

PHONOLOGICAL VARIANTS IN PUKATAWAGAN WOODS CREE

by

Jennifer M. Greensmith

A thesis submitted to the Faculty of Graduate Studies
of the University of Manitoba
in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of
Master of Arts

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PREFACE

This thesis is a first attempt at a study of the phonological contrasts and surface variants of Woods Cree, based on the dialect spoken at Pukatawagan, Manitoba. The analysis is based on direct elicitation and on narrative texts, one of which is included as an appendix.

Few studies of Cree phonology exist, and no phonological study has been made of the Woods dialect. Traditionally, Woods Cree has been identified as that dialect of Cree which has the ǝ-reflex of Proto Algonquian *l. Although variously written as ǝ, th and θ, I argue that the Pukatawagan Woods Cree reflex is indeed ǝ. This reflex is usually taken as the primary dialectological diagnostic of Cree, but it is by no means the only feature in which Woods Cree differs from the other Cree dialects.

I hope that students and teachers of Woods Cree will find this study of use, faced as they are, like the majority of Cree speakers, with the problem of reading with materials based on a dialect of Cree other than their own.

For its financial support during my fieldwork, I am grateful to the University of Manitoba Research Board. I should like to

thank, amongst my Cree teachers, Selsey Linklater and Michael Caribou, my advisor H.C. Wolfart, and Richard Carter, John Haiman, John Nichols, David Pentland and Paul Voorhis.

From my friends and fellow students I have received much advice and moral support -- especially I am grateful to Freda Ahenakew, Rod Davison, Arden Ogg, Donna Starks and to Lee Brandson who also wrote computer programs for the Cree text and glossary.

Finally, to my husband and children, none of whom ever again wants to hear the word 'thesis', I give my thanks and love.

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Chapter I

INTRODUCTION

In the late seventeenth century, speakers of the Woods dialect of Cree were first encountered on the coast of Hudson's Bay. They acted as interpreters between officials of the Hudson's Bay Company and the tribes who came from further inland to trade with the English. In view of this early contact, it is more than a little ironic that the Woods dialect of Cree is now the least studied of all the Cree dialects.

1.1 THE ǫ DIALECT

The Woods dialect of Cree is most often referred to as the ǫ-dialect -- that is, the dialect with the sound ǫ in words such as nīǫa 'I', where other dialects of Cree have y, n, l or r, for example, nīya, nīna, nīla, nīra. The sound ǫ has been variously described as θ, th, and d.

Beyond this formal identification, very little information is generally given. Pentland's comparative study (1979) proves to be an exception to the general rule in that he gives modern data from several different Woods Cree dialect areas. His main interest, of course, is a search for historical correspondences.

The Woods dialect of Cree has yet to be studied in detail. One reason for this neglect may be that, relative to other Cree dialects, the number of Woods Cree speakers is small. Another reason may simply be that there has not been a linguist in the areas where the dialect is spoken.

1.2 NUMBER OF WOODS CREE SPEAKERS

According to Smith (1981:268), the population of "Western Woods Cree" by government bands in 1978 (Canada 1980) was given as 35,550. This figure is totally misleading -- it is based on legal and cultural affiliation rather than linguistic status, and encompasses all speakers of Woods Cree proper, as well as most, if not all, of the Northern Plains Cree and the Western Swampy Cree. If we add together the figures given for bands that are known to be in the Woods Cree dialect area, possibly no more than 8,000 of the total number may be speakers of Woods Cree. This figure in itself is only a rough estimate, as it reflects only the number of 'treaty' Indians, not all of whom speak Cree, whilst ignoring the number of Métis and 'non-treaty' Indians, many of whom are Cree speakers.

Wolfart (1973:10) quotes government figures for numbers of Plains Cree, to a total of 26,000, although he notes that the figures are not reliable for dialect or even language assignment.

Ellis (1973:6) suggests figures of 24,000 Swampy Cree speakers, 21,000 Plains Cree, a tentative 2,500 for the ǵ- and the r-dialects combined, and another 2,500 Moose Cree speakers.

While Ellis' figures may appear somewhat low in comparison to the figure of 8,000 given previously, we must take into account the fact that a proportion of each band number will not speak Cree -- or, at least, will not consider Cree as their first language. Some who grow up in urban centres do not speak Cree at home, whilst others who grow up on a reservation may learn their native language along with the more traditional way of life.

In view of the small number of speakers, it is perhaps not surprising that the Woods dialect has had a low priority for study and, furthermore, that nothing has been written specifically about Woods Cree.

1.3 NO MATERIAL FOR CLASSROOM USE

As we shall see, there are three paedagogical works which have been produced for the dialects with the majority of speakers -- for James Bay Cree, for Manitoba Swampy Cree, and for Plains Cree. As a direct result of the existence of these teaching manuals, and of the absence of anything comparable for Woods Cree, speakers of this dialect are of necessity presented with material based upon an unfamiliar dialect. They meet different sounds, words and inflectional endings, as well as unfamiliar sentence patterns and

meanings. All this cannot fail to create the impression that Woods Cree is not the "correct" form of Cree to speak.

Soveran (1966) writes about the difficulties that Cree speakers encounter when learning the sound system of English. Her observations on the handicap of a foreign accent apply equally to a speaker of a different dialect:

A foreign accent is a handicap when it colors speech in such a way as to cause social discrimination, classing the speaker as an "outsider", making it hard for him to be accepted on an equal footing with the rest of the group.

This, of course can happen to anyone who speaks a dialect that differs from the mainstream. From my own experience as a speaker of "British English", I find that on certain occasions it is more expedient to conform to the speech pattern of the majority. For instance, when I was teaching some local children how to cook, the recipe for

[təmeyDə səs] ,

with vowels similar to those of Canadian English made and loss, was accepted without question. They thought my British pronunciation of

[təmətəu sɔs] ,

with vowels similar to those of Canadian English saw and or, was very odd!

Confidence in one's native dialect is likely to be shaken when one is living in a different setting -- for instance, in an urban centre for schooling -- and when one is taught with material based upon a different dialect.

In Meet Cree, Wolfart and Carroll mention briefly the different dialects of Cree, and speak of the "minor and superficial adjustments" required for a particular dialect area. In the case of the Woods dialect of Cree we suspect that they are neither.

1.4 STUDIES OF OTHER CREE DIALECTS

We have alluded to linguistic and paedagogical studies of the other Cree dialects. In this section, we shall review them in greater detail, moving across the country from east to west.

In the east, we begin with the detailed dialect survey of MacKenzie (1980). In this, the dialects of Cree spoken in Québec and the Labrador peninsula are identified as East Cree, Naskapi and Montagnais. This is a significant departure from previous analyses, notably Michelson (1939), which split Cree and Montagnais-Naskapi apart on the basis of the palatalisation of k to č.

There is now a considerable amount of material for these dialects of Cree, ranging from the work of MacKenzie through numerous grammatical studies such as those of Mailhot and Lescop

(1975) and Drapeau (1979), to whole books written by native speakers themselves with a French translation alongside the Cree text; here we are referring to Kapesch (1976, 1979).

Further west, Moose Cree, an l-dialect, is spoken at Moose Factory and near Fort Albany in Ontario. This dialect is the basis for several technical papers in syntax by James (e.g. 1982, 1983).

The Swampy dialect -- where n is the reflex of Proto-Algonquian *l -- is spoken in both Ontario and Manitoba. Pentland (1979:59) subdivides the dialect into the Eastern Swampy dialects which are spoken at Fort Albany, Attawapiskat and Winisk; and the Western Swampy dialects, spoken from Fort Severn to Cumberland House, Saskatchewan.

For the Eastern Swampy dialect, we have the comprehensive teaching manual of Ellis (1983). This contains whole sections of conversational drills with the Cree written in syllabics as well as Roman orthography. Somewhat confusing to the casual reader is the conflict between Ellis' statement that this is a manual based on the Swampy Cree dialect, and the fact that throughout he uses the symbol l, the sound that is normally associated with the Moose dialect of Cree. Ellis' explanation is that the form of the syllabary used is that of Moose Cree, hence the l in the transcription. It does, however, leave one with the impression that the only difference between two adjacent Cree dialects is the substitution of one sound for another. As far as the Woods dialect

of Cree is concerned, this impression may well turn out to be a false one.

For the Western Swampy Cree dialect spoken in Manitoba, Voorhis has compiled a Cree phrase-book and grammar with the help of native speakers who first learned their Cree in different communities throughout the province (Voorhis et al. 1972). Voorhis uses the symbol \bar{n} for the reflex of Proto-Algonquian * \underline{n} , to distinguish it from the other \underline{n} , which is present in all dialects of Cree. This enables speakers of other dialects to know where "their special sound" is likely to occur. Voorhis states (p. 7):

This book is based on the Cree dialects of Manitoba. Where these dialects differ from one another, the dialect of Norway House (...) is used, not because it is preferable, but only because most of the contributors to this book are from there.

Voorhis shows by his careful wording [my underlining] that he is very much aware of the practical consequences of presenting material in only one dialect. He also gives other Manitoba Cree dialect forms where they are available. His "northern" variants have been especially useful in making comparisons with the Woods dialect.

In the west, the Plains or γ -dialect of Cree is spoken in Alberta and Saskatchewan, extending south into the U.S.A. and west into the Peace River district of British Columbia. It is spread over the widest area of all the Cree dialects, although there are probably more speakers of Swampy Cree.

The greatest wealth of data for this dialect lies in the texts collected by Bloomfield in Saskatchewan in 1925 (Bloomfield 1930, 1934). Plains Cree is the only dialect of Cree (excluding East Cree, Naskapi and Montagnais) for which there is a modern reference grammar (Wolfart 1973), and now it also has a text-based teaching manual (Ahenakew 1984). This manual is the only work of its kind in Cree to be written by a linguist who is also a native speaker of the language being presented.

In comparison with the above material available for a variety of Cree dialects, modern Woods Cree has nothing with which students, teachers and speakers of the dialect can identify. The only material that has been recorded falls into the category of historical documentation.

1.5 HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS

Historical evidence for the Woods Cree dialect comes from two sources -- from the traders, explorers, missionaries and from ethnographers.

We have already noted that Woods Cree was one of the earliest Cree dialects to be recorded. In the late seventeenth century, the Hudson's Bay Company was granted a royal charter, and from that time, Company officials included individual words and phrases in their reports and journals. It was mainly Woods Cree speakers with whom the fur traders met. According to Pentland (1979:58),

The Hudson's Bay Company traders ... were surrounded by their Homeguard, the Woods Cree -- and saw only small numbers of the more distant groups, and then only for a week or two during the busy trading season.

Among the better known of the Company officials was Henry Kelsey. Within the first decade of the eighteenth century he compiled, at Fort Albany, a dictionary of about six hundred entries which turns out to be Woods Cree (Wolfart and Pentland 1978). This is the first substantial set of Woods Cree data that we possess. In 1743, James Isham, another Company official, recorded a substantial number of words and sentences, again at York Factory. The first full grammar of any Cree dialect, that of Joseph Howse (1844), is also based upon the same dialect, a century after the pioneering records of Kelsey and Isham.

The Algonquian peoples have of course been studied by ethnographers, a few of whom have worked in the Woods Cree dialect area. Amongst these, we find M. Rossignol, an Oblate missionary, who worked with the "Cree of the Rocks" in the early part of the present century. He writes that he spent eleven years working at the mission in Pelican Narrows where he came into contact with Cree from as far away as Pakitiwagan [sic] and Nelson House. He then spent twenty-seven years at Ile-à-la-Crosse in Saskatchewan. His published works are few in number, but we owe to him an interesting observation on the speech of the Woods Cree with whom he had contact (1939:62).

Smith (1981) has written about the Western Woods Cree, a cultural grouping which, in his view, includes Woods, Plains and Swampy Cree speakers. He makes the observation (1981:256) that,

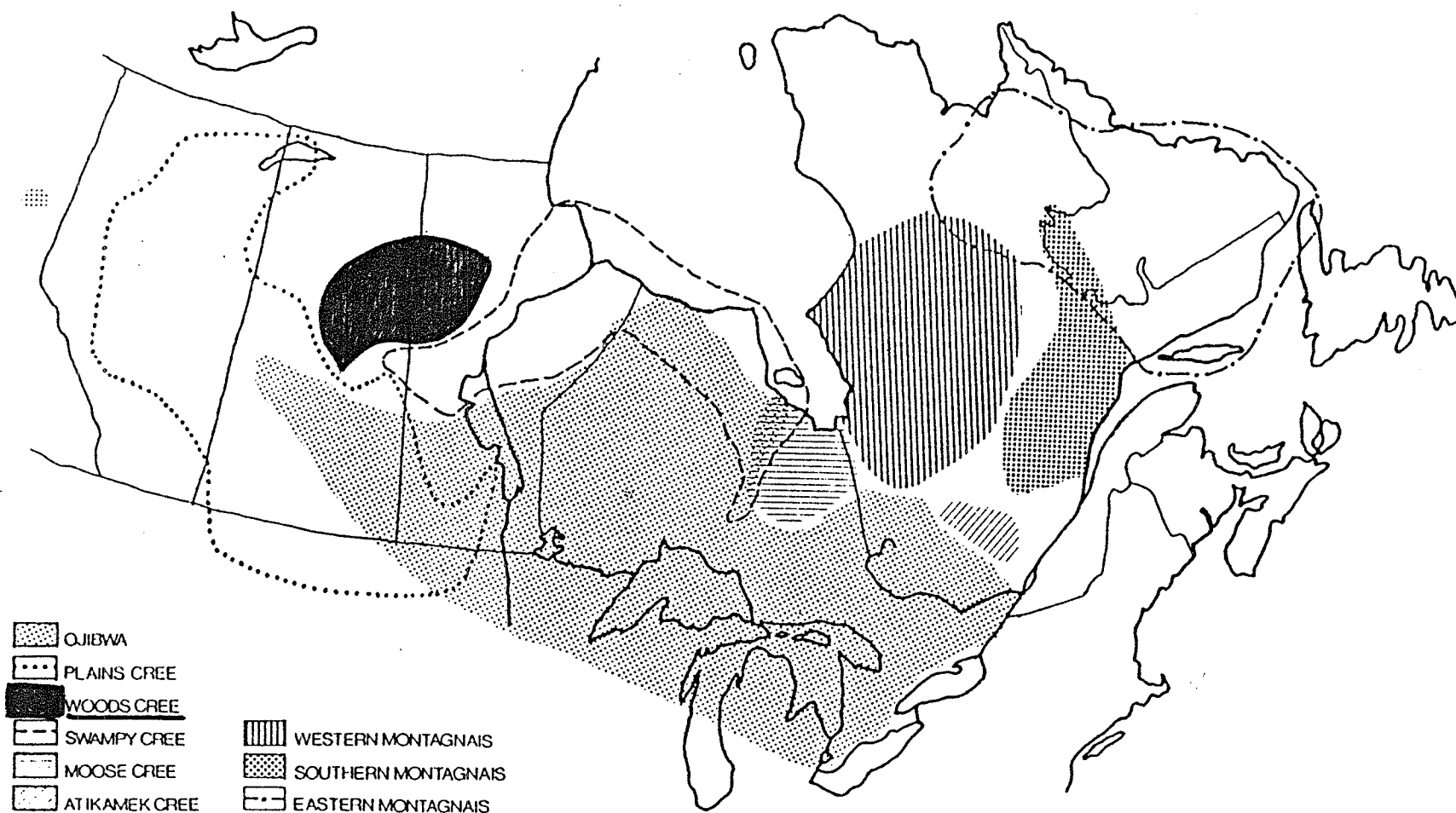
Woods (or Rocky Cree) is somewhat different but not enough to cause any problems in communication: Woods Cree speakers use the Plains Cree translation of the Bible, and there is a small minority of Plains Cree speakers living among them in Saskatchewan.

Further on, he defines the territory of the Rocky Cree as "in" and "west of" the Churchill River drainage in northwestern Manitoba and Saskatchewan. This elaborates on the information from Rossignol, who writes that the country occupied by the Cree of the Rocks stretched over a rectangular area between the Saskatchewan and Churchill rivers.

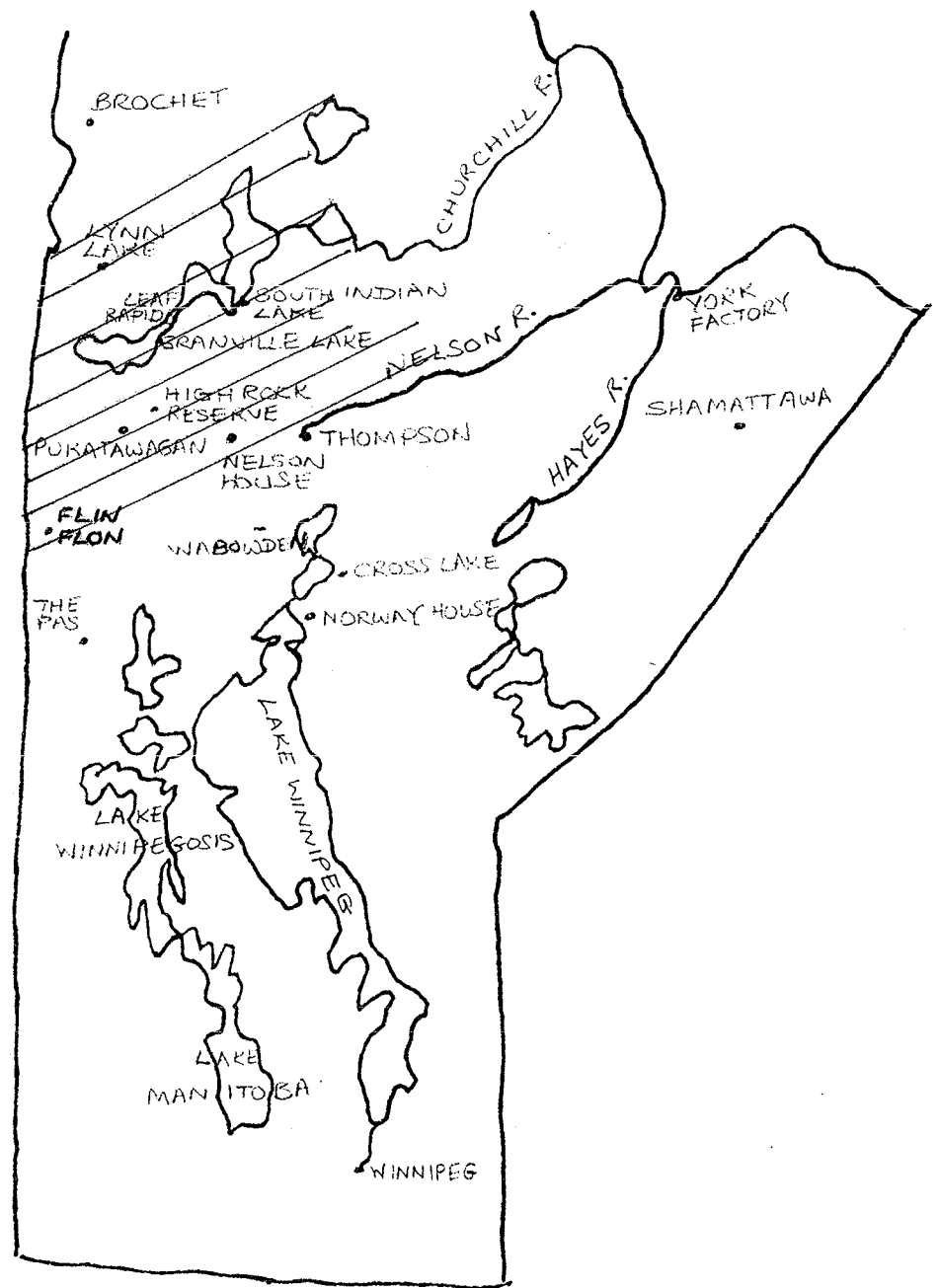
Meyer's study of the Red Earth Crees (1985) also gives information on the Woods Cree people. He refers to the Basquia Indians who spoke an ǫ-dialect, and took their name from opāskwēyāw 'it is a wooded narrows' -- where The Pas, Manitoba now stands. The Pas is now in the Swampy Cree dialect area.

Finally, Leighton (1985) has compiled a list of herbs and plants used by the Woods Cree for medicinal purposes. This provides only limited information, lexical in nature, about the Woods Cree dialect.

It is not, of course, the primary aim of ethnographers to give linguistic detail. When this does happen, however, it is a bonus and deserves careful perusal. The only linguist to have



Map 1: Distribution of Cree dialects (from Pentland 1978b)



Map 2: Woods Cree Dialect Area in Manitoba

dealt with Woods Cree in detail is Pentland (1978, 1979) but his work is mainly from a historical perspective.

He does, however, give some synchronic evidence of the differences between the dialects of Woods Cree spoken in Saskatchewan at La Ronge, and in Manitoba at South Indian Lake. These differences are in the form of both phonological correspondences and surface variants, for example, the /sk/ in modern Western Woods Cree where modern Eastern Woods Cree -- the dialect spoken at South Indian Lake -- has /hk/, as seen in the words miskwāw and mihkwāw 'it is red'.

We have mentioned the evidence for Woods Cree from the late seventeenth century through to the present day. Europeans first encountered Woods Cree speakers on the coast of Hudson's Bay, and now we find them as far west as Saskatchewan. Whether they have always been as far west as their present location, or whether they migrated westwards is not at issue here. Others have dealt with this problem (cf. Smith 1976, Pentland 1978b). We shall now explore the current distribution of Woods Cree speakers. Map 1 (from Pentland 1978b) shows the distribution of the Cree dialects and also the Ojibwa language.

1.6 THE EXTERNAL BOUNDARIES OF WOODS CREE

We have already noted that in the nineteenth century Joseph Howse wrote the first full grammar of Cree, based on the Woods dialect spoken at York Factory. In discussing the speech patterns of the Woods Cree, he refers to those on the coast and those of the interior, thereby implying the existence of at least two groups of Woods Cree speakers (1844:38).

In contrast to Howse, it is difficult to place any trust in the information that Lacombe (1874) gives as to the whereabouts of ǫ-dialect speakers in his own time. He makes a reference to the r-dialect spoken by the "Cris d'Athabaskaw", and then describes a th-dialect spoken by "presque tous les Cris des Bois". Elsewhere he subdivides the Cris des Bois into "les gens de l'Ile-à-la-Crosse" or sakittawawiyiniwok and "les gens du Rabaskaw" or ayabaskawiyiniwok.

Pentland (1979:55) identifies the "Athapuscow" as "probably the Misinipi". The Misinipi are known to have spoken an r-dialect and were named after their dwelling place on the Churchill river, possibly at South Indian Lake. The dialect was probably absorbed by the ǫ-dialect as it seems to have been lost from the record in the nineteenth century. The name "Misinipi" is still used, however -- according to Paul Voorhis (p.c.), one Woods Cree speaker from Pukatawagan referred to her people as misinipīwiǫiniwak.

Lacombe appears to confirm the presence of Woods Cree speakers at Ile-à-la-Crosse in the latter part of the nineteenth century, but he describes the Cris des Bois as more of a cultural group than specifically as speakers of one particular dialect.

Much more detailed information comes from the fieldwork of Pentland in the 1970s. His study of Algonquian historical phonology includes material from the Woods Cree dialect areas of Sandy Bay and the La Ronge and Peter Ballantyne bands in Saskatchewan. In addition, he quotes a survey done at La Ronge (1978a) with informants who were brought up at Pelican Narrows, Stanley Mission, Deschambault Lake and Reindeer Lake on the Saskatchewan-Manitoba border.

Further information on the Woods Cree dialects spoken at Pukatawagan and South Indian Lake comes from the Voorhis (1981) study of 'Varieties of Cree Speech in Manitoba'. He was able to show the sharp line which divides the Woods Cree communities of Pukatawagan and South Indian Lake from the Swampy Cree communities to the south and east. Bundles of isoglosses mark differentiation in lexical items, phonology and inflection, based on the speech of fourteen Cree speakers. Voorhis notes that several Cree communities were not represented, including Nelson House and Brochet which are both in the Woods Cree dialect area.

Contrary to what we might have expected to find, some Swampy Cree communities are separated by fewer isoglosses from an

adjoining Woods Cree community than from an adjoining Swampy Cree community. Wabowden is an example of this. Although it has n for *l, Voorhis notes that, in lexical matters, Wabowden, Cross Lake and Norway House -- all in the Swampy Cree dialect area -- seem to form a group with the Woods Cree dialects.

So, although we speak of different dialects, the dividing lines may not be clearcut, and at the limits of each dialect area there may well be considerable overlap. Voorhis notes that, of the fourteen speakers who contributed to the survey, three came from the same community and fairly consistently offered differing forms. This led Voorhis to surmise that, had there been more speakers from each community, yet more differences might have shown up.

We have stated the current distribution of Woods Cree speakers in Saskatchewan and Manitoba, but have said little about internal boundaries that exist within each dialect area. The following section will explore this lack of homogeneity within the Woods Cree dialect.

1.7 THE INTERNAL BOUNDARIES OF WOODS CREE

To Howse we owe the first short observation (1844:38n) that different dialect areas do indeed exist within the Woods Cree dialect. He compares the th of thin of the coastal speakers with the th of this of the inland tribes, and elsewhere (1844:13n) makes

reference to a d sound and a t (when discussing the "change" that Ojibwa speakers make of "th and t or d into their cognate n"). This suggests that Howse detected a noticeable difference within the dialect area.

On the basis of the distribution of the reflexes of certain Proto-Algonquian consonant clusters, Pentland (1979) divides the Woods Cree dialect into two subdialects: in addition to the sk/hk alternation that we have already noted, Manitoba Woods Cree has sp where the Plains and Swampy dialects of Cree also have sp, in the word ospan 'lung' for example, whereas the Western dialect of Woods Cree remains distinct with θp: oθpan.

Now we shall turn to the Woods Cree spoken in Manitoba. Whilst the survey of Voorhis (1981) points to the similarities between the dialects spoken at Pukatawagan and South Indian Lake, it also illustrates differences in both the lexicon and in inflection. Pentland's work at South Indian Lake cites forms which differ from those which Voorhis has recorded, and, in addition, field reports from South Indian Lake by Starks (1984) suggest that there are considerable differences between that dialect and the dialect spoken at Pukatawagan.

Woods Cree is not uniform over the whole area. As Bloomfield (1933:481) has written of speech differences within a dialect area:

Since every speaker acts as an intermediary between the groups to which he belongs, differences of speech within a dialect area are due merely to a lack of mediatory speakers. The influence of a speech-center will cause a speech-form to spread in any direction until, at some line of weakness in the density of communication, it ceases to find adopters. Different speech forms, with different semantic values, different formal qualifications, and different rival forms to conquer will spread at different speeds and over different distances. The advance of the new form may be stopped, moreover, by the advance of a rival form from a neighboring speech-center, or, perhaps, merely by the fact that a neighboring speech-center uses an unchanged form.

The present study of Woods Cree is based on the dialect spoken on the High Rock Reserve at Prayer River, and at Pukatawagan in northwestern Manitoba. Map 2 highlights the Woods Cree dialect area in Manitoba.

1.8 PUKATAWAGAN WOODS CREE

Pukatawagan is situated seventy-five miles south of the town of Lynn Lake, and the High Rock Reserve is thirty-five miles north-east of Pukatawagan. The band name is Matthias Colomb, and the total population in 1981 was 1,259.

Even within Pukatawagan itself, we have evidence of speech differences. The youngest of my informants, M.C., frequently told me that people living in other parts of Pukatawagan do not make the same sounds in certain words as he does:

"Other people in Puk [sic] say that -- not me."

He elaborated on this by identifying three different areas within the town itself:

- (1) nīyā 'at the point'
- (2) paskwatinā 'on the clear ground, bare land'
- (3) wāсахāsi 'in the small bay, narrows'

These appear to be locative forms. More work will have to be done with informants who live in each of the three areas in order to ascertain whether M.C.'s impression has substance.

Further information comes from a community health worker, S.C., who reports that most of the band lives in nīyā, and that the school and the nursing station are situated in paskwatinā, together with a fair number of families. There is also a small creek in this area, along which five families live. Only three families live in wāсахāsi.

Given the existence of this division, we should perhaps expect some variant forms; as yet the diagnostics by which we might identify the different speech patterns are not known.

1.9 SOURCES

This study is based on the speech of four informants. The eldest, S.L., was born on the High Rock Reserve and has spent her life in and around Pukatawagan. I was unable to learn her precise age: at first, her niece, M.W., told me that she was eighty-seven, but later it was discovered that S.L.'s birth had been registered in 1883. This would mean that she was at least ninety-nine when she told me texts, and quite probably older than that, as children born out in the bush were not usually registered at birth.

S.L. speaks very little English. I was fortunate enough to record some of her stories while she was visiting her niece in Winnipeg. Some of these stories are about her grandfather who, it is said, possessed superhuman powers; others are about wīhtikow, and still others are personal, for instance, of the time when as a young girl, after the death of her mother, she travelled alone for many miles in the middle of winter in order to be with her father.

Her niece, M.W., is in her early forties, and fluent in Cree, English and Ojibwa -- she is married to an Ojibwa speaker. She has lived in Winnipeg for many years, and works as an interpreter.

M.C. is the grandson of S.L. He is in his late teens and stays with his aunt, M.W., in Winnipeg so that he can attend school. He returns to his parents in Pukatawagan for vacations, thereby retaining contact with the speech of his home community.

It is one of M.C.'s stories that I have chosen as the sample text in Appendix C. His is a hunting story, based on the first time he went hunting with his brother and cousin.

W.H. is in his twenties and lives in Pukatawagan. He was visiting friends in Winnipeg when I met him and was able to elicit some forms from him -- in terms of volume, the amount elicited from W.H. is small, but some interesting variants have shown up in his speech.

Apart from W.H., the informants are all members of the same family; for this reason, it must be stressed that what is stated here may not hold for other dialects of Woods Cree -- it may not even be truly representative of the Pukatawagan area, since we have noted the perceived existence of three dialect divisions within Pukatawagan itself.

Chapter II

AN OVERVIEW OF WOODS CREE SOUNDS

The purpose of this study is to provide teachers and students alike with material which will help them towards an understanding of the sound system of Woods Cree -- both the distinctive sounds, or phonemes, and the sub-distinctive sounds, or variants. In the introductory chapter, we spoke of lack of teaching material for the Woods Cree dialect. This study does not pretend to fill that gap even partially, but it will at least provide Woods Cree speakers with some explicit information on their dialect. It may be useful in the classroom as resource material alongside manuals based on other dialects of Cree, until such time as, it is hoped, there will be a full manual based on Woods Cree.

Before we sketch the Woods Cree phonemes and their variants, we shall first outline what we mean when we say that one sound is distinct from another.

2.1 DISTINCTIVENESS

When we speak of distinctive sounds, we are referring to those sounds which distinguish one word from another.

In English, the sounds p and t are distinct. For instance, the words pin and tin have different meanings. They differ in one sound, and it is that sound that we refer to as a distinctive sound. In pin, it is a p, and in tin it is a t. p and t belong to a class of sounds which we call consonants. Vowel sounds are also distinctive. The words pin and pan differ in meaning, and in one sound. The sound that keeps them apart is i in the word pin, and a in the word pan. Another term for distinctive sounds is phonemes.

Cree, like English, distinguishes both consonant and vowel sounds -- for example, nīḏa 'I' and kīḏa 'you' are kept apart by the sound n in nīḏa and k in kīḏa, while āta 'although' and ōta 'here' are distinguished by the sound ā in āta and ō in ōta. Vowel length is also used to differentiate sounds in Cree: for instance, there is a difference between ota 'behind' and ōta 'here' -- where the macron, or bar, above the 'o' marks length. In Cree, therefore, o and ō are different phonemes. Of course, vowels differ in length in English, also -- for example, the vowel in bed is phonetically longer than the vowel in bet -- but it is not a phonemic difference. There are no two words that are kept distinct by this difference alone.

Cree also distinguishes consonants that are preaspirated, that is, that are preceded by an h or a puff of air, from those that are not. In the words ī-kī-mīŋit 'he gave it to me', and ī-kī-mīŋiht 'it was given to him', the sounds t and ht are distinctive. The two words differ only in the presence or absence of h before t.

Sounds that are not distinctive, that do not change the meaning of a word, are called variants. The example that is most often used to illustrate this in English is the p sound in pin and in spin. It makes no difference to English speakers that the initial p of pin is followed by a puff of air, whereas the p of spin is not. Most English speakers are not even aware of the difference. The reason for this is that a speaker of English never has to differentiate between words on the basis of that puff of air alone. In English, [p] and [ph] (where [h] marks the post-aspiration), are variants of the same phoneme. In other languages, however, that very difference is distinctive -- in Thai, for instance, both p and ph are phonemes (examples from Ladefoged (1975:126)):

<u>p</u> aa	'forest'
<u>ph</u> aa	'to split'

A further difference between the Cree and the English sound systems is that for a Cree speaker, voicing does not appear to be distinctive, whereas for an English speaker voiced and unvoiced consonants are used to distinguish words. For example, the words pick and pig differ in meaning and in one sound. In English, therefore, k and g are phonemes. Cree speakers use the sound [k] in the word [kīḁa] 'you', but [g] in the word [agohp] 'blanket'. The [g] sound occurs between vowels, and never at the beginning of a word, whereas the sound [k] is always used word-initially, [k] and [g] therefore are variants of a special kind -- they are in complementary distribution. Sometimes, however, it is not possible to state the conditions under which certain sounds will occur -- in those cases we call them free variants. Examples of variants that we shall be looking at in detail are the sounds [ɣ] and [D] which are fast-speech or allegro variants of the phonemes k and ḁ, respectively.

When we first describe the sounds of a language, we use phonetic symbols that are universal, in other words, that can be used to describe sounds in any spoken language. Then, on the basis of distinctive contrast in meaning and sound, we decide which sounds are phonemes. At this point, our description becomes language-specific, or phonemic.

2.2 SUMMARY TABLE OF PHONEMES

The table which follows summarises the individual phonemes of the Pukatawagan Woods Cree dialect.

VOWELS

i	ī	o	ō
	a	ā	

CONSONANTS

p	t	c	k
		s	h
m	n		
	ŋ		
w		y	

2.3 SYLLABLE STRUCTURE CONSTRAINTS

Following Pulgram (1970:23), I am defining the syllable as,

a phonological unit with phonotactically determined boundaries.

Later, Pulgram states (p. 45) that

any syllable boundary in any part of the utterance must obey the constraints that prevail in the language under scrutiny at the word boundary.

In other words, a consonant or sequence of consonants can only be syllable initial if it may also be word initial. Otherwise, it must form the coda of the preceding syllable or, in the case of a consonant cluster, be divided between the coda of one syllable and the onset of the next. The distribution of consonants in Woods Cree is listed in Appendix B.

2.3.1 Structure of the Syllable

Each syllable must contain one, and only one, vowel. This has been described as the nucleus (Pulgram 1970:40). There are as many syllables in an utterance as there are nuclei or, more simply, vowels.

The segment that precedes the nucleus of the syllable is called the onset. This is optional, as in vowel-initial words there is no onset for the first syllable. For example:

/otakohpa/ 'his (obv.) blanket'

consists of four syllables, two of which are vowels that stand alone:

\$o\$ta\$kohp\$a\$

The dollar sign (\$) marks the syllable boundary.

The segment that follows the nucleus is termed the coda. This again is optional, like the onset. Only one of the syllables of otakohpa has a coda. When there is no coda, we call the syllable open. A closed syllable is one in which a segment follows the vowel, or nucleus.

It is universally the case that there is no language that only has closed syllables. The closed syllable is therefore the more marked, and Pulgram (1970:47) sets out three principles for governing the identification of syllable boundaries.

The first is the "principle of maximal open syllabicity". The second is the "principle of minimal coda and maximal onset". The third principle that Pulgram identifies is that of "the irregular coda".

According to the first principle, a syllable is to be kept open if at all possible -- that is, if its vowel appears in word final position. In Woods Cree, all vowels occur word initially and finally. The second principle applies when a consonant, or a sequence of two or more consonants must be divided by a syllable boundary. As an example of this we shall take mōswa 'moose' and

iskwīw 'woman'. In the case of mōswa, it seems that we have a choice between three different syllabifications:

\$mō\$swa\$

\$mōs\$wa\$

\$mōsw\$ā\$

We reject the first and the last, however, because sw is not a permissible cluster in either word initial or final position. We are left with a solution that divides sw, assigning s to the coda of the first syllable, and w to the onset of the second.

In the case of iskwīw, there appear to be four possible syllabifications:

\$i\$skwīw\$

\$is\$kwīw\$

\$isk\$wīw\$

\$iskw\$īw\$

Once again, we reject the first and last solutions on the grounds that skw is not permissible word initially or finally. This leaves us with a choice -- whether to place the boundary between the s and the k or between the k and the w. Here we must refer to Pulgram (1970:43) who states that:

It is an untenable position to describe a cluster of consonants at one point as syllable-initial or final and at another to have a syllable boundary between them.

If we split the sequence sk, we must ensure that there is no occasion in which it will of necessity be assigned to the same syllable. As it happens, there are several words which end in this sequence, for example -- kwayask 'proper', pīḡisk 'finally'. The existence of sk as a word final cluster means that we must not insert a syllable boundary between the two consonants. Hence we choose the third solution -- \$isk\$wīw\$ -- as the most appropriate one.

The third principle, that of the irregular coda, simply refers to the case when a consonant cluster is divided between two syllables and still results in an unpermissible cluster, whether syllable-initially or finally. Then it is the coda of the first syllable that may bear the irregularity, not the onset of the second. It follows from this principle that the coda is the weaker of the two segments. We shall see evidence from the Woods dialect to substantiate this, that syllable-final segments weaken and frequently delete, whereas syllable-initial segments often undergo a strengthening process.

We have already noted that the sequence sk requires the syllabification sk\$. This is different from sp, st and sc which do not occur word finally and must therefore be syllabified as s\$C word internally. (Fricative-initial clusters do not occur word initially.)

In the same way, the phonemic cluster hk must be treated differently from hp, ht, hc and hǫ, all of which may occur word finally, and therefore require the syllabification hC\$. The absence of word final hk (except in the words atihk and acāhk) demands that the cluster be syllabified as h\$k. This in turn raises a problem, that h is thereby identified as a possible word final segment, and as we shall see (2.4.3), h is not distinctive word finally in this dialect of Cree. We may perhaps use Pulgram's third principle -- that of the irregular coda -- to surmount this problem, i.e. that if there is any irregularity to be borne, then it is the coda rather than the onset which bears it.

However, we are still left with the problem that sk and hk must be syllabified differently from the other fricative-initial sequences. This is typologically strange, and may indicate that the principles outlined by Pulgram do not in fact work for the fricative-initial sequences of Woods Cree.

2.3.2 The Syllable in Woods Cree

In Woods Cree, the canonical structure of the syllable is:

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} C \quad (w) \\ w \end{array} \right) \quad V \quad \left(\begin{array}{c} s, h \quad (C) \\ (h) \quad C \\ w, y \end{array} \right)$$

All consonants may be syllable initial, except h and y. Only stops may be followed by w in this position. All vowels may occur as the nucleus of the syllable. All individual consonants may form the syllable coda. However, the only clusters permitted syllable-finally are: hp, ht, hc, hk, sk and hǝ. The first member of these clusters is always a fricative, and the second member is never a sonorant.

2.4 LIST OF PHONEMES IN ISOLATION

This section will describe the more common allophones of these phonemes, class by class. The preaspirated stops are treated separately in Chapter V. Special problems will be explored in more detail later.

For the most part, the phonetic transcription used is a broad one. This is in keeping with the desire that this study should be easily decipherable, not only by linguists but also by students and native speakers of the language. For most purposes, a narrow phonetic transcription would clutter the text unnecessarily.

Rules for elision and contraction will be stated later (Chapter III) where I shall discuss in greater detail the various modifications that take place in this dialect after prefix, and between preverb and stem (either noun or verb).

2.4.1 Definition of Symbols

As the transcription is a broad phonetic one, the only special symbols used are the following:

- [ɪ] represents the short lower high front vowel;
- [ā] is a long, low back, semi-rounded vowel;
- [A] is a short, greatly reduced, low central vowel.

Throughout the study, phonemes in isolation are underlined or enclosed by slashes //, and phonetic forms by square brackets []. The formalisations of the rules which are given in the next sections employ the usual conventions:

-->	is realised as
/	in the context
—	place of change
#	word boundary
()	optional
{ }	either / or

Let us run through a hypothetical example:

A --> B / — C

The segment A to the left of the arrow is the input, the segment B to the right of it is the outcome, and the information to the right of the slash is the context in which the rule applies. This simple rule is to be understood as: A is realised as B before C.

If we rearrange the information to the right of the slash as follows:

A --> B / C ____

the rule now tells us that: A is realised as B after C.

In most cases, V (vowel) and C (consonant) have feature specifications attached to them. These tell us something specific about them, and define the precise environment in which the change is to take place. The feature specifications are enclosed in square brackets and are placed beneath the V or C to which they apply. Some are abbreviated:

[lg]	long
[nas]	nasal
[place]	place of articulation
[a]	alpha positive
[-a]	alpha negative

The symbols [+] and [-] refer to the presence or absence of a particular feature that is specified:

C	V
[+nas]	[-lg]

The above is a sequence of a nasal consonant followed by a short vowel.

The symbols [a] and [-a] as found, for example, in the feature specifications [anas] and [-anas] are simply a way of making rules that are as general as possible. If we wish to state that A has the variant [+nas] in the environment of a nasal, we can state this as follows:

$$A \rightarrow [+nas] / \text{---} C$$

$$[+nas]$$

If we also wish to state that A lacks the feature [nas] in the environment of a non-nasal, this can be stated as:

$$A \rightarrow [-nas] / ______ C$$

$$[-nas]$$

In order to state the two rules above as one, and in so doing, to capture the generality between them, we use the variable feature coefficient $[a]$:

$$A \rightarrow [anas] / \text{---} C$$

$$[anas]$$

This rule now states that A has a nasal variant if C is nasal; alternatively, it states that A is not a nasal if C is not a nasal.

An additional advantage is that the alpha notation may be employed when the values for A and C are opposed:

$$A \rightarrow [a_{nas}] / \text{---} C$$

$$[-a_{nas}]$$

The rule above states that A is opposed to C in regard to the feature [nasal]: when A is [+nasal], then C is [-nasal], and vice versa.

For further discussion of the variable feature coefficient, see Anderson (1974:93 ff.)

2.4.2 Stops

/p/

The phoneme /p/ occurs as a voiceless unaspirated bilabial stop [p] word initially, medially and finally. It may be preceded by a fricative medially and finally, and it may be followed by /w/ initially and medially.

[pōsɪ] 'go on board!' (impve.)

/pōsi/

[nīpit] 'my tooth'

/nīpit/

[apɪ] 'sit!' (impve.)

/api/

[sīsīp] 'duck'

/sīsīp/

[ispī] 'then, when'

/ispī/

[pwālos] 'Paul'

/pwālos/

[ospwāgAn] 'pipe'

/ospwākan/

/t/

The phoneme /t/ occurs as a voiceless unaspirated apico-dental stop [t] word initially, medially and finally. It may be preceded by a fricative medially and finally, and may be followed by the semivowel /w/ in word medial position. The sequence /tw/ has not been recorded initially.

[tahtā] 'every time'

/tahtwāw/

[mihcīt] 'many'

/mihcīt/

[nātīw] 'he gets him'

/nātīw/

[īta] 'where'

/īta/

[ītwīw] 'he says so to him'

/ītwīw/

/c/

The phoneme /c/ occurs as a voiceless alveolar affricate [c] word initially, medially and finally. It may be preceded by the fricative /s/ in medial position. [c] varies freely with a voiceless alveopalatal affricate [č] in the dialect of all the speakers.

Strictly speaking, /c/ is an affricate, in that the passage of air is completely obstructed only at onset. However, this phoneme patterns in most respects as a stop and so is classed with the other stops. The following examples show the variants in all positions of the word:

[cīmān] ~ [čīmān] 'boat'

/cīmān/

[pīmāci] 'save him!' (impv.)

/pīmācih/

[īgīnističik] 'there were three of them'

/ī-kī-nisticik/

[wīpAc] 'soon'

/wīpac/

[īgwīðāč] 'finally'

/īkwīðāc/

[pɪscɪ] ~ [pɪščɪ] 'by accident'

/pɪsci/

Note in the last example the assimilation of the /s/ to the palatal position of [č].

/k/

The phoneme /k/ occurs as a voiceless unaspirated velar stop [k] word initially and finally. It may be preceded by the fricative /s/ both medially and finally, and may be followed by the semivowel /w/ in word initial and medial position.

[kɪwɪhta] 'take him home!' (impv.)

/kɪwɪhtah/

[mōswAk] 'moose'

/mōswak/

[ɪskwɪw] 'woman'

/ɪskwɪw/

[tātoskAm] 'he rips it'

/tātoskam/

[kwayask] 'straight, proper'
 /kwayask/

Intervocally or when followed by /w/, /k/ occurs as a voiced
 velar stop [g].

[īgā] 'not'
 /īkā/

[īgotī] 'there'
 /īkotī/

[agohp] 'blanket'
 /akohp/

[mistıgwAk] 'trees'
 /mistikwak/

2.4.3 Fricatives

/s/

In a cluster with [č] the /s/ assimilates to the palatal position of the following stop:

[pɪščɪ] 'by accident'
/pɪsci/

Elsewhere, the phoneme /s/ occurs as a voiceless apico-alveolar fricative [s] word initially, medially and finally. It is found as the first member of an /s/ plus stop cluster word medially, although only /sk/ has been recorded word finally in this dialect. Medially, /s/ may be followed by the semivowel /w/.

[sɪpɪsɪs] 'little river'
/sɪpɪsis/

[sɪsɪp] 'duck'
/sɪsɪp/

[nās] 'get him!' (impve.)
/nās/

[mōswa] 'moose'
/mōswa/

/h/

The phoneme /h/ occurs intervocalically as a voiceless glottal fricative [h]. It may be followed by the semivowel /w/.

[nahā] 'son-in-law'
/nahā/

This form was spontaneously offered by M.C. and was initially glossed as "cross-them" (cf. Plains Cree ninahāhkisīm 'my son-in-law').

Other examples of [h] are:

[anihi] 'these'
/anihi/

[kīpatahwīw] 'he missed him'
/kī-patahwīw/

The phoneme /h/ has limited distribution. It is not distinctive word initially or finally, only intervocalically and as the first consonant in a cluster with /C/ or /Cw/. Vowels frequently undergo gradual devoicing at word or phrase boundary -- anywhere a pause is made. It is not unusual, in other words, to hear [h] word initially or finally, but it makes no difference to the meaning whether the [h] is there or not. This will be discussed in detail later in Chapter V.

2.4.4 Nasals

/m/

The phoneme /m/ occurs as a voiced bilabial nasal continuant [m] word initially, medially and finally. It may be followed by the semivowel /w/ word initially and medially.

[maskwa] 'bear'

/maskwa/

[kīmāyānAm] 'there were fresh tracks'

/kī-māyānam/

[mōsopwām] 'thigh of moose'

/mōsopwām/

[atimwa] 'dog' (obv.)

/atimwa/

[māc] 'not'

/mwāc/

/n/

The phoneme /n/ occurs as a voiced apico-dental nasal continuant initially, medially and finally. It may be followed by the semivowel /w/ in word medial position.

[nīḡa] 'I'

/nīḡa/

[nigīnipānān] 'we slept'

/nikī-nipānān/

[kistigwān] 'your head'

/kistikwān/

[tagosinuk] 'they arrive'

/takosinwak/

2.4.5 /ð/

Because of its sonorance, /ð/ shares features with /w/ and /y/ -- being +consonantal, -syllabic and +sonorant in the Chomsky-Halle feature system -- and might indeed be classed with the semivowels. Syllabically, however, it behaves like a stop.

This analysis of the phoneme /ð/ is further corroborated by the evidence of English loan words with r, which appears as phonological /ð/ in Cree:

[taDīn]	/taðīn/	'train'
[stōDi]	/stōði/	'at the store'
[aðwāpat]	/aðwāpat/	'Robert'

The phoneme /ð/ shows a great deal of phonetic variation. The surface variants will be discussed more fully later. At this point, I will simply list them in order of frequency of appearance.

In intervocalic position, the phoneme /ð/ may occur as an apico-alveolar affricate [dð], a voiced alveolar stop [d], or an alveolar flap [D]:

/ð/ --> [dð]

[āgīyatīsipwīpadðiyā]

/ā-kī-ati-sipwīpaðiyā/

'we were just starting on a trip'

[id̥āsē] 'already'

/i̥a āsay/

/̥/ --> [d]

[id̥iniw] 'person'

/i̥iniw/

[ātagopadiyā] 'we arrived'

/ā-takopḁiyā/

/̥/ --> [D]

As the flaps were recorded in narrative text and were not heard in the course of direct elicitation, I regard this sound as a feature of allegro speech. There are only three examples of this in the text, and the third is none too clear. It is mostly texts from the youngest speaker that have been analysed -- as yet, no flaps have been observed in the dialect of the eldest speaker. The examples of the flaps are:-

[āgīnācipaDīstamā]

/ā-kī-nācipḁīstamā/

'we drove over to get it'

[māc ɪskapaDɪnān]

/mwāc nikisiskāpaʃinān/

'we were not going fast'

This was recorded during a very fast piece of narrative.
Note the elision of the beginning of the verb -- without
trace!

[nɪpmpaDɪnān] 'we drove'

/nipimipaʃinān/

The phoneme /ʃ/ may also occur as a voiced post-dental fricative
[ʃ] word initially, medially and finally. It may be preceded by
the semivowel /w/ in word medial position:

[ʃɪgaw] 'sand'

/ʃɪkaw/

[ɪʃɪnɪsɪp] 'mallard duck'

/iʃɪnɪsɪp/

[nɪmɪʃwɪʃihtɪn] 'I am happy about it'

/nɪmɪʃwɪʃihtɪn/

[nahaʃ] 'put him away!'

/nahaʃ/

2.4.6 Semivowels

/w/

The phoneme /w/ occurs as a bilabial semivowel [w] word initially, medially and finally. It may follow /p/, /k/ and /m/ in word initial position -- the absence of the sequence /tw/ in the data may be accidental. In word medial position, the phoneme /w/ may follow any consonant or consonant cluster (although, as noted in Chapter V, the sequences /hpw/ and /stw/ have not been recorded).

[wɪðɪsk] 'because'

/wiðisk/

[āwāpmāyāhkwAk] 'when we saw them'

/ā-wāpamāyāhkwak/

[niyahðāw] 'I put him'

/niyahðāw/

[kwayask] 'straight, proper'

/kwayask/

[māc] 'not'

/mwāc/

[agwa] 'and'

/akwa/

[iskwīwAk] 'women'

/iskwīwak/

[w] has an optional rounding effect on contiguous vowels, and frequently interchanges with [y] in the environment of high front vowels. This will be discussed in Chapter III.

/y/

The phoneme /y/ occurs as an alveo-palatal semivowel [y] medially and finally. No instances of word initial /y/ have been recorded.

[ayāw] 'he has it'

/ayāw/

[nīyo] 'four'

/nīyo/

[tōhtōsāpoy] 'milk'

/tōhtōsāpoy/

The effects which /y/ has upon vowels which precede and follow it will be discussed in the next chapter.

2.4.7 Vowels

/i/

The phoneme /i/ occurs word initially, medially and finally as [ɪ]
 -- a short lower high front vowel.

[iskwīw] 'woman'

/iskwīw/

[wiṣisk] 'because'

/wiṣisk/

[kanātamāgocɪk] 'they will defend them'

/ka-nātamākocik/

[cīmānɪ] 'in the boat' (loc.)

/cīmāni/

Other variants of this vowel are due to the proximity of the semivowels /w/ and /y/ and will be discussed in detail in Chapter III.

/ī/

The phoneme /ī/ occurs as a long high front vowel [ī] word initially, medially and finally.

[īgā] 'not'

/īkā/

[nīḥa] 'I'

/nīḥa/

[sīsīp] 'duck'

/sīsīp/

[pmohtī] 'go!' (impve.)

/pimohtī/

There is evidence which will be presented later (Chapter III), that the phoneme /ī/ has two variants: [ī] and [ē].

But the variants do not appear with equal frequency in all words. For instance, while /nīḥa/ 'I' always surfaces as [nīḥa], /īkwa/ 'and' frequently surfaces as either [īgwa] or [ēgwa]. Statistics will be presented below (3.7) to show the textual frequency of [ī] and [ē] in the speech of two speakers.

The words that follow show [ī] varying with [ē]:

[īgwa] ~ [ēgwa] 'and'

/īkwa/

[pīyAk] ~ [pēyAk] 'one'

/pīyak/

[wāpmīw] ~ [wāpmēw] 'he sees him'

/wāpamīw/

[tīpagohp] ~ [tēpagohp] 'seven'

/tīpakohp/

/a/

In a syllable closed by a stop, /a/ occurs as a short, greatly reduced low central vowel [A].

[nikīpatahānānAk] 'we missed them'

/nikī-patahwānānak/

Elsewhere, the phoneme /a/ occurs as a short, low central vowel [a] initially, medially and finally:

[apiw] 'he sits'

/apiw/

[otagohp] 'his blanket'

/otakoɦp/

[ĩgota] 'there'

/ĩkota/

/ā/

The phoneme /ā/ occurs as a long, low central vowel [ā] word initially, medially and finally.

[āgĩspaḍiyin] 'you were driving'

/ā-kĩ-ispāḍiyan/

[ncīmāninān] 'our boat'

/nicīmāninān/

[āgĩpmpaḍiyā] 'we were riding in a boat'

/ā-kĩ-pimipaḍiyā/

/o/

In a closed syllable, /o/ occurs as a short high-back rounded vowel [u], which varies freely with [wi].

- [ustīsiðīwa] 'his older brother's' (obv.)
 ~ [wistīsiðīwa]
 /ostīsiðīwa/
- [mīspun] 'it's snowing'
 /mīspun/
- [ātīgwīspīt] 'he started to go up'
 ~ [ātīguspīt]
 /ā-ati-kospīt/

The phoneme /o/ may also occur as a short mid-back rounded vowel [o] initially, medially and finally.

- [osīma] 'his younger brother' (obv.)
 /osīma/
- [anohc] 'just then, now'
 /anohc/
- [nikamo] 'sing!' (impve.)
 /nikamo/

/ō/

The phoneme /ō/ occurs as a long mid-back rounded vowel [ō] initially, medially and finally.

[ōta] 'here'

/ōta/

[mōswa] 'moose'

/mōswa/

[ahpō] 'or'

/ahpō/

2.5 GENERAL REMARKS ON THE SOUND SYSTEM

This section draws attention to problems that remain in a statement of the sound system of the Woods dialect of Cree. I have chosen to state the problems rather than to ignore them, as it is only in this way that other linguists may be alerted to them for future phonological studies.

One of these problems is the apparent lack of symmetry in the stop consonants -- namely, that /k/ has a voiced variant [g] word medially, yet /p/ and /t/ do not.

This observation seems to have been made by Bloomfield in his discussion of the sound-systems of Fox, Cree, Menomini and Ojibwa (1925:142). He comments that in Fox and Cree non-initial k is usually voiced, whereas in Ojibwa all non-initial consonants are voiced. By omission, Bloomfield seems to be saying that Cree p and t are not voiced in any environment. Paul Voorhis notes however, (p.c.), that William Jones, in his Handbook of American Indian Languages sketch, emphasises the greater length of Fox [g] (likewise [d] and [b]). Voorhis further notes that in his own experience with Fox, /p/, /t/ and /k/ are all treated alike.

Another point upon which /p/ and /t/ appear to differ from /k/ in Pukatawagan Woods Cree is that the stops /p/ and /t/ have strengthened variants [pp] and [tt] respectively -- that is, voiceless stops with delayed release -- whereas there is no matching [kk] for /k/. These delayed release stops occur both before and after a stressed vowel. Examples are:

[nɪgɪppáttahāw] 'I missed him'

/nikī-patahāw/

[kɪppáttahwīw] 'he missed him'

/kī-patahwīw/

[āgɪgottáwīyā] 'we lit a campfire'

/ā-kī-kotawīyā/

[nɪgɪgóttawān] 'I lit a campfire'

/nikī-kotawān/

[kíppahuk] 'they lock him in'
/kipahwak/

There are, however, other environments where this variant occurs. In the next examples, the syllable which contains the variant is not strongly stressed, although it may bear secondary stress:

[niɡíppattahánānAk] 'we missed them'
/nikī-patahwānānak/

[āppōsípinAk] 'I threw him in the boat'
/ā-pōsipinak/

An alternative interpretation might suggest that in the last two examples, the geminate [pp] occurs stem-initially, and may involve the combination of h, the preverb boundary, and the initial consonant of the stem. Paul Voorhis (p.c.) notes that preverbs bear stress, and that therefore the geminate stop pp in the last two examples follows a stress-bearing syllable. Syllable-initial position following a morpheme boundary is an environment in which we might expect to find the strengthened variant of a consonant, and a geminate stop is stronger than a simple stop (cf. Foley 1970:90).

In some dialects of Cree, such a combination surfaces as a fricative. Pentland (1979:99), for example, reports the Plains Cree form:

[kīxīwēw] /kīh-kīwēw/ 'he returned'

We shall refer to this later when we discuss certain variants of the phoneme /p/. It may even be the case that the geminate is used for emphasis. In the text given in the appendix, M.C. repeated [nigīppáttahāw] twice -- as though he could not believe that he had missed his shot at the moose.

Longacre (1957:69n) observes that most Cree consonants, with the possible exception of /s/, /y/, /w/ and /h/, will geminate intervocalically provided that the preceding vowel is quite short (phonetically). He adds that "syllable break comes in the center of such a long geminated consonant."

Many examples from different environments must be gathered before we can state the full distribution of this particular allophonic variation. For this study, we can only document its occurrence. One reason that I shall not go further into this question is that it may well be a function of stress. A strong stress is discernible in this dialect on the third last syllable of polysyllabic words. Longacre (1957:67) has noted a high pitch on the antepenultimate syllable in contrast to the stress which, he observes, may fall on either the antepenultimate or the penultimate syllables. Although both Wolfart (1973:35) and Pentland (1979:119) mention that stress is far from fully understood, the fact remains that no detailed study has been made. In this study, too, no attempt is made at an analysis of the stress system, as this would have involved work with many informants and the analysis of long passages of text as well as slow elicitation to see how speech style affects the patterning of stress.

Another factor that will undoubtedly affect the placement of stress is the elision of consonants and vowels which occurs in this dialect as well as in other dialects of Cree. An investigation of prosody presupposes an adequate description of the segmental sound system of the dialect. In the case of Woods Cree, this is the first attempt at a description of the sound system.

One more problem that I shall only touch upon is the fact that certain words appear to be lexical variants of one another. They use phonemes that are distinct (and for which we have minimal pairs).

In English, for example, it makes no difference whether one pronounces the initial vowel of economics as [e] as in egg, or as [iy] as in easy. In the words pet and peat, however, these vowels are distinctive. Nor does it matter, in English, whether one says [wið] or [wiθ] for with, although the same sounds in thy and thigh are distinctive.

Likewise, in Pukatawagan Woods Cree, one may say both [īkwiðāt] and [īkwiðāc] for 'finally', although /t/ and /c/ are phonemically distinct (see Appendix A). Another pair that appears to operate in the same way is mwāt and mwāc. There is also a third variant mwā, which often appears phonetically as [mā]. All variants have the meaning 'no, not'. It is conceivable that these negatives have different semantic properties -- once again, I am merely drawing attention to the variation.

The possibility that the distinction between /t/ and /c/ has become neutralised word-finally is disproven by the ungrammaticality of such forms as *[ī-apic] for /ī-apit/ 'he sat', and *[mitātahc] for /mitātaht/ 'ten'.

The following chapters will explore in detail the surface variations that arise in this dialect of Woods Cree -- variants in the vowels and semivowels, consonants and consonant clusters.

Chapter III

SURFACE VARIANTS -- VOWELS AND SEMIVOWELS

When we speak of surface variation in Pukatawagan Woods Cree we are referring to the subdistinctive variation that is present even in the slowest, most carefully pronounced utterances. This variation may be more or less obvious, according to the environment, presence or absence of peer group, and state of excitement of the speaker.

3.1 INTRODUCTION TO SURFACE VARIATION

In general, the words 'surface variation' call to mind the work of Labov (1966) and Chambers and Trudgill (1980), and the whole field of sociolinguistics opens up -- with the concept of the linguistic variable, sampling techniques, and quantitative studies involving large numbers of informants in different settings.

Labov's study (1966, 1972) of the English spoken in New York City differed considerably from any that had been done before. Instead of using speakers who were representative of the "old stock" of original settlers, as, for example, had been the procedure of the Linguistic Atlas of the Eastern United States, Labov sought out speakers from all classes and ethnic backgrounds, and by use of informal interview techniques sought to record the vernacular, which he states (1972:208):

gives us the most systematic data for our analysis of linguistic structure.

Perhaps the best known of his interview techniques is the "rapid and anonymous" type of interview conducted for the department store survey (1972:43 ff.) where the social stratification of post-vocalic r is documented.

Trudgill has carried out work in England that is similar in design to Labov's work in the United States. His work on the non-standard dialects of English, especially those spoken in East Anglia around Norwich, and his insistence that children should not be taught a dialect of English which is not their own, has been the subject of criticism by those who believe, in Trudgill's words, that it is "socially, and economically, advantageous to employ this variety (i.e. standard English)" (1983:197).

The work of both Labov and Trudgill has challenged the concept of free variation which had been more or less widely accepted. In the words of Labov (1966:48), these variable elements have "traditionally been relegated to a kind of linguistic scrap-heap". Of previous dialect studies of the New York City speech area, he writes (1966:33) that

all of these studies of New York City recognized the existence of social and stylistic variation, although the exploration of such variation was not their principal aim.

Labov examined these inconsistencies in the data and incorporated them into a variability study. Whilst acknowledging that a greater number of speakers will ensure a more comprehensive study, Labov notes (1972:204) that:

The basic patterns of class stratification, for example, emerge from samples as small as twenty-five speakers. ... Regular arrays of stylistic and social stratification emerge even when our individual cells contain as few as five speakers and we have no more than five or ten instances of the given variable for each speaker.

Both Labov and Trudgill acknowledge their debt, in terms of phonetic material, to previous studies of the language. Labov (1966:29) refers to a brief description of lower class English in New York City, published in 1896, which he calls

exceptionally valuable for the interpretation of linguistic changes now in progress in New York City.

In addition, his principal source of data is the Linguistic Atlas of the Eastern United States, referred to earlier. This describes the dialect regions of the Eastern United States as a whole, and deals with lexical terms, verb forms and pronunciation.

Trudgill (1983:32) refers to the Survey of English Dialects and the Linguistic Atlas of England, although he notes the lack of information about certain features. More appreciatively, he states (1983:31):

In my own sociolinguistic work on the English spoken in the English city of Norwich (Trudgill, 1974), I found invaluable and made frequent reference to the excellent dialectological work carried out in the area in the 1930s by the American Guy S. Lowman and kindly made available to me by Professor Raven McDavid. This work was particularly helpful in my work on linguistic change, and in pointing to problematical areas for investigation.

He continues by pointing out that Labov has often stressed the fact that:

the study of linguistic change in 'apparent time' can only proceed with confidence if there are earlier records, usually dialectological, for the area, or at least, for neighbouring areas. Comparing the speech of older and younger speakers at a given time may suggest that certain linguistic changes are taking place, but one cannot be sure that age-grading is not taking place instead, unless older records are available for checking.

Both Trudgill in his work on the English dialects and Labov in his work on Martha's Vineyard and in New York City relied heavily on preliminary studies that had been made of the dialects of which they made variability studies.

This study of Pukatawagan Woods Cree is not a variability study. It merely attempts to isolate some of the more salient surface variations that exist in the dialect today. My interest in this aspect of the dialect developed during the course of the research when it became apparent that there was a great deal of variation of the kind which Labov (1966:581) identifies when describing the conditioning of allophones:

a slight variation in sound which shows no systematic pattern, and for which no social, stylistic or cognitive significance is immediately apparent.

This is not to say that the variation is unimportant -- it may ultimately be of great significance; on the other hand, as Trudgill (1983:95) state,

it (i.e the variation) may also simply be due to the pronunciation which the fieldworker happened to elicit on the day.

I am not able to give statistics for most of the variation that I have recorded, but the speech of four speakers has been analysed. The speech of the middle-aged informant has been elicited in a more formal question and answer setting. The eldest and the youngest informants have recorded stories on tape, and the youngest aided in the transcription of his grandmother's stories.

It is in the speech of the youngest informant, M.C., that I have noted the most variation -- ranging from the slower, more careful style that he uses for dictation to the high degree of excitement when in parts of his own stories he relates the danger in which he found himself.

This is reminiscent of something Labov has pointed out (1966:107 ff.): that a good way of recording a casual speech style is to encourage the speaker to relate a situation in which his life has been threatened. The subject matter is likely to be such as to divert the speaker's attention from the fact that he is being recorded.

This chapter records the surface variations that have been observed in Pukatawagan Woods Cree. It is not a full-scale sociolinguistic study, as that would require a great deal of preliminary work. It is instead a first, non-quantitative attempt to isolate some of the more conspicuous surface variants in this dialect.

The next section will review statements about Cree indicating that a great deal of phonetic variation exists under conditions that, as yet, are undefined.

3.2 SURFACE VARIATION IN CREE

We have already referred to the great number of Plains Cree texts recorded by Bloomfield in 1925. In the introduction to the published version (1934:V ff.), he makes statements of this sort:

a - short, low vowel, usually like the vowel of German nass, but varying occasionally forward, through the vowel of French patte, all the way to that of English pet or backward, all the way to the vowel of American English son.

k - unvoiced velar stop, as in English kill, cow, but usually unaspirated, as in English skill, French cou. Within the word, after a vowel it is often voiced, hence like the initial of English go.

The above examples show that, for Bloomfield, a degree of variation was acceptable, even though the distribution of the variants could not necessarily be stated. Words like "usually", "often" and "occasionally" tell us that there do not appear to be readily-stateable conditions for the appearance of each variant. Bloomfield's texts are all phonemicised, so we are not able to isolate the occurrence of each individual variant.

Wolfart and Ahenakew (1982:70 ff.) make the distinction between surface variants and full forms and stress the importance of the latter in a writing system. They note that one form of a word may surface in different ways, giving the example of nitapin 'I sit', which may surface as both [nitapin] and [ntapin], with the short /i/ of the prefix deleted in the latter. They point out that it is easy to learn the rules of pronunciation from the full form, but virtually impossible to learn the full form from the surface variant. An instance of this is [apōwak] for /apiwak/, where the same sequence [ōw] may also represent /ow/ and /ō/, as well as /iw/.

Despite the fact that full forms are preferable, for the sake of uniformity, for a writing system, it is also necessary to record the variants. Some will be shown to phonetically conditioned -- for instance, Wolfart and Ahenakew (1982:73) point to "the effect of a following rounded vowel or semivowel." Other variants, however, do not appear to be phonetically conditioned, and these variants should be isolated for further study.

3.3 VOWEL VARIANTS

For the most part, the surface variation that is recorded in the following chapters appears to be optional in nature. Where it is obligatory, this will be stated.

We shall first explore the phenomenon of vowel elision. This is more likely to occur in rapid speech than in the elicited forms that tend to be somewhat artificially distended for linguists. We make the distinction between the allegro forms used in rapid speech, and the lento forms produced during slow elicitation.

In English, for example, the word can't shows the elision of a vowel between two consonants, one of which is a nasal. The longer form cannot is less frequently used in conversation, except perhaps for emphasis.

In Cree, the clearest cases of vowel elision are between consonants.

3.3.1 Vowel Elision between Consonants

When two consonants, one of which is a nasal, are separated by a short vowel, the vowel may optionally be deleted. When it does so, it gives rise to surface consonant clusters in addition to those clusters which are phonemically distinct (see Chapter V). The rule by which the vowel is deleted is:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} V & \rightarrow & \emptyset & / & C & ___ & C \quad (\text{optional}) \\ [-lg] & & & & [anas] & & [-anas] \end{array}$$

This rule gives rise to surface clusters such as [nt], [nc], [ns]:

nt [ntapin] 'I sit' /nitapin/

nc [ncīmāninān] 'our boat' /nicīmāninān/

ns [omānsis] 'moose-calf' /omānsis/

This type of elision may occur anywhere within the word. In the above examples, the sequences [nt] and [nc] happen to occur at the prefix boundary, whereas the cluster [ns] is found word-internally.

Other clusters arise through the phonological processes of assimilation and reduplication, both of which will be discussed more fully in Chapter V.

3.3.2 Vowel Adjustments at Morpheme Boundary

The first boundary that we shall discuss is the preverb boundary. At preverb boundaries, marked by a hyphen, one of the three rules which follow will apply:

Rule 1(a)

$$\emptyset \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{c} w \\ h \end{array} \right\} / \begin{array}{ccc} V_1 & ___ & - \quad V_2 \\ [back] & & [back] \end{array}$$

Rule 1(b)

$$\emptyset \rightarrow y \quad / \quad V_1 \quad ___ \quad - \quad V_2$$

[aback] [-aback]

Rule 1(a) applies when the vowels are of different quality, length and neither is a front vowel. Rule 1(b) applies when one of the vowels is a front vowel. Examples with Rule 1 are:

[āwotnAk] /ā-otinak/
'when I picked him up'

[āhotētnān] /ā-otihtamān/
'when I grabbed it'

[īyapiyā] /ī-apiyā/
'when we stayed'

[āyıtıgowā] /ā-itikoyā/
'when he told us'

[niwīyapın] /niwī-apin/
'I am going to sit down'

Rule 2

$$V_1 \quad - \quad V_2 \quad \rightarrow \quad \tilde{V}_2$$

[-lg]

[back] [back]

Rule 2 applies when the vowels at the preverb boundary different in quality, neither is a front vowel (/i/ or /ī/), and the first vowel is short. Examples are:

[kōtīnamAn] /ka-otinaman/

'you will take it'

[kōtētīgut] /ka-otihtikot/

'it will come to him'

Rule 3

$V_1 - V_1 \rightarrow \bar{V}_1$

Rule 3 applies when the vowels at the preverb boundary are the same in quality. Examples are:

[ītwīt] /ī-itwīt/

'he said so to him'

[ātīgospīt] /ā-ati-kospīt/

'he started to go up'

[nātīgospīn] /na-ati-kospīn/

'I will start to go up'

In the case of word boundaries, the rules apply in the same way. Examples with Rule 1 are:

[itīyanihi] /itīanihi/

'where they'

In the following example, the insertion of y causes the regular contraction of /ay/ to [ē] which we mention later (3.4.2):

[nīstayiǎa] /nīstaiǎa/

[nīstēǎa] 'I too'

Examples with Rule 2 are:

[īgotōhci] /īkotaohci/

'from there'

In the next example, we first see that word-final /o/ is substituted by /w/ before a vowel initial word, then the regular contraction of /wā/ --> [a] after a consonant (as seen in 3.4.1):

[nīsāwāpmāyāhuk] /nīso ā-wāpmāyāhkwak/

'we saw two of them'

Examples with Rule 3 are:

[mwīhciitogī] /mwīhci itokī/ 'just about'

[īgwānī] /īkwa ani/ 'and then'

[āgīntīgotawīyācīḏo]

/ā-kī-nitawī-kotawīyā_aciḏaw/

'we lit a fire for a while'

/w/ may also drop initially, for example:

[īgotīpAc]

/īkotī wīpac/

'there suddenly'

In this example, the /w/ is in the environment of high front vowels. As we shall see later (3.5), the semivowel in this environment may assimilate to the position of the vowels:

/w/ --> [y]. Moreover, the sequence /īyī/, in this dialect of Cree, contracts to [ī]. Together, this assimilation and contraction may account for the sequence /ī#wī/ becoming [ī].

At the prefix boundary, there are two connectives, y and t, used in this dialect of Woods Cree. These connectives join first and second person prefixes to vowel-initial stems. Either of these forms may occur:

nitapin 'I sit'

niyapin 'I sit'

The same connectives are also found with vowel-initial nouns, for example:

nitakohp 'my blanket'

niyakohp 'my blanket'

The rule which states this is:

$$\emptyset \rightarrow \{ t/y \} / \text{PREFIX } ___ + \text{STEM}$$

[vowel-initial]

The choice of connective appears to be free, although the t connective outnumbered the y approximately by two to one.

Neither the class of the verb, nor whether the noun is animate or inanimate makes a difference:

TA

nitaḍahwāw 'I am burying him'

nyasamāw 'I feed him'

TI

nitiskatīḍihtīn 'I am tired of it'

niyakihtīn 'I count it'

AI

nitakohcin 'I float'

niyapin 'I sit'

NI

nitastotin 'my hat'

niyakohp 'my blanket'

NA

nitiskwīsisim 'my girl'

niyiskinōhamākīm 'my teacher'

Although the first person prefix has been used throughout the examples, t and y are used as connectives with the second person prefix as well. With the ni- and ki- prefixes, the choice of connective appears to be free, although more examples with t were obtained by direct elicitation than with y.

The third person of verbs is not expressed by prefix in Cree, with the exception of the preterites of which I have no examples in the data. On nouns, the prefix is o-, and when the noun stem is vowel initial, the connective is invariably t:

otakohp 'his blanket'

Verb stems which begin with /i/ and /o/ in the Woods Cree dialect spoken at Pukatawagan, exhibit lengthening of the stem vowel after nit- or the minimal variant n- but not after niy-:

osih 'fix him!' (impve.)

nitōsihāw 'I am fixing him'

<u>itīw</u>	'he tells him'
<u>nītāw</u>	'I tell him'

We might expect that verb stems with vowel initial /a/ would follow the pattern of those with /o/ and /i/ and exhibit lengthening of the stem vowel. This, however, is not the case, as the next examples show:

<u>aḏahwīw</u>	'he buries him'
<u>naḏahwāw</u>	'I bury him'

<u>kiyayamihitonānaw</u>	'we talk to each other'
<u>kayaminānaw</u>	'we are talking'

In this last pair of examples, note that the initial kiy- is a sequence of second person prefix plus the connective y.

It is of considerable interest that the /a/ does not lengthen in the same manner as /o/ and /i/. One possible reason might be that in this dialect of Woods Cree, the future tense of verbs with stem-initial /a/ is marked by the lengthening of the /a/:

<u>nahḏāw</u>	'I put him'	(personal prefix <u>n-</u>)
<u>n-āhḏāw</u>	'I shall put him'	(future preverb <u>na</u>)

The lengthening of the stem-initial vowel is distinctive in the future -- there is no other way of keeping the future apart from the present tense. This may well be the reason why /a/ does not follow the pattern of /o/ and /i/.

In Plains Cree, variation in length of stem-initial /o/ has been recorded, but not for /i/ or /a/. When the stem begins with o-, this o- is lengthened after the personal prefix. Ahenakew notes this with dependent noun stems (1984:34):

	<u>nōsisimitik</u>	'my grandchildren'
cf.	<u>osisima</u>	'their grandchildren'

Ahenakew notes that in her dialect the possession paradigm of independent nouns is completely regular, and the shape of the personal prefixes is predictable.

Wolfart, however, mentions (1973:82) that:

Before stems with initial /o/ or /ō/ there is a great deal of what seems to be free variation.

He gives examples with independent nouns:

<u>okimaw</u>	'chief'
<u>nitōkimāminān</u>	'our chief'
<u>nōkimāminān</u>	

and one example with a dependent noun:

<u>ōhkomiwāwa</u>	'their grandmother'
-------------------	---------------------

Wolfart also notes that the initial /o/ of verb stems may lengthen in this way:

otinēw 'he takes him'

nōtināw 'I take him'

In the Woods Cree examples above, we have seen the prefixes ni- and ki- in a reduced form: n- and k-:

naḡahwāw /n+aḡahwāw/

nītāw /n+itāw/

nahḡāw /n+ahḡāw/

kayaminānaw /k+ayaminānaw/

"Vowel-less" forms of the prefix are common with certain dependent noun stems:

natay 'my belly'

katay 'your belly'

but it has not previously been observed with verbs. Examples involving n- and k- -- the reduced variants of the personal prefixes -- are not as frequent as those where the connective, either t or y, is used, but they do occur regularly enough to suggest that they are not recording errors. For further details see Greensmith (1985).

3.4 THE EFFECTS OF SEMIVOWELS UPON VOWELS

This section explores further the variations that may take place within the word.

Both /w/ and /y/ optionally affect the quality of vowels contiguous to them. /w/ tends to round neighbouring vowels, and is then deleted. The general effect of /y/ is more difficult to state. Its distribution is more limited than that of /w/ as it does not occur word initially. After /i/ and /a/, moreover, it has the effect of neutralising the vowel and is then deleted. We shall first discuss the effects of /w/.

3.4.1 /w/ effects

We have stated that /w/ has a rounding effect. It may also give to neighbouring vowels the quality of backness. Examples of this are especially evident with the sequence /iw/. /iw/ may occur as [o] in word-final position:

/apiw/	[apo]	'he sits'
/iðiniw/	[iðino]	'person'

Note that this variation may affect all strings of the type /iw/, as /iw/ is morpheme internal in /iðiniw/, whereas it straddles a morpheme boundary in /api+w/.

The variation is optional, however, as both [iðinɪw] and [apɪw] have been recorded. This kind of surface variation has been observed for Plains Cree by Wolfart and Ahenakew (1982:73 ff.), who discuss the variation in the phonetic realisation of /iw/ and of other sequences that are phonetically similar, but have different underlying representations.

Another variant of word final /iw/ is [ē], but this only occurs in certain nouns and will be discussed with word final /y/.

/wī/ may surface as [oy]:

/ā-ati-sipwīhtīt/ [ātɪsɪpoyihtīt]

'he is just leaving'

/tāpwī/ [tāpoyī]

'truly'

Here we see a change in syllabicity; the /w/ takes on the quality of a back vowel, and the high front vowel becomes a semivowel plus vowel. Another example of variation in syllabicity is the sequence /wīw/ which may surface as [oyu]:

/patahwīw/ [patahoyu]

'he hits him'

/patahwīwak/ [patahoyuk]

'they hit him'

/pimakocinwak/ [pmagocinuk]
'they are moving along'
/ā-kī-piniwīpahwak/ [āgīpiniyīpahuk]
'I knocked him down'

(Note the phonetic realisation of /iwī/ as [iyī] in the above example.)

In addition to [u], /wa/ may be represented by [wA] in slow, careful speech:

/ā-wāpamāyahkwak/ [āwāpmāyahkwAk]
'when we saw them'
/ā-itakwak/ [āyıtagwAk]
'I said so to them'

(The Plains Cree form corresponding to the above example is ē-itakok. However, the differences in inflection between this dialect and the Plains dialect will not be explored in this study.)

The sequence /wā/ generally surfaces as [ā] except word initially, as the next example shows:

/wāpamatwāki/ [wāpmatāgɪ]
'you see them'
/nikī-patahwānānak/ [nɪgɪpatahwānānAk]
'we missed them'
/ā-aswāpamāyā/ [āsāpmāyā]
'we were looking out for them'

/mwāc/ [māc] 'not'

The sequence /ow/ becomes [ō] in word final position:

/mīmihitow/ [mīmihitō] [[sic!]]

'he dances'

/ācimow/ [ācimō]

'he tells a story'

The examples show that /w/ may back and round a vowel that is contiguous to it. This is not compulsory, however, as word initially, as well as medially and finally in the examples that we have already seen, sequences of /wV/ and /Vw/ remain unchanged:

/wiðisk/ [wiðisk]

'because'

/wīða/ [wīða]

'he'

/ī-wī-nitawi-pāskiswānānak/

[īwīntipāskisānānAk]

'we wanted to go and shoot them'

/wacask/ [wačask]

'muskrat'

/awa/ [awa]

'this'

/wāpamīw/ [wāpmīw]

'he sees him'

/ā-wāpamāyāhkwak/ [āwāpmāyāhuk]

'we saw them'

3.4.2 /y/ effects

It is more difficult to generalise over the effects that /y/ may have on neighbouring vowels. In this section, we shall review the evidence for the effects which /y/ may have on a following vowel.

The first examples show the effect of /y/ on the stem-initial vowel /i/: the sequence /yi/ may surface as [yu]:

/niyitīhīn/	[niyutīhīn]
'I stir it'	
/niyiskinōhamākīw+im/	[niyuskīnōhamākīm]
'my teacher'	

The inflection for the second person singular conjunct of the VAI paradigm, /yan/, surfaces as [yɪn]. This has been pointed out by Voorhis (1972:13-3) as a northern variant.

/ā-kī-ispāḍiyan/	[ākīspaḍiyɪn]
'you were driving'	

The sequence /yo/ may surface as [yu]:

/nīyo/	[nīyu]
'four'	
/niyotahāw/	[niyutahāw]
'I beat him'	

We shall now turn to the effects of /y/ on vowels that precede it.

The length of the high front vowel is difficult to to determine before /y/:

[āgīsipwīpaḏīyīk] /ā-kī-sipwīpaḏīyīk/

'when you were going for a trip'

Phonetically, the final vowel of the stem sipwīpaḏi- seems long before /y/.

Word finally, /iy/ is realised as [ī]:

/sīpiy/	[sīpī]	'river'
/nīpiy/	[nīpī]	'leaf'
/pimiy/	[pmī]	'gasoline'

The underlying representation with word final /iy/ is attested to by the plurals:

/sīpiya/	'rivers'
/nīpiya/	'leaves'

Occasionally, in certain forms, /iy/ surfaces word finally as [ē]:

/nīpiy/	[nīpē]	'water'
/maskwamiy/	[maskomē]	'ice'

I have recorded both [pimī] and [pimē], [nipī] and [nipē]. [ī] and [ē] appear to vary freely when the underlying representation is /iy/. We shall return to this when we discuss the variants of the long front vowel /ī/ (3.7).

The sequence /ay/ also surfaces as [ē], but not as [ī]. This variation may occur anywhere within the word, including word finally. Note that in the last two examples, the /y/ is inserted by sandhi before it changes the preceding vowel and is deleted:

/ay/ --> [ē]

/āsay/	[āsē]	'already'
/nīsta iḍa/	[nīstēḍa]	'I too'
/ta-isi-pahkonak/	[tēsipahkonAk]	
		'how I shall skin him'

When /i/ or /a/ precede /y/, the distinction between them is lost, or neutralised. Note, however, that [ē] from /ay/ does not vary with [ī] in the same manner as the [ē] which comes from /iy/. The sequence /oy/ surfaces unchanged word finally:

[tōhtōsāpoy]	'milk'
/tōhtōsāpoy/	
[apoy]	'paddle'
/apoy/	

3.5 SEMIVOWELS IN GENERAL

This section will deal with the interchangeability, elision and deletion of semivowels that has already been noted. We have seen both /w/ and /y/ affect the quality and, on occasion, the length of the vowels that precede them. I have recorded in one noun stem the variation [iw] with [ē] for final /iy/:

[nitīḡaniw] ~ [nitīḡanē] 'my tongue'
/nitīḡaniy/

This variation shows up in other forms:

[otīḡaniw] ~ [otīḡanē] 'his tongue'
/otīḡaniy/

[mitīḡaniw] ~ [mitīḡanē] 'a tongue'
/mītiḡaniy/

The variants do not include [ī] as we might have expected on the basis of [pimī] and [sīpī] which, as we have seen, (3.4.2), have the underlying forms /pimiy/ and /sīpiy/. From one younger speaker, W.H., I also elicited [iw] for /iy/ in the form:

/sīpiy/ 'river' [sīpiw]

The observation that [iw] appears as a surface variant for /iy/ is further supported by the apparent interchangeability of the two semivowels in intervocalic position:

/awi/ --> [ayi]

/ī-nīpawit/ [īnīpayıt]

'he is standing'

/oyā/ --> [owā]

/ā-itikoyā/ [āyıtıkowā]

'he told us'

In the first example, the semivowel has assimilated to the quality of the following vowel. In the second, the semivowel has assimilated to the roundness of the preceding vowel.

3.5.1 The Preverb /nitawi-/

The sequence /awi/ has various phonetic realisations when it occurs in the preverb nitawi- 'go and'. It may, of course, surface unchanged:

/nitawi/ --> [nitawı]

/ā-kī-nitawi-māciyā/ [ākīnitawımāciyā]

'we went and hunted'

This variant only surfaces in slow, careful speech.

The variants which are listed below all come from the same speaker, M.C., and are in order of frequency.

/nitawi/ --> [ntī]

[tī]

[nitī]

[ntō]

[ntēyɪ]

/nitawi/ --> [ntī]

/ā-kī-nitawi-aswāpamāyā/

[āgīntīyasāpmāyā]

'we went out and watched for him'

/nitawi/ --> [tī]

/ā-kī-nitawi-pahkonāyā/

[āgītīpahkonāyā]

'we went and skinned him'

/nitawi/ --> [nitī]

/ā-kī-nitawi-kotawīyā/

[āgīnitīgotawīyā]

'we went and lit a fire'

/nitawi/ --> [ntō]

/nikī-wī-nitawi-pāskiswānān/

[nigīwīntōpāskisānān]

'we wanted to go and shoot him'

/nitawi/ --> [ntēyɪ]

/ī-kī-nitawi-takosi/ [īgīntēyɪtakosi]

'he got to his destination'

3.5.2 On the Deletion of the Semivowels

In the Pukatawagan dialect of Woods Cree, we have seen the interchangeability of /w/ and /y/ intervocalically. We also see the regular deletion of /w/ word finally in such forms as:

[mitātahtā]	'ten times'	/mitātahtwāw/
[tahtā]	'every time'	/tahtwāw/
[mihcītā]	'many times'	/mihcītwāw/
[pīyakā]	'once'	/pīyakwāw/

While I have not observed the intervocalic deletion of /w/, I have observed its instability in this environment, when surrounded by high front vowels. Voorhis (1976:42-44) writes that intervocalic semivowels are sometimes dropped in Cree:

[wāsēnamāina]	for	/wāsēnamāwina/
	'windows'	
[tahkāāw]	for	/tahkāyāw/
	'it's cold'	

Voorhis also notes the backing and rounding effect that /w/ may have on a following /a/ or /ā/. As we have seen, this occurs regularly in the Pukatawagan dialect of Woods Cree.

3.6 SURFACE VARIATION IN THE SHORT FRONT VOWEL

Before a cluster of /h/ plus stop, the high front vowel may be lengthened and lowered to [ē]. On some occasions the /h/ is dropped from the cluster, but not always:

[nɪpēhkɪ] /nɪpɪhki/
 'when summer comes'

[maskēhkē] /maskɪhkiy/
 'medicine'

[kōtēhtɪgut] /ka-otɪhtɪkot/
 'it will come to him'

[āhotētnān] /ā-otɪhtamān/
 'I grabbed it'

(Note in this last example the progressive assimilation of the nasal /m/ to the position of the preceding stop, to be discussed in greater detail in Chapter V.)

All the examples are with the clusters ht and hk. I have not recorded any instances of this type before hp. Pentland (1978b:109) has observed this phenomenon at South Indian Lake, and gives this example:

[mɛɛkɔ] /mɪhko/
 'blood'

It is not uncommon to find instances in the data of [ē] before /hC/ where the underlying form is /īhC/, for example,

[mahēhkAn] /mahīhkan/
'wolf'

I have also recorded [ē] before /hC/, with deletion of the /h/:

[apīščīwētīgōs] /apisci-wīhtikōs/
'small wihtikow'

We even find examples of hypercorrection, where the underlying form /īC/ is reinterpreted, in the first example as [ēhk], and in the second as [iht].

[mēhkwāc] /mīkwāc/
'while'

[tīmīnihkwīhtān] /nitawi-minihkwītān/
'let's go and drink!' (impve.)

3.7 THE LONG FRONT VOWEL

We have already alluded to the fact that the long front vowel /ī/ has a variant: [ē]. It has been observed by Pentland (1979:104), that the Woods and Northern Plains dialects of Cree have a completely symmetrical vowel system -- three long, three short. Pukatawagan Woods Cree appears to be one such dialect -- but with a difference, in that the [ē] is still in evidence.

First, we shall look at the phonetic evidence. In both the stems and among the inflectional endings, there are words in which the sound is sometimes [ē] and sometimes [ī]:

[pēyAk]	/	[pīyAk]	'one'
[ēgwānı]	/	[īgwānı]	'and then'
[wāpmēw]	/	[wāpmīw]	'he sees him'
[tēpagohp]	/	[tīpagohp]	'seven'

There are also words in which the vowel is consistently [ī]:

[īgā]	'not'
[nāpīw]	'man'
[nīyo]	'four'
[nīḏa]	'I'

There are no words, however, which consistently exhibit only [ē].

In terms of text frequency, the distribution of [ē] and [ī] is heavily skewed in favour of the latter:

	[ē]	[ī]
<u>S.L.</u> (99 yrs)	12	41
<u>M.W.</u> (42 yrs)	8	37
<u>M.C.</u> (20 yrs)	4	49

The chart illustrates the occurrence, by speaker, of [ī] and [ē] corresponding to Plains Cree /ē/ in one hundred running words of text. These counts show that S.L. uses [ē] corresponding to Plains Cree /ē/ less than one third as much as she uses [ī] (where Plains Cree has /ē/). The figures for M.W. and M.C. are not so high -- both use [ē] in the same environment as stated above less than one quarter of the time.

Even if there were no other evidence, this would suggest a merger of two vowels, /ē/ and /ī/, which were in contrast at an earlier stage. Evidence from Howse suggests that this merger did not start to take place until the nineteenth century. Howse (1844:37) uses the symbol è defined "as a in fate, mate", in such words as Tán-ittè 'where' (p. 266), Ec'cot-tè 'there' (p. 254). The è sound corresponds to ē in Plains Cree, where modern Woods Cree now has ī. Like Woods Cree, Plains Cree has lost the contrast

in the short front vowels, but, unlike Woods Cree, the Plains dialect preserves the contrast, for the most part, in the long front vowels. Wolfart (1973:35) reports the merger of /ī/ and /ē/ in the Saddle Lake area of north-eastern Alberta, and cites Bloomfield who recorded both kīkway and kēkway 'what sort'.

The sound [ē] is not only a variant of /ī/, however, it is also a variant of the word final sequence /iy/. Earlier we noted that noun stems for which we assume, on the basis of plural and obviative forms, an underlying representation of final /iy/, frequently surface with [ī] or [ē] word finally:

[sīpī] ~ [sīpē] 'river'

/sīpiy/

[pīmī] ~ [pīmē] 'gasoline'

/pimiy/

[nīpī] ~ [nīpē] 'water'

/nipiy/

The fact that forms such as [sīpē], [pīmē] and [nīpē] exist suggests two things. First, that these stems are re-interpreted as ending in a long ī -- in other words, that word finally Pukatawagan Woods Cree has no phonological distinction between [iy] and [ī]. Second, that the variation between [ī] and [ē] is bi-directional -- at least for these [ī]-final nouns.

Unfortunately, no clear information is as yet available from the texts of [ī] being realised as [ē] where it is underlying /ī/ and not /iy/. Yet, in the neighbouring dialect of South Indian Lake, field reports from Starks (1984) show this variation occurring in a number of morphemes, e.g., the preverb /wī/ surfaces as [wē]. Paul Voorhis (p.c.) has recorded [kē] for the past preverb /kī/ from speakers of Pukatawagan Woods Cree, which would suggest that the variation is indeed bi-directional.

It seems, therefore, that there is a sound change in progress, moving through the lexicon. In certain lexical items, the change is almost if not fully complete, in others it is only partially so.

This interpretation is supported by the fact that words which in English have [ey] are borrowed into Woods Cree with [ī]:

[čīgup]	'Jacob'	/cīkop/
[taḏīn]	'train'	/taḏīn/

Other words with a lower front vowel [ɛ] in English are also borrowed into Woods Cree as [ī]:

[sīḥa]	'Sarah'	/sīḥa/
[mīḥī]	'Mary'	/mīḥī/
[čīḥī]	'Gerry'	/cīḥī/

The fact that new words are borrowed into the lexicon with an [ī] is evidence in support of the existence of one phoneme /ī/.

In Pukatawagan Woods Cree, it is often very difficult to distinguish [ī] from [ē], especially in the word [īgwānī] or [ēgwānī].

Trudgill (1983:97) has observed that vowels may approximate to each other without actually becoming the same. He quotes recent work of Labov which

deals with a number of cases where precisely this has taken place -- where, during the course of linguistic change, distinct vowels have become phonetically closer without actually merging.

Trudgill emphasises that when the approximation is close enough

speakers will themselves perceive the vowels as identical even when they are not.

M.C. was convinced that he did not use the sound [ē] at all, whereas it is evident from the tapes that he does. What is important to note here is the fact that the sound /ī/ has psychological reality for M.C. -- he thinks he uses the /ī/ sound exclusively.

I have followed M.C. and adopted his perception as the convention by which [ī] and [ē] are represented as /ī/. I believe that, for M.C., the variation of [ī] with [ē] does not entail phonological distinctiveness and that his vowel system is completely symmetrical -- three short vowels, and three long ones.

Chapter IV

SURFACE VARIANTS: CONSONANTS

In this chapter we present the evidence for the surface variation of three consonants in particular: p, k, and ʃ. We shall leave the variants of /ʃ/ to the end of this chapter, and concentrate initially upon /p/ and /k/.

We have already observed the strengthening of /p/ and /t/ in this dialect to [pp] and [tt] (2.5). Here we examine the evidence for the weakening of consonants. This is a natural phonological process which occurs in many languages, typically in allegro speech. It has been observed by Hyman (1975:164) that,

A consonant is subject to strengthening and weakening processes relative to its position within syllables and words.

4.1 ASSIMILATION

In this section, we examine the assimilation of nasals to consonants which both follow and precede them. We also investigate the surface variants of the stops /p/ and /k/ which fall into the category of assimilation. Bhat (1978:56) states that the substitution of a fricative for a stop intervocalically:

has been generally considered as a case of assimilation of a consonant to the more open neighbouring vowel(s).

4.1.1 Nasal Assimilation

There is a rule of assimilation whereby a nasal may assimilate to the position of the following or the preceding consonant. This takes place after the deletion of a short vowel between the nasal and consonant. First the rule for elision:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V & \rightarrow & \emptyset \\ [-lg] & & \end{array} \quad / \quad \begin{array}{ccc} C & _ & C \\ [anas] & & [-anas] \end{array}$$

The above rule states that a short vowel will be deleted when it falls between two homorganic consonants, one of which must be a nasal.

The rule of assimilation can be stated thus:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C & \rightarrow & [aplace] \\ [+nasal] & & \end{array} \quad // \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & & C \\ & & [aplace] \end{array}$$

The double slash indicates that this is a neighbourhood, or mirror image, rule (Langacker 1969) and applies disjunctively -- in other words, if one expansion applies, then the other expansion cannot apply to the same input form. This rule allows for assimilation to the position of either the following or the preceding consonant.

The alpha notation enclosed within the square brackets is simply a notational convention to capture a generalisation that

would otherwise need to be stated in two rules. If both values for alpha are the same, then either both segments will contain the feature or both will not. If the alphas have different values, then one segment will possess the feature, and the other will not (see above, 2.4.1).

In the examples below, the nasal assimilates to the position of the following consonant -- in other words, this is regressive assimilation.

[mpagāsɪmon] 'I am swimming'
/nipakāsɪmon/

The short, unstressed /i/ of the prefix is deleted, and the nasal /n/ then assimilates to the bilabial position of the following consonant.

[ŋgīpatahāw] 'I missed him'
/nikī-patahwāw/

This example also uses both rules. This time, the nasal assimilates to the velar position [ŋ].

[ncīmāninān] 'our boat'
/nicīmāninān/

In this case, the rule of assimilation does not apply as the nasal is homorganic with the following consonant.

In the above examples, the consonants have been word initial; the following example is word medial. Here, the alternative expansion of the assimilation rule is used, as the nasal follows the consonant with which it becomes homorganic -- this is progressive assimilation:

[āhotētnān] 'I grabbed it'

/ā-otihtamān/

This example is of interest for two reasons. First, the assimilation rule works in reverse and it is a short /a/ that is deleted. (Second, the sequence /iht/ has become [ēt]. The loss of pre-aspiration has both lengthened and lowered the preceding vowel.)

4.1.2 The Phoneme /p/

Under certain conditions, the phoneme /p/ surfaces as a fricative --in fact, as two different types of fricative. Both are quite remarkable, but as yet there is no conclusive evidence to state their distribution, owing to the paucity of examples. Three examples occur in the text, where the phoneme /p/ surfaces as a voiceless bilabial fricative. The first is in the speech of M.C.:

[āgiyatipītāgotik] 'night was coming'

/ā-kī-ati-pītākotik/

In fact, M.C. stumbled the first time he made the utterance, so this may not be a good example on which to base firm conclusions. The next example, however, comes from the texts of S.L., and there was no hesitation:

[āgīpītohtīt] 'he came'

/ā-kī-pī-itohtīt/

In the dialect of S.L., there is often an audible devoicing of the vowel at preverb boundary, and especially between the particle ati and the preverb kī and stem. (ati always directly precedes the verb stem, kī may occur in that position.) It is possible that the fricative in the examples above is a combination of this connective [h] plus the initial /p/ of the verb stem.

The third example, again from the texts of S.L., is:

[ātīgospīhtahīgut]

'he started taking him up'

/ā-ati-kospīhtahikot/

There is not a preverb boundary in front of the /p/ in this example, but the /p/ may have assimilated to the manner of articulation of the preceding member of the cluster, /s/. It is unfortunate that there are few examples of this type in the data so far analysed.

In two of the examples above, the voiceless bilabial fricative arises across a preverb boundary. We have already noted

I have also recorded the form [āsīwīpita] for /ā-sipwīpita/, without a trace of the /p/.

I can only document this variant -- there is not enough evidence to suggest a pattern of distribution. It is possible that speed of discourse might be a factor, as all the examples are from texts rather than from direct elicitation. It is hoped that further textual analysis may provide some more examples of this unusual feature.

4.1.3 The Phoneme /k/

In the previous chapter, when /k/ was being discussed, I noted that intervocalically, the voiceless velar stop surfaces as voiced [g]. The stop may also be realised as a velar fricative [ɣ]. In this section, I will discuss the fricative and also other variants that occur in the text. All the examples come from the texts of M.C.

[īpimitisahoyut]

'he (obv.) was chasing him'

/ī-pimitisahokot/

[āpāpāskisāciγ ayihw]

'he kept on shooting at them, you know'

/ā-pāh-pāskiswācik ayihw/

[iðiγīγīγayīpātisiyā]

'we were so stupid'

/iðiko ī-kī-kakīpātisiyā/

(Here the /o/ of /iðiko/ has contracted with the following /ī/.
The following instances of [γ] may be attributed to allegro
assimilation.)

As I indicated earlier, however, there are other variants.
One is a glottal stop:

[āta'opaðiyā] 'we arrived'

/ā-takopaðiyā/

[īto'ī] 'I guess'

/ītokī/

[ta'opahtāw] 'he arrives running'

/takopahtāw/

The glottal stop and the velar fricative are in free variation with the velar stop. The following are all variants of one phonemic form:

/ā-takopaḍiyā/ 'we arrived'

[ātagopaḍiyā]

[ātaɣopaḍiyā]

[ātaʔopaḍiyā]

The only difference is the context in which they occur. The form with [g] was elicited whilst transcribing the tape, those with [ɣ] and [ʔ] occurred in the text in rapid discourse.

There is also evidence that the /k/ is dropped during very rapid speech. Examples of this are:

[pwāgohp] /poko akohp/ 'only a blanket'

[māyīḍa] /māka wiḍa/ 'but'

Note in the example above the interchangeability of the semivowels, [y] for /w/.

Another surface variant of /māka wiḍa/ is:

[māɣīḍa]

In this case /k/ may surface as [ɣ] or [ø].

There is much evidence to show that the phoneme /k/ undergoes considerable variation, mainly in intervocalic position, in rapid discourse. In slow elicitation it is always [g]. In informal, allegro speech, the stop may surface as a fricative. The velar stop may also surface as a glottal stop. This can perhaps best be described as an instance of ease of articulation, although we note with Sapir that a sound that for speakers of one language is relatively simple to produce may cause problems for speakers of another language. On the concept "ease of articulation" Sapir (1921:183) observes that:

[It] may enter in as a factor, but it is a rather subjective concept at best.

The variation between a back stop and a glottal stop is attested in Arabic, where the uvular stop /q/ may surface as [ʔ] as well as [g]. Haywood and Nahmad (1965:7) state that:

In modern Arabic in some areas, it is often pronounced as the hard [g] in go ... In the colloquial of Lower Egypt (Cairo Arabic) and certain parts of the Levant, it can be heard as a hamza [glottal stop].

Thus the variation between a back stop and a glottal stop is found in the vernacular of at least one other language.

4.2 CONSONANT ELISION

In this section, we shall examine the evidence for the elision of consonants. In English, we hear frequently the phrase bran-new. Although we spell it brand-new, we do not pronounce the d very often, except perhaps for emphasis. The consonant d has undergone a process of elision in between the two nasals with which it is homorganic. The elision of d is so complete in this particular case that even the Oxford English Dictionary lists both forms, with a cross-reference from bran-new to brand-new.

In the Pukatawagan dialect of Woods Cree, the consonants ǵ, h, k and p may all be elided:

/ǵ/ --> ∅

/pīǵisk/ [pī:sk] 'finally'

(The colon marks additional vowel length.)

/h/ --> ∅

/anihi/ [anī] 'these'

/k/ --> ∅

/kīhcīnāc/ [īhcīnāc] 'for sure'

/p/ --> ∅

/ā-kī-sipwīpaǵiyā/ [ākīsīwīpaǵiyā]

'we were going on a trip'

We have already discussed the intervocalic weakening of /p/ and /k/. Under the environment 'intervocalic' we also include consonant plus semivowel sequences. Elision is the ultimate form of weakening.

Certain morphemes in this dialect of Cree no longer have initial /k/. In the speech of M.C., there is a conjunct marker /ā/ which corresponds exactly to the conjunct marker /kā/ which S.L., his grandmother, consistently uses in her stories. M.C. aided in the transcription of those stories, and it turns out that whenever S.L. uses /kā/, M.C. substitutes /ā/. He does not even hear the difference, as several times when it was pointed out to him, he would respond:

"That's what I said!"

Another instance where we suspect that /k/ has dropped word initially is in the word niyiskinōhamākīm 'my teacher'. We find the same form with initial /k/ in the Plains dialect: kiskinōhamākēw 'teacher'. There is no trace of initial /k/ in the Pukatawagan form of this word, and the fact that y is inserted unambiguously establishes that the stem is vowel initial. (We have already noted that /y/ is sometimes inserted as a connective between prefix and stem, and that it tends to colour the vowel that follows it.)

As a conclusion to this section on weakening, I would suggest that, on the basis of the above evidence, /p/, /t/ and /k/

show different patterns of behaviour, and that this attests to the relative strength of those stops in Woods Cree. We have abundant evidence for the weakening of /k/ and sporadic evidence for the weakening of /p/. There are no instances of /t/ weakening in the data so far analysed, unless we include one whole paradigm with /hǝ/ instead of /ht/. This was given during elicitation, however, and not in a text. Until an example of /t/ weakening shows up in the text, we shall state that on a relative scale of strength:

$$t > p > k$$

It is interesting that /t/ should be the strongest of the stops in Woods Cree, as Vennemann's material for Icelandic shows /t/ stronger than /p/ and /k/ (1972:6), and Skousen's data for Finnish shows that /t/ only undergoes one weakening process, voicing, whereas /k/ is deleted entirely and /p/ becomes a voiced fricative [v] (1972:571).

Typologically, then, it is not uncommon for languages to have a relative scale of strength of stops similar to that which we observe for Woods Cree.

4.3 THE PHONEME /ð/

As was noted earlier, the phoneme /ð/ also exhibits a great deal of phonetic variation in intervocalic position. The allophones are: ð, dð, d and D. On some occasions in rapid discourse it drops altogether.

These variants cannot be described as weakenings, however, if we are to apply to them the scale of strength which Foley has established, (1970:90):

ð	d	t	tt	
-----	-----	-----	-----	>
1	2	3	4	strength

This scale would suggest that stops are stronger than fricatives.

Ferguson (1978:437) compares the phonological processes whereby [d --> ð] and, conversely, whereby [ð --> d] in six languages, and concludes of the latter process:

[It] seems to be a relatively context-free, simplifying process which eliminates highly marked consonants.

By marked, Ferguson is referring to the theory that some sounds occur less often, carry less of a functional load, and are therefore more marked when they do occur than other sounds which are more common, the functional load of which is heavy, and which are therefore unmarked in their occurrence. According to this argument, the process whereby [ð --> d] would appear to be a change from a marked sound to one which is unmarked.

One problem that we meet here is that the process

[ð --> d] is identified as a context-free process by Ferguson, and Stampe (1973:23) asserts that context-free processes occur most often in slow, formal speech. In Pukatawagan Woods Cree, however, in the same way as we saw with the variants of /p/ and /k/ earlier, the process [ð --> d] takes place only in allegro speech. This, according to Greenberg, is precisely the environment where we may look for the direction of historical change (1978:248):

It is plausible to consider that allegro forms give important insight into the identification of "difficult" forms and less-favored sequences and into the direction of historical change.

Greenberg is actually talking of initial and final consonant sequences, but perhaps we may extrapolate his conclusion on allegro forms to cover individual segments as well.

Let us return to the phonetic material. A first question concerns voicing: all the instances observed are voiced, and yet some observers have used a voiceless symbol. This phoneme is used as the primary diagnostic feature of the Woods dialect, and it has been written and described in various manners since the earliest point of contact.

Pentland (1979:89) writes that:

In the early records, it is uniformly written "th", but this led a number of twentieth-century linguists to describe it as voiceless θ. Bloomfield (1925a:225) fell into this trap but corrected himself (1925b:145) once he had completed his Cree field work. Michelson usually referred to the "th" dialect ... but occasionally wrote θ.

Howse (1844:38_n) implies that there really was a dialect with θ, as well as one with ð:

The linguals are th (pronounced as in thin) ... I allude here to some of the tribes on the coast of the Bay; those of the interior, as on the Saskatchewan, &c. affect more the flat series, as th (in this) ...

On the other hand, Rossignol, who worked at Ile-à-la-Crosse in Saskatchewan, quite categorically identified the sound as d, neither θ nor ð (1939:62):

This d of the Cree of the Rocks is hard, -- like the habitat itself. It is the ordinary English d, as in "do", or "Indian"; it is not the same as either the voiced or voiceless th of English.

Pentland (1979:89) notes that in James Isham's 1743 vocabulary there are examples of a d reflex, which he (Pentland) identifies as a feature of the Saskatchewan Woods dialect, in intervocalic position.

Now we shall examine the phonetic variants. They are, in order of frequency of occurrence:

ð, dð, d, D, ø.

As was stated earlier, sometimes in rapid discourse the ð drops entirely:

[kasipwīpānānaw] 'we will go for a trip'

/ka-sipwīpaðinānaw/

[pī:sk] 'finally'

/pīðisk/

The long [ā] and the overlong [ī:] that have been underscored in the phonetic representations suggest that contraction has taken place:

aǫi --> ā

īǫi --> ī:

In both cases, the pattern seems to be:

[V₁ ǫ V₂] --> [V̄₁]

In the second example, where the first vowel is already long, it acquires extra length (:).

If we set aside the 'zero' allophone we are left with four allophones that are all phonetically similar. It is possible that the variation may be conditioned by stress.

In the Woods dialect of Cree, however, stress does not appear to be a conditioning factor. As we have already noted, primary stress in this dialect falls mostly on the antepenultimate syllable.

In this section, I will concentrate on the examples already used, involving the verb final -paǫi- and the noun stem iǫiniw-:

-paði-

1. [āgīsīpwīpáðīyā] 'we went for a trip'
2. [āgīsīpwīpádðīyā] 'we went for a trip'
3. [ātagopádīyā] 'we arrived'
4. [īskāpáDīnān] 'we went fast' [[sic!]]
5. [āgīnācīpaDīstamā] 'we drove over to fetch it'

iðiniw-

1. [íðīnīw] 'person'
2. [íðīnīw] 'person'
3. [kīsīðīnīw] 'old man'
4. [iðīnīwak] 'people'
5. [iðīnīwak] 'people'
6. [kīsīðīnīwa] 'old man' (obv.)

The first four examples with -paði- and the first three with iðiniw- show the phoneme in question following the stressed vowel. If stress were the factor causing allophonic variation, we would expect to find the same allophone occurring in words of similar stress patterns.

If we look, however, at the first four examples with -paði-, there are four different allophones. Likewise, we should expect to find a different allophone occurring in words where the stress pattern is different. Look now at example (5) -- we have here the flap which also occurred in example (4) when that segment followed the stressed vowel.

Again, with iðiniw-, examples (1-3) show the phoneme following the vowel which bears primary stress -- yet two different allophones occur. In examples (4-6), the same pattern of allophonic variation arises when the phoneme precedes the vowel which bears primary stress.

In short, different allophones occur in environments of the same stress, and the same allophone occurs in environments where the stress is different. Hence, I conclude that the variation is independent of stress. Having checked conditioning factors such as sex and age, and finding that, apart from the flap, the allophones occur in the speech of both M.C. and S.L., I would suggest that the allophonic variation may well be due to speed of discourse -- but much further study will be required to test such a hypothesis.

Having shown that the allophonic variation is free, we choose the character ð to represent the phoneme since it best symbolises its sonorant nature (cf. 2.4.5). ð is also the most frequently elicited of the allophones, and it is always found during slow, deliberate elicitation. This choice of representation

further allows for the d which Rossignol specified for Woods Cree speakers with whom he had contact, and which Pentland recorded intervocalically in the Saskatchewan dialects. (In view of the several authors who have used the symbol θ for this phoneme -- some of whom had not even heard the Woods dialect! -- it deserves to be emphasised that, with the phonetically motivated exception of [hθ] in word final position, θ is not even one of the allophones in Pukatawagan Woods Cree).

In addition, we may cite comparative evidence from the other Cree dialects, all of which have a sonorant as the reflex of Proto-Algonquian *l -- n, y, l and r. It is in keeping with the pattern, therefore, that the Woods dialect also has a sonorant as the reflex of Proto-Algonquian *l.

Chapter V

CONSONANT CLUSTERS

We shall begin with a few general comments about the type and distribution of consonant clusters. The variants of /hǝ/ and /hk/ in word-medial and final position will be explored in detail.

5.1 PHONEMIC CONSONANT CLUSTERS

Clusters of fricative plus stop occur medially. All the clusters of /h/ plus stop occur finally, although there are only two instances of word final /hk/. Clusters of fricative plus stop do not occur initially. Of the /s/ plus stop clusters, only /sk/ occurs finally.

/hp/

/ohpinīw/ 'he lifts him up'

/mīkiwāhp/ 'tent'

/ht/

/pōnihtā/ 'quit!' (impve.)

/mitātaht/ 'ten'

/hc/		
	/ā-akohci/	'when he was floating'
	/anohc/	'just then, now'
/hk/		
	/tihkitīw/	'it is thawing'
	/atihk/	'deer'
/sp/		
	/ispahtāw/	'he runs to'
/st/		
	/kistikwān/	'your head'
/sc/		
	/pisci/	'by accident'
/sk/		
	/tātoskam/	'he rips it'
	/wiðisk/	'because'

There is one phonemic cluster of two fricatives, /hð/, which surfaces as [hθ] word finally:

/hð/	[wāhðaw]	'far away'
	[wīhθ]	'name him!' (impve.)

We shall return to this cluster later (5.3.1).

Clusters of consonant plus /w/ occur medially. A possible gap in the data is /cw/. /kw/ and /mw/ also occur initially. /pw/ only occurs initially in a proper name, pwālos 'Paul', although this restriction also may be due to an accidental gap in the data.

Medially, there is evidence to suggest that /pw/ may become a bilabial fricative during rapid discourse (4.1.2).

/pw/

/ā-kī-sipwīpaḏiyā/

'we were going away on a trip'

/tw/

/āyītwimīkiwāhpi/

'on both sides of the tent' (loc.)

/kw/

/kwayask/ 'straight, proper'

/mistikwak/ 'trees'

/sw/

/mōswa/ 'moose'

/hw/

/kī-patahwīw/ 'he missed him'

/mw/

/mwāc/ 'not'

/atimwa/ 'dog' (obv.)

/nw/

/takosinwak/ 'they arrive'

/ðw/

/nimiðwīðihtīn/ 'I am happy'

Clusters of fricative plus stop plus /w/ have limited occurrence in the data. These clusters only occur medially. /hpw/ and /stw/ were not recorded.

/htw/

/tahtwāw/ 'every time'

/hkw/

/nitawi-minihkwītān/ 'let's go and drink!'

(impve.)

/spw/

/ospwākan/ 'pipe'

/skw/

/iskwīwak/ 'women'

Other consonant clusters that arise through elision and reduplication are discussed in the next section.

5.2 SURFACE CONSONANT CLUSTERS

In the previous section we summarised the clusters which are phonemically distinctive. In this section, I will outline additional non-phonemic clusters which arise through the processes of elision and reduplication. Other clusters that arise through the operation of the vowel elision rule (3.3.1) are:

[nð]

[inīpɪnðɪk] 'when it was summer'

/i-nīpiniðɪk/

[ns]

[omānsɪs] 'moose-calf'

/omānɪsɪs/

[nt]

[tāntahtā] 'how many times'

/tānitahtwāw/

[pmp]

[ākīpmpaðiyā] 'when we were riding in a boat'

/ā-kī-pimipaðiyā/

We have already seen the cluster mp arise through elision (4.1.1). Here the nasal is syllabic.

[pm]

[wāpmatākɪ] 'as you see them'

/wāpamatwāki/

[tn]

[paskwatnā] 'on the bare land' (loc.)

/paskwatinā/

Another consonant cluster arises through the process of reduplication:

[hm]

[īmāhmāhkāyāk] 'there were big waves'

/ī-māh-māhkāyāk/

[māhmīkiw] 'he gives (things to people)'

/māh-mīkiw/

To conclude this section, we shall summarise the consonant clusters that arise through elision and reduplication:

pm	tn		
hm			
mp	nt	nc	ŋ ^k
	nð	ns	

All the surface consonant clusters contain a nasal, and it is possible that more examples of reduplication might yield the clusters [hn] and [hs].

5.3 SURFACE VARIATION: CONSONANT CLUSTERS

In the following sections we shall explore the surface manifestations of two clusters -- /hǝ/ and /hk/.

5.3.1 /hǝ/

There is a certain amount of variation in regard to the phonetic manifestations of the cluster /hǝ/. From the eldest speaker, S.L., I have recorded both [h] and [hǝ]:

[wāhaw] ~ [wāhǝaw] 'far away'
/wāhǝaw/

I have not recorded any texts from M.W., but I have elicited only the sound [ǝ] in the same word:

[wāǝaw]

The youngest speaker, M.C., appears to have [ǝ] and [hǝ] in free variation in this particular word:

[wāðaw]

[wāhðaw]

In other words which include /hð/, the same variation is not recorded:

[wīhθ] 'name him!' (impve.)

[ahðāci] 'as he places him'

It is interesting that in the case of the eldest speaker, the most common variant is [h]. This is not one of the allophones of the phoneme /ð/. If we base our discussion on the word wāhðaw, there is variation in the speech of S.L. between /h/ and /hð/, whereas M.C. varies between /ð/ and /hð/. M.W. appears to have complete merger of /ð/ and /hð/.

M.C., however, only has variation between /ð/ and /hð/ in this one word. As /hð/ may surface as either [hð], [ð] or [hθ], but /ð/ never surfaces as [hð] and has no voiceless allophones, I conclude that /ð/ and /hð/ are distinct.

5.3.2 Word Final /hk/

The cluster /hk/ has limited distribution, and in this respect differs from other clusters of /h/ plus stop. It was recorded word finally in only two words in this dialect:

/acāhk/ 'star'

/atihk/ 'deer'

Both words have an underlying /w/ stem finally, which is evident in the diminutive forms:

/acāhkos/ 'small star' (/acāhkw+is/)

/acihkos/ 'small deer' (/acihkw+is/)

(I would also expect to find the /w/ in the obviative, locative and plural forms, but these were not elicited.)

Whereas earlier (5.1) I suggested that some clusters, e.g., /cw/, /stw/, might actually exist but for some reason are not found in the data, in this instance it is the pattern of distribution of the /h/ + stop cluster in the data that indicates the virtual absence of the /hk/ cluster in word final position.

Of the clusters /hp ht hc hk/, all are found word medially. While /hp ht hc/ frequently occur word finally in the data, /hk/ has only been recorded in the words acāhk and atihk.

We do, however, have evidence from within this dialect of Woods Cree, that /hk/ has indeed dropped in word final position. Forms such as:

/ā-wāpamāyā/ 'when we saw him'

/ā-wāpamāyāhkwak/ 'when we saw them'

show that /hk(w)/ surfaces once it is no longer in word final position. Another pair which illustrates this is:

/ā-kīsi-pahkonāyā/ 'when we finished skinning him'

/ī-pahkonāyāhkwak/ 'which we had skinned'

The /hk(w)/ also surfaces medially in the subjunctive as we see in the next examples:

/ācimoyahki/ 'if we (incl.) tell a story'

/wāpamāyahkwaki/ 'when we (incl.) see them'

It is interesting that comparative evidence from Plains Cree shows that /hk/ appears in word final position in particles, locatives and in verbal inflections, as well as in nouns that end in /hk/ and /hkw/ (which surfaces as /hk/). Plains Cree forms are from Ahenakew (1984) unless otherwise indicated. The following are examples with particles :

Woods Cree /otākosi/ 'yesterday'

Plains Cree /otākosihk/

Woods Cree /iðiko/ 'so much'

Plains Cree /iyikohk/

Locatives:

Woods Cree /kotawāni/ 'on the fireplace'

Plains Cree /maskimotihk/ 'in the bag'

Woods Cree /sīpī/ 'on the river'

Plains Cree /sīpīhk/ 'in the river'

Woods Cree /kicīmāninā/ 'inside our boat'

Plains Cree /ōtēnāhk/ 'in town'

In making comparisons in verbal inflections, I will begin with the imperative. Verbs that are transitive and have animate goals (TA) have an imperative that ends in /i/, for the 2p-3 form, whereas the Plains Cree ending is /ihk/ for the same form. When the verb stem ends in /w/, the /i/ of the imperative ending becomes /o/. This is the same contraction that we saw take place in the diminutive forms for /acāhk/ and /atihk/.

Woods Cree /pōnīšimi/ 'forgive him!' (2p-3)

Plains Cree /wāpamihk/ 'look at him!' (2p-3)

Woods Cree /aswaho/ 'be ready for him!' (2p-3)

/aswahw+i/

Plains Cree /pakamahohk/ 'hit him!' (2p-3)

/pakamahw+ihk/

In the conjunct order, verbs of the AI type inflect with /yā/ in the 1p form. In Plains Cree the corresponding form is /yāhk/.

Woods Cree /ā-kī-pimipaḏiyā/ 'we were riding'

Plains Cree /ē-wīkiyāhk/ 'we live there'

The following pair of examples have the same verb stem:

Woods Cree /ī-apiyā/ 'we stayed'

Plains Cree /ē-apiyāhk/ 'we are sitting'

The difference in tense of the English is not at issue here. The Woods Cree example was taken from narrative text where Cree present tenses are frequently found.

Two last pairs of examples provide a sub-minimal pair for Woods Cree:

Woods Cree /askī/ 'on the ground' (loc.)

Plains Cree /askīhk/

Woods Cree /kitaski/ 'your pot'

Plains Cree /askihk/ 'kettle'

The sub-minimal pair is:

askī 'on the ground'

kitaski 'your pot'

The only difference (apart from the kit-) is that of word final vowel length -- nothing else. The kit- is the second person possessive prefix ki- plus the connective -t-. What is very significant here is that /askihk/ in Plains Cree is one of the nouns which has an underlying /w/, and one might expect that in Woods Cree, like acāhk and atihk, it would retain word final /hk/. /aski/, however, drops word final /hk/ like all the foregoing examples. It is remarkable, therefore, that only acāhk and atihk preserve the /hk/ word finally.

It is now possible to state that, with two exceptions only,

/hk/ --> ø / ____ #

There is no phonetic trace of /hk/ in word final position. On some occasions [h] is heard, but [h] is heard frequently when vowels are gradually devoiced at the end of words, and it is not a distinctive sound. In the text from M.C., for example, that is given in the appendix, the following phrase is found:

/īkota ā-apiyā/ 'we stayed there'

Phonetically, there is as much of an offglide at the end of /īkota/ as there is at the end of /ā-apiyā/, yet there is no /hk/ underlying /īkota/.

Similarly, in the following phrase from the same text, the locative /i/ contracts like any other word final short vowel:

[cīmānīyapīcīk] 'they were in the boat'

/cīmāni ī-apicik/

This contracts in the same way as:

[mwīhciṭokī] 'just about'

/mwīhci ītokī/

(The two vowels contract to form one by Rule 3 which was stated earlier (3.3.2).)

A further example shows that the conjunct ending also contracts in the same way as any word final vowel:

[āgīntīgōtawīyācīḥo]

'we went and lit a fire for a while'

/ā-kī-nitawi-kotawīyā aciḥaw/

Here the /yā/ inflection of the verb has contracted with the short initial vowel of /aciḥaw/.

In all these examples, sandhi operates as usual between two vowels across a word boundary. The ending in question, whether of a locative, particle or verbal inflection, is not seen as different by a native speaker.

In conclusion to this section, I will re-emphasise that in this dialect there is no trace of /hk/ in word-final position except in two isolated instances.

We shall now consider the surface representations of the /hk/ cluster when it occurs word-internally.

5.3.3 Medial /hk/

/hk/ occurs medially in intervocalic position, and also when followed by /w/. There is a great deal of evidence to show that /hk/ is realised as [h], at least in narrative discourse:

[igītahonāyā] 'we had taken him along'

/ī-kī-tahkonāyā/

[niyatigohhōsonān] 'we started to push off'

/niyati-kohkōsonān/

[isōhaniciwa] 'the water was fast'

/ī-sōhkaniciwa/

When followed by /w/, the /hk/ surfaces in slow elicitation:

[āwāpmāyāhkwak] 'we saw them'

/ā-wāpamāyāhk_wak/

We have, however, also seen the same form recorded as part of a narrative:

[āwāpmāyāhuk]

Although there is evidence of the /w/ (/wa/ --> [u]), the /k/ is gone from the /hkw/ cluster.

In the next example, again from the text, only [h] remains of the /hkw/ cluster. (Note also that /k/ drops intervocalically, and the contraction of the vowels, /ā/ with /a/).

[ohāni] 'in his face' /ohkwākani/

In direct elicitation, the cluster surfaces:

[takosinihkān] 'get there!' (delayed impv.)

/takosinihkān/

[pahkwacitīw] 'it is singed'

/pahkwacitīw/

The /k/ in the /hk/ cluster behaves in the same way as other instances of /k/, except that it never becomes [ɣ] nor [g] -- probably because the /h/ blocks the voicing. It does not surface as a glottal atop [ʔ] -- David Pentland (p.c.) has observed that this may be because preaspirated glottal stop is not a permissible cluster in Cree.

Now the rule for /hk/ should read:

/hk/ --> ∅ / ____ #	(compulsory)
--> [h] / v ____ (w) v	(optional)

This rule does not account for the two exceptions, acāhk and atihk.

The above rule accounts for Woods Cree, as spoken at Pukatawagan. Pentland (1979:76) notes that in final position, some words in Woods Cree and Plains Cree have [h] for /hk/, varying with [x] and [hk], and that this also happens medially. The example he gives has the /hkw/ cluster:

[ēmihwān] ~ [īmhwān] 'spoon'

In Pukatawagan Woods Cree, the form is:

[īmihkwān]

and no k-less forms were recorded.

In other dialects of Cree we also find evidence of the /h/ plus stop cluster becoming a fricative. In a study of the Swampy Cree dialect spoken at Shamattawa, Manitoba, Anthony (1972) finds that there are two possible reflexes corresponding to the Plains Cree sequence of a short vowel plus pre-aspirated stop: either \bar{V} plus stop or V plus spirant. Anthony gives [x] as the velar spirant, but is unable to state the distribution of these reflexes, other than to say that they are not in free variation.

Ellis (1971:78), writing about the Cree spoken on the west coast of James Bay, notes that word final /hk/ is:

sometimes realized in fast or careless speech as [x] or the /k/ is dropped, leaving only an h-glide.

Pentland (1979:75) states that in the western Swampy Cree dialects in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, /hk/ always becomes [x], apart from

The Pas, Cumberland House, Sandy Bay, Cross Lake and Wabowden, which, he notes, follow the reflex of \bar{V} plus stop which Anthony has described for Shamattawa.

In conclusion, the cluster /hk/ shows widespread variation in this dialect of Woods Cree. It surfaces as either [hk] or [h] medially, or is deleted in word-final position, with the exception of acāhk and atihk.

Chapter VI

CONCLUSION

This study is a first attempt to detail some of the surface variation that exists in the phonological system of Pukatawagan Woods Cree.

We have observed the virtual absence of /hk/ word finally, although the cluster is found internally, with a surface representation of either [hk] or [h].

We have also seen the merger of two long front vowels into one phoneme /ī/. This is a sound change in progress which is currently moving through the lexicon, and as we have seen, it is not yet complete.

There is also a competing sound change moving through the lexicon -- the emergence of [ē] from the lowering and lengthening of the short high front vowel /i/ before clusters of /h/ plus stop. As yet, this has only been recorded before the clusters /ht/ and /hk/ in this dialect.

Apart from the ī / ē variation which may possibly be attributable to age-grading in that the younger speakers have more ī sounds than the older speakers, the only other overall pattern to

emerge from this study is the tendency of certain stops to become fricatives. A considerable amount of instability has already been observed in the semivowels, both in this dialect and in other dialects of Cree. Perhaps we may speculate upon the length of time it will take before the weakened consonants achieve the state of instability of the semivowels.

Appendix A
MINIMAL PAIRS

Ideally, minimal pairs would be provided to illustrate each individual phoneme. In Cree, this is a hard task to accomplish as the words are long and few neat pairs are available to parallel the /pin/ : /bin/ in English.

In addition to minimal pairs I have used subminimal pairs, where the words differ not in one respect but in two, the second difference generally being one of vowel length. (Pairs to illustrate that vowel length is indeed distinctive are found at the end of this appendix.) I have also used minimal contrasts, where the sound is present in one word, but does not exist in the other. Minimal pairs will be unmarked. Subminimal pairs will be marked with an apostrophe: '. Minimal contrasts will be marked with quotation marks: ".

/p/

/p/ : /t/ /kospīw/ 'he goes up'
 /kostīw/ 'he fears him'

/p/ : /c/ /pimiy/ 'gasoline'
 /cīmiy/ 'James'

/p/ : /k/ /ī-pī-itohtīt/ 'he comes here'
 /ī-kī-itohtīt/ 'he went'

/p/ : /s/ /sīpīsis/ 'narrow river'
 /sīsīpīsis/ 'little duck'

/p/ : /m/ /nipāpā/ 'my father'
 /nimāmā/ 'my mother'

/p/ : /n/ /api/ 'sit!' (impve.)
 /ani/ 'indeed'

/p/ : /ʔ/ /kipah/ 'lock him in!' (impve.)
 /kīʔa/ 'you'

/p/ : /w/ /pīðisk/ 'finally'
 /wiðisk/ 'because'

/p/ : /ø/ /pōsi/ 'go on board!' (impve.)
 /osih/ 'fix him!' (impve.)

/t/

/t/ : /p/ /kostīw/ 'he fears him'
 /kospīw/ 'he goes up'

/t/ : /c/ /otawāsisima/ 'his small children'
 /ocawāsisima/
 'his dear little children'

/t/ : /k/ /atim/ 'dog'
 /akim/ 'count him!' (impve.)

/t/ : /s/ /kinātīn/ 'you fetch it'
 /kināsin/ 'you fetch me'

/t/ : /s/	/tihkitīw/	'it melts'
	/tihkisiw/	'he melts'

/t/ : /m/	/ōta/	'here'
	/ōma/	'this'

/t/ : /n/	/atim/	'dog'
	/anima/	'that'

/t/ : /ð/	/nitatoskān/	'I am working'
	/aðōskan/	'raspberry'

/t/ : /w/	/āta/	'although'
	/awa/	'this'

/t/ : /y/	/nīpit/	'my tooth'
	/nīpiy/	'leaf'

/c/

/c/ : /p/ /cīmiy/ 'James'
 /pimiy/ 'gasoline'

/c/ : /t/ /ocawāsisima/
 'his dear little children'
 /otawāsisima/ 'his little children'

/c/ : /k/ /ahōāci/ 'as he places him'
 /ahōaki/ 'as I place him'

/k/

/k/ : /p/ /ī-kī-itohtīt/ 'he went'
 /ī-pī-itohtīt/ 'he comes here'

/k/ : /t/ /akim/ 'count him!' (impve.)
 /atim/ 'dog'

/k/ : /c/ /ahōaki/ 'as I place him'
 /ahōāci/ 'as he places him'

/k/ : /kw/	/kistikān/	'garden'
	/kistikwān/	'your head'

/k/ : /m/	/kistikwān/	'your head'
	/mistikwān/	'a head'

/k/ : /n/	/kinātāw/	'you fetch him'
	/ninātāw/	'I fetch him'

/k/ : /n/	/kinātik/	'he fetches you'
	/kinātin/	'you fetch it'

/k/ : /w/	/kīḏa/	'you'
	/wīḏa/	'he'

/s/

/s/ : /p/	/sīsīpisis/	'little duck'
	/sīpīsis/	'narrow river'

/s/ : /t/	/kināsin/	'you fetch me'
	/kinātīn/	'you fetch it'

/s/ : /m/	/sihti/	'evergreen'
	/mihti/	'firewood'

/s/ : /n/	/sīpiy/	'river'
	/nīpiy/	'leaf'

/s/ : /ð/	/mīsīw/	'he defecates'
	/mīðīw/	'he gives it to him'

/s/ : /y/	/nīso/	'two'
	/nīyo/	'four'

/h/

/h/ : /hc/	/pīhin/	'wait for me!' (impve.)
	/pīhcin/	'put him in!' (impve.)

/h/ : /w/	/niwīcihāw/	'I help him'
	/niwīciwāw/	'I go with him'

/m/

/m/ : /p/	/nimāmā/	'my mother'
	/nipāpā/	'my father'
/m/ : /k/	/mistikwān/	'a head'
	/kistikwān/	'your head'
/m/ : /n/	/mīpit/	'a tooth'
	/nīpit/	'my tooth'
/m/ : /s/	/mihti/	'log'
	/sihti/	'evergreen' [sic]
/m/ : /w/	/mīpit/	'a tooth'
	/wīpit/	'his tooth'
/m/ : /ø/	/nātam/	'he fetches it'
	/nāta/	'fetch it!' (impve.)

/n/

/n/ : /p/	/ani/	'indeed'
	/api/	'sit!' (impve.)

/n/ : /k/	/ninātāw/	'I fetch him'
	/kinātāw/	'you fetch him'

/n/ : /s/	/nīpiy/	'leaf'
	/sīpiy/	'river'

/n/ : /m/	/nīpit/	'my tooth'
	/mīpit/	'a tooth'

/n/ : /ð/	/nōtin/	'fight him!' (impve.)
	/ðōtin/	'it is windy'

/n/ : /w/	/nikihtimin/	'I am lazy'
	/kihtimiw/	'he is lazy'

/n/ : /w/	/kitayānānaw/	'we (incl.) stay'
	/kitayānāwāw/	'you (pl.) stay'

/8/

/ð/ : /p/	/kīḥa/	'you'
	/kipah/	'lock him in!' (impve.)

/ð/ : /t/ ' /aðōskan/ 'raspberry'
/nitatoskān/ 'I am working'

/ð/ : /s/ /mīðīw/ 'he gives it to him'
 /mīsīw/ 'he defecates'

/ɔ̃/ :	/n/	/ɔ̃n̄tin/	'it is windy'
		/n̄n̄tin/	'fight him!' (impve.)

/w/

/w/ : /p/	/wiðisk/	'because'
	/pīðisk/	'finally'

/w/ : /k/ /ā-wī-ahōācik/
 'where they intend to put him'
 /ā-kī-ahōācik/
 'where they put him'

/w/ : /h/ ' /niwīcīwāw/ 'I go with him'
 /niwīcihāw/ 'I help him'

/w/ : /m/ /wīpit/ 'his tooth'
 /mīpit/ 'a tooth'

/w/ : /n/ /wīpit/ 'his tooth'
 /nīpit/ 'my tooth'

/y/

/y/ : /p/ /ayāw/ 'he has it'
 /apiw/ 'he sits'

/y/ : /t/ /nīpiy/ 'leaf'
 /nīpit/ 'my tooth'

/y/ : /c/ /ā-kī-sipwīpaḏiyīk/
 'when you were going for a trip'
 /ā-kī-sipwīpaḏicik/
 'when they were going for a trip'

/y/ : /s/ /nīyo/ 'four'
 /nīso/ 'two'

/ht/

/ht/ : /t/ /ohtinam/
 'he takes it from some place'
 /otinam/ 'he takes it'

/ht/ : /t/ /ī-kī-mīḍiht/
 'it was given to him'
 /ī-kī-mīḍit/
 'he gave it to me'

/ht/ : /hḍ/ /kikīwīhtitān/ 'you take it home'
 /kikī-wīhḍāw/ 'you named him'

There are no minimal pairs in the data to illustrate that /p, c, k/ contrast with the clusters /hp, hc, hk/. By analogy with /ht/, however, which has been shown to be distinctive from /t/, and because /p/ never surfaces as [hp], nor /hp/ as [p], I conclude that /hp, hc, hk/ are phonemes.

/i/

/i/ : /ī/ /kitaski/ 'your pot'
 /askī/ 'on the ground'

/i/ : /ī/ /kiwīhōin/ 'you name me'
 /kiwīhōīn/ 'you name it'

This last form appears to be a TI stem, but it ends in /hō/, which is remarkable. The whole paradigm was given by M.C. with stem-final /hō/, and not just one word.

/i/ : /a/ /mihti/ 'log'
 /mihta/ 'firewood'

/i/ : /a/ /nōtinici/ 'as he fights me'
 /nōtinaci/ 'as you fight him'

/i/ : /o/ /nitakohp/ 'my blanket'
 /otakohp/ 'his blanket'

/i/ : /ō/ /ita/ 'where'
 /ōta/ 'here'

/ī/

/ī/ : /i/ /askī/ 'on the ground'

/kitaski/ 'your pot'

/ī/ : /a/ /kī-nipahīw/ 'he killed him'

/ka-nipahīw/ 'he shall kill him'

/ī/ : /ā/ /kīḥa/ 'you'

/kāḥa/ 'don't!'

/a/

/a/ : /ā/ /nahḥāw/ 'I put him'

/n-āhḥāw/ 'I shall put him'

For an analysis of the future markers in this dialect of Cree,
see Greensmith (1985).

/ā/ : /ā/ /ā-kī-ahḥat/ 'when you put him'

/ā-kī-ahḥāt/ 'when he put him'

/a/ : /ā/ /ā-kī-ahōāya/ 'when we (21) put him'
 /ā-kī-ahōāyā/ 'when we (1p) put him'

/a/ : /ī/ /ka-nipahīw/ 'he shall kill him'
 /kī-nipahīw/ 'he killed him'

/a/ : /ø/" /akohpa/ 'blankets'
 /akohp/ 'blanket'

/ā/

/ā/ : /a/ /n-āhōāw/ 'I shall put him'
 /nahōāw/ 'I put him'

/ā/ : /a/ /ā-kī-ahōāt/ 'when he put him'
 /ā-kī-ahōat/ 'when you put him'

/ā/ : /i/ /āta/ 'although'
 /ita/ 'where'

/ā/ : /ī/ /kāōa/ 'don't!'
 /kīōa/ 'you'

/ā/ : /o/ /nīyā/ 'at the point'
 /nīyo/ 'four'

/ā/ : /ō/ /āta/ 'although'
 /ōta/ 'here'

/o/

/o/ : /ō/ /ota/ 'behind'
 /ōta/ 'here'

/o/ : /ō/ /otakohp/ 'his blanket'
 /ōta/ 'here'

/o/ : /i/ /ota/ 'behind'
 /ita/ 'where'

/o/ : /i/ /otakohp/ 'his blanket'
 /nitakohp/ 'my blanket'

/o/ : /ā/ /nīyo/ 'four'
 /nīyā/ 'at the point'

/ō/

/ō/ : /o/	/ōta/	'here'
	/ota/	'behind'

/ō/ : /o/	/ōta/	'here'
	/otakohp/	'his blanket'

/ō/ : /i/	/ōta/	'here'
	/ita/	'where'

/ō/ : /ā/	/ōta/	'here'
	/āta/	'although'

This concludes the documentation of minimal pairs.

Appendix B

DISTRIBUTION OF PHONEMES

This section will present the individual phonemes and summarise their distribution.

/p/

p-	/pōsi/	'go on board!' (impve.)
pw-	/pwālos/	'Paul'
-p-	/nīpit/	'my tooth'
-pw-	/tāpwī/	'truly'
-sp-	/aspin/	'gone'
-p	/sīsīp/	'duck'

/t/

t-	/tānisi/	'how'
-t-	/nātīw/	'he is getting him'
-tw-	/ā-itwīt/	'when he said to him'
-st-	/kistikwān/	'your head'
-htw-	/tahtwā/	'every time'
-t	/mihcīt/	'lots'

/c/

c-	/cīmān/	'boat'
-c-	/pimāci/	'save him!' (impve.)
-sc-	/pisci/	'by accident'
-c	/wīpac/	'soon'

/k/

k-	/kīwīhtah/	'take him home!' (impve.)
kw-	/kwayask/	'straight, proper'
-k-	/kistikān/	'garden'
-kw-	/mistikwak/	'trees'
-sk-	/tātoskam/	'he rips it'
-hkw-	/pahkwacitīw/	'it is singed'
-skw-	/iskwīwak/	'women'
-k	/mōswak/	'moose' (pl.)
-sk	/otāpānāsk/	'car'

/s/

s-	/sīsīp/	'duck'
-s-	/sīpīsisi/	'in the little river'
-sc-	/pisci/	'by accident'
-st-	/kistikwān/	'your head'
-sk-	/kitaski/	'your pot'
-skw-	/maskwa/	'bear'

-sw-	/mōswa/	'moose'
-s	/nās/	'get him!' (impve.)
-sk	/wiōisk/	'because'

/h/

-h-	/nahā/	'son-in-law'
-hkw-	/ā-wāpamāyāhkwak/	'when we saw them'
-htw-	/tahtwā/	'every time'
-hōw-	/nitahōwāw/	'I bury him'
-hw-	/kī-patahwīw/	'he missed him'

/h/ is non-distinctive word initially and finally.

/m/

m-	/maskwa/	'bear'
mw-	/mwāc/	'not'
-m-	/nikamo/	'sing!' (impve.)
-mw-	/atimwa/	'dog' (obv.)
-m	/kī-mayānam/	'he made fresh tracks'

/n/

n-	/nīōa/	'I'
-n-	/nikī-nipānān/	'we slept'
-nw-	/takosinwak/	'they arrive'

-n /kistikwān/ 'your head'

/ð/

ð- /ðiwahikanak/ 'dried meat'

-ð- /ī-ðōti/ 'when it is windy'

-ðw- /nimiðwīðitīn/ 'I am happy'

-hðw- /nitahðwāw/ 'I bury him'

-ð /nahað/ 'put him away!' (impve.)

/w/

w- /wīhð/ 'name him!' (impve.)

-hw- /patahwīw/ 'he misses him'

-hkw- /ā-wāpamāyāhkwak/ 'when we saw them'

-hw- /nitahðwāw/ 'I bury him'

-mw- /atimwa/ 'dog' (obv.)

-sw- /mōswa/ 'moose'

-tw- /ā-itwīyan/ 'I said'

-ðw- /nimiðwīðitīn/ 'I am happy'

-hðw- /nitahðwāw/ 'I bury him'

-w /nātīw/ 'he fetches him'

/y/

-y- /pīyak/ 'one'

-y /maskihkiy/ 'herb, medicine'

/hp/

- hp- /ahpō/ 'or'
- hp /mīkiwāhp/ 'tent'

/ht/

- ht- /pōnihtā/ 'quit!' (impve.)
- htw- /tahtwā/ 'every time'
- ht /mitātaht/ 'ten'

/hc/

- hc- /mihcītaw/ 'many times'
- hc /anohc/ 'just then, now'

/hk/

- hk- /tihkitiŋ/ 'it is thawing'
- hkw- /ohkwākani/ 'in his face' (loc.)
- hk /acāhk/ 'star'

acāhk and atihk 'deer' are the only two nouns recorded in this dialect which surface with word final /hk/.

/hǝ/

-hǝ-	/wāhǝaw/	'far away'
-hǝw-	/nitahǝwāw/	'I bury him'
-hǝ	/wīhǝ/	'name him!' (impve.)

/i/

i-	/iskwīw/	'woman'
-i-	/mihta/	'firewood'
-i	/pōsi/	'go on board!' (impve.)

/ī/

ī-	/īkotī/	'over there'
-ī-	/pīyak/	'one'
-ī	/pimohtī/	'go!' (impve.)

/a/

a-	/acāhk/	'star'
-a-	/tātoskam/	'he rips it'
-a	/maskwa/	'bear'

/ā/

ā-	/āsay/	'already'
-ā-	/cīmān/	'boat'
-ā	/pōnihtā/	'quit!' (impve.)

/o/

o- /ohpinīw/ 'he lifts him up'

-o- /anohc/ 'just then, now'

-o /nikamo/ 'sing!' (impve.)

/ō/

ō- /ōta/ 'here'

-ō- /pōsi/ 'go on board!' (impve.)

-ō /ahpō/ 'or'

Appendix C

THE MOOSE HUNT, BY MICHAEL CARIBOU

The text which follows was recorded in Winnipeg in November, 1982. The Cree text appears on the top line of each set of three lines, and is underscored. Beneath is a morphological analysis, and the bottom line contains a literal translation. The abbreviations in the morphological analysis are listed at the beginning of the glossary.

There are points in this text where acoustic problems have rendered the recording almost inaudible. Where these flaws exist, the present edition of the text relies on paraphrases offered in transcription by the narrator.

(1) HELLO, nīsta ayihaw MICHAEL CARIBOU HERE. IT'S

PR IPC
I, too well

NOVEMBER THE SECOND, 1982, TUESDAY. I'M GOING TO TELL YOU ABOUT

WHEN ME, MY BROTHER AND MY COUSIN, ERIC BRADY, WE WERE GOING TO

GO MOOSE-HUNTING. I'M GOING TO TELL YOU HOW WE KILLED IT, HOW

WE SKINNED IT AND WHO SKINNED IT, AND WHAT HAPPENED WHEN WE

WERE COMING HOME. OKAY?

(2) ikw-āni	nipāpā	ā-itikoyā
IPC and then	NDA -pāpā- 3 poss 1 my father	IPV-TA it- 3-1p cj. he told us

ka-nitawi-māciyā	,	ī-nīpi	.	ayihaw,
IPV-IPV-AI māci- 1p cj. to go and hunt moose		IPV-II nīpin- 0 cj. when it was summer		IPC well

ā-kī-nācipađīstamā		pimiy	stōđi	,
IPV-IPV-TI nācipađīst- 1p cj. we drove over and got it		NI 0 gas	NI loc. at the store	

ā-kī-sipwīpađiyā	.	akwa	ā-kī-pāsicipitamā
IPV-IPV-AI sipwīpađi- 1p cj. we were going off		IPC and	IPV-IPV-TI pāsicipit- 1p cj. we were pulling it across

nicīmāninān , (PORT-~ IN THE PORTAGE), ā-kī-isi-waḥ-~ īkota ohci.

NI 0 poss 1p
our boat

IPC
there IPC
from

(IT TOOK US ABOUT TWO AND A HALF HOURS TO GET WHERE WE WERE GOING),

īkw-āni ayihiwām īkotī ā-takopaḏiyā , ā,

IPC hesitation IPC IPV-AI takopaḏi- 1p cj.
and then you know over there we arrived

nīso ā-wāpamāyāhkwak mōswak ī-nīpawicik .

IPC IPV-TA wāpam- 1p-3p cj. NA 3p IPV-AI nīpawi- 3p cj.
two we saw them moose they were standing

ayihaw, (JAMES), wīḏa ā-pāskiswāt anihi

IPC PR IPV-TA pāskisw- 3-3' cj. PR 3'
well he he shot at him that

ā-kī-nīpawiđit	mōswa,	māka	kī-patahwīw
IPV-IPV-AI nīpawi- 3' cj. they were standing	NA 3 moose	IPC but	IPV-TA patahw- 3-3' indep. he missed him

nīsta	wiđa	nikī-pāskiswāw	,	māka	wīsta	mīna
PR I, too	IPC for	IPV-TA pāskisw- 1-3 indep. I shot him		IPC but	PR he, too	IPC too

(ERIC) --	māka	wiđa	kahkiđaw	nikī-patahwānānak	anihi
	IPC but	IPC for	IPC all	IPV-TA patahw- 1p-3p indep. we missed them,	PR 3' that

mōswa.	tāni-poko	kī-ati-kospiwak	,	māka	wiđa
NA 3' moose	IPC just	IPV-IPC-AI kospi- 3p indep. they began to go up off the lake		IPC but	IPC for

ī-kī-māh-māhkāyā	mīna,	wiđa	ī-kī-misāk-~ (IN THE MIDDLE
IPV-IPV-II māhkāyā- 0 cj. there were big waves	IPC too	IPC for	

OF THE LAKE), ā-kī-pimipaḍiyā . īkw-āni ,

IPV-IPV-AI pimipaḍi- 1p cj.	IPC
we were riding in a boat	and then

ī-tipiskāk ā-kī-ati- ā-kī-ati-pītakoti ,

IPV-II tipiskā- 0 cj.	IPV-IPV-IPC-II pītakoti- 0 cj.
it was night	night was coming

ā-kī-nitawi-aswāpamāyā mōswa, sīpīsisi anita,

IPV-IPV-IPV-TA aswāpam- 1p-3 cj.	NA 3	NI loc.	IPC
when we went and watched for him	moose	in the creek	there

akwa, ā, nītī-isi sākahikanisīsi , īkota

IPC	IPC	NI loc.	IPC
and	over that way	in the small lake	there

ā-apiyā (FOR ABOUT AN HOUR OR TWO), īkā, īkwa aniki,

IPV-AI api- 1p cj.	IPC	IPC	PR
we remained	not	and	those

ā-wāpamāyā	kwayask ,	māka	wiḡa	mihcīt	sīsīpak
IPV-TA wāpam- 1p-3 cj. we saw him	IPC properly	IPC but	IPC for	IPC many	NA 3p ducks

nikī-wāpamānānak	,	ī-papāmātakācik	,	kwayask
IPV-TA wāpam- 1p-3p indep. we saw them		IPV-AI papāmātakā- 3p cj. they were swimming about		IPC properly

nikī-nōhtī-pāskiswānānak	;	ayihaw,	māka	mōswa
IPV-IPV-TA pāskisw- 1p-3p indep. we wanted to shoot them		IPC well	IPC but	NA 3 moose

ī-kī-manāmāhāyā	,	wiḡisk
IPV-IPV-TA manāmāh- [?] 1p cj. we were afraid for him		IPC because

ta-sipwīyāmohkātāyā	,	ayihaw	kī-pāskisikīyā	--
IPV-TA sipwīyāmohkāt- 1p-3 cj. we would scare him away		IPC well	IPV-AI pāskisikī- 1p cj. if we took a shot	

(SO) mwāc nīkī-pāskiswānānak .

IPC IPV-TA pāskisw- 1p-3p indep.
not we could not shoot them [the ducks]

(3) kwayask ið-āsay tipiskāw ōma , ā-~

IPC IPC II tipiskā- 0 PR 0
properly already it is dark this

ā-kī-ati-kīwīpaðiyā , itī ā-kī-kot-~, itī

IPV-IPV-IPC-AI kīwīpaði- 1p cj. IPC IPC
we started to head back where where

ā-kī-kotawīyā , itī ā-wī-nipāyā , is-~

IPV-IPV-AI kotawī- 1p cj. IPC IPV-IPV-AI nipā- 1p cj.
we had our campfire where we were going to sleep

ispī ā-kī-ati-kīwīpaðiyā , mōswa pīyak

IPC IPV-IPV-IPC-AI kīwīpaði- 1p cj. NA 3 IPC
when we started to head back moose one

nikī-pāskiswāw	māka	wiḏa	nikī-patahwāw
IPV-TA pāskisw- 1-3 indep. I shot him	IPC but	IPC for	IPV-TA patahw- 1-3 indep. I missed him

nikī-ᵐ, nikī-patahwāw	ana	mōswa
IPV-TA patahw- 1-3 indep. I missed him	PR 3 that	NA 3 moose

ā-kī-pāskiswak	mōḏa	wiḏa	pakāhkam	wiḏa	(ERIC)
IPV-IPV-TA pāskisw- 1-3 cj. when I shot him	IPC not	IPC for	IPC perhaps	PR he	

-- cīmiy	akwa	iḏik	kī-wāpam-ᵐ	kī-wāpamiwak
NA 3 James	IPC and	NA 3 Eric		IPV-TA wāpam- 3p-3' indep. they saw him

anihi	ā-kī-pāskisomak	-- (BUT THERE WAS TRACKS!) SO,
PR 3' that	IPV-IPV-TA pāskisw- 1-3' cj. when I shot him	

īkw-āni	ā-kī-nitawi-nipāyā	,	pīyak	mīna	poko
IPC and then	IPV-IPV-IPV-AI nipā- 1p cj. when we went to sleep		IPC one	IPC too	IPC only

ako hp	ī-kī-tahkonāyā	--	īḍiko
NA 3 blanket	IPV-IPV-TA tahkon- 1p cj. we had taken it along		IPC so

ī-kī-kakīpātisiyā	--	mō	kwayask
IPV-IPV-AI kakīpātisi- 1p cj. we were stupid		IPC not	IPC properly

nikī-ohci-nipānān	ispī	ā-pī-tipiskāk	,
IPV-IPV-AI nipā- 1p indep. we were not able to sleep	IPC when	IPV-IPV-II tipiskā- 0 cj. it got night	

iḥa	wīsa	ī-kisināk	.	īkw-āni
IPC you know	IPC so	IPV-II kisinā- 0 cj. it was cold		IPC and then

ā-kī-ati-pītāpa	ā-kī-pōnamā	, kōpiy
IPV-IPV-IPC-II pītāpan- 0 cj.	IPV-IPV-TI pōn- 1p cj.	NI 0
the sun was coming up	we made a fire	coffee

ā-kī-minihkwīyā	, ā-kī-mīcisoyā	,
IPV-IPV-AI minihkwī- 1p cj.	IPV-IPV-AI mīciso- 1p cj.	
we drank	we ate	

ā-kī-ati-sipwīpaḏiyā	; anima	sīpīsisi	,
IPV-IPV-IPC-AI sipwīpaḏi- 1p cj.	PR	NI loc.	
we headed out	that	in the creek	

ā-tīpiskāk	ā-kī-ispāḏiyā	, īkota
IPV-II tipiskā- 0 cj.	IPV-IPV-AI ispaḏi- 1p cj.	IPC
last night	we went	there

ā-kī-ispāḏiyā	.	īkw-āni	īkotī
IPV-IPV-AI ispaḏi- 1p cj.		IPC	IPC
we went		and then	over there

ā-kī-nitawi-aswāpamāyā mōswa, mahti ta-pī--

IPV-IPV-IPV-TA aswāpam- 1p-3 cj. NA 3 IPC
 when we went and watched for him moose to see if

ta-pī--ti-pī-matāwisit .

IPV-IPV--IPV-IPV-AI matāwisi- 3 cj.
 he would come out

(4) nikī-pīhtawānān īkota mōswa

IPV-TA pīhtaw- 1p-3 indep. IPC NA 3
 we heard him there moose

ī-papāmātakāt , māka wiḥa (THERE WAS FOG!) mwāc māka

IPV-AI papāmātakā- 3 cj. IPC IPC IPC IPC
 he was swimming around but for not but

wiḥa nikī-wī-nitawi-pāskiswānān , wiḥisk mwāc

IPC IPV-IPV-IPV-TA pāskisw- 1p-3 indep. IPC IPC
 for we were (not) able to go and shoot him because not

nikī-ohci-kiskīḏihtīnān	kīspin	mōswa	akāciy	mwāc.
IPV-IPV-TI kiskīḏiht- 1p indep. we had no way of knowing it	IPC if	NA 3 moose	IPC or	IPC not

(FOR ABOUT TWO HOURS)	īkota	ā-kī-apiyā	.	īkw-āni	cīmiy
	IPC there	IPV-IPV-AI api 1p cj. we sat		IPC and then	NA 3 James

ā-pīhtawāt	awiḏawa	ī-matwī-kitowinikīḏit	,
IPV-TA pīhtaw- 3-3' cj. he heard him	PR 3' someone	IPV- IPV- AI kitowinikī- 3' cj. he was making a noise	

sākahikanisīsi	nītī-isi	.	īkotī	ā-isicimiyā	,
NI loc. in the small lake	IPC over that way		IPC over there	IPV-AI isicimī- 1p cj. we paddled	

ā-wāpamāyāhkwak	nīso	mōswak	--	omānisīs	akwa
IPV-TA wāpam- 1p-3p cj. we saw them	IPC two	NA 3p moose		NA 3 moose-calf	IPC and

nōsī-mōswa	--	ī-matwī-mīcisocik	.	ā-sipwīpita
NA 3		IPV-IPV-AI mīciso-	3p cj.	IPV-TI sipwīpit-
female moose		they were audibly eating		3 cj. he started it

cīmiy	īncin	,	īkotī	wīpac
NA 3	NI 0		IPC	IPC
James	the engine		over there	soon

ta-kī-ati-takopaḏiyā	aya	;	nīḏa	--	mwāc	--
IPV-IPV-IPC-AI takopaḏi-	hesitation		PR		IPC	
so that we could arrive	you know		I		not	

nīḏa	anima	ā-kī-ohcipitamān	īncin	,	ā-kī-
PR	PR	IPV-IPV-TI ohcipit-	NI 0		
I	that	I pulled it	the engine		

īkotī	ā-kī-ispāḏiyān	.	cīmiy	akwa	īḏik	ā-kī-
IPC	IPV-IPV-AI ispaḏi-	1 cj.	NA 3	IPC	NA 3	
over there	I went		James	and	Eric	

ā-kī-otihtinahkwak	opāskisikaniwāwa	--	cīmiy	wīḏa
IPV- IPV- TI otihtin- 3p cj. they grabbed them	NI 0p poss 3p their guns		NA 3 James	PR he

(THIRTY-THIRTY)	ā-kī-ayāt	,	akwa	ayihaw	iḏik
	IPV-IPV-AI ayā- 3 cj. he had		IPC and	IPC well	NA 3 Eric

(SEMI-AUTOMATIC TWENTY-TWO)	wīḏa	ā-kī-ayāt	--
	PR he	IPV-IPV-AI ayā- 3 cj. he had	

ā-kī-māci-pāskiswācik	;	ahpō	pakāhkam	(FIRST TWO SHOTS)
IPV-IPV-IPV-TA pāskisw- 3p-3' cj. they started shooting at them		IPC or	IPC perhaps	

ā-kī-~	ā-kī-pāskiswāt	cīmiy,
	IPV-IPV-TA pāskisw- 3-3' cj. he shot him	NA 3 James

ā-kī-tawahwāt	pīyakwāw.	īkw-āni
IPV-IPV-TA tawahw- 3-3' cj. he hit him	IPC once	IPC and then

ā-pa-pāpahtāt	ana	ayihaw	nōsī-mōswa	--
IPV-AI pāpahtā- redupl. 3 cj. he was running back towards us	PR 3 that	IPC well	NA 3 female moose	

ā-pāh-pāskiswācik	ayihaw	cīmiy	akwa	īðik,
IPV-TA pāskisw- redupl. 3p-3' cj. they kept on shooting at her	IPC well	NA 3 James	IPC and	NA 3 Eric

patahwīwak	māka	wiða.	īkw-āni	nīða,
TA patahw- 3p-3' indep. they missed her	IPC but	IPC for	IPC and then	PR I

ā-pakicīpinamān	ōma	īncin	,	ā-otihtinamān
IPV-TI pakicīpin- 1 cj. I let go of it	PR 0 this	NI 0 the engine		IPV-TI otihtin- 1 cj. I grabbed it

ayihaw	(SHOT-GUN).	ā-pāskiswak	ohkwākani
IPC		IPV-TA pāskisw- 1-3 cj.	NDI -hkwākan- loc. poss 3
well		I shot him	in his face

mōōa	wāhōaw ,	(ABOUT TEN YARDS)	ītokī	poko,
IPC	IPC		IPC	IPC
not	far away		I guess	only

ā-māci-kwīskikwāskohtit	.	ā-ati-kospit
IPV-IPV-AI kwīskikwāskohti- 3 cj.		IPV-IPC-AI kospi- [sic] 3 cj.
she jumped back		she started to go up

nisīhkāc	,	wīōa	ayihaw	īōik	anihi	omānisīsa	mīna
IPC		PR	IPC	NA 3	PR 3'	NA 3'	IPC
sort of slowly		he	well	Eric	that	moose-calf	too

ī-kī-pāh-pāskiswāt	,	akwa
IPV-IPV-TA pāskisw- redupl. 3-3' cj.		IPC
he kept on shooting at him		and

ī-kī-tawahwāt	.	akwa	ayihaw	īkā	ana
IPV-IPV-TA tawahw- 3-3' cj.		IPC	IPC	IPC	PR 3
he hit him		and	well	not	that

nōsī-mōswa	ī-kī-wī-nakatāt	anihi	omānisīsimā .
NA 3	IPV-IPV-IPV-TA nakat- 3-3' cj.	PR 3'	NA 3' poss 3
female moose	she could not leave him	that	her moose-calf

īkw-āni	ōta	ā-pī-pimicipahtāt	ana	omānisīs ,
IPC	IPC	IPV-IPV-AI pimicipahtā- 3 cj.	PR 3	NA 3
and then	here	she ran across sideways	that	moose-calf

(ON THE OTHER SIDE)	wīsta	ī-īspahtāt	,	itī	anihi
	PR	IPV-AI īspahtā- 3 cj.		IPC	PR 3'
	he,too	he ran there		where	that

omāmāwa	ā-kī-īspahtāōit	.
NDA -māmā- 3' poss 3	IPV-IPV-AI īspahtā- 3' cj.	
his mother	she ran	

ī-pī-pimicipahtaāḥit , īḥik ā-m-ṛ,

IPV- IPV- AI pimicipahta- 3' cj. NA 3
as he ran sideways Eric

ā-pāh-pāskiswāt , kīhcināc ītokī mitātahtwāw

IPV-TA pāskisw- redupl. 3-3' cj. IPC IPC IPC
he kept on shooting at him for sure I guess ten times

ā-pāskiswāt ; pīḥisk ā-piniwīpahwāt

IPV-TA pāskisw- 3-3' cj. IPC IPV-TA piniwīpahw- 3-3' cj.
he shot at him finally he knocked him down with his gun

īkota, sīpīsisi . īkw-āni īkota -- nikostīnān

IPC NI loc. IPC IPC TI kost- 1p indep.
there in the creek and then there we were scared of it

iḥa ka-nātāyā ana omānisīs , wiḥa īkota

IPC IPV-TA nāt- 1p-3 cj. PR 3 NA 3 IPC IPC
you know (for us) to go get him that moose-calf for there

ī-nīpawit	ayihaw,	awa	ayihaw	nōsī-mōswa ,	akwa
IPV-AI nīpawī- 3 cj. she was standing	IPC well	PR 3 this	IPC well	NA 3 female moose	IPC and

poko	pīyak	mōswasiniy,	(THIRTY-THIRTY),	ā-kī-ayāyā	.
IPC only	IPC one	NI bullet		IPV-IPV- AI ayā- 1p cj. we had	

(5)	akwa	īḏik	iḏa	wīḏa	mihcīt
	IPC and	NA 3 Eric	IPC you know	PR he	IPC many

kī-ayāw	(TWENTY-TWO BULLETS),	māka	wiḏa
IPV-AI ayā- 3 indep. he had		IPC but	IPC for

ī-kī-kostāyā	,	wiḏa	īkā	mihcītwāw
IPV-IPV-TA kost- 1p-3 cj. we were scared of her		IPC for	IPC not	IPC many times

ī-kī-nitawi-pīyakomāciyā , (OH YEAH, THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME WE

IPV-IPV-IPV-AI pīyakomāci- 1p cj.
we had gone hunting on our own

WENT MOOSE-HUNTING, TOO,)	īkwa	mīna	ayihaw	--	tānisi	ōma
	IPC and	IPC too	IPC well		IPC how	PR 0 this

ā-tōtamā	-- (OH YEAH,)	mīkwāc	ā-akomoyā
IPV-TI tōt- 1p cj. we did it		IPC while	IPV-AI akomo- 1p cj. we were floating

anita,	ī-kostamā	iōa	ta-nātāyā	,
IPC there	IPV-TI kost- 1p cj. we were scared of it	IPC you know	IPV-TA nāt- 1p-3 cj. (for us) to go and get him	

ana	omānisīs	anita	ā-akohci	,	īōik
PR 3 that	NA 3 moose-calf	IPC there	IPV-AI akohcin- 3 cj. he was floating		NA 3 Eric

ā-piniwīpahwāt . īkw-āni pīḡisk nīḡa

IPV-TA piniwīpahw- 3-3' cj. IPC IPC PR
he knocked him down with his gun and then finally I

nititāwak : "(JUST) aswaho anihi ayihawa !

TA it- 1-3p indep. TA aswahw- imp. 2p-3 PR 3' PR 3'
I said to them be ready for him that that, well

nōsī-mōswa ta-pīcipahtāt ; nīḡa

NA 3 IPV-AI pīcipahtā- 3 cj. PR
female moose she will run to this side I

na-nātāw awa ta-pimahoci ,"

IPV-TA nāt- 1-3 indep. PR 3 IPV-AI pimahocin- 3 cj.
I will get her this she is floating

ā-itakwak .

IPV-TA it- 1-3p cj.
I said to them

(6)	cīmiy	iḥa	mwāc	itīḥihtam	īkosi
	NA 3 James	IPC you know	IPC not	TI itīḥiht- 3 indep. he did (not) agree	IPC thus

ka-tōtamān	;	ohcitaw	ōma	nikī-tōtīn	,	tāni-poko
IPV-TI tōt- 1 cj. (for me) to do it		IPC anyway	PR 0 this	IPV-TI tōt- 1 indep. I did it		IPC just

ī-kī-napatī-isi-kwāskohtiyān		nicīmāninā	.
IPV-IPV-IPV-IPV-AI kwāskohti- 1 cj. I jumped off on the side there		NI loc. poss 1p on our boat	

ā-otinak	awa	ayihaw	omānisīs	,
IPV-TA otin- 1-3 cj. I picked him up	PR 3 this	IPC well	NA 3 moose-calf	

ā-pōsiwīpinak	cīmāni	.	īkw-āni	ayihaw,	cīmiy
IPV-TA pōsiwīpin- 1-3 cj. I threw him on board	NI loc. in the boat		IPC and then	IPC well	NA 3 James

ōmisi	ā-itwīt	:	"poyisa	!	kīōa
IPC	IPV-AI itwī- 3 cj.		exclamation		PR
thus	he said		Boy!		you

kimāmaskācihoskin	,	"	ī-isit	,	"awas	,
AI māmaskācihoski- [?] 2 indep.			IPV-TA it- 3-1 cj.		IPC	
you are amazing!			he said to me		get out of here	

mītakay	,	wī-kosāpīht-~	,	"	ana
NDI -ītakay- [?] poss indef.		IPV-AI kosāpī- sink [?]			PR 3
you prick! [?]					that

nītik .

TA it- 3-1 indep.
he said so to me

(7)	īkw-āni	ayihaw,	ā-ati-kospit	awa
	IPC	IPC	IPV-IPC-AI kospi- [sic] 3 cj.	PR 3
	and then	well	she started to go up	this

nōsī-mōswa ,	ī-kī-wāpamit	ī-kīsi-
<hr/>		
NA 3	IPV-IPV-TA wāpam-	3-1 cj.
female moose	she had seen me	

ī-kīsi-pōsiwīpinimak	,	iōa
<hr/>		
IPV-IPV-TA pōsiwīpin-	1-3' cj.	IPC
I had finished throwing him in the boat		you know

nikī-tawahwānān	iōa	mihcītwāw	anita,
<hr/>			
IPV-TA tawahw-	1p-3 indep.	IPC	IPC
we hit her		you know	many times
			there

ā-pimicipahtāt	sīpīsisī ,
<hr/>	
IPV-AI pimicipahtā-	3 cj.
she was running sideways (from us)	NI loc.
	in the creek

ā-āswapahtāt	.	īkw-āni	ayihaw,	īkota
<hr/>				
IPV-AI āswapahtā-	3 cj.	IPC	IPC	IPC
she was crossing the river		and then	well	there

ā-akomoyā	aciḡaw	nītī	nōhcimi
IPV-AI akomo- 1p cj. we were floating	IPC for a while	IPC over there	IPC in the bush

matwī-kitowinikīw	awa	mōswa.	īkw-āni	ayihaw,
IPV-AI kitowinikī- 3 indep. she was making a noise	PR 3 this	NA 3 moose	IPC and then	IPC well

īḡik	ā-wāpahta	mihtawakaya
NA 3 Eric	IPV-TI wāpaht- 3 cj. he saw it	NDI -htawakay- 0p poss indef. ears

cāh-cīpipaḡiwa	;	īkw-āni	īkota
II cāh-cīpipaḡi- (redupl.) 0p indep. (they were) twitching		IPC and then	IPC there

ā-isi-pāskisikīt	,	kīhcināc	ītokī	(TWENTY)
IPV-IPV-AI pāskisikī- 3 cj. he loosed a shot in that direction		IPC for sure	IPC I guess	

TIMES)	ā-isi-pāskisikīt	,	īðik	īkw-āni	ītokī
	IPV-IPV-AI pāskisikī- 3 cj.		NA 3	IPC	IPC
	he loosed a shot in that direction		Eric	and then	I guess

ī-kī-piscahwāt .

IPV-IPV-TA pistahw- dim. 3-3' cj.
that is when he managed to hit her

(8)	īkw-āni	ā-kospipahtāt	aspin	īðik,
	IPC	IPV-AI kospipahtā- 3 cj.	IPC	NA 3
	and then	he ran up into the bush	gone	Eric

īkwa	kwayask	ā-sākahikāmōt
IPC	IPC	IPV-AI sākahikāmo- [?] 3 cj.
and	properly	he came back

ī-pimitisahokot	.	ī-pī-tīpwīt	iða	,
IPV-TA pimitisahw- 3'-3 cj.		IPV-IPV- AI tīpwī- 3 cj.	IPC	
he was chasing him (Eric)		he was shouting	you know	

kwayask	iḏa	tīpwīw	iḏik,	wiḏa	wīsta
IPC properly	IPC you know	AI tīpwī- 3 indep. he is screaming	NA 3 Eric	IPC for	PR he, too

i-mīstayaskīsa	.	īkw-āni	ayihaw	takopahtā-ṛ,
IPV-TI mīstayaskīs- 3 cj. he was out of shells		IPC and then	IPC well	

takopahtāw	(ERIC).	cīmis	ana	ā-pāskiswāt
AI takopahtā- 3 indep. he arrives running		NA 3 James	PR 3 that	IPV-TA pāskisw- 3-3' cj. he shot at him

okwayāḏi	,	ī-isināpahkisi	.
NDI -kwayaw- loc. poss 3' in his neck		IPV-AI isināpahkisin- 3 cj. she looked like she had fallen	

ā-nātāyā	,	āsay	mīna	ā-nīpawipaḏihot
IPV-TA nāt- 1p-3 cj. we reached her		IPC already	IPC too	IPV- AI nīpawipaḏiho- 3 cj. she stood up really fast

ana nōsī-mōswa , nīḏa akwa ā-pāskiswak

PR 3 NA 3 PR IPC IPV-TA pāskisw- 1-3 cj.
that female moose I and I shot him

swātikan ohci. īkw-āni pīḏisk ā-kī-nipit . akwa

NI 0 IPC IPC IPC IPV-IPV-AI nipi- 3 cj. IPC
shot-gun from and then finally she died and

ā-kī-nitawi-kotawīyā aciḏaw (FOR ABOUT HALF AN HOUR, TO

IPV-IPV-IPV-AI kotawī- 1p cj. IPC
we went and lit a fire for a while

LET THE MOOSE SETTLE DOWN AND DIE GOOD AND --,) kwayask isi

IPC IPC
properly thus

ta-nipit .

IPV-AI nipi- 3 cj.
for him to die

(9)	īkw-āni	ā-kī-nitawi-pahkonāyā	,	ayihaw,
	IPC and then	IPV-IPV-IPV-TA pahkon- 1p-3 cj. we went and skinned him		IPC well

mīkwāc	nipahkonānān	,	mwīhci	ītokī	āpihtaw
IPC while	TA pahkon- 1p-3 indep. we were skinning him		IPC just when	IPC I guess	IPC half

nikī-isi-pahkonānān	,	ispī	--- (GUTS)
IPV-IPV-TA pahkon- 1p-3 indep. we had skinned him thus		IPC when	

ā-pīciwaḏawīpaḏiki	,	īkospī	nīḏa	akwa	īḏik
IPV-II pīciwaḏawīpaḏi- 0p cj. they were coming out		IPC then	PR I	IPC and	NA 3 Eric

ā-tapasīyā	.	īkw-āni	ayihaw	cīmiy
IPV-AI tapasī- 1p cj. we ran away		IPC and then	IPC well	NA 3 James

ā-itikoyā ta-pī-itohtīyā , īkā

IPV-TA it- 3-1p cj. IPV-IPV-AI itohtī- 1p cj. IPC
he told us (for us) to come over here not

ī-wī-itohtīyā (BECAUSE OF THE GUTS.) īkw-āni ayihaw,

IPV-IPV-AI itohtī- 1p cj. IPC IPC
we did (not) want to go and then well

ā-ati-wawiyahkwātikoyā , pīḏisk nīḏa pīyak

IPV-IPC-TA wawiyahkwāt- 3-1p cj. IPC PR IPC
he started to swear at us finally I one

mōsopwām ā-otihtamān , ā-nāsipihtatāyān ,

NI 0 IPV-TI otiht- 1 cj. IPV-AI nāsipihtatā- 1 cj.
thigh of the moose I grabbed it I took it down to the river

māka ā-wawiyahkwāsīt cīmiy. īkw-āni mīna

IPC IPV-TA wawiyahkwāt- 3-1 cj. NA 3 IPC IPC
but he swore at me James and then too

ā-kī-pīyakowīhkwatina anihi (GUTS).

IPV- IPV- TI pīyakowīhkwatin- 3 cj. PR 3'
he took it out by himself that

(10) ā-kīsi-pahkonāyā , nipōsihtānān

IPV-IPV-TA pahkon- 1p-3 cj. AI pōsihtā- 1p indep.
when we finished skinning him we loaded it in the boat,

iḏa	ayihaw	wiyās,	niyati-kohkostonān	,	mōḏa	māka
IPC	IPC	NI 0	IPC-AI kohkoso- 1p indep.		IPC	IPC
you know	well	meat	we started to push off		not	but

mistahi	pimiy	nikī-ohci-ayānān	,	(ONE TANK)	poko
IPC	NI 0	IPV-AI ayā- 1p indep.			IPC
a great deal	gas	we did not have it			only

nikī-ayānān	.	(HALF-WAYS,)	pahki	ī-itohtahikoyā	,
IPV- AI ayā- 1p			IPC	IPV-TA itohtah- 0-1p cj.	
we had it			partly	it carried us there	

wiḏa	mīna	ā-kī-pimiciwa	,	(WE WERE PADDLING AGAINST
IPC	IPC	IPV-IPV-II pimiciwan- 0 cj.		
for	too	there was a current		

-- WE WERE GOING AGAINST WIND AND CURRENT). īkw-āni

IPC
and then

ā-kī-sipwīpaḏiyā	,	kīhcināc	ītokī	(ONE HOUR)
IPV-IPV-AI sipwīpaḏi- 1p cj.		IPC	IPC	
we were going off		for sure	I guess	

mwīhci	nipimipaḏinān .	mwāc	nikisiskāpaḏinān
IPC	AI pimipaḏi- 1p	IPC	AI kisiskāpaḏi- 1p indep.
just when	we drove	not	we were (not) going fast

iḏa	wiḏa	nīso	mōswa	ī-pahkonāyāhkwak	,	akwa
IPC	IPC	IPC	NA 3	IPV-TA pahkon- 1p-3p cj.		IPC
you know	for	two	moose	which we had just skinned		and

cīmāni	ī-apicik	,	akwa	ī-nistiyā	,
NI loc.	IPV-AI api- 3p cj.		IPC	IPV-AI nisti- 1p cj.	
in the boat	they were		and	there were three of us	

akwa	ayihaw,	(OUR GEAR),	ī-ṛ-paḏiyā.	(NOW WE,)	nīso	(TWO BIG
IPC	IPC				IPC	
and	well				two	

LAKES WE CROSSED, OH YEAH, AT LEAST), īkotī

IPC
over there

ā-kī-ati-mīscipimipaḏiyā	(AGAINST THE FAST WATER).	īkw-āni
IPV-IPV-IPC-AI mīscipimipaḏi- 1p cj.		IPC
we started to run out of gas		and then

ā-kī-ati-pimiskāyā	,	kīhcināc	ītokī	pīyako-kīsikāw
IPV-IPV-IPC-AI pimiskā- 1p cj.		IPC	IPC	IPC
we started to paddle		for sure	I guess	one day

mīna	āpihtaw-tipiskāw	ā-kī-pimiskāyā	, isko-ʔ, isko-ʔ
IPC too	IPC half a night	IPV-IPV-AI pimiskā- 1p cj. we paddled	

(INTO THE FALLS)	ā-kī-takocimīyā	.	īkw-āni	ayihaw	--
	IPV-IPV-AI takocimī- 1p cj. we got there by paddling		IPC and then	IPC well	

ā-takocimīyā	(IN THE FALLS),	ayihaw,	nīōa	akwa
IPV-AI takocimī- 1p cj. we got there by paddling		IPC well	PR I	IPC and

cīmiy	ā-kapāyā	.
NA 3 James	IPV-AI kapā- 1p cj. we got off the boat	

(11)	mōōa	wiōisk	na-kī-kospicīmāninān	,
	IPC not	IPC because	IPV-IPV-AI kospicīmāni- 1p indep. we would (not) be able to paddle up	

wiḏa	iḏiko	i-sōhkāniciwa	;	īkw-āni
IPC for	IPC so	IPV-II sōhkāniciwan- 0 cj. the water was fast		IPC and then

nikapānān	iḏa	īkota,	ayihaw,	akāmisi
AI kapā- 1p indep. we got off the boat	IPC you know	IPC there	IPC well	IPC across this way

anita.	nikospinān	,	īkotī	iḏa	ayihaw
IPC there	AI kospi- [sic] 1p indep. we went off		IPC over there	IPC you know	IPC well

kī-pimataman	ayihaw	mīskanaw,	ita	taḏīn
IPV-II pimataman- 0 indep. it goes through	IPC well	NI 0 railroad	IPC where	NA 3 train

ā-pimakoci	.	īkw-āni	ā-kī-ati-sipwīpahtāyā	,
IPV-AI pimakocin- 3 cj. he goes along		IPC and then	IPV-IPV-IPC- AI sipwīpahtā- 1p cj. we started running	

mwīhci ītokī (SIX MILES) ā-kī-pimipahtāyā ,

IPC IPC IPV-IPV-AI pimipahtā- 1p cj.
just when I guess we ran

īkw-āni īkotī ā-kī-ispahatāyā (NINETY-NINE).

IPC IPC IPV-IPV-AI ispahatā- 1p cj.
and then over there we ran

īkotī ayihaw miscikōsiw, ('PETE MITCHELL')

IPC IPC NA 3
over there well white-man

isiōīhkāsow , ā-kī-nitotamawāyā (GAS, TWO

AI isiōīhkāso- 3 indep. IPV-IPV-TA nitotamaw- 1p-3 cj.
he is called so we asked him for it

GALLONS) nikī-mīōikonān , (MOOSE-MEAT) ōma

IPV-TA mīō- 3-1p indep. PR 0
he gave us this

nikī-asamānān . īkw-āni ayihaw,

IPV-TA asam- 1p-3 indep. IPC IPC
we gave him to eat and then well

ā-kī-kihtimiya ayihaw, ka-kāwi-ispahṭāyā

IPV-IPV-AI kihtimi- 1p cj. IPC IPV-IPC-AI ispahtā- 1p cj.
we were too tired (lazy) well (for us) to run back

(FIVE MILES , SIX MILES, OR FIVE, I'D SAY, SIX MILES OR WHATEVER.) īkw-āni

IPC
and then

ayihaw (PUSHCAR) ā-kimotiyā , nīḥa akwa cīmiy akwa

IPC IPV-AI kimoti- 1p cj. PR IPC NA 3 IPC
well we stole it I and James and

(ALL THE WAY) ā-kī-pimitāpāsoyā (IN THE PUSHCAR), akwa

IPV-IPV-AI pimitāpāso- 1p cj. IPC
we rode along and

(GAS), ā-kī-nitawi-mōskinahtāyā

(OUR TANK),

IPV-IPV-IPV-AI mōskinahtā- 1p cj.
we went and fueled it up

ā-kī-ati-sipwīpaḏiyā

(AGAINST THE FAST WATER. WE WENT TO THE

IPV-IPV-IPC-AI sipwīpaḏi- 1p cj.
we headed out

PORTAGE); ā-kī-ispāḏiyā

,

akwa

ā-kī-pāsicipitamān

IPV-IPV-AI ispaḏi- 1p cj.
we went

IPC
and

IPV-IPV-TI pāsicipit- 1 cj.
I pulled it over

nicīmān

,

akwa

aya

nicīmāninān

,

akwa

ayihaw,

NI 0 poss 1
my boat

IPC
and

hesitation
you know

NI 0 poss 1p
our boat

IPC
and

IPC
well

wiyās

ā-kī-kaskīwīhtatāyā

,

ā-kī-pōsihtāyā

NI 0
meat

IPV-IPV-AI kaskīwīhtatā- 1p cj.
we took it over the portage

IPV-IPV-AI pōsihtā- 1p cj.
we loaded it

kāwi cīmāni , ā-kī-ati-sipwīpaḏiyā .

IPC NI loc. IPV-IPV-IPC-AI sipwīpaḏi- 1p cj.
back in the boat we headed out

(12) kīhcināc ītokī āpihtaw-tipiskāw

IPC IPC IPC
for sure I guess half a night

ā-kī-takosinā pātimā . īkw-āni

IPV-IPV-AI takosin- 1p cj. IPC IPC
we arrived that's when and then

nipāpā , ā-māmaskātikoyā

NDA -pāpā- 3 poss 1 IPV-TA māmaskāt- 3-1p cj.
my father he was amazed at us

ī-kaskihtāyā ta-nipahāyā mōswa. (THAT'S IT).

IPV-AI kaskihtā- 1p cj. IPV-TA nipah- 1p-3 cj. NA 3
we managed for us to kill him moose

[1] HELLO, IT'S ME, MICHAEL CARIBOU, HERE. IT'S NOVEMBER THE SECOND, 1982, TUESDAY. I'M GOING TO TELL YOU ABOUT WHEN ME, MY BROTHER AND MY COUSIN, ERIC BRADY, WE WERE GOING TO GO MOOSE-HUNTING. I'M GOING TO TELL YOU HOW WE KILLED IT, HOW WE SKINNED IT AND WHO SKINNED IT, AND WHAT HAPPENED WHEN WE WERE COMING HOME. OKAY?

[2] Then my father told us to go moose-hunting, in the summertime. We drove over and got gas at the store, we were going away on a trip. And we were pulling our boat ACROSS THE PORTAGE, we started our trip from there. IT TOOK US ABOUT TWO AND A HALF HOURS TO GET WHERE WE WERE GOING, and when we arrived over there, you know, we saw two moose standing there. JAMES shot at the moose which was standing there, but he missed him. I shot at him as well, and so did ERIC -- but we all missed those moose. They just began to go up off the lake, but there were big waves, too, for it was a big -- we were riding IN THE MIDDLE OF THE LAKE. Then it was night, night was coming when we went and watched for the moose in the creek there, and over that way in the small lake; we sat right there FOR ABOUT AN HOUR OR TWO, we did not see those moose properly; but we saw plenty of ducks swimming all over the lake, we really wanted to shoot them; but, well, you know, we were afraid for the moose, because we would scare him away if we took a shot -- so we could not shoot at the ducks.

[3] It was already quite dark when we started to head back to the place where we had our campfire, where we were going to sleep, when we started to head back, I shot at one moose, but I missed him. I missed that moose when I shot at him. I think that ERIC -- James and Eric did not see that moose when I shot at him -- BUT THERE WAS TRACKS! SO, then we went to sleep, also, we carried only one blanket between us -- we were so stupid -- we were not able to sleep well when it got night -- it was so cold, you know. Then, when the sun was coming up, we made a fire, drank coffee, ate and headed out; that creek where we went last night, that's where we went. And there we went and watched for the moose, to see if he would come out.

[4] We heard the moose swimming around there, but THERE WAS FOG! But we did not want to go and shoot him, because we could have no way of knowing if it was the moose or not. We sat there FOR ABOUT TWO HOURS. And then James heard someone making a noise in the small lake over that way. We paddled over there and saw two moose -- a moose-calf and his mother -- they could be heard feeding. James started the engine so that we could get there quickly -- no -- it was I who pulled the engine-starter, I drove over there. James and Eric grabbed their guns -- James had a 30-30, and Eric a SEMI-AUTOMATIC 22 -- they started shooting at them; I think James fired the FIRST TWO SHOTS, he hit the moose once. Then the female was running back towards us -- Eric and James kept on shooting at her, you know, but they missed her

anyway. Then I let go of the engine and grabbed a SHOTGUN. I shot the moose in the face, she was not far away, only ABOUT TEN YARDS, I guess, she jumped back. She slowly started to go up into the bush, Eric kept on shooting at the moose-calf and hit him. That female did not want to leave her calf. That moose-calf ran across here, he ran there on the other side where his mother was running. He was running across, and Eric kept on shooting at him [the calf], for sure, he fired at him about ten times; finally, he knocked him down, there in the creek. Then we were scared there, you know, to go and get that calf for she was standing there, the female, and we only had one 30-30 bullet.

[5] But Eric, you know, he had many 22 BULLETS, but we were scared of her, for we had not gone hunting many times on our own, OH YEAH, THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT WE WENT MOOSE-HUNTING, TOO, and also -- how did we do it? -- OH YEAH, while we were floating there [in the boat], we were scared, you know, to go and get that calf which was floating there [in the water], the one which Eric had knocked down. Then, finally, I said to them: "JUST be ready for that one! the female moose may run to this side; I'll get this one which is floating," is what I said to them.

[6] James, you know, did not agree that I should do it this way; I did it anyway, I just jumped off on one side of our boat. I picked up this moose-calf, and threw him on board. Then James said to me: "Boy, you really are amazing!" he said to me, "get out of here, you prick! We could have [?] sunk," he said to me.

[7] And then the female moose started to go up into the bush, she had seen me as I had finished throwing the calf into the boat, we hit her many times there, as she was running sideways from us there in the creek, as she was crossing the river. Then we were floating there for a while, and the moose made a noise up over there in the bush. Then Eric saw ears twitching; then he shot in that direction, he shot that way about TWENTY TIMES, for sure, then, I guess, that's when he managed to hit her.

[8] And then, Eric was gone, he ran up into the bush, but he came right back with the moose chasing him. He was yelling, he was really screaming, for Eric, too, was out of shells. Then ERIC arrived, running. James shot the moose in the neck, and she looked as if she had fallen. We went to get her, but already that female stood up again quickly, and I shot her with a SHOTGUN. Finally, then, she died. We went and lit a fire for a while, FOR ABOUT HALF AN HOUR, TO LET THE MOOSE SETTLE DOWN AND DIE GOOD AND --, for her to really die.

[9] Then we went and skinned her, well, while we were skinning her, when we were just about half-way through skinning her, as the GUTS were coming out, at that point Eric and I ran away. Then James told us to come back over there, but we did not want to go BECAUSE OF THE GUTS. Then he started to swear at us, and finally, I grabbed one of the thighs and took it down to the river, but James swore at me. Then he took those GUTS out by himself.

[10] When we had finished skinning the moose, we loaded the meat in the boat, and started to push off, but we did not have a great deal of gas, we had only ONE TANK. HALF-WAYS, it carried us part-way there, for there was also a current, WE WERE PADDLING AGAINST -- WE WERE GOING AGAINST WIND AND CURRENT. Then we started off [by motor], we drove for just about ONE HOUR, for sure. We were not going fast, you know, because of the two moose we had just skinned which were in the boat, and there were the three of us and OUR GEAR. NOW WE, crossed two, TWO BIG LAKES WE CROSSED, OH YEAH -- AT LEAST, that is where we started to run out of gas AGAINST THE FAST WATER. Then we started to paddle, we paddled to, INTO THE FALLS. We paddled for a whole day and half the night, for sure. Then we got there, IN THE FALLS, we got there by paddling, and James and I got out of the boat.

[11] Because we would not be able to paddle up on account of the fast water, then we got out there, across this way. We went up, there was a railroad going through there, where the train goes. Then we started running, we ran for just about SIX MILES, then we ran over there, to milestone 99. There we asked a white guy called Pete Mitchell for GAS, He gave us TWO GALLONS, and we gave him MOOSE-MEAT to eat. Then we were too tired to run back the FIVE MILES, SIX MILES, OR FIVE, I'D SAY, SIX MILES OR WHATEVER. Then we stole a PUSHCAR, and James and I rode along in it, ALL THE WAY IN THE PUSHCAR, and filled up OUR TANK with GAS, and headed out AGAINST THE FAST WATER. WE WENT TO THE PORTAGE; we went there, and

I pulled my -- I mean, our -- boat over, and we took the meat over the portage, then we loaded it back in the boat and headed out.

[12] For sure, for about half the night, that's when we arrived there. Then my father was amazed that we managed to kill a moose. THAT'S IT.

Appendix D
CREE-ENGLISH GLOSSARY

The glossary is listed according to stem, starting with the dependent noun stems, which must take a prefix. For instance, -stikwān- 'head' will never stand alone. It will always be preceded by a prefix, for example kistikwān 'your head'.

The glossary covers words found in the main body of the study as well as in the Cree text. I have decided to list words that begin with the sound ǵ after c, since a practical orthography might use the letter d (or, of course, th).

For paedagogical consistency, this glossary uses the same conventions and abbreviations as those printed in Ahenakew 1982 (except for the verb class codes AI, II, TA, TI).

Abbreviations in Text and Glossary

NA animate noun

NI inanimate noun

NDA animate noun, dependent

NDI inanimate noun, dependent

AI verb with animate actor, usually intransitive

II verb with inanimate actor, intransitive

TA verb with animate goal, transitive

TI verb with inanimate goal, usually transitive

PR pronoun

IPC indeclinable particle

IPV indeclinable preverb

-atay-

NDI belly

-hkwākan-

NDI face

-htawakay-

NDI ear

-īpit-

NDI tooth

-ītakay- [?]

NDI penis [?]

-kwayaw-

NDI neck

-māmā-

NDA mother

-pāpā-

NDA father

-sīm-

NDA younger brother

-stikwān-

NDI head

-stīs-

NDA older brother

-tiṣaniy-

NDI tongue

acāhkw-

NI star

acāhkos-

NI small star [dim.]

aciṣaw

IPC for a while

aṣṣkan-

NA raspberry

aṣahw-

TA bury someone

aṣwāpat-

NA Robert [proper name]

ahṣ-

TA put, place someone

ahpō

IPC or

akāciy

IPC or

akāmisi

IPC across the water

akiht-

TI count something

akim-

TA count someone

akohci-

AI float

akohp-

NA blanket

akwa

IPC and

ana

PR that [animate proximate singular]

ani

IPC and, indeed

anihi

PR that [animate obviative / inanimate plural]

anima

PR that [inanimate singular]

anita

IPC there

anohc

IPC just then, now

api-

AI sit

apisci

IPC small

apoy-

NI paddle

asam-

TA feed someone

aski- [sic]

NI pot, kettle

askiy-

NI ground

aspin

IPC gone

astotin-

NI hat

aswahw-

TA be ready for someone

aswāpam-

TA watch for someone

ati

IPC begin, start to

atihkw-

NA deer

acihkos-

NA small deer

atimw-

NA dog

atoskī-

AI work

awa

PR this [animate proximate singular]

awāsis-

NA child

awiḵawa

PR someone [obviative]

aya

IPC well [hesitation]

ayami-

AI talk

ayamihito-

AI talk to one another

ayā-

AI have something

ayihaw

IPC well [hesitation]

ayihaw

PR that, well [hesitation] [proximate]

ayihawa

PR that, well [hesitation] [obviative]

ā

IPV conjunct marker

ācimo-

AI tell a story

āpihtaw

IPC half

āsay

IPC already

āsay-mīna

IPC again

āswapahtā-

AI run across the river

āta

IPC although

āyitwimīkiwāhpi

NI on both sides of the tent [loc.]

cīðī-

NA Gerry [proper name]

cīkop-

NA Jacob [proper name]

cīmān-

NI boat, canoe

cīmiy-

NA James [proper name]

cāh-cīpipaði-

II twitch [reduplicated]

ðīkaw-

NI sand

ðīwahikan-

NA pounded meat [usually plural]

ðōtin-

II be windy

iða

IPC you know

iðinisip-

NA mallard duck

iðiniw-

NA person

isi

IPC thus

isicimī-

AI paddle there

isiðīhkāso-

AI be called so

isināpahkisin-

AI appear to fall

iskatīðiht-

TI be tired of something

iskinōhamākīw- [sic]

NA teacher

iskwīsis-

NA girl [dim.]

iskwīw-

NA woman

ispaði-

AI drive

ispahtā-

AI run to

ispī

IPC then, when

it-

TA say so to someone

ita

IPC where

itī

IPC to where

itīðiht-

TI agree to something

itīh-

TI stir something

itohtah-

TA take someone there

itohtī-

AI go there

itwī-

AI say so

ī

IPV conjunct marker

īðik-

NA Eric [proper name]

īḍiko

IPC so

īkā

IPC not

īkosi

IPC thus

īkospī

IPC then

īkota

IPC there

īkotī

IPC over there

īkwa

IPC and

īkw-āni

IPC and then

īkwiḍāc

IPC finally

īmihkwān-

NI spoon

īncin-

NI engine

īsa

IPC I understand

ītokī

IPC I guess

ka

IPV future marker

kahkiōaw

IPC all

kakīpātisi-

AI be stupid

kapā-

AI disembark

kaskihtā-

AI manage something, succeed

kaskitiwā-

II be black

kaskīwīhtatā-

AI carry something over portage

kāōa

IPC don't!

kāwi

IPC back

kihtimi-

AI be lazy

kipahw-

TA lock someone in

kisiṯṯiniw-

NA old man

kisinā-

II be cold

kisiskāpaṯi-

AI go fast

kiskīṯiht-

TI know something

kistikān-

NI garden

kitowinikī-

AI make a noise

kī

IPV past, completive marker

kī

IPV able to

kīṯa

PR you

kīhcināc

IPC for sure

kīsi

IPV finished

kīspin

IPC if

kīwīhtah-

TA take someone home

kīwīhtitā-

AI take something home

kīwīpaōi-

AI head back, home

kohkoso-

AI push off

kosāpī-

AI sink

kospicīmāni-

AI paddle up to shore

kospihtah-

TA take someone up to shore

kospipahtā-

AI run up into the bush

kospi- [sic]

AI go up, ashore, away from water

kost-

TI be scared of something

kotawān-

NI fireplace

kotawī-

AI have a campfire

kōpiy-

NI [?] coffee

kwayask

IPC proper, straight

kwāskohti-

AI jump

kwīskikwāskohti-

AI jump backwards

mahīhkan-

NA wolf

mahti

IPC to see if

maṇāmāh- [?]

TA be afraid for someone

maskihkiy-

NI medicine

maskw-

NA bear [singular: maskwa]

maskwamiy-

NA ice

matāwisi-

AI come into the open

matwī

IPV audibly

māci

IPC start to

mācī-

AI hunt

māhkāyā-

II be rough water [usually reduplicated]

māh-mīki-

AI give [reduplicated]

māka

IPC but

māmaskācihoski- [?]

AI be an amazing person

māmaskāt-

TA be amazed at someone

māyān-

TI leave fresh tracks

miðwīðiht-

TI be happy about something

mihcīt

IPC many

mihcītwāw

IPC many times

miht-

NI firewood, log [singular: mihti]

minihkwī-

AI drink

mispon-

II be snowing

mistahi

IPC a great deal

miscikōsiw- [sic]

NA white man

mistikw-

NA tree

mitātaht

IPC ten

mitātahtwāw

IPC ten times

mīciso-

AI eat

mīō-

TA give it/him to someone

mīōī

NA Mary [proper name]

mīkiwāhp-

NI tent

mīkwāc

IPC while

mīmihito- [sic]

AI dance

mīna

IPC too

mīsī-

AI defecate

mīskanaw-

NI railroad

mīstayaskis-

TI be out of shells

mīscipimipaši-

AI run out of gasoline

mōḡa

IPC not [also namōḡa]

mōskinahtā-

AI fill something up, fuel up

mōsopwām-

NI thigh of moose

mōswasiniy-

NI bullet

mōsw-

NA moose [singular: mōswa]

mwāc

IPC not [also mwāt, mwā, mō]

mwīhci

IPC just when

na

IPV future marker

nahaḡ-

TA put someone away

nahā-

NA son-in-law

nakat-

TA leave someone

namōḥa

IPC not [also mōḥa]

napakisin-

AI lie flat

napatī

IPV to the side

nācipaḥīst-

TI drive over and fetch something

nāpīw-

NA man

nāsipīhtatā-

AI take something down to the river

nāt-

TA fetch, get someone

nāt-

TI fetch, get something

nātamaw-

TA defend someone from something

nikamo-

AI sing

nipah-

TA kill someone

nipā-

AI sleep

nipi-

AI die

nipy-

NI water

nisīhkāc

IPC sort of slowly

nisti-

AI be three

nitawi

IPV go and

nitotamaw-

TA ask someone for something

nīōa

PR I

nīpawi-

AI stand

nīpawipaḍiho-

AI stand up quickly

nīpin-

II be summer

nīpiy-

NI leaf

nīso

IPC two

nīsta

PR I also

nītī

IPC over there

nītī-isi

IPC over that way

nīyāw-

NI point

nīyo

IPC four

nōhtī

IPV want to

nōhcimi

IPC in the bush

nōsī-mōsw-

NA female moose [singular: nōsī-mōswa]

nōtin-

TA fight someone

ohci

IPC from, with

ohci

IPV past preverb in negative clauses

ohcitaw

IPC anyway

ohpin-

TA lift someone up

ohtin-

TI take something from some place

omānisīs- [sic]

NA moose-calf

osih-

TA fix someone

ospwākan-

NA pipe

ota

IPC behind

otahw-

TA beat someone

otākosi

IPC yesterday

otāpānāskw-

NA car

otiht-

TI reach something

otihtin-

TI take hold of something

otin-

TA pick someone up

ōma

PR this [inanimate singular]

ōmisi

IPC thus

ōta

IPC here

pahki

IPC partly

pahkon-

TA skin someone

pahkwacitī-

II be singed

pakāhkam

IPC perhaps

pakāsimo-

AI swim

papāmatakā-

AI swim around

paskwatināw-

NI clear ground, bare land

patahw-

TA fail to hit someone

pātimā

IPC until

pakicīpin-

TI let go of something

pāpahtā-

AI run back

pāh-pāskisw-

TA continually shoot at someone [reduplicated]

pāsicipit-

TI pull something across

pāskisikan-

NI gun

pāskisikī-

AI shoot

pāskisw-

TA shoot at someone

pimahocin- [?]

AI float

pimakocin-

AI move along

pimataman-

II go through

pimatāwisi-

AI come out

pimāci-

TA save someone

pimicipahtā-

AI run sideways

pimiciwan-

II be a current

pimipaāi-

AI drive

pimipahtā-

AI run

pimiskā-

AI paddle

pimitāpāso-

AI ride along

pimitisahw-

TA chase someone

pimiy-

NI gasoline

pimohtī-

AI go

piniwīpahw-

TA knock someone down

pisci

IPC by accident

pistahw-

TA hit someone accidentally

pī

IPV come and

pīcipahtā-

AI run by here

pīciwaḍawīpaḍi-

II be coming out

pīḍisk

IPC finally

pīhtaw-

TA hear someone

pītakoti-

II be nightfall

pītāpan-

II be dawn

pīyak

IPC one

pīyako-kīsikāw

IPC one day

pīyakomācī-

AI hunt by oneself

pīyakowīhkwatin-

TI take something out by oneself

pīyakwāw

IPC once

poko

IPC only

poyisa

IPC Boy! [exclamation]

pōn-

TI make a fire

pōnihtā-

AI quit

pōsi-

AI go on board

pōsihtā-

AI load something on board

pōsiwīpin-

TA throw someone on board

sākahikanisīs-

NI small lake [dim.]

sākahikāmo- [?]

AI come back

siht-

NI evergreen [proximate singular: sihti]

sipwīhti-

AI leave, go away

sipwīpaði-

AI go away, drive, head out

sipwīpahtā-

AI run away, off

sipwīpit-

TI start something (engine) by pulling

sipwīyāmohkāt-

TA scare someone away

sīḏa

NA Sarah [proper name]

sīpiy-

NI river

sīpīsis-

NI creek [dim.]

sīsīp-

NA duck

sīsīpīsis-

NA small duck [dim.]

sōhkāniciwan-

II be fast water

stōḏ-

NI store

swātikan-

NI shotgun

ta

IPV future marker

taṣīn-

NA train

tahkon-

TA take someone along

tahtwāw

IPC every time

takocimī-

AI arrive by paddling

takopaṣi-

AI arrive in a vehicle

takopahtā-

AI arrive running

takosin-

AI arrive

tapasī-

AI run away

tawahw-

TA hit someone

tāni-poko

IPC just

tānisi

IPC how

tānitahtwāw

IPC how many times

tāpwī

IPC truly

tātosk-

TI rip, burst something

tipiskā-

II be night

tipiskāw-

NI night

tīpakohp

IPC seven

tīpwī-

AI scream

tōhtōsāpoy-

NI milk

tōt-

TI do something

wacask-

NA muskrat

wawiyahkwāt-

TA swear at someone

wāhōaw

IPC far away

wāpaht-

TI see something

wāpam-

TA see someone

wāsahāw-

NI bay, narrows

wiōa

IPC for [also wiōisk]

wiōisk

IPC because [also wiōa]

wiyās-

NI meat

wī

IPV intend to, want to

wīcih-

TA help someone

wīciw-

TA go with someone

wīḥa

PR he

wīhḥ-

TA name someone

wīhḥ- [sic: cf. Appendix A]

TI name something

wīhtikow-

NA monster

wīhtikōs-

NA small monster [dim.]

wīpac

IPC soon, suddenly

wīsa

IPC so

wīsta

PR he also

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