	ishtághe	(same as 'French')
eyelash	ishtá pahú	"eye hair"
eyelid	ishtáxuha	
face	ijé	
finger	sháge	
finger nail	shágeha	
fist	no ^a be yuskíge	"make a fist"
foot	sí	
forehead	pa	
glasses (eye)	má ^a zeishtóla ^a	"iron to put eyes in"
hair	pahú	
hand	na ^a bé	
head	wéxli ^a	
heart	ná ^a je	
heel/sole	síhi	
hip	wéleze	
intestines	shúwe(hi ^a ga)(otá ^a ga)	
knee	shiyá ^a je	
knuckles	na ^a bé okúce	
leg	zhegá	
lower leg	wébahu	
lip	íha	
lungs	mó ^a ge	
mouth	íha	
muscle of the arm	áka ^a	
navel	yétashu	
neck	táhu	
nerve/sinew/cord	yeshká wahú	
nose	pa	(same as 'forehead')
palm	íyota	
rib	cúbe	
saliva	tacóka	
shoulder	áblo	
side	sákiba	
skin	xúha	
stomach	í ^a lo ^a zhu	
throat	dóje	
thumb	sháge otá ^a ga	
toe	sipá	
toenail	sipá shágeha	"toe fingernail"
tongue	léze	
tooth	hí	



Classroom

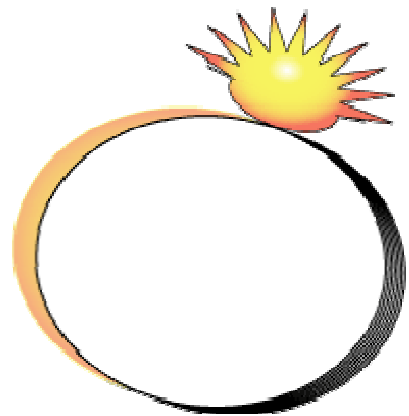
book	waléze ta ⁿ ga	“big writing”
chair/seat	áli	“sit on it”
classroom	íyula ⁿ ci	
clock	mí ⁿ o ⁿ ba tá ⁿ ma ⁿ	
desk	áwano ⁿ ble	“eat on it”
door	cizhébe	
flag	waxléxle	
floor	aná ⁿ koge	“make a hollow sound with feet”
glass	ogáho ⁿ ba	
help/assist	ówaka ⁿ	
ink	waléze igàghe ní ⁿ	
light(s)	dáka ⁿ	
learn	yíophaye	
newspaper	oyáge waleze	
paper, writing in rows	waléze	“striping”
paper, card	taná ⁿ k’a	
paste (glue for arrows)	hipá	
pen	má ⁿ ze wabázeze	“iron pencil”
pencil	wabázeze	“something to make stripes by hand”
principal	khía ⁿ ze wata ⁿ ga	“teaching boss”
question (ask a question)	íyoxe	[í-<R>-yoxe]
read	wayáje	[wa-<R>-yáje]
recess	shkájé	
science	dárbaho ⁿ	“rigorous knowing”
shelf	hí ⁿ je ozhi ⁿ	
schoolhouse	waléze dó ⁿ be ci	“house to look at writing”
scissors	pahúyuse	
study	íyula ⁿ	
teach	khía ⁿ ze	
teacher	tapóska	
test	ágozo	
window	ogáho ⁿ ba	
writing	bayúscu	

Clothing

belt	waché áyusta	
bracelet	áxebe	
button	ókiloxla ikhéje oyúhna ⁿ	
coat/overcoat	ókiloxla tá ⁿ ga	
dress	waché	
hat/cap	óla ⁿ ge	
leather	táha	“deer skin”
pajamas	ozhá ⁿ ozhu	“something to sleep in”
ring	ná ⁿ be oyúxla	
robe/blanket	mí ⁿ	
shirt/blouse/coat/clothes	ókiloxla, ókilaxla	
shoe	ho ⁿ bé	
shoe string	ho ⁿ bésaka ⁿ	
slippers	ína ⁿ xóbe	
socks	ho ⁿ bé ógamighe	
trousers	oná ⁿ zhi ⁿ	“something to stand in”
underwear	oyókyi ⁿ na ⁿ zhi ⁿ	
moccasin	ho ⁿ béxcí	“real shoe”

Color

black	sábe	
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blue	tóho	
brown	shábe	
color	sóje	
crayon	wábaleze sóje	“color pencil”
gray	xóje	
green	ma ⁿ hí ⁿ egó	
orange	zhíhi	“like grass”
paint, especially red	ígama ⁿ	
pink	wézhujè	
purple	bazó egó	“like pokeberries”
red	zhúje	
silver	má ⁿ ze	“iron”
white, distinct or close	ska	
white, hazy or distant	sá ⁿ ha ⁿ	
yellow, bright	zi	
yellow/light yellow	zíhi	

Commerce

bank	má ⁿ ze ska ci	“money house”
billfold/purse	má ⁿ zeska ozhu	“something to put money in”
buy	blúwe/blúme	<A>
dime	shúgahi ⁿ ga	
dollar	blóga	“all”
half-dollar	oká ⁿ ska	“middle, one half”
gold	má ⁿ ze(ska) zíhi	“yellow money”
money	má ⁿ zeska	“white iron”
nickel	skahi ⁿ ga	“little white”
penny	zhújehi ⁿ ga	“little red”
quarter	gashpé	“one quarter”
exchange/exchanging	ik’è k’abe	



Common Context Word

about	shkéda ⁿ	
again	shié	
all	blóga	(same as ‘forehead’)
almost	o ⁿ yó ⁿ ha	
although/though	zhí ⁿ	
and	da ⁿ	
as/like	égo	
edge	bláxe	
end/conclusion	íyo ⁿ be	
end/tip/corner	bazó	
enough	gagó	
enough/that is all	gagóhna ⁿ	
every/everybody/everything	zaá ⁿ i	
his/her(s)/its	íta	
I/me	we, wíe	
my/mine	wíta	
much	hu	
none	yí ⁿ ge	
not	azhí	
often/always	gashó ⁿ gaye/ shó ⁿ sho ⁿ	
our(s)	a ⁿ góta, a ⁿ gúta	
that/those (distant, out of sight)	ga	
that/those (visible, out of reach)	she	
this/these (visible, within reach)	ye	
this/that/these/those (in general)	e	

too/also	shki
very	waáli
very much/a whole bunch	huwaáli
we/us	a ^{ngé}
what/something	dáda ⁿ
while	iyóya
who(m)	bé
why	hagó
your(s)	yíta
you	ye, yíe

Common Phrase

Are you well (and moving around)?	Khe dázhi yayishé?	(yayishé—‘you are moving around’)
Good day.	Hó ⁿ ba yáli.	
Good morning.	Gasí ⁿ xcí yáli.	
Good night	Ha ⁿ yáli.	
Hello!	Hawé! (f), Hol! (m)	(feminine/masculine forms)
Fine/Okay/All right/Well.	Do ⁿ hé.	
I am (insert name).	We _____ bli ⁿ .	
I am going to go (and I’m sitting down).	Ble ta mi ⁿ khé	(mi ⁿ khé—‘I am sitting down’)
I am grateful that you have come.	Yachibe che wéwihna ⁿ .	
I am hungry.	No ⁿ péa ⁿ hi.	
I am fine (and moving around).	Do ⁿ hé ayihé.	(ayihé—‘I am moving around’)
I am sick (and I’m sitting down).	A ⁿ húhega mi ⁿ khé.	(mi ⁿ khé—‘I am sitting down’)
I am tired (and I’m standing up).	Omá ⁿ zheya akháhe.	(akháhe—‘I am standing up’)
I will be seeing you (and I’m sitting down).	Witó ⁿ be ta mi ⁿ khé.	(mi ⁿ khé—‘I am sitting down’)
No.	Há ⁿ kazhi.	
Thank you.	Wíblaha.	
Who are you (standing up)?	Be yakháshe?	(yakháshe—‘you are standing up’)
What are you doing (sitting down)?	Dáda ⁿ shkáxe hni ⁿ khé?	(hni ⁿ khé—‘you are sitting down’)
Who is that/it?	Bé’e’e?	
What is your name?	Zházhe ahní ⁿ ?	
Yes.	O ⁿ há. (f), Howé. (m)	(feminine/masculine forms)

Conceptual

knowledge	wagagózhi ⁿ ga	
language	íe	
life/living	ní	
mistake	bóla ⁿ ya	
opinion, form an	íyula ⁿ	[í-<R>-yula ⁿ]
piece	hebé	
property	wató ⁿ	
right	óyota ⁿ	
whole	blóga	
size	gashéya ⁿ ska	
trouble	yok’á ⁿ	
word	íe, wayáje	



Cultural Significance

arrow	ma ⁿ	
bow	mí ⁿ je	
blanket	mi ⁿ	(same as ‘sun,’ ‘moon,’ ‘a/an’)
broadcloth	hásoje	“colored cloth”
cedar, red	xó ⁿ je	
chief	gahíge	
dance	wachí ⁿ	

eagle, golden
 elder/ancestor/father-in-law
 feather
 fire
 God
 horn, buffalo
 humble/pitiful/poor
 medicine
 moccasin
 prayer
 smoke
 tobacco
 war
 war leader/captain

xúya
 ts'ágehi^{ga}
 mósho
 péje
 (I^{dáje}) Waká^{da}
 cehé
 waxpáyiⁿ
 mokáⁿ
 hoⁿbéxci
 wáxpele
 shóje
 nanú
 dodáⁿ
 dodáⁿ háⁿga

“little old man” (also applies to deities)

“(Father) God”

(frequently used in prayer)

Day & Night—Time

afternoon
 dark(ness)
 day
 evening
 hour
 late
 light
 moon
 morning/in the morning
 night/tonight
 noon
 now
 soon
 star
 today
 tomorrow
 week
 yesterday

páze
 hánaⁿpaze
 hóⁿba
 páze
 mióⁿba táⁿmaⁿzhiⁿga
 óbahaⁿ
 dákaⁿ
 háⁿiⁿda mioⁿba
 gasíxci, gasíⁿxci
 háⁿiⁿ, háⁿiⁿda
 miⁿyotaⁿ
 yegóji
 oxléxci
 mikáⁿk'e
 hóⁿbaye
 gasídaⁿ
 hóⁿba wakáⁿdagi
 sidóji, sióji



Descriptive State

bad/wrong
 big
 big/great
 bitter
 burnt
 clean
 clear
 dead/die
 different
 difficult/hard to do
 dirty
 dull/not sharp
 dry
 easy
 fast
 flat
 foolish/drunken/saucy
 good
 hard/solid
 heavy
 hollow

pízhi
 táⁿga
 láⁿye
 pa, k'aye
 dáxliⁿ
 súhu
 waská
 ts'e
 ézhi
 wacéxi
 súhuzhi
 páhizhi
 búze
 wats'éga
 k'áⁿsagi
 bláska
 dáyiⁿga
 yáli
 sagí
 skíⁿge
 xlók'a

(smaller than 'láⁿye')

(larger than 'táⁿga')

“not (like) this”

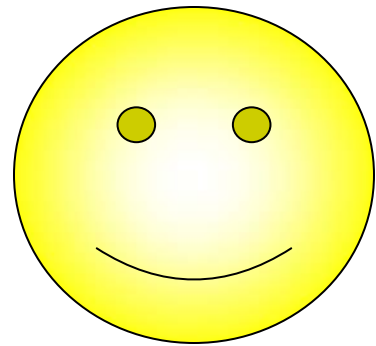
“not clean”

“not sharp”

hot	dákaje	
light	háha hi ^a ga	
little	hi ^a ga	
long/tall/wide	scéje	
narrow	hóshca/hóshta	
new (inanimate obj.)	wacéga	
old	nó ^a wali	
poor/pitiful/humble	waxpáyi ⁿ	
pretty/colorful/beautiful	wahóda	
quiet	niá ^a yi ⁿ ge	
rough	shtáhazhi	“not smooth”
round	dázhe	
sharp	páhi	
short	dápa	
small	hók’ahi ^a ga	
smooth	shtáha	
soft	shtó ^a ga	
sticky	skábe	
strong	wáshka ^a lá ^a ye	
sweet	skuwe	
thick	blékazhi	“not thin”
thin	bléka	
tight	óhesàzhi	
weak	xpéga	
well/fine/okay/all right	do ^a hé	
wet	doká	

Emotion/Personal State

afraid	nó ^a pe	[no ^a -<S>-pe]
angry	báko, gibáko	<S>
be (some state)	(insert state) yi ^a	<R>
bad	pízhi	
crazy	ts’éga	
cry	ghagé	<A>
feel	wéna ^a je	
good	yáli	
happy	gízo	[gi-<S>-zo]
hate	pízhi ázhi ^a	“feel bad (about)”
hot	dákaje	
laugh	íxa	
love	yáli ^a ázhi ^a	“feel good (about)”
sad	gízozhi	“not happy”
smile	íxa hi ^a ga	“little laugh”
still/quiet/peaceful	wáspe	
tired	ozhéya	[o-<S>-zheya]; (“omá ^a zheya”—“I am tired”)



Family

aunt, one’s father’s sister	icími	(‘wi-’ — “my”; ‘yi-’ — “your”)
brother, a man’s elder	izhíye	(‘wi-’ — “my”; ‘yi-’ — “your”)
brother, a man’s younger	isó ^a ga	(‘wi-’ — “my”; ‘yi-’ — “your”)
brother, a woman’s elder	icído	(‘wi-’ — “my”; ‘yi-’ — “your”)
brother, a woman’s younger	isó ^a ya	(‘wi-’ — “my”; ‘yi-’ — “your”)
daughter, one’s (unknown order)	izhó ^a ge	
1 st daughter	mína ⁿ	
2 nd daughter	wihé	
3 rd daughter (all the way down)	así ^a ga	
family	owáha ⁿ	

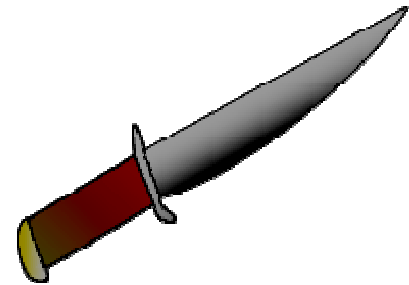
father (Dad)	idáye	
father (formal)	idáje	
grandchild, one's	icóshpa	(‘wi-’ — “my”; ‘yi-’ — “your”)
grandfather, one's	icigo	(‘wi-’ — “my”; ‘yi-’ — “your”)
grandmother, one's	ikó ⁿ	
husband/man	níka	
married wa-<R>-xe	wáyuxe	
mother	iná ⁿ	
sister, one's younger	itá ⁿ ge	(‘wi-’ — “my”; ‘yi-’ — “your”)
sister, a woman's older sister	izhówe	(‘wi-’ — “my”; ‘yi-’ — “your”)
son, one's (unknown order)	izhí ⁿ ge	
1 st son	ilóapa	
2 nd son	khéga	
3 rd son (all the way down)	kháge	
uncle, one's mother's brother	ijégi	(‘wi-’ — “my”; ‘yi-’ — “your”)
wife/woman	wak'ó	

Food—Cooking

bake	zhélo ⁿ	
boil	ábuxe, ábughe	[á--buxe, -bughe]
container	no ⁿ xlózhu	
cook	ó ⁿ ho ⁿ	
flour	wabóski phéyushtá ⁿ	
melt/melted	dáska ⁿ	
mix	ígahi	<A>
oil	wédli, wéli(grease)	
pot	jéghe	
skillet	hí ⁿ ma ⁿ le	
stove	péojeye	
stir/stirred	íbaye	

Food—Eating

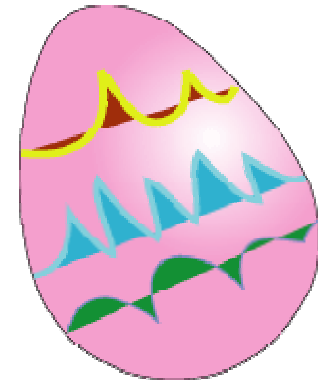
bite	yashpé	<R>
bowl	waská hí ⁿ jébe	
chew	yaché	<R>
cup, teacup	waská hí ⁿ ga	
dish/dishes	waská	
drink	yatá ⁿ	<R>
fork	wahúka zháta	
hungry, to be	no ⁿ péhi	[no ⁿ pé-<S>-hi]
<u>knife</u>	<u>máⁿhiⁿ</u>	
meal, eat a	wanó ⁿ ble	<A>
pieces	hebé	
set the table	waská gazhu	
snack	wanó ⁿ ble hí ⁿ ga	
spoon	má ⁿ ze cuhóba	
table	áwano ⁿ ble	“eat a meal on it”
taste	yashtábe	<R>
toothpick	híogashe	
tray	hí ⁿ jébe	



Food—Item

apple	shéta ⁿ ga	
bacon/fat	washí ⁿ	
bean	ho ⁿ blí ⁿ ge	
beef	tá ceská	“cow meat”
blackberry	banónota, bahná na ⁿ ta	

strawberry	pa ⁿ shcéga	
gooseberry	pézege	
raspberry	waxága jéxle có	
pokeberry	bazó	
blueberry	jéxle toho	
bread	wabóski	
cake	wabóski skúwe	“sweet bread”
coffee	moká ⁿ sábe	“black medicine”
corn, any kind	wakhózu	
corn on the cob	hába	
egg	itá	
fish (meat)	ho	
food	wayáche	“something to eat”
grape	házu	
hominy	wadázhuwe	
honey	zha ⁿ ni zi	“yellow sugar”
jelly	úyuje	
meat, any kind	ta	
meat, fresh	ta dóka	
milk	bazéni	“breast water”
nut, hickory	pa ⁿ pázhiga	
nut, pecan	pá ⁿ sceje	
onion	mózhoxe	
orange (fruit)	zihita ⁿ ga	“little yellow”
peach	shéhi ⁿ shce	“fuzzy fruit”
pepper	moká ⁿ pa	“bitter medicine”
pork	kokósa	
potato, white	doská	
rice	wajuje	
roast	bahná ⁿ	
rolls	wabóski dazhe	“round bread”
salt	niskúwe	“sweet water”
soup	ta ni ⁿ	
squash	wakhá ⁿ xcí	
sugar	zha ⁿ ni	“tree water”
sweet potato	do skúwe	
tea	má ⁿ hi ⁿ ni	“grass water”
turkey (meat)	síkata ⁿ ga	“big chicken”
turnip	dóle	
water	ni	
watermelon	sákoje itábe	



Groups/People Together

Afro-American	níka sabe	“black man”
American	má ⁿ hi ⁿ tá ⁿ ga	“long knife”
Anglo-American	xuháska	
Caddo	hishá ⁿ	
Cherokee	celekí	
Cheyenne	shayáni ⁿ	
Chickasaw	cíkasa	
Chinese	cáni	
Chippewa	cípó	
Choctaw	catá	
Creek/Muscogee	mo ⁿ shkóge	
French	íshtaghe	(same as ‘eyebrow’)
Hispanic/Latino	éspanone	
Indian/Native American	níka zhuje	“red man”

Ioway	páxoje
Osage	wazházhe
Otoe	wazhóxla
person/people	níkashi ⁿ ga
Ponca	pá ⁿ ka
tribe	ogíkye

Health

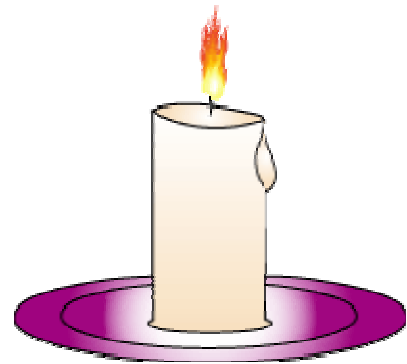
cough	hóxpe	“weakened voice”; <A>
disease	wáji ne	
doctor	waká ⁿ dagi	
healthy/in good health	khe dázhi, khe dázhi ⁿ	
medicine	moká ⁿ	
medicine cabinet	moká ⁿ ozhu	“put medicine in it”
sick, to be	húhega	<S>
sneeze	hécí ⁿ	<A>

Hobbies/Entertainment

ball	tábe	
card/paper	taná ⁿ k’a	
die/dice	k’óse	
movies	ijéwaleze yishkó ⁿ shke	“pictures moving”
music	bagíje	
photograph/picture	ijéwaleze	“face writing”
play/playing	ashkáje	
sing/song	wayó ⁿ	[wa-<R>-yó ⁿ]
story	hígo	

House/Home

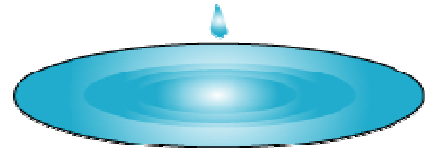
air conditioner	hniwache waye	
bed	ázha ⁿ	“sleep on it”
bedspread, quilt	ázha ⁿ omi ⁿ zhe	
bookcase	wáleze ozhu	
bottle	ózhutoho	“something blue to put it in”
ceiling	móshita	
candle	wéli ádaka ⁿ	“oil light”
chimney	cíhoka	
cushion	íbehí ⁿ áli	“pillow to sit on”
dust/litter/garbage	má ⁿ xta ⁿ	
home, one’s	icí	(‘wi-’ — “my”; ‘yi-’ — “your”)
house/home	ci	
lamp	má ⁿ ze ádaka ⁿ ole	
letter	waléze	(same as ‘writing’)
mailbox	waléze ozhu	“something to put writing in”
mattress	omízhe	
needle	síka huka	
pillow	íbehí ⁿ	
pin	wábaxa	
stamp	waléze áyastale	
thread	wéyuze	
toilet	ozhéci	



Hygiene

bath	ahiyá
clean	súhu
comb	héluze
commode	ozhéci

dirty	súhuzhi	“not clean”
dry off	bubúze	
feces	ilé	
soap	wéyushki, wéyashkige	
toothbrush	hí wébasuhu	“something to clean teeth by pressure”
urine	jézhe ni	
wash	yúzha	<R>
water	ni	



Months/Seasons

April	wábe	“planting time”
August	ta he baxó ^{be}	“month when deer shed horns”
December	wasábe zhodabe	“months when bears puff/snort”
February	mí ^k ’ozhi	“not useful”
January	mi ^a ok ^a yí ^a ge	“month for nothing”
July	cedó ^a ga kúyughabe	“month when buffalo mate”
June	cedó ^a ga ma ^a na ^a ghabe	“month when buffalo rut”
March	ho ^a ba oscéje	“long days”
May	wawék’acbe	“month for acting or working”
November	ópha ^a zhodabe	“months when elks puff/snort”
October	ta kúyughabe	“month when deer mate”
September	opha ^a kúyughabe	“month when elks mate”
summer	dogé	
winter	tá ^a da ^a	“when things abound”
year, one full	omá ^a ka	

Number

count	yawá	<R>
eight	kiadóba	
eighteen	àlikiadóba	“eight sitting on (ten)”
eighth	wékiadóba	
eighty	lébla ^a kiadóba	“eight tens”
eleven	àlim ^a xci	“one sitting on (ten)”
few	tóba	
fifteen	àlisáta	“five sitting on (ten)”
fifth	wésata ^a	
fifty	lébla ^a sáta ^a	“five tens”
first	pahá ^a le(xci)	
five	sáta ^a	
forty	lébla ^a tóba	“four tens”
four	tóba	
fourth	wédoba	
fourteen	àlitóba	“four sitting on (ten)”
how many/how much/amount	hána ^a	
hundred	lébla ^a hucúsa	
many, much	huwáli	
nine	shá ^a ka	
nineteen	àlishá ^a ka	“nine sitting on (ten)”
ninety	lébla ^a shá ^a ka	“nine tens”
number	wayáwa	
one	mí ^a xci	“real one”
second	wéno ^a bà	
seven	péyo ^a ba	
seventeen	àlipéyo ^a ba	“seven sitting on (ten)”
seventh	wépeyo ^a ba	
seventy	lébla ^a péyo ^a ba	“seven tens”
six	shápe	

sixteen	àlishápe	“six sitting on (ten)”
sixth	wéshape	
sixty	lébla ^a shápe	“six tens”
ten	lébla ^a	
ten thousand	lébla ^a zhá ^a koge	(zhá ^a koge—‘wooden chest’)
tenth	wélebla ^a	
thirteen	àliyábli	“three sitting on (ten)”
thirty	lébla ^a yábli ^a	“three tens”
third	wéyabli ^a	
thousand	lébla ^a húta ^a ga	
three	yábli ^a	
twelve	àlino ^a bá	“two sitting on (ten)”
twenty	lébla ^a no ^a bá	“two tens”
two	no ^a bá	

Outside

country	mozhó ^a	
earth	mo ^a zhá ^a	
fence	ábata	
hole	moshóje	
island	niogàgighe	
lake	gaxá, je	
mountain	badó	
ocean	jéda ^a , jéta ^a ga	
river (Missouri River)	nishóje	“muddy water”
river (any or Mississippi River)	nízhuje	“red water”
sand	puzá	
shade	gatá	
stone	i ^a	

Person

baby	zhi ^a gáhi ^a ga	“little little”
boy	shídohi ^a ga	
child, infant	hi ^a gá hi ^a ga	“little little”
female	mi ^a gá	
friend	kóya	
girl	shími ^a hi ^a ga	
male	dogá	
man	níka	
name	zházhe	
person/people	níkashi ^a ga	
voice	ho	
woman	wak’ó	

Plant

bark	zhá ^a xuha	
elm	ehú	
flower	má ^a hi ^a wahóda	“pretty grass”
grass	má ^a hi ^a	
hickory	sálo hu	
leaf	zhá ^a yabe	
persimmon	stá ^a yi ^a ge hu	
pine	báza ^a hu	
poison ivy	má ^a hi ^a pizhi	“bad grass”
root/stick	zha ^a ka ^a	
tree	zhá ^a	
tree trunk	zhá ^a xu	



walnut

páⁿtàⁿga hu

Positional Relation

above	móshita ⁿ
across	gaji ⁿ
after	óyahà
against	ága ⁿ
among	óyuza ⁿ ha
away, distant	wéhije
behind	hashíta
below, at the bottom	hujéji
between	otána ⁿ je
bottom	hujé
front	itómitaha
there/at that place	éji
here	ye, yegá
middle	gódoká ⁿ ska
near	áshka
under	ma ⁿ céta

Town

council house	kísto ci	“meeting house”
church	kiká ⁿ ze ci	“teaching house”
city, town, camp	táma ⁿ , tá ⁿ ma ⁿ	
police station	oyí ⁿ ge ci	“catcher’s house”
road	ozhó ⁿ ge	
store	wayúmi ci	“buying house”

Travel

boat	báje	
bridge	zha ⁿ áphe tá ⁿ ga	
car	biná ⁿ ge	“runs by pressing”
east	mí ⁿ hú yí ⁿ khe	“the sun is coming here”
engine	pa ⁿ sá	
left	yáta	
mile	wékoje	
north	mí ⁿ ciyázhi khe	“the way the sun does not go”
path	ophé	“something to follow”
right	ishtó ⁿ ga	
south	mí ⁿ ciye khe	“the way the sun goes”
turn	yublí ⁿ	<R>
where	howá(+ positional article)	(such as ‘howákhe’—“where is the (lying, nonliving object)”)
west	mí ⁿ hiye che	“the sun is gone”



Verb—Action

arrive here	chi	<A>; (verb of motion)
break/breaking	baxló ⁿ zhe	
chase	oxlé	[o-<A>-xle]
come here	hu	<H>; (verb of motion)
call	wéba ⁿ	[we--ba ⁿ]
cause	khiye	<A>
catch	oyí ⁿ ge	[o-<R>-yi ⁿ ge]
change/alter in telling	yaézhi	<R>
cover/covering	ábasce	
crack/break something solid	gaxlége	<A>
cut flat with a knife	báblak’a	<A>
cut straight/straighten by cutting	báblaska	<A>

die/be dead	ts'e	<A>
fall/fall off something	oxpáye	
fall over/fall down	sá ⁿ ya	
fight	dagé	<A>
fly	ágiya ⁿ	<A>
fold	bekhá ⁿ	
get	yuzé	<R>
give	k'u	<A>
go	ye	<R>; (verb of motion)
have	ayí ⁿ	[a-<R>-yí ⁿ]
hear	no ⁿ k'ó ⁿ	<A>
hide/conceal	áno ⁿ xle	<A>
kick	áno ⁿ sta	<A>
kill	ts'éye	[ts'é-<A>-ye]
jump	óyisi/oyusi ⁿ	[ó-<R>-yisi, -yusi ⁿ]
leave	ó ⁿ ye	[o ⁿ -<R>-ye]
lick	yash tábe	<R>
lift	yuhá ⁿ	<R>
like	óxtaye	[oxta-<A>-ye]
live	ni,ni ⁿ	<A>
look at	dó ⁿ be	<D>
make	gáxe	<G>
meet	ákikipa	<A>
move	shka ⁿ	<A>
open	íyuje	[i-<R>-yuje]
point with the lips (considered polite)	iha iyábazo	[i-<R>-yábazo]
push	badá ⁿ	
roll	obáta ⁿ ya	
rub	bamá ⁿ	
run	tá ⁿ yí ⁿ	[<A>-ta ⁿ -<R>-yí ⁿ]
say	e, eé	[e-<H>-e]
see/discover/find	íye	[i-<A>-ye]
separate	kíya	
set on fire	yéye	[ye-<A>-ye]
sew	ábace	[á--bace]
shake	gakhá ⁿ	<A>
sleep/lie down	zha ⁿ	<A>
smell	oyúbla ⁿ	[o-<R>-yubla ⁿ]
speak	íe	[i-<A>-e]
stop	yushtá ⁿ	<R>
stretch	babláshka	
swim	ní ⁿ mo ⁿ	<A>
take	yuzé	<R>
think	azhí ⁿ	<Ø>
tie	áyusta	[á-<R>-yusta]
touch	yutá ⁿ	<R>
try	ígoskaye	<A>
use	'o ⁿ	<Ø>
wait a minute	yegákha ⁿ	
walk	ma ⁿ yí ⁿ	[ma ⁿ -<R>-yí ⁿ]
want	gó ⁿ ya	[<G>-gó ⁿ -<R>-ya]; (uses 'k-' for 1S instead of 'p-')



Weather/Sky

blow/it is blowing	oyógahi ⁿ he	
cloud	mó ⁿ xpu	
cold/it is cold	hniwace	
east wind	pázota, bazá ⁿ ta	“to the pines?”

fog	shóje	
freeze	áha	
hail	bósu	
hot/it is hot	wáðakaje	
ice	nó ⁿ ghe	
north wind	hníta	“to the cold”
rain	nuzhu	
sky	mó ⁿ ghe	
snow/ it is snowing	ba/bahúya	
south wind	ák’a	
storm	tajé sage	“hard wind”
sun/moon	mí ⁿ , mí ⁿ o ⁿ ba, mío ⁿ ba	
thunder	ló, lo hótá ⁿ	
tornado	tajé ophé	“path wind”
warm	moshcé	
weather/sky	mó ⁿ ghe	
west wind	ák’ahi ⁿ ga/ák’oye	“little south wind”
wind	tajé	

Work

board/lumber	ná ⁿ ha blák’a	
brick	í ⁿ dazhùje	
broom	cígaghe	
chain	má ⁿ ze okúluchàge	
cord/rope	wabésa ⁿ	
gun	wahótá ⁿ	“something that makes noise (like thunder)”
hammer	wéci ⁿ	
hook, fish	hóyuze	
metal/iron	ma ⁿ ze	
nail	gatá ⁿ	
screw	má ⁿ yuleze	
spade/shovel	wék’eta ⁿ ga	“something big to dig with”
steel	má ⁿ ze	
string	wabésa ⁿ hí ⁿ ga	
wire	má ⁿ ze ka ⁿ	
wood	zha ⁿ	

