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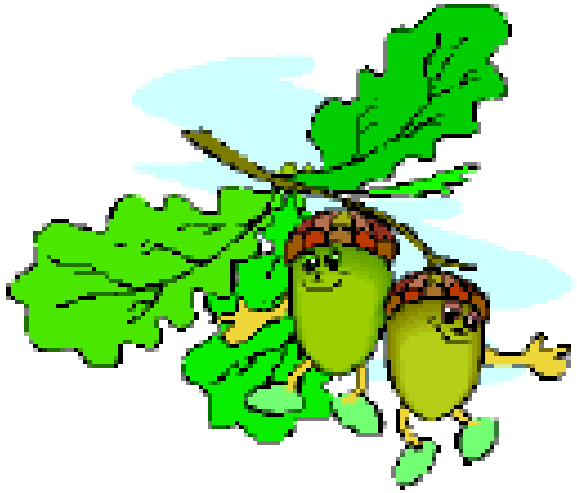
Tl'aama

'You Count'

Counting in Winnemem



Indian Cultural Organization

April 2010

Honor Your Heritage…Practice Your Traditions

THIS IS AN INTRODUCTORY LESSON IN WINNEMEM WINTU. BASICALLY, IF YOU COMPLETE THIS BOOKLET, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO COUNT ALL OF THE THINGS AROUND YOU…UP TO 1000 ANYWAY.

SINCE WINNEMEM WINTU IS AN UNWRITTEN LANGUAGE, THIS IS A BEST BET,

PHONETIC VIEW.

GOOD LUCK!!

Wintu is a highly endangered indigenous language of Northern California.

At present, none of our people are fluent speakers. Florence Jones, who was the master teacher for us, following the death of Emerson Miles in 1997, passed away in 2003. Audio taping of Florence continued until her death, although her health did not allow for much intrusion in those final days.

It is clear that this language is a very important, if not vital factor in the Winnemem efforts of cultural preservation. We must act now to save the Wintu language from extinction.

Beedii Yalumiina — Never Give Up!!!

Brief History of ICO's Background

The Indian Cultural Organization (ICO) was formed by a grassroots group of Winnemem Wintu Indians in 1981 and incorporated as a non-profit tax-exempt organization in 1983. This community based organization focuses on four major goals:

1) **to assist and support the tribe to retain their religious rites and practices in order for the Indian culture and traditions to continue into the future;**
2) **2) to provide innovative alternative educational approaches and methods in conveying academic standards for American Indian students;**
3) **3) to restore traditional teachings, preservation of songs, dance, and language; and**
4) **4) to provide and develop positive leadership and advocacy among diverse, disadvantaged, high risk American Indian youth.**

THE NUMBERS

You count! tl'aamah!

ONE: k'eteem

TWO: paalet

THREE: panuł

FOUR: tl'awi

FIVE: ch'ansem

Ni tl'aama-lees ch'ansem

'I know how to count to five!'

SIX: se(r)-panuł

SEVEN: lolooqi

EIGHT: se(r)-tl'awi

NINE: k'eteem elees

TEN: tiqeles

Ni tl'aama-lees tiqeles!

"I know how to count to ten"

The FORMULA for the numbers above ten, from 11 to 19, is as follows:

"tiqeles ONE ADDED",

"tiqeles TWO ADDED"

….and so on:

ELEVEN:	**tiqeles k'eteem łomit**
TWELVE:	**tiqeles paal łomit**
THIRTEEN:	**tiqeles panuł łomit**
FOURTEEN:	**tiqeles tl'awi łomit**
FIFTEEN:	**tiqeles ch'ansem łomit**
SIXTEEN:	**tiqeles se(r)-panuł łomit**
SEVENTEEN:	**tiqeles lolooqi łomit**
EIGHTEEN:	**tiqeles se(r)-tl'awi łomit**
NINETEEN:	**tiqeles k'eteem elees łomit**

TWENTY

In Wintu, 'TWENTY' is expressed the same way as it is in Tlingit or Mayan languages:

k'ete winthuh

(Literally, 'one person', with ten fingers and ten toes!)

400: ("TWENTY TWENTIES") ***k'etewint^{h}uh win-t^{h}uh***

500: ("TWENTY TWENTIES add FIVE TWEN-TIES")

k'etewint^{h}uh wint^{h}uh łomit ch'ansem wint^{h}uh

600: ("TWENTY TWENTIES add TEN TWEN-TIES")

k'ete wint^{h}uh tiqeles łomi wint^{h}uh

or:

("THIRTY TWENTIES") ***panuł tiqeles wint^{h}uh***

700: ("THIRTY TWENTIES, add FIVE TWEN-TIES") ***panuł tiqeles wint^{h}uh łomit ch'ansem win-t^{h}uh***

800: ("FOURTY TWENTIES") ***paal wint^{h}uh-wint^{h}uh***

or:

("FOURTY TWENTIES") ***tl'awi tiqeles win-t^{h}uh***

900: ("FORTY TWENTIES, add FIVE TWEN-TIES")

paal wint^{h}uh-wint^{h}uh łomit ch'ansem wint^{h}uh

1000: ("FORTY TWENTIES add TEN TWEN-TIES")

tl'awi tiqeles wint^{h}uh, tiqeles łomi wint^{h}uh

60: ("THREE TWENTY") *panuł wint^{h}uh*

70: ("60, TEN ADDED") *panuł wint^{h}uh tiqeles łomi*
or: ("SEVEN TENS") *lolooqi tiqeles*

80: ("FOUR TWENTY") *tl'awi wint^{h}uh*
or: ("EIGHT TENS") *se(r) tl'awi tiqeles*
90: ("80, TEN ADDED") *tl'awi wint^{h}uh tiqeles łomi*

100: ("FIVE TWENTY") *ch'ansem k'etewint^{h}uh*

110: ('FIVE TWENTIES, add TEN')
ch'ansem wint^{h}uh tiqeles łomi
120: ('FIVE TWENTIES, add TWENTY'),
ch'ansem wint^{h}uh-wint^{h}uh łomi
and so on …..

200: ("TEN TWENTY") *tiqeles k'etewint^{h}uh*

220 would be "TEN TWENTIES add TWENTY":
tiqeles k'etewint^{h}uh łomit wint^{h}uh
and so on …
300: ("TEN TWENTIES, add FIVE TWENTIES")

tiqeles k'etewint^{h}uh łomit ch'ansem wint^{h}uh

How many?

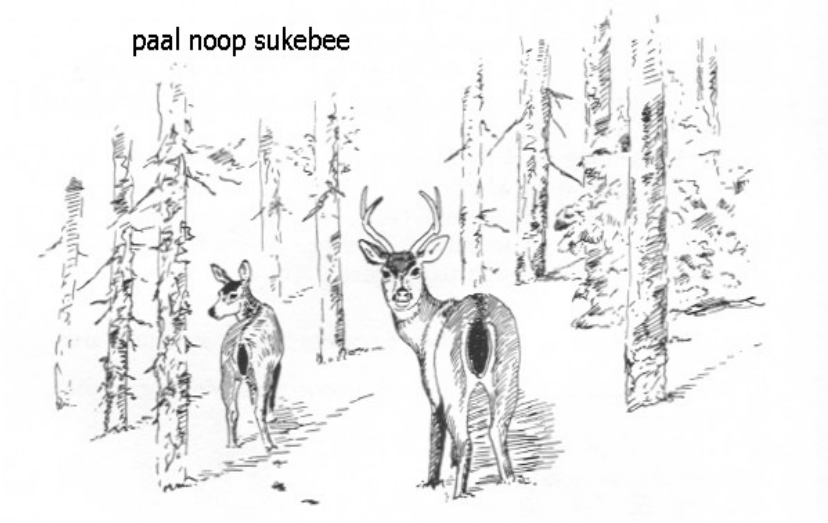
hisaam? (in a general sense)
hisaat? (how many particular ones of a group of things or people)

How many are there?
hisaat | *suk-ii?*
how many | to be there -is it?

How many squirrels do you see?
hisaat *ticheles* *winebayam?*
how many *squirrels* *see* are you?

tiqeles ticheles

ten squirrels



paal noop sukay – bay
'two deer are standing there'
(also = *paalel noop sukay - bay*)
two deer to be standing they are

Note:
In enumerating the numbers, we always use *paalet*.
In higher numbers (above ten), we use the short form *paal* ('two'). Elsewhere, we can use either *paal* or *paalel* ('two, a pair').
Examples:
***paal-weeta* 'two men'; paal *maat* 'two ears'**
***paalel weeta* 'two men, a pair of men'**

The short form *paal* is also used in the expression 'twice, two times': *paal-pom*.

The FORMULA for the numbers 21 to 29 is:

"k'ete wint^{h}uh, ONE ADDED";
"k'ete wint^{h}uh, TWO ADDED"
and so on …..

TWENTY-ONE: ***k'etewint^{h}uh k'eteem łomi (t)***
TWENTY-TWO: ***k'etewint^{h}uh paal łomi***
TWENTY-THREE: ***k'etewint^{h}uh panuł łomi***
TWENTY-FOUR: ***k'etewint^{h}uh tl'awi łomi***
TWENTY-FIVE: ***k'etewint^{h}uh ch'ansem łomi***
TWENTY-SIX: ***k'etewint^{h}uh se(r)-panuł łomi***
TWENTY-SEVEN: ***k'etewint^{h}uh lolooqi łomi***
TWENTY-EIGHT: ***k'etewint^{h}uh se(r)-tl'awi łomi***
TWENTY-NINE: ***k'etewint^{h}uh k'eteem elees tiqeles łomi***

Note: In the formation of higher numbers, the word for 'twenty', *k'ete wint^{h}uh*, is often abbreviated to *wint^{h}uh*

30: ("THREE TEN") *panuł tiqeles*

40: ("FOUR TEN") *tl'awi tiqeles*
or: ("TWO TWENTIES") *paal wint^{h}uh*

50: ("FIVE TEN") *ch'ansem tiqeles*