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DENNY'S  
VOCABULARY  
OF  
SHAWNEE

from the Journal of  
Ebenezer Denny



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## Preface to the 1999 Edition

The most persistent question surrounding the Shawnee has been the location of their original homeland. By the time they are regularly encountered in history, they were already a scattered and far-flung tribe. The earliest historical sources are at least consistent in placing the Shawnee (spelled Chaouanon in French accounts) in the Ohio river system, either on the Ohio itself or on one of its tributaries such as the Cumberland. But confusion has persisted as to exactly where they were seated.

From the northeast, a Seneca informant told La Salle in 1668 that after a month's travel down the Allegheny and Ohio rivers, one came upon the "Honniasantkeronons and the Chiouanons." Exploring the Mississippi River to the west, Jolliet and Marquette found the mouth of the Ohio in 1673 which "flows from the lands of the East, where dwell the people called Chaouanons in so great numbers that in one district there are as many as 23 villages, and 15 in another, quite near one another. They are not at all warlike, and are the nations whom the Iroquois go so far to seek, and war against without any reason..." In a source of 1728, the Iroquois order the Shawnee refugees in Pennsylvania "back toward ohioh The place from whence you Came" (Hunter 1978).

Today's consensus, resting on the preponderance of historical accounts such as these, is that the Shawnee were originally located along the Upper Ohio River in what is now southern Ohio, and thus may have been the ethnic

group associated with the archaeological Fort Ancient complex. This conclusion cannot be proven at present, though it is a working assumption among many scholars. Any continuity between Fort Ancient archaeological sites and historical settlements was unfortunately broken before the area was ever explored by Europeans, as a consequence of the forces tangentially mentioned in Marquette's statement above.

During the Beaver Wars in the second half of the 1600's, Iroquois war parties inflicted crippling damage upon the original Ohio River tribes: the Franquelin map of 1684 (Hanna 1911) notes four tribes on the Ohio as "destroyed" and their inhabitants are barely or never heard from again. Sources which mention the Shawnee "document a pattern of Iroquois attacks, gaining in intensity" (Callender 1978). By the 1680's and 1690's Shawnee groups fleeing from these attacks ended up far from their original lands: as far east as the Susquehanna and Delaware rivers, as far south as the Savannah, and as far west as the Illinois. Nor did the Shawnee remain very long at these locations, but continued their migrations again as English colonization and American wars pushed tribes farther into the interior of the continent. Unlike their neighbors in the Ohio Valley, however, the Shawnee managed to survive to the present with their culture and language intact.

It has long been known that Shawnee is a member of the Algonquian language family. Earlier this century, Shawnee was placed in a Central Algonquian grouping, in

the belief that the Central Algonquian languages all shared a common ancestor called Proto-Central Algonquian (Miller 1959). But this idea has not stood up to further scrutiny. Though still convenient in a geographical sense, Central Algonquian as a linguistic classification is no longer used. It is now believed that Shawnee and the other Central Algonquian languages all evolved independently from Proto-Algonquian, and did not undergo any shared development.

Three dialects of the language are current in Oklahoma: Absentee, Eastern and Cherokee Shawnee\*. They show little internal differentiation, and it is unclear exactly how these three modern dialects relate to the traditional five-fold divisions of *čalaka*, *kišpoko*, *mekoče*, *pekowi*, and *thawikila*, if indeed they do at all. Callender (1978) offers one synthesis based on historical population movements: namely, that the Absentee Shawnee are *kišpoko*, *pekowi*, and *thawikila*, the Eastern Shawnee are *mekoče*, and the Cherokee Shawnee are *mekoče* and *čalaka*. A thorough review of the numerous historical vocabularies may shed some light on early Shawnee dialectology and linguistic history, but this task remains to be done.

Major Ebenezer Denny (1761-1822) served with the American army on the Pennsylvania-Ohio frontier in the late 1700's, and later became the first mayor of Pittsburgh. Appended to his military journal of the years 1781-1795, published in 1860 by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, are two vocabularies of the Delaware and Shawnee

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\*not the Cherokee language, which is unrelated.

languages, both originally recorded by Denny himself during treaty negotiations at Forts McIntosh and Finney respectively.

Following Denny's account, at the end of summer in 1785 a newly recruited company of soldiers prepared to embark down the Ohio river to sign a treaty with the Indians at the mouth of the Great Miami river in what is now the southwestern corner of Ohio. Colonel Josiah Harmar rather unexpectedly ordered Denny to accompany them. By October 22, 1785 the troops had reached the Miami, and hastily constructed a fort there which was named Fort Finney.

Major Denny subsequently elicited 404 words of Shawnee in January of 1786 while stationed at the fort. About the "Grenadier Squaw" who provided the vocabulary, little is known. Denny mentions that her brother Bohengeehalus arrived at Fort Finney on the 21st of December 1785; and that this man was "esteemed one of the greatest warriors now among all the Indians."

The Shawnee were at this time settled along the Miami, having relocated there from the Scioto valley during the American Revolution. At the outbreak of the Revolution they had participated in British-sponsored raids on American frontier settlements; but were compelled to relocate when the Americans retaliated on their own villages (Callender 1978). After the war, the Shawnee were treated by the United States as conquered enemies and forced to turn over their lands to the east of the Great Miami. Like their Iroquoian allies at Fort Stanwix and the Delaware and Wyandot at Fort McIntosh, the Shawnee were begrudgingly forced to accept the terms offered them.

Shawnee is still being spoken today, although recent published work on the language has not been very extensive. The historical sources have been incorporated into a teaching manual in Chrisley (1992); the lion's share of scholarly analysis has been done by Charles Voegelin (1935, 1936, 1938-40, 1954). About 300-400 speakers of Shawnee were known in 1965 (Goddard 1978); more recently Shawnee has been listed among languages spoken by adults but no or very few children (Goddard 1996).

— Claudio R. Salvucci, series ed.

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## Excerpt from the Military Journal of Major Ebenezer Denny

[Jan.] 21<sup>st</sup>.—Bohengeehalus,<sup>1</sup> with about twenty Delawares, arrived. They were saluted in the same manner that the others were. Bohengeehalus is esteemed one of the greatest warriors now among all the Indians. After he had seated himself he discovered General Clark, and knowing him to be a great warrior, rose and saluted him very significantly—instead of taking hold of each other's hands, they gripped nearly at the shoulder, and shook the left hand underneath the right arms.

This evening we were entertained with the Shawanees dancing much in the same manner as was performed by the Wyandots, but the assembly was vastly larger. After they had gone through several of their common dances they prepared for a war dance. The Shawanees have a variety of dances; but the most pleasant one is their social dance, as it is interpreted. As many young men as please, form a ring round the fire, move, dance and sing love songs; the girls looking on for some time—at length they rise one after the other, as the spirit moves them, and seize a partner. The couple stick to each other, dancing and performing every possible gesture, but still keep in the ring, singing and beating time to their music. Now, while busily engaged, the parties exchange some articles of dress, or other things, as a token of their regard. The girls were

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<sup>1</sup> Bohengeehalus, a very large stout man, brother of the "Grenadier Squaw."

very fond of getting a few of us engaged in this dance. But the war dance exceeds all—it was performed at the request of the officers. Eight or ten of the most active men stripped themselves quite naked, except the breech clout, painted their bodies and faces, so as to have a horrid appearance; armed with tomahawk and scalping knife, they formed a circle, danced moderately to a mournful kind of tune for ten or fifteen minutes, gave the war-whoop, and sat down together on seats placed for the purpose. They now hung their heads—a dead silence for a short time; one gets up, dances and capers to the music—repeats his exploits, the injuries they had sustained, urging the others to be strong, and rise and revenge themselves upon their enemies. At length they are roused, one after the other, until all get up, when they commence the most tremendous yelling, jumping and figuring about in imitation of shooting, scalping and tomahawking, exerting themselves exceedingly, until a signal is given for silence. A short speech concludes.

*24th.*—The treaty concluded at M'Intosh was explained to Bohengeehalus and his tribe, to their satisfaction.

*25th.*—One of the Shawanee chiefs died.

*26th.*—Shawanees occupied our long house in dancing every day, for ten days past. Officers and young gentlemen attending the commissioners very frequently join them. Business opened this day by an excellent speech from our commissioners to all the Indians—about four hundred present. The boundary lines, designating the lands allotted the several nations, were particularly described and pointed out on the map. They were told that as they had joined the English and taken up the hatchet against the United States,

and the war having terminated in favor of the latter, and that the English, also, to obtain peace; had ceded the whole of the country on this side of the lakes to the Americans; that they, the Indians, must now look up to the Americans, and ought to be thankful if allowed to occupy any part of the country, which by the war they had forfeited; nevertheless, more perhaps than they expected would be done for them, but they must leave hostages for their good behavior, &c.

*27th.*—Shawanees met in council house. Their head warrior, Kickwaypalathey, replied to the speech of yesterday; denied the power and right which the United States assumed; asked if the Great Spirit had given it to them to cut and portion the country in the manner proposed. The Ohio river they would agree to, nothing short; and offered a mixed belt, indicating peace or war. None touched the belt—it was laid on the table; General Clark, with his cane, pushed it off and set his foot on it. Indians very sullen. Commissioners told them it was well, that the United States did not wish war, that two days yet would be allowed to consider of the terms proposed, and six days more with provisions to return home; but after that to take care, for they would certainly feel the force of the United States. Council broke up hastily. Some commotion among the Shawanees. Returned same afternoon and begged another meeting, when their old king, Molunthy, rose and made a short speech, presented a white string, doing away all that their chief warrior had said, prayed that we would have pity on women and children, &c.

*Feb. 1st.*—Treaty concluded and signed; presents delivered, and provisions furnished each tribe for six days. Five Shawanees left as hostages.

—Ebenezer Denny, 1786.

### *Notes*

The foregoing glossary was made by Major Denny at Fort M'Intosh, when the Delawares were there at the treaty. What follows he got subsequently at Fort Finney, mostly from a Shawanee woman called "the Grenadier Squaw."

### *Indian Vocabulary*

The original of the glossary here given is in the handwriting of Major Denny, and was got from the Indians assembled at the treaties—probably the Delaware dialect at Fort M'Intosh and the Shawanee at Fort Finney. An interesting acquisition at the time was the Delaware Indian spelling book sent to General Harmar by David Zeisberger, Missionary of the Moravian Indians, from his residence on the river Huron,

—William H. Denny, 1860.

# SHAWNEE — ENGLISH



**Ackquisseka**, *affront.*  
**Acqueway**, *blanket.*  
**Alamawanetho**, *very drunk.*  
**Alaqua**, *star.*  
**Aleckhallee**, *begone.*  
**Allamawissekesekey**, *fine day.*  
**Allame wissah**, *very good.*  
**Allamewisso**, *very good.*  
**Allanawesauspanee**, *daylight.*  
**Amahqua**, *beaver.*  
**Amomoh**, *awake.*  
**Assiskay**, *ground.*  
**Athemah**, *tobacco.*  
**Aughaw**, *yes.*  
**Auhkaylookay**, *sick.*  
**Auhqualechekee**, *love.*  
**Auhquawan**, *woman.*  
**Ausetethekee**, *cross.*  
**Awassolepo neneaway**, *I'm glad to see you.*  
**Awassolepo newalah**, *I'm glad to see you.*  
**Awekepetsqua**, *banding.*  
**Awloolay**, *lead.*

**Caassaw**, *rough.*  
**Callapache**, *I don't care.*  
**Callaweelo**, *speak.*  
**Cayahwecoo**, *circle.*  
**Ceaawe**, *dirty.*

**Chaiockey**, *all*.  
**Chakethway**, *nine*.  
**Cheequa**, *thighs*.  
**Cockalamothekay**, *fowls*.  
**Cohqua**, *kettle*.  
**Cooney**, *snow*.  
**Coopanee**, *fear*.  
**Coopaney**, *afraid*.  
**Coopelayque**, *iron*.  
**Corkeapesea**, *deaf*.  
**Coselamelouhqua**, *gorget*.  
**Cottooway**, *beggar*.  
**Cuttaywah**, *black*.

**Enookay**, *now*.  
**Esanee**, *churl*.  
**Eseththo**, *name*.  
**Ethwaasicthey**, *eight*.

**Hakeepahalaway**, *will you go and hunt*.  
**Hakeypahalaway**, *will you hunt*.  
**Halaway**, *hunt*.  
**Hauchemou**, *talk*.  
**Heesayke**, *face*.  
**Hellechallay**, *away*.  
**Hockepona**, *have you got*.  
**Hosetopway**, *make*.  
**Howay**, *enough*.  
**Huneyqa**, *squirrel*.

**Kahkelay**, *drive.*  
**Kanhaw**, *wonder.*  
**Keathway**, *how many.*  
**Keecalthey**, *bull.*  
**Kee hotchemoh**, *you say.*  
**Keeketoloh**, *hide.*  
**Keela**, *you.*  
**Keelakayhaachama**, *answer.*  
**Keelanotaway**, *you understand.*  
**Keelaway**, *among.*  
**Keemeela**, *you give.*  
**Keemotwa**, *steal.*  
**Keenanhotcbemoh**, *you lie.*  
**Keenawayay**, *long.*  
**Keephanso**, *shut the door.*  
**Keesetay**, *hot.*  
**Keeskeca**, *sword.*  
**Keesothy**, *sun.*  
**Keewacomelay**, *your health.*  
**Keewaconele**, *you're healthy.*  
**Keewaylo**, *come back.*  
**Kelechepethoway**, *ring.*  
**Kemewaney**, *rain.*  
**Kenasewelemay**, *you love.*  
**Kepahee**, *allow.*  
**Kepuckenewee**, *coarse.*  
**Kesakee**, *day.*  
**Kesepay**, *camp.*

**Ketaqueulemela**, *dear*.

**Ketatewa**, *offer*.

**Ketchetanekey**, *thimble*.

**Ketela**, *will you*.

**Ketemaneela**, *I am poor*.

**Ketheneka**, *soap*.

**Kooque**, *I don't know*.

**Lamelewekechelesso**, *merry; I am merry*.

**Lapwawa**, *adopt*.

**Lawahqua**, *meridian (12 o'clock)*.

**Leekeeloh**, *undress*.

**Lekaw**, *goose*.

**Lematapeloo**, *sit down*.

**Lenahqua**, *bow*.

**Lenappee**, *Delaware*.

**Lenay**, *man*.

**Lewata**, *smoke*.

**Locana**, *flour*.

**Locatothy**, *fatigue*.

**Lolopatheway**, *swim*.

**Lonowaywe**, *alive*.

**Maawa**, *cry*.

**Macootelathey**, *fawn*.

**Macoooteletha**, *calf*.

**Makamoola**, *sing*.

**Manethey**, *knife*.

**Masquaway**, *scarlet*.  
**Matalaqay**, *have none*.  
**Matathway**, *ten*.  
**Matathway kete-necootey**, *eleven*.  
**Matathway kete-neesway**, *twelve*.  
**Matchelepō**, *sorry*.  
**Matchemanetto**, *devil*.  
**Matcheykeesek**, *bad weather*.  
**Mathuetha**, *buffalo*.  
**Matseweehewa**, *curse*.  
**Matsquathay**, *little*.  
**Matta**, *no*.  
**Mattatawalee**, *leggings*.  
**Mattawelethee**, *ugly*.  
**Mattawessah**, *bad*.  
**Matta wessa**, *impudent*.  
**Matta wissah**, *very bad*.  
**Mattetepoanee**, *false*.  
**Meaway**, *road*.  
**Meeleloh**, *give*.  
**Meleneyawpo**, *milk*.  
**Meloonahēe**, *civil*.  
**Meloonehēe**, *peace*.  
**Menelaypee**, *dance*.  
**Menello**, *drink*.  
**Menethe**, *island*.  
**Mequamah**, *ice*.  
**Mequanaa**, *feather*.

**Mesaway**, *big*.  
**Mesaway**, *great*.  
**Meskeelawethetha**, *boy*.  
**Mesquaway**, *red*.  
**Mesque**, *blood*.  
**Messawah**, *horse*.  
**Metahqua**, *tree*.  
**Metanakee**, *after*.  
**Metchay**, *great deal, great many*.  
**Metcheay**, *great many*.  
**Metchey**, *much*.  
**Methequiatay**, *hominy*.  
**Metseka**, *danger*.  
**Metsquathapay**, *belt*.  
**Mianee**, *young*.  
**Missimena**, *apple*.  
**Mochachenehee**, *not far*.  
**Mockcottay**, *powder*.  
**Mockeethena**, *moccasins*.  
**Monee**, *silver*.  
**Moneewaykeptseca**, *lace*.  
**Monethepay**, *buckle*.  
**Monetto**, *snake*.  
**Monthelo**, *cut wood*.  
**Mosakee**, *always*.  
**Mouhqua**, *bear*.

**Nalanway**, *five*.  
**Nallawaskee**, *blind*.  
**Napayay**, *cock*.  
**Natame**, *stay a good while*.  
**Nathepoqua**, *bite*.  
**Naweesamenay**, *I want drink*.  
**Neaway**, *four*.  
**Nechenenah**, *brother*.  
**Necokeahkeema**, *advice*.  
**Necootey**, *one*.  
**Necotwathway**, *six*.  
**Neeaway**, *thank*.  
**Neecanah**, *comrade*.  
**Neehalaway**, *I'm going to hunt*.  
**Neehmeneelah**, *I'll dance*.  
**Neekanauh**, *friend*.  
**Neela**, *me*.  
**Neepawelo**, *stop*.  
**Neepeetenaco**, *coat*.  
**Neeswathway**, *seven*.  
**Neesway**, *two*.  
**Neetapalawee**, *I have been hunting*.  
**Neetsqualaway**, *I am hungry*.  
**Neewa**, *my wife*.  
**Negwalemela**, *I want to see you*.  
**Nehohto**, *hero*.  
**Neiswapataky**, *twenty*.  
**Nekanee**, *before*.

**Nekeketethe**, *pain.*  
**Nekkaen**, *mamma.*  
**Nelskeemaqua**, *abuse.*  
**Nemeela**, *I give.*  
**Nemeloo**, *carry.*  
**Nemscowee**, *bleed.*  
**Nenasewelemelay**, *I love you.*  
**Nenoptookey**, *warriors.*  
**Nepaukeche**, *farewell.*  
**Nepaukechey**, *farewell.*  
**Nepay**, *water.*  
**Nepaywah**, *sleep.*  
**Nepepemay**, *salt.*  
**Nepowa**, *dead.*  
**Nequatho**, *my son.*  
**Neseetha**, *uncle.*  
**Netah**, *advance.*  
**Nethayketonaypetseca**, *bridle.*  
**Nethequeatha**, *aunt.*  
**Nethway**, *three.*  
**Nettaqueathy**, *bashful.*  
**Netuckawatah**, *I want.*  
**Newaneto**, *loss.*  
**Newaytepay**, *active.*  
**Noameatha**, *fish.*  
**Noatshettepey**, *army.*  
**Nonhauchemaw**, *lie.*  
**Nonseeka**, *alone.*

**Nosescuttey**, *doe*.  
**Nosetchualaya**, *fork*.  
**Notamaweelo**, *help*.  
**Notaway**, *understand*.  
**Nothaw**, *father*.  
**Notootawee**, *ask*.  
**Nowassolepo**, *I'm glad*.  
**Nowesaweletah**, *I want*.

**Ocatchey**, *legs*.  
**Ockeeptetho**, *will you smoke*.  
**Ocutseethy**, *fox*.  
**Ohquakay**, *pipe*.  
**Okaymomay**, *will you have*.  
**Okeemaa**, *king*.  
**Olagau**, *yesterday*.  
**Olechey**, *hand*.  
**Onethay**, *flying*.  
**Ooheanee**, *bone*.  
**Opetakewaypay**, *seat*.  
**Osetolay**, *build*.  
**Oskenway**, *new*.  
**Otayway**, *town*.  
**Otepayleta**, *free*.  
**Othawa monee**, *gold*.  
**Othechey**, *feet*.  
**Othepottee**, *raccoon*.  
**Ottanetha**, *my daughter*.

**Paleawa**, *turkey*.  
**Paluchahee**, *by-and-by*.  
**Papeach**, *you must*.  
**Papeeseauk**, *shirt*.  
**Pathea**, *hay*.  
**Pauhcomekee**, *back*.  
**Paukeche**, *going*.  
**Paukechey**, *gone*.  
**Pawaywa**, *rich*.  
**Pealah**, *come here*.  
**Peatetheloo**, *labor*.  
**Peatockwithama**, *sunrise*.  
**Peatolah**, *bring, fetch*.  
**Peckway**, *ashes*.  
**Pehetahweelo**, *strike*.  
**Peleethay**, *hawk*.  
**Peleskee**, *woods*.  
**Pelloway**, *great ways*.  
**Peltreway**, *handkerchief*.  
**Pemahiatake**, *rifle*.  
**Pemee**, *fat, grease*.  
**Pepakethakay**, *ribbon*.  
**Pepeketsa**, *dark*.  
**Pepquan**, *shot*.  
**Pesicthey**, *deer*.  
**Pessepaupyea**, *itch*.  
**Petalwa**, *horn*.  
**Petauga**, *bag*.

**Petaukho**, *hat*.  
**Pettawakay**, *wampum*.  
**Poosetha**, *cat*.  
**Poppeeaway**, *saddle*.  
**Popseahkee**, *linen*.  
**Possepoh**, *stab*.  
**Potawelote otahco**, *put wood on*.  
**Pothemeachy**, *too much*.  
**Potsasey**, *nose*.  
**Puckechey**, *go*.  
**Pucksemo**, *sunset*.

**Quahqua**, *maybe*.  
**Quapekee**, *mile*.  
**Quatethe**, *sober*.  
**Quekamee**, *full*.  
**Queque**, *maybe*.  
**Queyatha**, *hen*.

**Sackeweekewa**, *cabin*.  
**Saponeka**, *needle*.  
**Saymacanekee**, *soldier*.  
**Scootah**, *fire*.  
**Scootay**, *fire*.  
**Seegriana**, *stone*.  
**Seekseco**, *eyes*.  
**Sepenwee**, *hard*.  
**Sepoonanoo**, *begin*.

**Sewethenepee**, *feast.*

**Sicapee**, *buck.*

**Silkee**, *silk.*

**Skeahla**, *yes.*

**Skeemah**, *scold.*

**Skepecothy**, *grog.*

**Skeporscotto**, *green.*

**Sockhoway**, *broth.*

**Sokeasea**, *canoe.*

**Soseewa**, *cow.*

**Spemekay**, *above.*

**Spemekea**, *high.*

**Squatah**, *door.*

**Tackhawn**, *bread.*

**Tahcoh**, *wood.*

**Tahne way**, *where.*

**Tahnepakee**, *bed.*

**Takawa**, *beard.*

**Takewa**, *gun.*

**Tanakaywa**, *where's your wife.*

**Tanaway lawqua**, *when.*

**Tanaytha**, *daughter.*

**Tapahkay**, *night.*

**Tapakey**, *tonight.*

**Tapaykay**, *this night.*

**Tappoem**, *dream.*

**Tawetay**, *chimney.*

**Teacetay**, *I think.*  
**Teakee**, *heart.*  
**Teckhawk**, *tomahawk.*  
**Tekee**, *don't.*  
**Tekekecomecawaylatah**, *forgive.*  
**Tepahtoawa**, *believe.*  
**Tepekekeeswa**, *moon.*  
**Tepeloo**, *cruel.*  
**Tepeloo**, *indeed.*  
**Tepheca**, *cup.*  
**Tepholoh**, *I am full.*  
**Tepneeka**, *quart.*  
**Thakhoway**, *button.*  
**Theemahee**, *child.*  
**Theemakee**, *young brother or child.*  
**Theemathayquy**, *sister.*  
**Theepay**, *river.*  
**Theepewithe**, *run (a water).*  
**Thenamesay**, *sugar.*  
**Thepanalewetaw**, *mink.*  
**Thequa**, *comb.*  
**Thocatena**, *frost.*  
**Thothecatay**, *fry.*  
**Tommey**, *corn.*  
**Tonee**, *mouth.*  
**Tootemat**, *sister.*  
**Towacoh**, *ear.*

**Waawesah**, *dress.*  
**Wahcanaquah**, *white.*  
**Wahkahoway**, *fort.*  
**Wallamelawessalepo**, *I'm sorry.*  
**Wanasketha**, *bold.*  
**Wanatethay**, *great foot.*  
**Wapakey**, *tomorrow.*  
**Wapalaneathy**, *eagle.*  
**Wapatnooway**, *looking-glass.*  
**Wapethee**, *swan.*  
**Wasalacatwee**, *hole.*  
**Watheyaw**, *light.*  
**Watschekee**, *mountain.*  
**Wawonessetamekay**, *noise.*  
**Weacoway**, *angry.*  
**Weecanwee**, *sweet.*  
**Weela**, *he.*  
**Weenetho**, *drunk.*  
**Weesakaqua**, *bottle.*  
**Weesatho**, *sweat.*  
**Weesay**, *head.*  
**Weeskelotha**, *bird.*  
**Weheapealo**, *come.*  
**Wehewayketuckawatah**, *what you want.*  
**Welaatay**, *boil.*  
**Wela hotchemoh**, *he says.*  
**Welamoh**, *paint.*  
**Weletha**, *hair.*

**Welethee**, *pretty.*  
**Welonahee**, *quiet.*  
**Wepee**, *cold.*  
**Wepetalah**, *teeth.*  
**Wesasqua**, *muskrat.*  
**Wesecatewee**, *strong.*  
**Wessa**, *kind, nobly.*  
**Wessah**, *good, very good.*  
**Wessee**, *dog.*  
**Wetanakee**, *behind.*  
**Wetapee**, *quick.*  
**Wetemeloh**, *come with me.*  
**Wethacanwee**, *bitter.*  
**Whootseweeka**, *arm.*  
**Wigwame**, *house.*  
**Withocapay**, *rum.*  
**Wopequa**, *louse.*  
**Wothepeah**, *clean.*  
**Wyakiquawa**, *lady.*  
  
**Youmoh**, *here.*



# ENGLISH — SHAWNEE



**Above**, *spemekay*.  
**Abuse**, *nelskeemaqua*.  
**Active**, *newaytepay*.  
**Adopt**, *lapwawa*.  
**Advance**, *netah*.  
**Advice**, *necokeahkeema*.  
**Affront**, *ackquisseka*.  
**Afraid**, *cooaney*.  
**After**, *metanakee*.  
**Alive**, *lonowaywe*.  
**All**, *chaiiokey*.  
**Allow**, *kepahee*.  
**Alone**, *nonseeka*.  
**Always**, *mosakee*.  
**Among**, *keelaway*.  
**Angry**, *weacoway*.  
**Answer**, *keelakayhaachama*.  
**Apple**, *missimena*.  
**Arm**, *whootseweeka*.  
**Army**, *noatshettepey*.  
**Ashes**, *peckway*.  
**Ask**, *notootawee*.  
**Aunt**, *nethequeatha*.  
**Awake**, *amomoh*.  
**Away**, *hellechallay*.

**Back**, *pauhcomekee*.  
**Bad**, *mattawessah*. **Very bad**, *matta wissah*.

**Bag**, *petauga*.  
**Banding**, *awekepetsqua*.  
**Bashful**, *nettaqueathy*.  
**Bear**, *mouhqua*.  
**Beard**, *takawa*.  
**Beaver**, *amahqua*.  
**Bed**, *tahnepakee*.  
**Before**, *nekanee*.  
**Beggar**, *cottooway*.  
**Begin**, *sepoonanoo*.  
**Begone**, *aleckhallee*.  
**Behind**, *wetanakee*.  
**Believe**, *tepahtoawa*.  
**Belt**, *metsquathapay*.  
**Big**, *mesaway*.  
**Bird**, *weeskelotha*.  
**Bite**, *nathepoqua*.  
**Bitter**, *wethacanwee*.  
**Black**, *cuttaywah*.  
**Blanket**, *acqueway*.  
**Bleed**, *nemscowee*.  
**Blind**, *nallawaskee*.  
**Blood**, *mesque*.  
**Boil**, *welaatay*.  
**Bold**, *wanasketha*.  
**Bone**, *ooheanee*.  
**Bottle**, *weesakaqua*.  
**Bow**, *lenahqua*.

**Boy**, *meskeelawethetha*.  
**Bread**, *tackhawn*.  
**Bridle**, *nethayketonaypetseca*.  
**Bring**, *peatolah*.  
**Brotch**, *sockhoway*.  
**Brother**, *nechenenah*. **Young brother**, *theemakee*.  
**Buck**, *sicapee*.  
**Buckle**, *monethepay*.  
**Buffalo**, *mathuetha*.  
**Build**, *osetolay*.  
**Bull**, *keecalthey*.  
**Button**, *thakhoway*.  
**By-and-by**, *paluchahee*.

**Cabin**, *sackeweekewa*.  
**Calf**, *macooteletha*.  
**Camp**, *keseipay*.  
**Canoe**, *sokeasea*.  
**Care, I don't**, *callapache*.  
**Carry**, *nemeloo*.  
**Cat**, *poosetha*.  
**Child**, *theemahee*.  
**Child**, *theemakee*.  
**Chimney**, *tawetay*.  
**Churl**, *esanee*.  
**Circle**, *cayahwecoo*.  
**Civil**, *meloonahee*.  
**Clean**, *wothepeah*.

**Coarse**, *kepuckenewee*.

**Coat**, *neepeetenaco*.

**Cock**, *napayay*.

**Cold**, *wepee*.

**Comb**, *thequa*.

**Come**, *weheapealo*. **Come back**, *keewaylo*. **Come here**,  
*peaalah*. **Come with me**, *wetemeloh*.

**Comrade**, *neecanah*.

**Corn**, *tommey*.

**Cow**, *soseewa*.

**Cross**, *ausetethekee*.

**Cruel**, *tepeloo*.

**Cry**, *maawa*.

**Cup**, *tepheca*.

**Curse**, *matseweehewa*.

**Dance**, *menelaypee*. **I'll dance**, *neehmeneelah*.

**Danger**, *metseka*.

**Dark**, *pepeketsa*.

**Daughter**, *tanaytha*. **My daughter**, *ottanetha*.

**Day**, *kesakee*. **Fine day**, *allamawissekesekey*.

**Daylight**, *allanawesauspanee*.

**Dead**, *nepowa*.

**Deaf**, *corkeapesea*.

**Dear**, *ketaqueulemela*.

**Deer**, *pesicthey*.

**Delaware**, *lenappee*.

**Devil**, *matchemanetto*.

**Dirty**, *ceaawe*.  
**Doe**, *nosescuttey*.  
**Dog**, *wessee*.  
**Don't**, *tekee*.  
**Door**, *squatah*. **Shut the door**, *keephanso*.  
**Dream**, *tappoem*.  
**Dress**, *waawesah*.  
**Drink**, *menello*. **I want drink**, *naweesamenay*.  
**Drive**, *kahkelay*.  
**Drunk**, *weenetho*. **Very drunk**, *alamawanetho*.

**Eagle**, *wapalaneathy*.  
**Ear**, *towacoh*.  
**Eight**, *ethwaasichthey*.  
**Eleven**, *matathway kete-necootey*.  
**Enough**, *howay*.  
**Eyes**, *seekseco*.

**Face**, *heesayke*.  
**False**, *mattetepoanee*.  
**Far, not**, *mochachenehee*.  
**Farewell**, *nepaukeche, nepaukechey*.  
**Fat**, *peme*.  
**Father**, *nothaw*.  
**Fatigue**, *locatothy*.  
**Fawn**, *macootelathey*.  
**Fear**, *coopanee*.  
**Feast**, *sewethenepee*.

**Feather**, *mequanaa*.  
**Feet**, *othechey*.  
**Fetch**, *peatolah*.  
**Fire**, *scootah*, *scootay*.  
**Fish**, *noameatha*.  
**Five**, *nalanway*.  
**Flour**, *locana*.  
**Flying**, *onethay*.  
**Foot**, **great**, *wanatethay*.  
**Forgive**, *tekekeecomecawaylatah*.  
**Fork**, *nosetchualaya*.  
**Fort**, *wahkahoway*.  
**Four**, *neaway*.  
**Fowls**, *cockalamothekay*.  
**Fox**, *ocutseethy*.  
**Free**, *otepayleta*.  
**Friend**, *neekanauh*.  
**Frost**, *thocatena*.  
**Fry**, *thothecatay*.  
**Full**, *quekamee*. **I am full**, *tepholoh*.

**Give**, *meeleloh*. **I give**, *nemeela*. **You give**, *keemeela*.  
**Glad**, **I'm**, *nowassolepo*. **I'm glad to see you**, *awassolepo  
neneaway*, or, *newalah*.  
**Go**, *puckechey*. **Going**, *paukeche*. **Gone**, *paukechey*. **Will  
you go and hunt**, *hakeepahalaway*.  
**Gold**, *othawa monee*.  
**Good**, *wessah*. **Very good**, *allame wissah.*, *allamewisso*,  
or, *wessah*.

**Goose**, *lekaw*.  
**Gorget**, *coselamelouhqua*.  
**Grease**, *pemee*.  
**Great**, *mesaway*.  
**Great deal**, *metchay*.  
**Great foot**, *wanatethay*.  
**Great many**, *metchay, metcheay*.  
**Great ways**, *pelloway*.  
**Green**, *skeporscotto*.  
**Grog**, *skepecothy*.  
**Ground**, *assiskay*.  
**Gun**, *takewa*.

**Hair**, *weletha*.  
**Hand**, *olechey*.  
**Handkerchief**, *peltreway*.  
**Hard**, *sepenwee*.  
**Hat**, *petaukho*.  
**Have none**, *matalaqay*.  
**Have you got**, *hockepoona*.  
**Have, will you**, *okaymomay*.  
**Hawk**, *peleethay*.  
**Hay**, *pathea*.  
**He**, *weela*.  
**Head**, *weesay*.  
**Health, your**, *keewacomelay*.  
**Healthy, you're**, *keewaconele*.  
**Heart**, *teakee*.

**Help**, *notamaweelo*.

**Hen**, *queyatha*.

**Here**, *youmoh*.

**Hero**, *nehohto*.

**Hide**, *keeketoloh*.

**High**, *spemekea*.

**Hole**, *wasalacatwee*.

**Hominy**, *methequiatay*.

**Horn**, *petalwa*.

**Horse**, *messawah*.

**Hot**, *keesetay*.

**House**, *wigwame*.

**How many**, *keathway*.

**Hungry, I am**, *neetsqualaway*.

**Hunt, halaway. I'm going to hunt**, *neehalaway*. **Will you go and hunt**, *hakeepahalaway*. **Will you hunt**, *hakeypahalaway*.

**Hunting, I have been**, *neetapalawee*.

**Ice**, *mequamah*.

**Impudent**, *matta wessa*.

**Indeed**, *tepeloo*.

**Iron**, *coopelayque*.

**Island**, *menethe*.

**Itch**, *pessepaupyea*.

**Kettle**, *cohqua*.

**Kind**, *wessa*.

**King**, *okeemaa*.

**Knife**, *manethey*.

**Know, I don't**, *kooque*.

**Labor**, *peatetheloo*.

**Lace**, *moneewaykeptseca*.

**Lady**, *wyakiquawa*.

**Lead**, *awloolay*.

**Leggings**, *mattatawalee*.

**Legs**, *ocatchey*.

**Lie**, *nonhauchemaw*. **You lie**, *keenanhotcbemoh*.

**Light**, *watheway*.

**Linen**, *popseahkee*.

**Little**, *matsquathay*.

**Long**, *keenawaway*.

**Looking-glass**, *wapatnooway*.

**Loss**, *newaneto*.

**Louse**, *wopequa*.

**Love**, *auhqualechekee*. **I love you**, *nenasewelemelay*. **You love**, *kenasewelemay*.

**Make**, *hosetopway*.

**Mamma**, *nekkaen*.

**Man**, *lenay*.

**Many, how**, *keathway*.

**Maybe**, *quahqua, queque*.

**Me**, *neela*.

**Meridian (12 o'clock)**, *lawahqua*.

**Merry**, *lamelewekechelesso*.      **I am merry**,  
*lamelewekechelesso*.

**Mile**, *quapekee*.

**Milk**, *meleneyawpo*.

**Mink**, *thepanalewetaw*.

**Moccasins**, *mockeethena*.

**Moon**, *tepekekeeswa*.

**Mountain**, *watschekee*.

**Mouth**, *tonee*.

**Much**, *metchey*.

**Muskrat**, *wesasqua*.

**Must, you**, *papeach*.

**Name**, *eseththo*.

**Needle**, *saponeka*.

**New**, *oskenway*.

**Night**, *tapahkay*.    **This night**, *tapaykay*.

**Nine**, *chakethway*.

**No**, *matta*.

**Nobly**, *wessa*.

**Noise**, *wawonessetamekay*.

**None, have**, *matalaqay*.

**Nose**, *potsasey*.

**Now**, *enookay*.

**Offer**, *ketatewa*.

**One**, *necootey*.

**Pain**, *nekekeetethe*.

**Paint**, *welamoh*.

**Peace**, *meloonehee*.

**Pipe**, *ohquakay*.

**Poor, I am**, *ketemaneela*.

**Powder**, *mockcottay*.

**Pretty**, *welethee*.

**Quart**, *tepneeka*.

**Quick**, *wetapee*.

**Quiet**, *welonahee*.

**Raccoon**, *othepottee*.

**Rain**, *kemewaney*.

**Red**, *mesquaway*.

**Ribbon**, *pepakethakay*.

**Rich**, *pawaywa*.

**Rifle**, *pemahiatake*.

**Ring**, *kelechepethoway*.

**River**, *theepay*.

**Road**, *meaway*.

**Rough**, *caassaw*.

**Rum**, *withocapay*.

**Run (a water)**, *theepewithe*.

**Saddle**, *poppeeaway*.

**Salt**, *nepepemay*.

**Say, you**, *kee hotchemoh*. **He says**, *wela hotchemoh*.

**Scarlet**, *masquaway*.  
**Scold**, *skeemah*.  
**Seat**, *opetakewaypay*.  
**See, I want to see you**, *negwalemela*.  
**Seven**, *neeswathway*.  
**Shirt**, *papeeseauk*.  
**Shot**, *pepquan*.  
**Shut the door**, *keephanso*.  
**Sick**, *auhkaylookay*.  
**Silk**, *silkee*.  
**Silver**, *monee*.  
**Sing**, *makamoola*.  
**Sister**, *themathayquy*, or, *tootemat*.  
**Sit down**, *lematapeloo*.  
**Six**, *necotwathway*.  
**Sleep**, *nepaywah*.  
**Smoke**, *lewata*. **Will you smoke**, *ockkeepotetho*.  
**Snake**, *monetto*.  
**Snow**, *cooney*.  
**Soap**, *ketheneka*.  
**Sober**, *quatethe*.  
**Soldier**, *saymacanekee*.  
**Son, my**, *nequatho*.  
**Sorry**, *matchelepo*. **I'm sorry**, *wallamelawessalepo*.  
**Speak**, *callaweelo*.  
**Squirrel**, *huneyqa*.  
**Stab**, *possepoh*.  
**Star**, *alacqua*.

**Stay a good while**, *natame*.

**Steal**, *keemotwa*.

**Stone**, *seegriana*.

**Stop**, *neepawelo*.

**Strike**, *pehetahweelo*.

**Strong**, *wesecatwee*.

**Sugar**, *thenamesay*.

**Sun**, *keesothy*.

**Sunrise**, *peatockwithama*.

**Sunset**, *pucksemo*.

**Swan**, *wapethee*.

**Sweat**, *weesatho*.

**Sweet**, *weecanwee*.

**Swim**, *lolopatheway*.

**Sword**, *keeskeca*.

**Talk**, *hauchemou*.

**Teeth**, *wepetalah*.

**Ten**, *matathway*.

**Thank**, *neeaway*.

**Thighs**, *cheequa*.

**Thimble**, *ketchetanekey*.

**Think, I**, *teacetay*.

**Three**, *nethway*.

**Tobacco**, *athemah*.

**Tomahawk**, *teckhawk*.

**Tomorrow**, *wapakey*.

**Tonight**, *tapakey*.

**Too much**, *pothemeachy*.

**Town**, *otayway*.

**Tree**, *metahqua*.

**Turkey**, *paleawa*.

**Twelve**, *matathway kete-neesway*.

**Twenty**, *neiswapataky*.

**Two**, *neesway*.

**Ugly**, *mattawelethee*.

**Uncle**, *neseetha*.

**Understand**, *notaway*. **You understand**, *keelanotaway*.

**Undress**, *leekeeloh*.

**Wampum**, *pettawakay*.

**Want, I**, *netuckawatah.*, *nowesaweletah*. **What you want**,  
*wehewayketuckawatah*.

**Warriors**, *nenoptookey*.

**Water**, *nepay*.

**Weather, bad**, *matcheykeesek*.

**When**, *tanaway lawqua*.

**Where**, *tahne way*.

**White**, *wahcanaquah*.

**Wife, my**, *neewa*. **Where's your wife**, *tanakaywa*.

**Will you**, *ketela*.

**Woman**, *auhquawan*.

**Wonder**, *kanhaw*.

**Wood, tahcoh**. **Cut wood**, *monthelo*. **Put wood on**,  
*potawelote otahco*.

**Woods**, *peleskee*.

**Yes**, *skeahla*, or, *aughaw*.

**Yesterday**, *olagau*.

**You**, *keela*.

**Young**, *mianee*.



## Numerical Table

- |                 |                             |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Necootey     | 8. Ethwaasicthey            |
| 2. Neesway      | 9. Chakethway               |
| 3. Nethway      | 10. Matathway               |
| 4. Neaway       | 11. Matathway kete-necootey |
| 5. Nalanway     | 12. Matathway kete-neesway  |
| 6. Necotwathway | 20. Neiswapataky            |
| 7. Neeswathway  |                             |



# CLASSIFICATION OF THE ALGONQUIAN LANGUAGES

## ALGONQUIAN

*Blackfoot*

## CREE-MONTAGNAIS

CREE

MONTAGNAIS-NASKAPI

## ARAPAHOAN

ARAPAHO-GROS VENTRE

*Nawathinehena*

*Cheyenne*

*Menominee*

## OJIBWAYAN

NORTHERN OJIBWA

*Severn Ojibwa*

*Northern Algonquin*

SOUTHERN OJIBWA

*Saulteaux*

*Central Southern Ojibwa*

*Old Algonquin*

*Ottawa*

*Potawatomi*

## SAUK-FOX-KICKAPOO

*Sauk-Fox*

*Kickapoo*

*Shawnee*

*Miami-Illinois*

EASTERN ALGONQUIAN, etc.

Source: Goddard 1996