

ARAPAHO LANGUAGE

If you want to study a language, you should be able to write it and devise an alphabet for the sounds of the language.

Arapaho has some sounds English doesn't (x: wox)
English has some sounds Arapaho doesn't (r: rat)

ARAPAHO ALPHABET ---- 16 SYMBOLS

B C E H I K N O S 3 T U W X Y '

CONSONANT STOPS: B T C K '

SEMI - STOP: H

CONSONANT FRICATIVES: 3 S X H

VOWELS: E I O U

SEMI - CONSONANTS W Y

NASAL: N

VOWEL COMBINATIONS:

A long vowel is a combination of two or more same vowels.

Example: EE II OO UU EEE III OOO UUU

DIPHTHONG:

A diphthong is a combination of two or more different vowels.

Example: EI is the long A vowel sound as in day.

OE is the long I vowel sound as in pie.

OU is the long O vowel sound as in glow.

ARAPAHO ALPHABET

PRONUNCIATION KEY ---- CONSONANTS

B: is between the voiced **B** and the blown **P**. Usually more like a **B** at the beginning and middle of a syllable and more like a **P** at the end of the word.

C: is between the voiced **J** and the blown **CH**. Usually more like a **J** at the beginning and middle of a syllable and more like a **CH** at the end of the word.

H: is just breathed at either end of a syllable.

K: is between the voiced **G** (as in gum) and the blown **K**. Usually more like the voiced **G** at the beginning and middle of a syllable and the blown **K** at the end of a word.

N: as in noon.

S: is always pronounced as in sing, and never like the **Z** sound in trees or closet.

3: as in three, thin, and bath.

T: is between the voiced **D** and the blown **T**. Usually more like the voiced **D** at the beginning and middle of a syllable and the blown **T** at the end of the word.

W: as in water.

X: is the sound not heard in English, but similar to the German Machen or the Greek XI. To say the **X** sound, start to say the **K** sound, but breathe out hard enough to make the back of your throat (your glottis) vibrate a little.

Y: as in yes and young, unless it is blown following **U** or **I**.

: is called the glottal stop, and doesn't make a sound; it shows that the sound or breath is cut off suddenly.

ARAPAHO ALPHABET

B C E H I K N O S 3 T U W X Y

VOWELS (V): E I O U

CONSONANTS (C):

STOPS: B T C K

SEMI-STOP: H

FRICATIVES: 3 S X H

NASAL: N

SEMI-CONSONANTS: W Y

ACCENT: High level pitch with greater loudness over vowels, consonants, and vowel combinations. (not occurring in parentheses)

BE	BI	BO	(BU)
CE	CI	CO	(CU)
HE	HI	HO	HU
KE	KI	KO	KU
NE	NI	NO	NU
SE	SI	SO	(SU)
3E	3I	3O	(3U)
TE	TI	TO	TU
WE	WI	WO	WU
XE	XI	XO	(XU)
YE	YI	YO	(YU)
'E	'I	'O	'U

ARAPAHO ALPHABET

B C E H I K N O S 3 T U W X Y ' .

12 CONSONANTS AND 4 VOWELS

VOWELS:

SHORT:

E: nec water

I: his liver

O: ho3 arrow

U: nooku rabbit

LONG:

EE: nees my husband

II: hiit here

OO: toot where

UU: woouu bears

ACCENT:

Nowo' - fish

Wono' - ankle

CONSONANTS:

FIRST

B Be' - blood

C Cec - year

H His - liver

K Ketee? - Is it your heart? Nooku - rabbit

N Noon - egg

S Sitee - fire

3 3io'tox - nine

T Toot - where

W Woow - now

X Xouu - skunk

Y Yoo3on - five

' 'OO - yes

MIDDLE

Hebes - beaver

Wookecii - cows

Hohou - thank you

Nooku - rabbit

Wono' - ankle

Siisiic - duck

He3ebii - dogs

Wote' - hat

Nowo' - fish

Hixono - bones

Heeyoo' - it is long

Wo'oo3 - leg

LAST

Neb - fish

Neic - arrow

Noh - and

Seenook - rope

Yein - four

Niis - two

He3 - dog

Hiit - here

Hitotiiw - his car

Wox - bear

Ceeseey - one

Hisi' - tick

ARAPAKO ALPHABET

CONSONANT CLUSTERS:

H B	Kuhlii3?	Did he eat it?
T S	Betson	Elbow
H '	Biisnih'oo3oo	Monkey (hairy whiteman)
N T	3oonteec	Crown of head
X H	Woxhoox	Horse
H K	Beiiko'	Squash

VOWEL CLUSTERS:

E I	Hoseino'	Meat
III	Hiii	Snow
O U	Hohou	Thank you
OOO	Hooo	Bed
O'OOO	Wo'ooo	Cat
E I	Nei	My son (vocative)
O E	Wo3onohoe	Paper
I O	Hisio	His uncle
I E	Wotie'noo	Clean it
EEE	Niinebeh'eeet	Kingfisher
UUU	Cih'oxuuu	Chips

ARAPAO ALPHABET

GRAMMAR - NOUN:

Dog	He3	Dogs	He3ebii
My dog	Nete3ebiib	My dogs	Nete3ebiiwo'
Your dog	Hete3ebiib	Your dogs	Hete3ebiiwo'
His dog	Hite3ebiiw	His dogs	Hite3ebiiwo
On my dog	Nete3ebiibe'		
On your dog	Hete3ebiibe'		
On his dog	Hite3ebiibe'		

VERB: (present tense)

I see you	Nonoohobe3en
I see him	Nonoohowo'
I see you (pl.)	Nonoohobe3enee
You see me	Nonoohowun
You see him	Nonoohowot
You see us	Nonoohobei'een
You see them	Nonoohowotii
He sees him	Nonoohowoot
He sees himself	Nonoohobetit

ARAPAHO LANGUAGE (MORPHOLOGY)

1. CONSONANT AND SHORT VOWEL COMBINATION

Nehi **My older sister**

Nesi **My uncle**

Bexo (pl) **Wood**

Nisice **Antelope**

Hixono **Bones**

2. CONSONANT AND LONG VOWEL COMBINATION

Niicii **River** **Neecee** **Chief**

Ceetee **Smoke** **Heeniii** **Ants**

Biisee **Bug** **Siisoowoo** **Tobacco**

Koocoo **Devil**

3. CONSONANT WITH A SHORT AND LONG VOWEL COMBINATION

(A) SHORT - LONG

Sitee **Fire (fire place)**

Betee **Heart**

Betii **Mouth**

Woxuu (pl.) **Bears**

Notoo (voc.) **My daughter**

(B) Long - Short

Wooxe Knife

3ooxe Glove

(C) Short - Short - Long

Hebesii Beavers

Hite3oo Crane

Tecenoo Door

Cebitee Grease (gas-oil)

He3ebii Dogs

(D) Short - Long - Long)

Henecece Buffalo bull

Woxuusoo Bear cub

Bexooke Cougar

(E) Long - Short - Short

Niitoni Hear me

(F) Long - Short - Long

Beenenoo I am drinking

(G) Short - Short - Long - Long

Nebesiiwoo Grandfather (voc.)