

Nsyilxcn Alphabet Pronunciation Guide

compiled by Sʔamtícaʔ (Sarah) Peterson
for The Paul Creek Language Association

a	as in the word <u>f</u> ather- a	example:	anwí (you)
c	as in the word <u>ch</u> urch- c	example:	cʔas (crash)
ć	as in the word <u>c</u> ats- ć	example:	ćałt (cold)
ə	as in the word <u>e</u> lephant- ə	example:	əcxʷuy (goes)
h	as in the word <u>h</u> appy- h	example:	hiwʔt (rat)
i	as in the word <u>s</u> ee- i	example:	ixíʔ (that / then)
k	as in the word <u>k</u> ite- k	example:	kilx (hand)
ķ	is pronounced as a hard k- ķ	example:	ķast (bad)
kʷ	as in the word <u>q</u> ueen- kʷ	example:	kʷint (take)
ķʷ	is pronounced as a hard kʷ- ķʷ	example:	ķʷcķʷact (strong)
l	as in the word <u>l</u> ove- l	example:	limt (happy)
ĺ	pronounced as an abruptly stopped l- ĺ	example:	ślaʔt (friend)
ł	pronounced as a slurpy l- ł	example:	łtap (bounce/jump)
ł̣	pronounced as a click tl out of the side of your mouth- ł̣	example:	ł̣lap (stop)
m	as in the word <u>m</u> om- m	example:	mahúyaʔ (raccoon)
ṃ	pronounced as an abruptly ended m- ṃ	example:	stiṃ (what)
n	as in the word <u>n</u> o- n	example:	naqs (one)
ṇ	pronounced as an abruptly ended n- ṇ	example:	ṇínwiʔs (later)
p	as in the word <u>p</u> op- p	example:	p̣hkịṇ (when)
p̣	pronounced as a popped p- p̣	example:	p̣um (brown)
q	pronounced as a k deep in the back of your throat- q	example:	qáqnaʔ (grandma)
q̣	is pronounced as a hard q- q̣	example:	q̣aʔxán (shoe)
qʷ	is pronounced q with rounded lips- qʷ	example:	qʷacqn (hat)

q̣ʷ	is pronounced as a hard q with rounded lips- q̣ʷ	example:	q̣ʷmqin (antler)
r	is rolled on your tongue- r	example:	yirncút (make itself round)
s	pronounced as in the word sister- s	example:	síya? (saskatoon berry)
t	as in the word top- t	example:	tum̄ (mother)
ṭ	pronounced as a hard t- t	example:	ṭina? (ear)
u	as in the word soon- u	example:	uł (and)
w	as in the word walk- w	example:	wikn (I saw)
ẉ	an abruptly ended w- w	example:	ṣẉaẉása? (auntie)
x	pronounced as a soft h in the back of the throat- x	example:	xixəwtm (girl)
ḫ	pronounced as a guttural h deep in the back of throat- ḫ	example:	ḫast (good)
xʷ	pronounced as a h with rounded lips in the back of the throat- xʷ	example:	xʷuy (go)
ḫʷ	pronounced as a guttural h with rounded lips in the back of the throat- ḫʷ	example:	ḫʷus (foam)
y	as in the word yellow- y	example:	yus (dark / purple)
ỵ	an abruptly ended y- y	example:	čṣỵaqn (head)
ʎ	pronounced like a short a deep in the back of the throat- ʎ	example:	ʎaymt (angry)
ʎ̣	pronounced as an abruptly ended ʎ- ʎ	example:	ʎ̣ačnt (look)
ʎʷ	pronounced as a nasally "ow" back in the throat- ʎʷ	example:	kaʎʷm (pray)
ʔ	is a breath stop in the back of the throat as in the word "uh-oh"- ʔ	example:	ʔaʔúsa? (egg)