Spelling Manual

Eastern James Bay Cree Syllabics

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Southern Dialect
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ᒉᐧᑳᓐ ᐁ ᐃᐦᑕᑯᐦᒡ
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Introduction

People have been writing syllabics using their own style, depending on where they learned the system, which community they come from, how old they are and what pronunciation they use. This manual has been prepared to help people write the Cree syllabics in a more consistent way.

Cree Language and Culture teachers and linguists together with the Education Consultants in Cree Programs have been working toward a consistent spelling system for the Southern and for the Northern dialects for many years. The process is still ongoing and this manual will be updated periodically. There have been spelling revisions since the first Cree Lexicon was published in 1987; the revision of the old lexicon will incorporate the spelling changes.

Although each Cree community in the James Bay area has its own distinct style of speaking the language, there are two main dialects of Cree with different pronunciations, so there are two main ways of spelling - Northern and Southern.

Syllabic Chart - Eastern James Bay

									Finals	
	ᐁ e	ᐃ i	ᐄ ii	ᐅ u	ᐆ uu	ᐊ a	ᐋ aa		ᐤ u	ᐦ h
	ᐧᐁ we	ᐧᐃ wi	ᐧᐄ wii	ᐧᐅ wu	ᐧᐆ wuu	ᐧᐊ wa	ᐧᐋ waa			
ᐧᐯ pwe	ᐯ pe	ᐱ pi	ᐲ pii	ᐳ pu	ᐴ puu	ᐸ pa	ᐹ paa	ᐧᐹ pwaa	ᑉ p	
ᐧᑌ twe	ᑌ te	ᑎ ti	ᑏ tii	ᑐ tu	ᑑ tuu	ᑕ ta	ᑖ taa	ᐧᑖ twaa	ᑦ t	
ᐧᑫ kwe	ᑫ ke	ᑭ ki	ᑮ kii	ᑯ ku	ᑰ kuu	ᑲ ka	ᑳ kaa	ᐧᑳ kwaa	ᒃ k	ᒄ kw
ᐧᒉ chwe	ᒉ che	ᒋ chi	ᒌ chii	ᒍ chu	ᒎ chuu	ᒐ cha	ᒑ chaa	ᐧᒑ chwaa	ᒡ ch	
ᐧᒣ mwe	ᒣ me	ᒥ mi	ᒦ mii	ᒧ mu	ᒨ muu	ᒪ ma	ᒫ maa	ᐧᒫ mwaa	ᒻ m	
ᐧᓀ nwe	ᓀ ne	ᓂ ni	ᓃ nii	ᓄ nu	ᓅ nuu	ᓇ na	ᓈ naa	ᐧᓈ nwaa	ᓐ n	
ᐧᓓ lwe	ᐧᓓ le	ᓕ li	ᓖ lii	ᓗ lu	ᓘ luu	ᓚ la	ᓛ laa	ᐧᓛ lwaa	ᓪ l	
ᐧᓭ swe	ᓭ se	ᓯ si	ᓰ sii	ᓱ su	ᓲ suu	ᓴ sa	ᓵ saa	ᐧᓵ swaa	ᔅ s	
ᐧᔐ shwe	ᔐ she	ᔑ shi	ᔒ shii	ᔓ shu	ᔔ shuu	ᔕ sha	ᔖ shaa	ᐧᔖ shwaa	ᔥ sh	
ᐧᔦ ywe	ᔦ ye	ᔨ yi	ᔩ yii	ᔪ yu	ᔫ yuu	ᔭ ya	ᔮ yaa	ᐧᔮ ywaa	ᔾ y	
ᐧᕃ rwe	ᕃ re	ᕆ ri	ᕇ rii	ᕈ ru	ᕉ ruu	ᕋ ra	ᕌ raa	ᐧᕌ rwaa	ᕐ r	
ᐧᕓ vwe	ᕓ ve	ᕕ vi	ᕖ vii	ᕗ vu	ᕘ vuu	ᕙ va	ᕚ vaa	ᐧᕚ vwaa	ᕝ v, f, ph	
ᐧᕞ thwe	ᕞ the	ᕠ thi	ᕡ thii	ᕢ thu	ᕣ thuu	ᕤ tha	ᕥ thaa	ᐧᕥ thwaa	ᕪ th	

Part One: Dialect Differences

1.1 The syllabic chart

The full syllabic chart shows all the symbols that are used in writing Eastern James Bay Cree. Some symbols are used only in the Southern dialect, not in the Northern, as explained below.

1.2 North - South differences

Speakers from Wemindji, Chisasibi, Whapmagoostui, and sometimes Eastmain use ᐋ, ᐹ, ᒑ, ᒫ, ᓈ, ᓵ, ᔖ instead of ᐁ, ᐯ, ᑌ, ᒉ, ᒣ, ᓀ, ᓭ, ᔐ.

Southern	**Northern**
ᐁᒥᐦᐧᑳᓐ	ᐋᒥᐦᐧᑳᓐ
ᐯᔭᒄ	ᐹᔨᒄ
ᑌᐧᐁᐦᐄᑲᓐ	ᑖᐧᐋᐦᐄᑭᓐ
ᑫᓇᐧᐋᐸᒫᑦ	ᑳᓂᐧᐋᐱᒫᑦ
ᒉᐧᑳᓐ	ᒑᐧᑳᓐ
ᒣᒣᐱᒎᓐ	ᒫᒫᐱᒎᓐ
ᓀᐧᐋᐤ	ᓈᐧᐋᐤ
ᓭᒋᒎ	ᓵᒋᒎ
ᔐᔐᔔ	ᔖᔖᔔ
ᔦᑳᐤ	ᔮᑳᐤ

The Northern speakers do not use ᐸ, ᑕ, ᑲ, ᒐ, ᒪ, ᓇ, ᓴ, ᔕ, ᔭ but instead use ᐱ, ᑎ, ᑭ, ᒋ, ᒥ, ᓂ, ᓯ, ᔑ, ᔨ.

Southern	**Northern**
ᐸᑯᓀᔮᐤ	ᐱᑯᓈᔮᐤ
ᑕᐦᑳᔮᐤ	ᑎᐦᑳᔮᐤ
ᑲᐸᑦ	ᑭᐱᑦ
ᒐᐦᑳᐯᔥ	ᒋᐦᑳᐹᔥ
ᒪᓯᓇᐦᐄᑲᓐ	ᒥᓯᓂᐦᐄᑭᓐ
ᓇᒣᔅ	ᓂᒫᔅ
ᓴᑳᐤ	ᓯᑳᐤ
ᔕᐧᐁᔨᒣᐤ	ᔑᐧᐋᔨᒫᐤ
ᔭᐦᒋᓇᒻ	ᔨᐦᒋᓂᒻ

However, **ᐊ** is used in both Northern and Southern dialects at the beginning of a word, and after **ᐦ** in some verbs.

Southern	**Northern**
ᐊᑎᐦᒄ	ᐊᑎᐦᒄ
ᐊᒥᐢᒄ	ᐊᒥᐢᒄ
ᐊᒪᐦᒄ	ᐊᒥᐦᒄ
ᐅᒑᒪᐦᐊᒻ	ᐅᒑᒥᐦᐊᒻ

1.3 Eastmain speakers

In Eastmain, speakers use both Southern and Northern pronunciations since the community is on the boundary of the two dialect areas. Sometimes the two pronunciations are used in a single word, or show up in the written form.

1.4 ᓭ, ᓯ, ᓱ, ᓴ, ᐢ and ᔐ, ᔑ, ᔓ, ᔕ, ᔥ

Both these sets are used in writing East Cree words. In some communities speakers do not pronounce the ᔐ, ᔑ, ᔓ, ᔕ, ᔥ the same way as other communities and may want to check their spelling with the lexicon.

ᓭ ᓯ ᓱ ᓴ ᐢ	**ᔐ ᔑ ᔓ ᔕ ᔥ**
ᓭᒉ̇	ᔐᓀᓪ
ᓯᓈᐤ	ᔑᑳᒄ
ᓰᐅᑏᐢ	ᔒᔒᑯᓐ
ᐱᓱᔑᓐ	ᔔᔓᐧᐋᐤ
ᓲᐸ	ᔔᑳᐤ
ᓭᒋᓲ	ᔖᔥ
ᓴᑲᐧᐹᓐ	ᔕᐧᐁᔨᒣᐤ

1.5 Writing ᒡ at the end of a word

There is a tendency for speakers in Eastmain to pronounce ᑦ instead of ᒡ at the end of words. Special attention is needed when writing final ᒡ.

Write…	**Not…**
ᐄᔨᔫᒡ	ᐄᔨᔫᑦ
ᐁ ᓂᐹᔮᐦᒡ	ᐁ ᓂᐹᔮᐦᑦ
ᐁ ᐱᒧᐦᑌᔮᐦᒡ	ᐁ ᐱᒧᐦᑌᔮᐦᑦ
ᐄᔨᔫᐢᐧᑫᐅᒡ	ᐄᔨᔫᐢᐧᑫᐅᑦ

1.6 Inland and Coastal differences in the pronunciation

There is a dialect difference between Inland and Coastal speakers in the pronunciation of certain words such as the ones below. Words in the lexicon which differ are marked 'coastal or 'inland'.

Coastal	Inland
ᓂᔮ**ᔫ**	ᓂᔮ**ᔨᓐ**
ᓂᔮ**ᔫ**ᔖᑉ	ᓂᔮ**ᔨᓂ**ᔖᑉ
ᓂᔮ**ᔫ**ᒥᑎᓅ	ᓂᔮ**ᔨᓂ**ᒥᑎᓅ
ᐄᔨ**ᔫ**	ᐄ**ᓅ**
ᒥᔅᑎᓯᓃᐅ**ᐄᔨᔫ**	ᒥᔅᑎᓯᓃᐅᐄ**ᓅ**
ᓀᒥᔅᑳᐅ**ᐄᔨᔫ**	ᓀᒥᔅᑳᐅᐄ**ᓅ**
ᒋᓭᓰᐲᐅ**ᐄᔨᔫ**	ᒋᓭᓰᐲᐅᐄ**ᓅ**
ᐄᔨᔅᒋᓯᓐ	**ᐄᓇ**ᔅᒋᓯᓐ
ᐄᔮᔥᑦ	**ᐄᓈ**ᔥᑦ
ᐄᔨᔥᑯᑌᐤ	**ᐄᓂ**ᔥᑯᑌᐤ
ᐄᔨᔫᔅᑵᐤ	**ᐄ**ᓅᔅᑵᐤ
ᐄᔨᔫᔥᑌᐤ	**ᐄ**ᓅᔥᑌᐤ
ᐄᔨᔑᑉ	**ᐄᓂ**ᔑᑉ
ᐄᔨᒥᓐᐦ	**ᐄᓂ**ᒥᓈᓐᐦ
ᐄ**ᔮ**ᐦᑎᒄ	ᐄ**ᓈ**ᐦᑎᒄ
ᐊᐦ**ᐄ**ᐲ	ᐊᐦ**ᐊ**ᐲ
ᐅᔑᐦ**ᐄ**ᒣᓭᐤ	ᐅᔑᐦ**ᐊ**ᒣᓯᐤ
ᔖ**ᔫ**ᓐ	ᔖ**ᓚᔫᐤ**
ᒋᐦ**ᐄ**ᐸᔫ	ᒌᐦ**ᐃ**ᐸᔫ
ᐊ**ᐳᐃ**ᐦᒉᐤ	ᐊ**ᐴ**ᐦᒉᐤ
ᐅᐦᒋ**ᑰ**	ᐅᐦᒋᑰᓐ
ᓀᐙᐯᑲ**ᒎᐦ**	ᓀᐙᐯᑲᒧᓐᐦ
ᐯᑲ**ᑌᐦ**ᑕᒻ	ᐯᑲᑌ**ᑐ**ᑕᒻ
ᐊᓯ**ᒋ**ᔥᑲᒻ	ᐊᓯ**ᑎ**ᔥᑲᒻ
ᔒ**ᐅᑌᐤ**	ᔒ**ᐌᐤ**
ᑮᔭ	**ᑲ**ᔭ
ᑮᐹ	**ᑲᔭ**ᐹ

Part Two: ᒋᑲᔥᒑᑲᓐᐦ The Use of Dots

2.1 Dots Over a Syllabic Symbol

The dot above a syllabic symbol marks a long vowel. The dot can be used over the **ᐃ** set, the **ᐊ** set or the **ᐅ** set. There is no dot over the **ᐁ** set.

Short (no dot)		**Long (with dot)**	
i	ᐃᔥᑯᑌᐤ	ᐄᔨᔫ	ii
wi	ᐧᐃᔮᑲᓐ	ᐧᐄᒥᓂᒌ	wii
pi	ᐱᒥᐸᔫ	ᐲᒥᐸᔫ	pii
ti	ᑎᐹᓐ	ᑏᐧᐹᑦ	tii
ki	ᑭᒋᓐ	ᑮᐹ	kii
chi	ᒋᐧᓈᐤ	ᒌᓈᐤ	chii
mi	ᒥᒋᓲ	ᒦᒋᓲ	mii
ni	ᓂᐲ	ᓃᐲᔥ	nii
si	ᓯᔅᒎ	ᓰᐅᑏᔅ	sii
shi	ᔑᑳᒄ	ᔒᑲᐦᐆ	shii
u	ᐅᐦᐸᐦᐆ	ᐆᑦ	uu
pu	ᐳᐧᐋᑌᐤ	ᐴᓃᐤ	puu
tu	ᑐᐧᐋᐤ	ᑑᐦᐋᓐ	tuu
ku	ᑯᑕᐲᐤ	ᑰᓐ	kuu
chu	ᒐᒍᓂᔥ	ᒎᐦᒎᔑᓈᐳᐃ	chuu
mu	ᒧᓵᔅᑰ	ᒨᔅ	muu
nu	ᓄᐧᐁᔅᐧᑫᔫ	ᓅᑕᐦᐊᒻ	nuu
su	ᐱᓱᐦᑌᐤ	ᓲᐦᑲᓐ	suu
shu	ᔑᔓᓀᐤ	ᔔᔔᐦᐧᑫᐤ	shuu
yu	ᒥᔪᔔ	ᔫᑎᓐ	yuu

Short (no dot)		**Long (with dot)**	
a	**ᐊ**ᒋᒄ	**ᐋ**ᐦᒋᒄ	aa
wa	**ᐧᐊ**ᒋᔥᒄ	**ᐧᐋ**ᐤ	waa
pa	**ᐸ**ᐦᑳᓐ	**ᐹ**ᐦᑳᓂᒻ	paa
ta	**ᑕ**ᐦᒋᓄᐤ	**ᑖ**ᐦᒋᓄᐤ	taa
ka	**ᑲ**ᔅᑲᒣᒨ	**ᑳ**ᔅᑲᑖᑖᒄ	kaa
cha	**ᒐ**ᐦᑳᐯᔥ	**ᒑ**ᐦᑳᔅᐧᑫᔫ	chaa
ma	**ᒪ**ᒋᐸᔫ	**ᒫ**ᒋᐸᔫ	maa
na	**ᓇ**ᒋᐸᔫ	**ᓈ**ᓯᐯᐤ	naa
sa	**ᓴ**ᑲᐧᐯᐤ	**ᓵ**ᒉᐧᐁᔮᐸᒣᐤ	saa
sha	**ᔕ**ᐦᐧᑫᔨᒣᐤ	**ᔖ**ᐦᐧᑫᐦᐄᑲᓐ	shaa
ya	**ᔭ**ᐦᒋᔥᑲᒻ	**ᔮ**ᔨᐧᐁᐤ	yaa

2.2 Dots in Front of Syllabic Symbol

Dots are written before a syllabic symbol and indicate a *w* sound before the vowel, or between the consonant and the following vowel.

e	**ᐁ**ᔥᒄ	**ᐧᐁ**ᔥᑲᒡ	we
a	**ᐊ**ᒋᑳᔥ	**ᐧᐊ**ᒋᔥᒄ	wa
i	**ᐃ**ᔦᔅᑯᐴ	**ᐧᐃ**ᔦᔥ	wi
ii	**ᐄ**ᐹᑎᓐ	**ᐧᐄ**ᐸᒡ	wii
aa	**ᐋ**ᐸᑎᓐ	**ᐧᐋ**ᐸᓐ	waa
pe	**ᐯ**ᑖᐤ	ᑖ**ᐧᐯ**ᐤ	pwe
paa	**ᐹ**ᔥᐲ	**ᐧᐹ**ᔥᑑ	pwaa
te	**ᑌ**ᐧᐁᐦᐄᑲᓐ	**ᐧᑌ**ᐦᐅᒪᑲᓐ	twe
taa	**ᑖ**ᐱᔥᑯᓐ	**ᐧᑖ**ᐸᔫ	twaa
ke	**ᑫ**ᐦᑫᒄ	**ᐧᑫ**ᔅᑌ	kwe
kaa	ᑕᐦ**ᑳ**ᐤ	ᑕᐦ**ᐧᑳ**ᐤ	kwaa
chaa	**ᒑ**ᒃ	**ᐧᒑ**ᑲᓀᑦ	chwaa
me	**ᒣ**ᐧᑳᒡ	**ᐧᒣ**ᐦᒡ	mwe
maa	**ᒫ**ᒃ	**ᐧᒫ**ᒄ	mwaa
naa	ᒌ**ᓈ**ᐤ	ᒋ**ᐧᓈ**ᐤ	nwaa
se	ᐅ**ᓭ**ᐧᐁᐸᔫ	ᐃᔮ**ᐧᓭ**	swe
she	**ᔐ**ᑯᒡ	ᒪᓂ**ᐧᔐ**ᐤ	shwe
yaa	**ᔮ**ᔑᐸᔫ	**ᐧᔮ**ᔥᑎᓐ	ywaa

Part Three: Syllabic Finals

The syllabic finals are a small version of the last column of regular size symbols on the chart. They are used mainly at the ends of words. ᔅ and ᔥ and ᐦ are also used in the middle of words. The syllabic finals may be used alone or in a set of two or three, but no more than three in a row are used. When there are three in a row, the last one is always **ᐦ.**

3.1 Small syllabic symbols at the end of the word

One symbol	**Two symbols**	**Three symbols**
ᒥᑎᐦᒌᐦ		
ᐚᐤ	ᐚᐤᐦ	
ᓈᐯᐤ	ᓈᐯᐤᐦ	
ᑕᑉ	ᐊᑯᐦᑉ	ᐊᑯᐦᑉᐦ
ᓲᑉ	ᓲᑉᐦ	
ᐅᔅᑳᑦ	ᐅᔅᑳᑦᐦ	
ᐸᑦ	ᒥᐦᑦ	ᒥᐦᑦᐦ
ᒉᒃ	ᑌᐯᔨᐦᑕᐦᒃ	
ᒥᔥᑎᒄ	ᐊᑎᐦᒄ	ᐊᑎᐦᒄᐦ
ᐊᓵᒻ	ᐅᑎᓵᒻᐦ	
ᐊᑎᒻ	ᐅᑕᒻᐦ	
ᐅᑖᐹᓐ	ᐅᑖᐹᓐᐦ	ᐅᑖᐹᓈᔅᒄᐦ
ᒥᑖᔅ	ᒥᑖᔅᐦ	
ᐊᐚᔑᔥ	ᐊᐚᔑᔥᐦ	
ᐚᐸᓐ	ᐐᔥᑦ	ᐐᔥᑦᐦ
ᐐᐚᐤ	ᓂᔅᒃ	ᓂᔅᒃᐦ
	ᐅᓃᔥᒃ	ᐅᓃᔥᒃᐦ
	ᐊᒥᔅᒄ	ᐊᒥᔅᒄᐦ
	ᑖᐃᔅᑉ	
	ᐅᒉᔥᑦ	
	ᒥᓵᐦᒄ	

3.2 No ᒻ or ᓐ in the middle of a word

Do not write the small syllabic finals ᒻ and ᓐ in words like the ones below; note however that many small symbols are used in the middle of personal names.

Write…	**Not…**
ᑖ**ᓂ**ᑌᐦ	ᑖᓐᑌᐦ
ᐊ**ᓂ**ᑌᐦ	ᐊᓐᑌᐦ
ᐊ**ᓂ**ᒌ	ᐊᓐᒌ
ᒫ**ᓂ**ᑌᐤ	ᒫᓐᑌᐤ
ᓂᒋᒄ	ᓐᒋᒄ
ᓂᑐᐦᑯᔨᓐ	ᓐᑐᐦᑯᔨᓐ
ᓂᑐᐦᑕᒻ	ᓐᑐᐦᑕᒻ
ᓂᑑᐦᐆ	ᓐᑑᐦᐆ
ᓂᑖ**ᒥ**ᐯᑯᐦᒡ	ᓂᑖᒻᐯᑯᐦᒡ
ᐱ**ᒥ**ᐸᔫ	ᐱᒻᐸᔫ
ᐋ**ᒥ**ᐸᔫ	ᐋᒻᐸᔫ
ᐲ**ᒥ**ᐸᔫ	ᐲᒻᐸᔫ

3.3 ᒃ and ᒄ at the end of a word

Only a small number end in ᒃ ; most words end in ᒄ.

ᒫ**ᒃ**	ᐙ**ᒄ**	
ᑯᑕ**ᒃ**	ᒥᓂᔥᑎ**ᒄ**	
ᐃᔥᑯᑕ**ᒃ**	ᐃᔥᐱᒥᐦᑎ**ᒄ**	
ᒉ**ᒃ**	ᒉ**ᒄ**	
ᓂᔅ**ᒃ**	ᒪᔅᒉ**ᒄ**	
ᑯᐯ**ᒃ**	ᐐᓂᐯ**ᒄ**	
ᐅᓃᔥ**ᒃ**	ᐐᓂᔥ**ᒄ**	
ᓈᓴᔅ**ᒃ**	ᒥᔮᓂ**ᒄᐦ**	
ᐁ ᔕᐌᔨᒪ**ᒃ**	ᐙᓴᓂᐦᑖᑲᓈᐱᔅ**ᒄ**	
ᓲᐦ**ᒃ**	ᒥᓂᐦᐄ**ᒄ**	
ᐹᓂᑮ**ᒃ**	ᑳ**ᒄ**	
ᒎᐁᔅ**ᒃ**	ᒋᔮᔥ**ᒄ**	
ᐅᔅᒋᔅ**ᒃ**	ᐅᔅᒋᔅᒋᐸ**ᒄ**	**and many more**

You must pay attention to **ᒄ** and **ᒃ** at the end of verbs.

ᑳ ᑲᓇᐌᔦᐦᑕᐦ**ᒃ**	ᑳ ᑲᓇᐌᔦᐦᑕᒣ**ᒄ**
ᑳ ᐅᑖᒪᐦᐊᐦ**ᒃ**	ᑳ ᐅᑖᒪᐦᐊᒣ**ᒄ**

For most words ending in **ᒄ** be careful to write **ᐱ**, **ᑎ**, **ᔑ**, **ᓂ** and not **ᐳ**, **ᑐ**, **ᔓ**, **ᓄ** before final **ᒄ**.

Write…	**Not…**
ᒥᔥ**ᑎ**ᒄ	ᒥᔥᑐᒄ
ᒋᓀ**ᐱ**ᒄ	ᒋᓀᐳᒄ
ᒌ**ᔑ**ᒄ	ᒌᔓᒄ
ᐅᔥᒌ**ᔑ**ᒄ	ᐅᔥᒌᔓᒄ
ᐄᔮᐦ**ᑎ**ᒄ / ᐄᓈᐦ**ᑎ**ᒄ	ᐄᔮᐦᑐᒄ / ᐄᓈᐦᑐᒄ
ᒥᓂᔥ**ᑎ**ᒄ	ᒥᓂᔥᑐᒄ
ᔒᐹᔮᐦ**ᑎ**ᒄ	ᔒᐹᔮᐦᑐᒄ
ᔒᐹᔥ**ᑎ**ᒄ	ᔒᐹᔥᑐᒄ

Certain words, however, use **ᐸ**, not **ᐱ** in the Southern.

Southern	**Northern**
ᑳᒋᒉ**ᐸ**ᒄ	ᑳᒑᐱᒄ
ᐑᓯᒋ**ᐸ**ᒄ	ᐑᓯᒋᐱᒄ
ᐅᐢᒋᐢᒋ**ᐸ**ᒄ	ᐅᐢᒋᐢᒋᐱᒄ
ᒦᐦᐄᐌ**ᐸ**ᒄ	
ᐃᔥᐱᒥᐦ**ᑕ**ᒄ	ᐃᔥᐱᒥᐦᑎᒄ
ᐹᐦᑯᐦ**ᑕ**ᒄ	ᐹᐦᑯᐦᑎᒄ
ᓇᐸᒋᐦ**ᑕ**ᒄ	ᓇᐸᒋᐦᑎᒄ

3.4 How the small syllabic symbols change when an ending is added.

3.4.1 Words ending with ᑉ, ᑦ, ᒃ, ᒡ, ᒻ, ᓐ, ᔅ, ᔥ

Animate Plural Suffix

When you add this **ending**, just make the final big, then add ᒡ. Use **ᐸ, ᑕ, ᑲ, ᒪ, ᓇ, ᓴ, ᔕ**

ᔒᔒᑉ	ᔒᔒ**ᐸ**ᒡ
ᐄᔮᔥᑦ / ᐄᓈᔥᑦ	ᐄᔮᔑᐦ**ᑕ**ᒡ / ᐄᓈᔑᐦ**ᑕ**ᒡ
ᐅᑯᒃ	ᐅᑯ**ᑲ**ᒡ
ᐊᓵᒻ	ᐊᓵ**ᒪ**ᒡ
ᐁᒥᐦᒁᓐ	ᐁᒥᐦᒁ**ᓇ**ᒡ
ᓇᒣᔅ	ᓇᒣ**ᓴ**ᒡ
ᐊᐚᔥ	ᐊᐚ**ᔕ**ᒡ

Locative Suffix

When you add the locative ending, meaning *'in, at, to, on'* etc, change the small ᑉ, ᑦ, ᒃ, ᒡ, ᒻ, ᓐ, ᔅ, ᔥ, to big **ᐱ, ᑎ, ᑭ, ᒋ, ᒥ, ᓂ, ᓯ, ᔑ**.

ᔒᔒᑉ	ᔒᔒ**ᐱ**ᐦᒡ
ᐽᑲᑦ	ᐽᑲ**ᑎ**ᐦᒡ
ᐅᑯᒃ	ᐅᑯ**ᑭ**ᐦᒡ
ᐚᒡ	ᐚ**ᒋ**ᒡ
ᐊᓵᒻ	ᐊᓵ**ᒥ**ᐦᒡ
ᐁᒥᐦᒁᓐ	ᐁᒥᐦᒁ**ᓂ**ᐦᒡ
ᓇᒣᔅ	ᓇᒣ**ᓯ**ᐦᒡ
ᓃᐲᔥ	ᓃᐲ**ᔑ**ᐦᒡ

Diminutive Suffix

When you add the diminutive ending you usually change the small syllabic final ᑉ, ᑦ, ᒃ, ᒡ, ᒻ, ᓐ to big **ᐱ, ᑎ, ᑭ, ᒋ, ᒥ, ᓂ**.

ᐊᑯᐦᑉ	ᐊᑯᐦ**ᐱ**ᔥ
ᒥᐦᑦ	ᒥᐦ**ᑎ**ᔥ
ᐅᒉᒃ	ᐅᒉ**ᑭ**ᔥ
ᐙᒡ	ᐙ**ᒋ**ᔥ
ᐊᓵᒻ	ᐊᓵ**ᒥ**ᔥ
ᐁᒥᐦᑿᓐ	ᐁᒥᐦᑿ**ᓂ**ᔥ

Be careful with the diminutive of words where final ᔅ changes to **ᔑ**ᔥ or ᔥ. In addition, the following changes **may** take place **ᑎ, ᑏ, ᑐ, ᑑ, ᑖ, ᑘ** change to **ᒋ, ᒌ, ᒍ, ᒎ, ᒑ, ᒓ** and **ᓯ, ᓰ, ᓱ, ᓲ, ᓵ, ᓷ** change to **ᔑ, ᔒ, ᔓ, ᔔ, ᔖ, ᔘ**.

ᒥᑖᔅ	ᒥᑖᔥ
ᓇᒣᔅ	ᓇᒣ**ᔑ**ᔥ
ᐸᔨᑏᔅ	ᐸᔨᑏᔥ
ᓰᐅᑏᔅ	ᓰᐅᑏᔥ
ᐅᑖᐹᓐ	ᐅ**ᒑ**ᐹᓂᔥ

Another exception is the change of final ᒃ to **ᒋ** in a few words:

ᓂᔅᒃ	ᓂᔅ**ᒋ**ᔥ

Possessive Suffix

When the possessive endings are added, little ᑉ, ᑦ, ᒃ, ᒡ, ᓐ, ᓐ, ᔅ, ᔥ become big **ᐱ, ᑎ, ᑭ, ᒋ, ᒥ, ᓂ, ᓯ, ᔑ**.

ᓰᓰᑉ	ᓂᓰᓰ**ᐱ**ᒻ
ᒥᐦᑦ	ᓂᒥᐦ**ᑎ**ᒻ
ᑰᒃ	ᓂᑰ**ᑭ**ᒻ
ᐙᒡ	ᓂᐙ**ᒋ**ᒻ
ᒉᑳᓐ	ᓂᒉᐦᑿ**ᓂ**ᒻ
ᓇᒣᔅ	ᓂᓇᒣ**ᓯ**ᒻ
ᐊᒋᑳᔥ	ᓂᑕᒋᑳ**ᔑ**ᒻ

Here is a summary of how the finals will change:

	Animate Plural	**Diminutive**	**Locative**	**Possessive**
ᔒᔒᑉ	ᔒᔒᐸᒡ	ᔒᔒᐱᔥ	ᔒᔒᐱᐦᒡ	ᓂᔒᔒᐱᒻ
ᐅᒑᑦ	ᐅᒑᑕᒡ	ᐅᒑᑎᔥ	ᐅᒑᑎᐦᒡ	ᓅᒑᑎᒻ
ᐅᒉᒃ	ᐅᒉᑲᒡ	ᐅᒉᑭᔥ	ᐅᒉᑭᐦᒡ	ᓅᒉᑭᒻ
ᐊᓵᒼ	ᐊᓵᒪᒡ	ᐊᓵᒥᔥ	ᐊᓵᒥᐦᒡ	
ᐁᒥᐦᒀᓐ	ᐁᒥᐦᒀᓇᒡ	ᐁᒥᐦᒀᓂᔥ	ᐁᒥᐦᒀᓂᐦᒡ	
ᓇᒣᔅ	ᓇᒣᓴᒡ	ᓇᒣᔑᔥ, ᓇᒣᔒᔥ	ᓇᒣᓯᐦᒡ	ᓂᓇᒣᓯᒻ
ᐊᒋᑳᔥ	ᐊᒋᑳᔕᒡ	ᐊᒋᑳᔑᔥ	ᐊᒋᑳᔑᐦᒡ	ᓂᑕᒋᑳᔑᒻ

3.4.2 Words ending with ᒄ

The little ᒄ changes to big ᑯ when an ending is added.

	Animate Plural	**Diminutive**	**Locative**	**Possessive**
ᐊᑎᐦᒄ	ᐊᑎᐦᑯᒡ	ᐊᑎᐦᑯᔥ	ᐊᑎᐦᑯᐦᒡ	ᓂᑕᑎᐦᑯᒻ
ᐊᒥᔅᒄ	ᐊᒥᔅᑯᒡ	ᐊᒥᔅᑯᔥ	ᐊᒥᔅᑯᐦᒡ	ᓂᑕᒥᔅᑯᒻ
ᐊᔅᒋᐦᒄ	ᐊᔅᒋᐦᑯᒡ	ᐊᔅᒋᐦᑯᔥ	ᐊᔅᒋᐦᑯᐦᒡ	
ᐚᐸᔅᒄ	ᐚᐸᔅᑯᒡ	ᐚᐸᔅᑯᔥ	ᐚᐸᔅᑯᐦᒡ	ᓂᐚᐸᔅᑯᒻ
ᒷᒄ	ᒷᑯᒡ	ᒷᑯᔥ	ᒷᑯᐦᒡ	ᓂᒷᑯᒻ

3.4.3 Words ending with ᐤ

When the animate plural ending is added to a noun, the ᐤ becomes ᐅ.

ᓈᐯᐤ	ᓈᐯᐅᒡ
ᒫᓂᑌᐤ	ᒫᓂᑌᐅᒡ

When the animate plural ending is added to a verb, the ᐤ becomes ᐅ.

ᓂᐹᐤ	ᓂᐹᐅᒡ
ᒣᑕᐍᐤ	ᒣᑕᐍᐅᒡ
ᐚᐸᒣᐤ	ᐚᐸᒣᐅᒡ
ᑯᑕᐲᐤ	ᑯᑕᐲᐅᒡ

When the diminutive, locative or possessive ending is added to a noun, the ᐤ is dropped.

	Diminutive	**Locative/ Simulative**	**Possessive**
ᓈᐯᐤ	ᓈᐯᔥ	ᓈᐯᐦᐠ	ᓂᓈᐯᒼ
ᒫᓂᑌᐤ	ᒫᓂᑌᔥ	ᒫᓂᑌᐦᐠ	ᓂᒫᓂᑌᒼ
ᐅᒋᒫᐤ	ᐅᒋᒫᔥ	ᐅᒋᒫᐦᐠ	ᓅᒋᒫᒼ

If the word ends in ᐤ, and an ending is added, the ᐤ is kept only if the suffix is ᐦ.

ᓈᐯᐤ	ᓈᐯᐤᐦ
ᒫᓂᑌᐤ	ᒫᓂᑌᐤᐦ

3.4.4 Some Exceptions

Be careful of the following words where ᒼ becomes **ᒧ**, ᐢ becomes **ᓱ** and ᔥ becomes **ᔓ** when an ending is added.

	Plural	**Locative**	**Diminutive**
ᐊᑎᒼ	ᐊᑎᒧᐠ	ᐊᑎᒧᐦᐠ	ᐊᒋᒧᔥ
ᐲᓯᒼ	ᐲᓯᒧᐠ	ᐲᓯᒧᐦᐠ	ᐲᓯᒧᔥ
ᒨᐢ	ᒨᓱᐠ	ᒨᓱᐦᐠ	ᒨᔓᔥ
ᐚᐳᔥ	ᐚᐳᔓᐠ	ᐚᐳᔓᐦᐠ	ᐚᐳᔓᔥ

More examples:

ᐊᑎᒼ
ᐊᑎᒧᐦᑳᓐ
ᐊᑎᒧᑖᐹᓈᔮᐲ
ᐊᑎᒧᐲᐑᐦ
ᐊᑎᒧᑳᑦ
ᐊᑎᒧᔥᑎᐧᑳᓐ
ᐊᑎᒧᔮᓐ
ᐊᑎᒧᑖᐹᓈᐢᒄ
ᐊᑎᒧᑲᒥᒄ
ᐊᑎᒧᒦᒋᒼ

ᐲᓯᒼ
ᐲᓯᒧᐦᑳᓐ
ᐲᓯᒧᓯᓇᐦᐄᑲᓐ
ᐲᓯᒧᐌᔮᐲ
ᐲᓯᒧᑖᐦᐠ
ᐲᓯᒧᐠ
ᐲᓯᒧᔥ
ᐲᓯᒧᐦᐠ
ᓂᐲᓯᒧᒼ

ᒨᐢ
ᒨᓱᔮᓐ
ᒨᓱᒥᓐ
ᒨᓱᔮᐢ
ᒨᓱᐠ
ᒨᔥ
ᓂᒨᓱᒼ
ᒨᓱᐦᐠ

ᐚᐳᔥ
ᐚᐳᔓᔮᓐ
ᐚᐳᔓᐦᑳᓐ
ᐚᐳᔓᒦᒋᒼ
ᐚᐳᔓᒣᐤ
ᐚᐳᔓᐢᑯᓐ
ᐚᐳᔓᐢᒋᐦᒄ
ᐚᐳᔓᐳᑎᓂᔑᐠ
ᐚᐳᔓᒣᔮᐧᑳᓐ
ᐚᐳᔓᑕᒋᔒ
ᐚᐳᔓᓰᐸᐃ

3.5 ᔅ and ᔥ

Here are some words with ᔅ and ᔥ before a consonant. These sounds may be difficult to hear for some speakers, so check with the lexicon.

sk

ᒥᔅᑯᐧᐁᐤ
ᐋᔅᑰ
ᒥᔅᑲᒼ
ᐅᔅᑲᓐ

shk

ᒪᔥᑯᐧᐋᐤ
ᒨᔥᑲᒦ
ᒪᔥᑯᐧᐄᐤ
ᑳᔥᑲᐦᐊᒼ
ᐸᔥᑯᐦᒌ
ᐸᔥᑯᓄᐤ

st

ᐧᐋᔅᑑᔅᑯᓐ
ᐊᔅᑎᔅ
ᒥᔅᑐᐧᐋᐤ

sht

ᐧᐋᔥᑌᓇᒼ
ᐧᐋᔥᑎᐦᐄᒉᐤ
ᓈᔥᑖᐧᐯ
ᐊᔥᑖᐦᑯᓐ
ᐊᔥᑖᐤ
ᐋᔥᑕᒼ

sch

ᐄᔪᔅᒋᓯᓐ
ᐄᓇᔅᒋᓯᓐ
ᐄᔅᒋᒣᐤ
ᐊᔅᒌ
ᐊᔮᓂᔅᒉ
ᐹᔅᒋᓇᒼ
ᐊᑳᒥᔅᒌᐦᑊᒡ
ᑲᔅᒋᐧᑳᓲ
ᓄᐧᐋᐱᔅᒡ
ᑳᔅᒋᓈᐤ
ᒪᔅᒋᓯᓂᔮᐲ

shch

ᐋᓂᔥᒉᓄᐤ
ᐋᓂᔥᒉᓇᒼ
ᒨᔥᒋᔥᑯᐧᐁᐤ
ᐧᑫᔥᒋᔑᓐ
ᒌᔥᒋᐱᔥ
ᑯᐧᑖᔥᒡ
ᓈᔥᒡ
ᓃᐧᔔᔥᒡ
ᒋᑲᔅᒋᐴ
ᐃᔥᐧᑳᔥᒉᐤ

sp

ᓂᔅᐱᑕᐧᐁᐤ
ᒋᔅᐱᓂᑕᒧᐧᐁᐤ
ᑳᔅᐱᔑᓐ
ᒥᔅᐳᓐ
ᑯᔅᐴ
ᒋᔅᐸᑲᑎᓐ
ᐧᐋᔅᐱᓲᐧᐃᔮᓐ
ᒋᔅᐯᐤ
ᒋᔅᐸᑳᐤ
ᒋᔅᐸᒋᓲ

shp

ᒌᔥᐴ
ᐃᔥᐱᔔᐤ
ᐃᔥᐱᒎ
ᐹᔥᐹᔥᑌᐤ
ᐊᔥᐱᔑᒨ
ᐱᔥᐱᓂᑕᒼ
ᐊᔥᐱᔑᓐ
ᐊᔥᐱᔥᑕᒫᐤ
ᐃᔥᐱᒥᐦᒡ
ᐃᔥᐹᐤ

3.6 ᔦᐦᔦᐧᐋᑲᓐ The use of the ᐦ (h) final

The ᐦ (h) symbol is a difficult one to use correctly. There are a few places where it is used predictably, mostly in grammatical endings, but otherwise, you have to train yourself to hear it when you pronounce a word.

The ᐦ (h) symbol does not occur at the beginning of a word, except in names.

ᐦᐁᓐᓖ
ᐦᐁᓚᓐ
ᐦᐋᐧᐋᕐᑦ
ᐦᐋᑏ
ᐦᐋᓖ
ᐦᐁᑭᕐ

3.6.1 ᐦ (h) in the middle of a word

The ᐦ is used in the middle of a word between two vowel sounds or before a consonant. Here are some examples:

Before ᐃ, ᐄ, ᐅ, ᐆ, ᐊ, ᐋ, ᐧᐋ

ᐁᐦᐁ
ᐆᐦᐆᒥᓲ
ᐆᔫᐦ
ᐅᑎᐦᐄᒉᐤ
ᐋᐦᐋᐧᐁᔒᔥ
ᐊᐦᐄᐲ
ᓂᐹᐦᐁᐤ
ᒫᑎᐦᐄᑲᓐ
ᒫᐦᐄᐸᔫ
ᒪᓯᓇᐦᐄᑲᓐ

Before ᐱ, ᐲ, ᐳ, ᐴ, ᐹ, ᐧᐹ, ᑉ

ᐊᑯᐦᑉ
ᒦᒋᐧᐋᐦᑉ
ᐅᐦᐸᐦᐆ
ᐅᑎᐦᑉ
ᐅᐦᐱᓯᑲᓐ
ᐅᓯᑳᑎᐦᑉ
ᒪᑐᑲᐦᑉ
ᐅᐦᐹᔖ
ᐅᐦᐸᓐ
ᐹᐦᐴ

Before ᑎ, ᑏ, ᑐ, ᑑ, ᑖ, ᐧᑖ, ᑦ

ᒥᐦᑦ
ᐯᐦᑕᒻ
ᐅᐦᑎᓐ
ᐅᐦᑌᐤ
ᐄᔨᐦᑐᐧᐃᓐ
ᐃᑐᐦᑌᐤ

Before ᒋ, ᒌ, ᒍ, ᒎ, ᒑ, ᐧᒑ, ᒡ

ᐲᐦᒉᐤ
ᐅᑖᐦᒡ
ᐳᐦᒎᑌᐤ
ᐄᐦᒡ
ᔮᔮᐦᒌᐤ
ᓲᐦᒉᔨᒨ

ᓈᐦᑦ
ᓈᐦᑌᓰᐤ
ᐅᐦᒑᐧᐄᐦ
ᑌᐦᑕᐳᐧᐃᓐ

ᓈᐦᒋᒌᐦᒡ
ᐋᐦᒋᒄ
ᒥᐦᒉᑐ
ᐴᐦᒑᐸᓂᐤ

Before ᑭ, ᑮ, ᑯ, ᑰ, ᑳ, ᐧᑳ, ᒃ, ᒄ	**Before ᔨ, ᔩ, ᔪ, ᔫ, ᔮ, ᐧᔮ**
ᐋᐦᑯᓰ	ᐧᐋᐦᔫ
ᐊᑎᐦᒄ	ᐧᐋᐱᐦᔦᐤ
ᐄᐦᒄ	ᒥᔥᑎᑯᐦᔦᐤ
ᒫᐦᑮ	ᔦᐦᔦᐤ
ᒥᐦᒄ	ᒋᔑᐦᔦᐤ
ᐅᐦᑯᓐ	ᐱᒥᐦᔮᐤ
ᐅᐦᑰᒻᐦ	ᐱᐦᔦᑯᓰ
ᐅᐦᑳᒣᐤ	ᓈᐯᐦᔦᐤ
ᐋᐦᑯᓐ	ᔫᐦᔫᔥᑲᒻ
ᔮᐦᑲᓐ	ᒨᐦᔦᐧᐁᐤ
ᐋᐦᑲᓐ	ᒋᔅᒉᔨᐦᑕᒻ

You can hear the ᐦ sound clearly when you say these pairs of words:

With ᐦ (h)	**Without ᐦ (h)**
ᒥᐦᒄ	ᒥᒄ
ᓰᐦᑑ	ᓰᑑ
ᐧᐄᐦᐹᐤ	ᐧᐄᐹᐤ
ᐆᐦᒉᐤ	ᐆᒉᐤ
ᔮᐦᔦᐤ	ᔮᔦᐤ
ᒪᐦᑯᔑᐤ	ᒪᑯᔑᐤ
ᒫᐦᑮ	ᒫᑮ
ᐯᐦᑖᐤ	ᐯᑖᐤ
ᐅᐦᒋᐱᑕᒻ	ᐅᒋᐱᑕᒻ
ᐹᐦᐱᐦᑖᐤ	ᐹᐱᑌᐤ
ᒥᐦᑕᐦ	ᒥᑖᔅ

3.6.2 ᐦ at the end of a word

At the end of a word ᐦ (h) syllabic symbol is used to mark grammatical categories such as inanimate plural of nouns, obviative of animate nouns, locative of nouns, imperative marker of verbs and in a few other places.

Inanimate plural marker

Nouns:

Singular	Plural
ᐅᒑᐹᐣ	ᐅᒑᐹᐣᐦ
ᒪᓯᓇᐦᐄᑲᐣ	ᒪᓯᓇᐦᐄᑲᐣᐦ
ᒥᐦᐨ	ᒥᐦᐨᐦ
ᑭᐧᑳᔫ	ᑭᐧᑳᔫᐦ
ᐆᐨ	ᐆᐨᐦ
ᑎᐹᒋᒧᐧᐃᐣ	ᑎᐹᒋᒧᐧᐃᐣᐦ
ᐧᐃᔫᑲᐣ	ᐧᐃᔫᑲᐣᐦ
ᐅᓯᐨ	ᐅᓯᐨᐦ

Verbs:

ᒥᓅᐤ	ᒥᓅᐤᐦ
ᐹᐸᔫ	ᐹᐸᔫᐦ
ᒥᐦᐧᑳᐤ	ᒥᐦᐧᑳᐤᐦ
ᐯᐦᒑᑯᐣ	ᐯᐦᒑᑯᐣᐦ
ᓈᑯᐣ	ᓈᑯᐣᐦ
ᑭᐧᓈᐢᑯᐣ	ᑭᐧᓈᐢᑯᐣᐦ
ᒪᒋᐣ	ᒪᒋᐣᐦ
ᐧᐋᔥᑌᐤ	ᐧᐋᔥᑌᐤᐦ
ᐧᐋᐹᐤ	ᐧᐋᐹᐤᐦ

Animate obviative marker

Possessed animate nouns

ᐦ (h) is used for when the possessor is third person (he, she, they)

ᐦ (h) is not used when the possessor is first or second person (I, you, we)

ᐅᐦᑖᐧᐄᐦ	ᐅᐦᑖᐧᐄᔮᐦ	ᓅᐦᑖᐧᐄ
ᐅᐦᑖᐧᐄᐧᐋᐤᐦ	ᐅᐦᑖᐧᐄᐧᐋᐤᐦ	ᓅᐦᑖᐧᐄᓈᓐ
ᐅᑳᐧᐄᐦ	ᐅᑳᐧᐄᔮᐦ	ᓂᑳᐧᐄ
ᐅᑳᐧᐋᐤᐦ	ᐅᑳᐧᐄᐧᐋᐤᐦ	ᓂᑳᐧᐄᓈᓐ
ᐅᑯᐢᐦ	ᐅᑯᓯᔮᐦ	ᓂᑯᐢ
ᐅᑯᓯᐧᐋᐤᐦ	ᐅᑯᓯᐧᐋᐤᐦ	ᓂᑯᓯᓈᓐ
ᐅᑌᒼᐦ	ᐅᑌᒥᔮᐦ	ᓂᑌᒼ
ᐅᑌᒥᐧᐋᐤᐦ	ᐅᑌᒥᐧᐋᐤᐦ	ᒋᑌᒥᓅ
ᐅᐡᑲᔩᐦ	ᐅᐡᑲᔩᔮᐦ	ᓂᐡᑲᔩᒃ
ᐅᒫᒫᒼᐦ	ᐅᒫᒫᒥᔮᐦ	ᓂᒫᒫᒪᒃ
ᐅᒫᒫᒥᐧᐋᐤᐦ	ᐅᒫᒫᒥᔮᐦ	ᓂᒫᒫᒥᓈᓇᒃ

As well, an animate noun that is the object of a verb in a sentence with a third person subject adds an ᐦ (h).

ᐋᓃ ᒫᑎᐧᔐᐤ ᓂᐡᑲᔩᐦ᙮
ᐋᓃ ᐧᐋᐸᒣᐤ ᓂᐢᑌᐢᐦ᙮
ᐋᓃ ᐧᐋᐸᒣᐤ ᐅᐢᑌᐢᐦ᙮
ᐋᓃ ᐊᔨᒣᐤ ᐊᓂᔮᐦ ᐊᑎᒼᐦ᙮
ᐋᓃ ᐊᔨᒣᐤ ᓂᑌᒼᐦ᙮

ᐦ (h) as a marker of time

ᐦ (h) can be added to an expression of time, when talking about a habitual or repetitive action.

ᐯᔭᒄ ᐹᓯᒼᐦ ᐄᑎᓇᐦᐆ ᒫᓐᐦ᙮
ᒣᔨᑯᒼ ᒌᔨᑳᐤᐦ ᒥᐢᐳᓐ᙮
ᐁᔨᑯᒼ ᒌᔨᑳᐤᐦ ᒥᐢᐳᓐ᙮

ᐦ (h) as a marker of Imperative verbs for second person singular forms.

ᓂᐹᐤ	ᓂᐹᐦ
ᐊᔨᒥᐦᑖᐤ	ᐊᔨᒥᐦᑖᐦ
ᒥᓂᐦᑵᐤ	ᒥᓂᐦᑵᐦ
ᐊᐴ	ᐊᑉᐦ
ᐱᓯᒀᐴ	ᐱᓯᒀᑉᐦ
ᓂᑲᒨ	ᓂᑲᒻᐦ
ᓃᒨ	ᓃᒻᐦ
ᐚᐸᐦᑕᒻ	ᐚᐸᐦᑦᐦ
ᑕᐦᑎᔅᑲᒻ	ᑕᐦᑎᔅᒃᐦ

Note that ᐦ (h) is used for the command forms *'do it to it'* and *'do it to me'* but not for *'do it to him'*.

	(do it to) **it**	(do it to) **me**	(do it to) **him**
ᓈᑌᐤ	ᓈᑕᐦ	ᓈᔅᐦ	ᓈᔅ
ᐅᒋᐱᑌᐤ	ᐅᒋᐱᑕᐦ	ᐅᒋᐱᔅᐦ	ᐅᒋᐱᔅ
ᐚᐸᒣᐤ	ᐚᐸᐦᑕᐦ	ᐚᐸᒻᐦ	ᐚᐸᒻ
ᒥᔅᑯᐍᐤ	ᒥᔅᑲᐦ	ᒥᔅᑰᐦ	ᒥᔅᑰ
ᒪᓂᓶᐤ	ᒪᓂᓴᐦ	ᒪᓂᓱᐦ	ᒪᓂᓲ

Habitual verbs

ᐦ (h) can be added to verb forms to indicate a habitual or predictable action or event.

ᐁ ᒦᒋᓱᔮᓐ	ᒫᒋᓱᔮᓐᐦ
ᑳ ᒦᒋᓱᔮᓐ	ᑳ ᒦᒋᓱᔮᓐᐦ
ᒉ ᒦᒋᓱᔮᓐ	ᒉ ᒦᒋᓱᔮᓐᐦ
ᒋᔦᒋᓭᐹᔮᒡ	ᒋᔦᒋᓭᐹᔮᒡᐦ

3.6.3 Locative suffix

In the locative marker for nouns and particles the ᐦ is used before ᐠ. Note that not all particles of location use ᐦᐠ.

Particles:

ᐦ (h) is used	**ᐦ (h) is not used**
ᐅᑖᐦᐠ	ᑖᐅᐠ
ᐲᐦᑕᑲᒥᐦᐠ	ᑌᑖᐅᐠ
ᓂᑖᒥᐦᐠ	ᑎᐱᐡᑯᐠ
ᐊᑳᒥᐦᐠ	ᒋᐡᑑᐠ
ᒫᒥᐦᐠ	ᔑᔖᐠ
ᓃᑳᓂᐦᐠ	ᒧᐡᑎᐦᑕᐠ
ᐃᐡᐱᒥᐦᐠ	ᐅᐢᑎᑖᑯᓂᐠ
ᓂᐦᐄᐏᓂᐦᐠ	
ᓇᒪᐦᒌᐏᓂᐦᐠ	
ᓈᓯᐯᑎᒥᐦᐠ	
ᓃᐦᑖᐦᐠ	

Nouns:

Locative	**Non-locative**
ᓰᐲᐦᐠ	ᓰᐲ
ᓵᑲᐦᐄᑲᓂᐦᐠ	ᓵᑲᐦᐄᑲᐣ
ᐲᓯᒧᐦᐠ	ᐲᓯᒼ
ᒦᒋᐚᐦᐱᐦᐠ	ᒦᒋᐚᐦᑊ
ᒣᐢᑲᓈᐦᐠ	ᒣᐢᑲᓈᐤ or ᒣᐢᑲᓅ
ᑌᐦᑕᐳᐏᓂᐦᐠ	ᑌᐦᑕᐳᐏᐣ
ᐘᒌᐦᐠ	ᐘᒌ
ᒦᒋᓲᓈᐦᑎᑯᐦᐠ	ᒦᒋᓲᓈᐦᑎᒄ
ᒪᓯᓇᐦᐄᑲᓂᐦᐠ	ᒪᓯᓇᐦᐄᑲᐣ

Note that another ending which sounds exactly like the locative can be added to nouns for people and animals. This is the **simulative** suffix and is translated as *'like a ...'*.

ᓈᐯᐤ	man	ᓈᐯᐦᐠ	like a man
ᐊᑎᒼ	dog	ᐊᑎᒧᐦᐠ	like a dog

3.6.4 ᐦ (h) in verb suffixes

If a verb ends in ᒻ or ᓐ, these finals will change to ᐦ when ᒡ or ᒃ is added as a conjunct verb ending.

ᐱᒥᔑᓐ	ᐁ ᐱᒥᔑᐦᒃ
ᑕᑯᔑᓐ	ᐁ ᑕᑯᔑᐦᒃ
ᐚᐸᐦᑕᒻ	ᐁ ᐚᐸᐦᑕᐦᒃ
ᒥᔅᑲᒻ	ᐁ ᒥᔅᑲᐦᒃ
ᓃᐱᓐ	ᐁ ᓃᐱᐦᒡ
ᒋᒍᐏᓐ	ᐁ ᒋᒍᐏᐦᒡ
ᓅᑯᓐ	ᐁ ᓅᑯᐦᒡ
ᒋᓌᔅᑯᓐ	ᐁ ᒋᓌᔅᑯᐦᒡ
ᐅᒋᐱᑕᒻ	ᐁ ᐅᒋᐱᑕᐦᒃ

The endings of some verbs change the final ᓐ to ᐦ before ᒡ in the plural form:

ᑳ ᓂᐹᔮᓐ	(ᓃ)
ᑳ ᓂᐹᔮᐦᒡ	(ᓃᔮᓐ)
ᑳ ᐋᐸᑎᓯᔮᓐ	(ᓃ)
ᑳ ᐋᐸᑎᓯᔮᐦᒡ	(ᓃᔮᓐ)
ᑳ ᐃᐦᑑᑕᒫᓐ	(ᓃ)
ᑳ ᐃᐦᑑᑕᒫᐦᒡ	(ᓃᔮᓐ)

Other verbs endings change the final ᓐ to ᐦ before ᒄ in the plural form:

ᑳ ᓂᐹᔨᓐ	(ᒌ)
ᑳ ᓂᐹᔨᐦᒄ	(ᓃᔮᓐ)
ᑳ ᐋᐸᑎᓯᔨᓐ	(ᓃ)
ᑳ ᐋᐸᑎᓯᔨᐦᒄ	(ᓃᔮᓐ)

For Inland speakers, there is an ᐦ in some endings.

	Inland	**Coastal**
ᓃᒥᓈᓅ	ᐁ ᓃᒥᓈᓅᐦᒡ	ᐁ ᓃᒥᓈᓅᒡ
ᒦᒋᓱᓈᓅ	ᐁ ᒦᒋᓱᓈᓅᐦᒡ	ᐁ ᒦᒋᓱᓈᓅᒡ

3.7 Large syllabic symbols that sound like finals

There are some sounds for which no final exists. In this case a large syllabic without a dot has been used, but is not fully pronounced, much like the final ᒃ.

ᓃᔓ
ᓂᔥᑐ
ᓂᔮᔪ

In a few number words a final 'u' sound may be heard, but there has been a decision not to write it. The 'u' sound can be clearly heard when a suffix is added to the number:

ᒥᑖᐦᑦ	ᒥᑖᐦᑤᐤ
ᐯᔭᑯᔖᑉ	ᐯᔭᑯᔖᐼᐤ
ᓃᔓᔖᑉ	ᓃᔓᔖᐼᐤ
ᓂᔥᑐᔖᑉ	ᓂᔥᑐᔖᐼᐤ
ᓀᐅᔖᑉ	ᓀᐅᔖᐼᐤ

Part Four: ᐃ, ᐄ and ᔾ

It is easy to be confused about which of these symbols to write, as they often sound the same in pronunciation. Here are a few examples and rules.

4.1 ᐃ or ᔾ at the end of words

Some words end with ᐃ and other with ᔾ. For instance, the words having to do with liquid end with **ᐹᐃ.**

Nouns ending with ᐃ

ᐅᒣᐃ	ᐴᑕᐃ	ᐅᐦᐱᒋᑲᐃ	ᒦᓴᐃ	ᐊᓇᑯᐃ	ᐊᐳᐃ
	ᐅᔥᑲᑕᐃ	ᐅᔅᐱᑲᐃ	ᐊᐱᓴᐃ	ᐅᔅᒉᐸᐦᑯᐃ	ᒎᒎᓯᓈᐳᐃ
ᔫᐹᐃ	ᐅᒉᔥᑎᑕᐃ	ᐅᓯᑲᐃ	ᐅᔖᓵᐃ	ᐅᔥᑯᐃ	ᐧᐄᑑᓈᐳᐃ
ᒌᐸᐃ	ᐅᒧᑕᐃ	ᐅᒋᒑᔅᑲᐃ	ᐅᔪᐃ	ᐅᑯᐦᑕᔥᑯᐃ	ᐅᔨᑲᓈᐳᐃ
		ᑰᐦᑰᓴᓯᑲᐃ		ᐊᑯᐦᑯᐃ	ᐧᐄᑑᓈᐳᐃ
		ᐅᐦᑑᑲᐃ	ᐊᒥᔅᑯᐦᑐᐃ	ᐧᐄᐦᑯᐃ	
		ᐧᐄᑕᑲᐃ		ᐅᑎᐦᑯᐃ	

Particles ending with ᐃ

ᐋᐃ ᒫᐦᒋᔥᑕᐃ ᓇᒧᐃ

Nouns ending with ᔾ or ᔾ̇

ᐅᑌᔾ̇ ᐧᐄᔾ ᒦᔾ ᒥᔾ̇

Particles ending with ᔾ

ᔮᔾ

These words are more irregular than words with end in a small symbol, as the ending changes in un predictable ways when a suffix is added. Some words drop the **ᐃ** and others do not when a diminutive, locative or possessive suffix is added. Pay attention to the endings, as they are very irregular. If the previous **ᐸ, ᑕ, ᑲ** is short (no dot), then change it to **ᐹ, ᑖ, ᑳ**. Sometimes the final **ᑯᐃ** changes to **ᒁ.**

	Diminutive	Locative	Possessive
ᐴᑕᐃ	ᐴ**ᑖᔥ**	ᐴ**ᑖᐦᐠ**	ᓂᐴ**ᑖᒼ**
ᐅᔥᑲᑕᐃ	ᐅᔥᑲ**ᑖᔥ**	ᐅᔥᑲ**ᑖᐦᐠ**	ᓅᔥᑲ**ᑖᒼ**
ᑮᐸᐃ	ᑮᐸ**ᐃᔥ**	ᑮᐸ**ᐃᐦᐠ**	ᓂᑮ**ᐸᐃᒼ**
ᒌᐹᐃ	ᒌᐹ**ᐃᔥ**	ᒌᐹ**ᐃᐦᐠ**	ᓂᒌ**ᐹᐃᒼ**
ᐅᓯᑲᐃ	ᐅᓯ**ᑳᔥ**	ᐅᓯ**ᑳᐦᐠ**	ᐅᓯ**ᑳᒼ**
ᐅᔅᐱᑲᐃ	ᐅᔅᐱ**ᑳᔥ**	ᐅᔅᐱ**ᑳᐦᐠ**	ᐅᔅᐱ**ᑳᒼ**
ᐅᑭᒑᔅᑲᐃ	ᐅᑭᒑᔅ**ᑳᔥ**	ᐅᑭᒑᔅ**ᑳᐦᐠ**	ᐅᑭᒑᔅ**ᑳᒼ**
ᐑᑕᑲᐃ	ᐑᑕ**ᑳᔥ**	ᐑᑕ**ᑳᐦᐠ**	ᐑᑕ**ᑳᒼ**
ᑭᐦᑑᑲᐃ	ᑭᐦᑑ**ᑳᔥ**	ᑭᐦᑑ**ᑳᐦᐠ**	ᑭᐦᑑ**ᑳᒼ**
ᐘᑕᐃ	ᐘ**ᑖᔥ**	ᐘ**ᑖᐦᐠ**	ᓂᐘ**ᑖᒼ**
ᐅᔥᑲᑕᐃ	ᐅᔥᑲᑖᔥ	ᐅᔥᑲ**ᑖᐦᐠ**	ᓅᔥᑲ**ᑖᒼ**
ᐅᒣᐃ	ᐅᒣ**ᐃᔥ**	ᐅᒣ**ᐃᐦᐠ**	ᓅᒣ**ᐃᒼ**
ᐑᐦᑯᐃ	ᐑᐦ**ᒁᔥ**	ᐑᐦ**ᒁᐦᐠ**	ᓂᐑᐦ**ᒁᒼ**, ᐑᐦ**ᑯᐄᐦᐠ**
ᒦᓴᐃ	ᒦᓴ**ᐃᔥ**	ᒦᓴ**ᐃᐦᐠ**	ᓂᒦᓴ**ᐃᒼ**
ᐊᐱᓴᐃ	ᐊᐱ**ᓵᔥ**, ᐊᐱᓴ**ᐃᔥ**	ᐊᐱᓴ**ᐃᐦᐠ**	ᓂᑕᐱᓴ**ᐃ**
ᐅᔖᔖᐃ	ᐅᔖᔖ**ᐃᔥ**	ᐅᔖᔖ**ᐃᐦᐠ**	(not said)
ᐅᔪᐃ	ᐅ**ᔫᔥ**, ᐅ**ᔪᐃᔥ**	ᐅ**ᔫᐦᐠ**	ᓅ**ᔫᒼ**
ᐊᓇᑯᐃ	ᐊᓇ**ᒁᔥ**	ᐊᓇ**ᒁᐦᐠ**	ᓂᓇᑯ**ᐃ**
ᐅᔥᑯᐃ	ᐅᔥ**ᒁᔥ**	ᐅᔥ**ᒁᐦᐠ**, ᐅᔥ**ᑯᐄᐦᐠ**	ᓅᔥ**ᒁᒼ**
ᐊᑯᐦᑯᐃ	ᐊᑯᐦᑯ**ᐃᔥ**	ᐊᑯᐦᑯ**ᐃᐦᐠ**	ᓂᑕᑯᐦᑯ**ᐃᒼ**
ᐊᐳᐃ	ᐊᐳ**ᐃᔥ**	ᐊᐳ**ᐃᐦᐠ**	ᓂᑕᐳ**ᐃ**
ᒎᒎᓯᓈᐳᐃ	ᒎᒎᓯᓈ**ᐴᔥ**, ᒎᒎᓯᓈ**ᐳᐃᔥ**	ᒎᒎᓯᓈ**ᐴᐦᐠ**	ᓂᒎᒎᓯᓈ**ᐴᒼ**
ᐅᑌᐦᐄ	ᐅᑌᐦ**ᐄᔥ**	ᐅᑌᐦ**ᐄᐦᐠ**	ᓅ ᐦ**ᐄᒼ**

4.2 ᐄ and ᐃ in the middle of a word

After (h) " the long ᐄ is used:

ᒪᓯᓇᐦᐄᒋᐤ	ᒪᓯᓇᐦᐄᑲᓐ
ᐅᑖᒪᐦᐄᒋᐤ	ᐅᑖᒪᐦᐄᑲᓐ
ᐌᐸᐦᐄᒋᐤ	ᐌᐸᐦᐄᑲᓐ
ᑮᑲᐦᐄᒋᐤ	ᑮᑲᐦᐄᑲᓐ
ᒫᑕᐦᐄᒋᐤ	ᒫᑕᐦᐄᑲᓐ

Some words with short ᐃ in the middle are:

ᐊᐃᐙᕝ	ᔮᐃᑌ	ᑯᐃᔅᖅ
ᐁᐃᐌᐦᒡ	ᐋᐃᕚᒡ	

4.3 Using ᖨ

ᖨ is used instead of ᐃ in many words:

ᓂᔮᖨᓐ	ᓂᔮᖨᓂᕚᑉ	(inland)
ᒥᔪᖨᒣᐤ	ᒥᔪᖨᐦᑕᓪ	(words for thinking)
ᔮᖨᐱᑌᐤ	ᔮᖨᐱᑕᓪ	(words for stroking, brushing)
ᔮᖨᔅᑲᓅ	ᔮᖨᑳᓪ	(words for shore, edge)
ᔮᖨᑭᐱᑌᐤ	ᔮᖨᑭᐱᑕᓪ	(words for tearing)

ᖨ is used in some verb endings:

(ᓃ)	ᑳ ᓂᐹᔮᓐ	ᑳ ᐊᐱᔮᓐ
(ᑮ)	ᑳ ᓂᐹᖨᓐ	ᑳ ᐊᐱᖨᓐ
(ᐑ)	ᑳ ᓂᐹᑦ	ᑳ ᐊᐱᑦ
	ᑳ ᓂᐹᖨᒡ	ᑳ ᐊᐱᖨᒡ
(ᓃᔮᓐ)	ᑳ ᓂᐹᔮᐦᒡ	ᑳ ᐊᐱᔮᐦᒡ
(ᑮᔮᓅ)	ᑳ ᓂᐹᖨᐦᖅ	ᑳ ᐊᐱᖨᐦᖅ
(ᑮᐙᐤ)	ᑳ ᓂᐹᔪᖅ	ᑳ ᐊᐱᔪᖅ

(ᐧᐄᐧᐋᐤ)	ᑳ ᓂᐹᐧᑖᐤ	ᑳ ᐊᐱᐧᑖᐤ
	ᑳ ᐧᐋᐹᒡ	ᑳ ᓅᑯᐦᒡ
	ᑳ ᐧᐋᐹᔾᒡ	ᑳ ᓅᑯᓂᔾᒡ
	ᑳ ᐧᐋᐹᔾᒡᐦ	ᑳ ᓅᑯᓂᔾᒡᐦ

Use **ᔾ** in longer words made from words which end in **ᐸᔩ**:

ᐱᒥᑭᐸᔩ	ᐱᒥᑭᐸᔾᐦᐁᐤ	ᐱᒥᑭᐸᔾᐦᑖᐤ
ᐲᒥᐸᔩ	ᐲᒥᐸᔾᐦᐁᐤ	ᐲᒥᐸᔾᐦᑖᐤ
ᐅᓯᐸᔩ	ᐅᓯᐸᔾᐦᐁᐤ	ᐅᓯᐸᔾᐦᑖᐤ
ᑭᐦᑭᐸᔩ	ᑭᐦᑭᐸᔾᐦᐁᐤ	ᑭᐦᑭᐸᔾᐦᑖᐤ
ᐹᐸᔩ	ᐹᐸᔾᐦᐁᐤ	ᐹᐸᔾᐦᑖᐤ
ᐅᐦᑭᐸᔩ	ᐅᐦᑭᐸᔾᐦᐁᐤ	ᐅᐦᑭᐸᔾᐦᑖᐤ
ᐅᑎᐦᑭᐸᔩ	ᐅᑎᐦᑭᐸᔾᐦᐁᐤ	ᐅᑎᐦᑭᐸᔾᐦᑖᐤ
ᐧᐋᔅᑳᐸᔩ	ᐧᐋᔅᑳᐸᔾᐦᐁᐤ	ᐧᐋᔅᑳᐸᔾᐦᑖᐤ
ᑕᐦᑯᐦᑭᐸᔩ	ᑕᐦᑯᐦᑭᐸᔾᐦᐁᐤ	ᑕᐦᑯᐦᑭᐸᔾᐦᑖᐤ
ᐊᑎᒥᐸᔩ	ᐊᑎᒥᐸᔾᐦᐁᐤ	ᐊᑎᒥᐸᔾᐦᑖᐤ

4.4 New spelling for ᑖᐤ and ᑕᑯᐣ, ᑐᑕᒼ and ᑐᑕᐧᐁᐤ

Note that the words **ᐃᐦᑖᐤ** and **ᐃᐦᑕᑯᐣ**, **ᐃᐦᑐᑕᒼ** and **ᐃᐦᑐᑕᐧᐁᐤ,** begin with **ᐃᐦ…** which is often not pronounced. Nevertheless it is written. It can be heard clearly when a prefix is added to the word or the first vowel is changed.

Write…	**Not…**
ᐃᐦᑖᐤ	ᑖᐤ
ᐃᐦᑕᑯᐣ	ᑕᑯᐣ
ᐃᐦᑑᑕᒼ	ᑑᑕᒼ
ᐃᐦᑑᑕᐧᐁᐤ	ᑑᑕᐧᐋᐤ

Part Five: Syllabic Symbols at the beginning of a word (and elsewhere)

5.1 Short ᐃ or ᐊ at the beginning

In many words the short ᐃ or ᐊ at the beginning is not pronounced in ordinary fast speech. However, you can hear it again when a prefix is added to the beginning of a word. Make sure to write the ᐃ or ᐊ, even when it is not audible or pronounced.

ᐃᔥᐧᑳᐦᑌᒼ
ᐃᔥᐹᐤ
ᐃᔥᑯᑌᐤ
ᐃᔥᐱᒥᐦᒡ
ᐃᐢᐧᑫᐤ
ᐃᐢᐧᑫᔥ
ᐃᔥᐸᑯᑌᐤ
ᐃᔥᐸᑯᒋᓐ
ᐃᑎᔕᐦᐊᒼ

ᐊᓵᒼ
ᐊᔥᑐᑎᓐ
ᐊᐱᔒᔥ
ᐊᑯᐦᑖᐤ
ᐊᐢᑎᐢ
ᐊᒥᐢᐠ
ᐊᒋᒧᔥ
ᐊᐧᑳᐱᐦᑌᓇᒼ
ᐊᒋᑳᔥ
ᐊᑳᒥᐦᒡ
ᐊᐱᐦᑲᓐ
ᐊᔥᑖᐤ
ᐊᔥᐱᔑᒧᐧᐃᓐ
ᐊᔥᐧᑫᔑᒧᐧᐃᓐ

5.2 ᐧᐃ and ᐧᐄ

Words beginning with ᐧᐃ and ᐧᐄ sound alike. It is best to memorize the short list of words, which begin with **ᐧᐃ.**

ᐧᐃ	**wi**	**ᐧᐄ**	**wii**
ᐧᐃᔮᓐᐦ	calf of leg	ᐧᐄᐧᐋᐤ	them
ᐧᐃᔨᔮᐤ	her/his body	ᐧᐄᐤᐦ	his wife
ᐧᐃᔩ	her/his bladder	ᐧᐄᐧᐃᐟ	his bag, load, container

Note the changes in the possessed forms of these two words:

ᐧᐃᔮᐢ		**ᐧᐃᔮᐢ**		**ᐧᐃᔮᑲᓐ**	
ᐆᔮᓯᒼ	her/his meat	ᐧᐃᔮᐢ	her/his/its flesh	ᐆᔮᑲᓐ	her/his plate
ᓅᔮᓯᒼ	my meat	ᓂᔮᐢ	my flesh	ᓅᔮᑲᓐ	my plate
ᑰᔮᓯᒼ	your meat	ᒋᔮᐢ	your flesh	ᑰᔮᑲᓐ	your plate

5.3 **ᐧᐃᐣ** at the end of a word

A noun can be made from a verb by adding **ᐧᐃᐣ**.

ᑌᐦᑕᐴ	ᑌᐦᑕᐳ**ᐧᐃᐣ**
ᐊᔭᒥᐦᐁᐤ	ᐊᔭᒥᐦᐁ**ᐧᐃᐣ**
ᑭᐢᑯᑕᒫᑫᐤ	ᑭᐢᑯᑕᒫᑫ**ᐧᐃᐣ**
ᐃᓯᓂᐦᑳᓲ	ᐃᓯᓂᐦᑳᓱ**ᐧᐃᐣ**

5.4 **ᓂ** at the beginning of a word

In many words, which begin with **ᓂ**, there is a tendency to write this syllabic symbol as a small ¶. This symbol is used only at the end of words.

Write…	**Not…**
ᓂᑐᐦᑯᔭᐣ	ᐣᑐᐦᑯᔭᐣ
ᓂᑭᐠ	ᐣᑭᐠ
ᓂᑑᐦᐆ	ᐣᑑᐦᐆ
ᓂᑐᐧᐋᐸᑫᐤ	ᐣᑐᐧᐋᐸᑫᐤ
ᓂᑖᒥᐦᒡ	ᐣᑖᒥᐦᒡ
ᓂᑕᐧᐋᓲᒼ	ᐣᑕᐧᐋᓲᒼ

Some of the **number** words are pronounced two ways, with or without **ᓂ** at the beginning.

ᑯᐧᑖᐢᒡ	**ᓂ**ᑯᐧᑖᐢᒡ	six
ᔦᓈᓀᐤ	**ᓂ**ᔦᓈᓀᐤ	eight

5.5 ᒋ at the beginning of a word

Often words, which are written with **ᒋ** at the beginning, are pronounced with **ᔥ** or **ᔅ**. The big **ᒋ** should still be written before **ᑎ**, **ᑐ**, **ᑕ**.

Write…	**Not…**
ᒋᑌᒻ	ᔥᑌᒻ
ᒋᑕᐧᐋᔒᒻ	ᔥᑕᐧᐋᔒᒻ
ᒋᑖᓂᔅ	ᔅᑖᓂᔅ
ᒋᑕᔥᑐᑎᓐ	ᔥᑕᔥᑐᑎᓐ

Also before **ᒌ**…

Write…	**Not…**
ᒋᒌ ᒥᔅᑫᓐ	ᔅᒌ ᒥᔅᑫᓐ
ᒋᒌ ᒦᒋᓐ	ᔅᒌ ᒦᒋᓐ

5.6 ᒋ in the middle of a word…

Write…	**Not…**
ᐧᐯ**ᒋ**ᔅᑑ	ᐧᐯᔅᑑ
ᐧᐄᐦ**ᒋ**ᔅᑑ	ᐧᐄᔅᑑ
ᐸ**ᒋ**ᔅᑎᓇᒻ	ᐸᔅᑎᓇᒻ
ᑳᐦ**ᒋ**ᔥᑎᓇᒻ	ᑳᔥᑎᓇᒻ

Part Six: Adding endings to nouns and verbs

6.1 Adding an suffix to nouns which end in **ᐤ**

When a diminutive, locative or possessive suffix is added to most words that end in **ᐤ**, the **ᐤ** is dropped (see also section 3.4.3 above).

	Diminutive	Locative/Simulative	Possessive
ᓈᐯᐤ	ᓈᐯᔥ	ᓈᐯᐦᒃ	ᓂᓈᐯᒼ
ᐃᔅᑵᐤ	ᐃᔅᑵᔥ	ᐃᔅᑵᐦᒃ	ᓂᑕᔅᑵᒼ
ᐅᑭᒫᐤ	ᐅᑭᒫᔥ	ᐅᑭᒫᐦᒃ	ᓅᑭᒫᒼ
ᐑᔑᓈᐤ	ᐑᔑᓈᔥ	ᐑᔑᓈᐦᒃ	ᓂᐑᔑᓈᒼ
ᐅᔥᑳᒉᐤ	ᐅᔥᑳᒉᔥ	ᐅᔥᑳᒉᐦᒃ	ᓅᔥᑳᒉᒼ
ᓇᒣᐤ	ᓇᒣᔥ / ᓇᒣᐅᔥ	ᓇᒣᐦᒃ	ᓂᓇᒣᒼ
ᐱᔦᐤ	ᐱᔦᔥ	ᐱᔦᐦᒃ	ᓂᐱᔦᒼ
ᒫᓂᑌᐤ	ᒫᓂᑌᔥ	ᒫᓂᑌᐦᒃ	ᓂᒫᓂᑌᒼ
ᐃᔥᑯᑌᐤ	ᐃᔥᑯᑌᔥ	ᐃᔥᑯᑌᐦᒃ	ᓂᑎᔥᑯᑌᒼ
ᔖᑳᐤ	ᔖᑳᔥ	ᔖᑳᐦᒃ	ᓂᔖᑳᒼ
ᐋᐃᐦᑯᓈᐤ	ᐋᐃᐦᑯᓈᔥ	ᐋᐃᐦᑯᓈᐦᒃ	ᓂᑖᐃᐦᑯᓈᒼ
ᐯᐹᐤ	ᐯᐹᔥ	ᐯᐹᐦᒃ	ᓂᐯᐹᒼ
ᓯᑭᒣᐤ	ᓯᑭᒣᔥ	ᓯᑭᒣᐦᒃ	ᓂᓯᑭᒣᒼ

Exception…

ᐚ**ᐤ**	ᐚ**ᐅ**ᔥ	ᐚ**ᐅ**ᐦᒃ	ᓂᐚ**ᐅ**ᒼ

Note: The **ᐤ** is changed to **ᐅ** when the animate plural ending is added (see also section 3.4.3 above).

ᓈᐯᐤ	ᓈᐯ**ᐅ**ᒃ
ᓯᑭᒣᐤ	ᓯᑭᒣ**ᐅ**ᒃ
ᐃᔅᑵᐤ	ᐃᔅᑵ**ᐅ**ᒃ

6.2 Adding endings to nouns which end in **ᐃ**

When the noun ends in **ᐃ**, often the **ᐃ** is dropped

	Diminutive	**Locative/ Simulative**	**Possessive**
ᐊᐳ**ᐃ**	ᐊᐳᔥ	ᐊᐳᐦᒡ	ᓂᑎᐳᐃ
ᐊᐱᔓ**ᐃ**	ᐊᐱᔓᔥ	ᐊᐱᔓᐦᒡ	ᓂᑎᐱᔓᐃ
ᐐᑑᓈᐳ**ᐃ**	ᐐᑑᓈᐳᔥ	ᐐᑑᓈᐳᐦᒡ	ᓂᐐᑑᓈᐳᒼ

Be careful of the following where **ᑯ** becomes **ᒁ** (or does not)

ᐊᓇᑯᐃ	ᐊᓇᒁᔥ	ᐊᓇ**ᒁ**ᐦᒡ	ᓂᓇ**ᑯᐃ**
ᐐᐦᑯᐃ	ᐐᐦᒁᔥ	ᐐᐦ**ᒁ**ᐦᒡ	ᓂᐐᐦ**ᒁ**ᒼ
ᐅᔥᑯᐃ	ᐅᔥᒁᔥ	ᐅᔥ**ᒁ**ᐦᒡ	ᓅᔥ**ᒁ**ᒼ
ᐅᑯᐦᑕᔥᑯᐃ	ᐅᑯᐦᑕᔥᒁᔥ	ᐅᑯᐦᑕᔥ**ᒁ**ᐦᒡ	ᓂᑯᐦᑕᔥ**ᑯᐃ**

6.3 Adding endings to nouns which end in **ᒎ, ᔔ, ᓲ, ᑑ, ᔫ**

When a suffix for diminutive, locative, or possessive is added to these words, the syllabic changes from **ᔓ** to **ᔑ**, **ᓱ** to **ᓯ**, **ᒍ** to **ᒋ** and **ᔫ** to **ᔨ**.

	Diminutive	**Locative/ Simulative**	**Possessive**
ᐱᒎ	ᐱ**ᒌ**ᔥ	**ᐱᒌ**ᐦᒡ	ᓂᐱ**ᒌ**ᒼ
ᐱᔔ	ᐱ**ᔒ**ᔥ	ᐱ**ᔒ**ᐦᒡ	ᓂᐱ**ᔒ**ᒼ
ᐐᐱᒎ	ᐐᐱ**ᒌ**ᔥ	ᐐᐱ**ᒌ**ᐦᒡ	ᓂᐐᐱ**ᒌ**ᒼ
ᑳᐦᑳᒎ	ᑳᐦᑳ**ᒌ**ᔥ	ᑳᐦᑳ**ᒌ**ᐦᒡ	ᓂᑳᐦᑳ**ᒌ**ᒼ
ᐆᐦᐆᒥᓲ	ᐆᐦᐆᒥ**ᔒ**ᔥ	ᐆᐦᐆᒥ**ᓰ**ᐦᒡ	ᓂᑑᐦᐆᒥ**ᓰ**ᒼ
ᒋᔅᑯᑕᒫᒉᓲ	ᒋᔅᑯᑕᒫᒉ**ᔒ**ᔥ	ᒋᔅᑯᑕᒫᒉ**ᓰ**ᐦᒡ	ᓂᒋᔅᑯᑕᒫᒉ**ᓰ**ᒼ
ᒪᐦᒉᔔ	ᒪᐦᒉ**ᔒ**ᔥ	ᒪᐦᒉ**ᔒ**ᐦᒡ	ᓂᒪᐦᒉ**ᔒ**ᒼ
ᓲᓵᓲ	ᓲᓵ**ᓰ**ᔥ	ᓲᓵ**ᓰ**ᐦᒡ	ᓂᓲᓵ**ᓰ**ᒼ
ᐛᔥᑫᔔ	ᐛᔥᑫ**ᔒ**ᔥ	ᐛᔥᑫ**ᔒ**ᐦᒡ	ᓂᐛᔥᑫ**ᔒ**ᒼ
ᐱᔪᓲ	ᐱᔪ**ᔒ**ᔥ	ᐱᔪ**ᓰ**ᐦᒡ	ᓂᐱᔪ**ᓰ**ᒼ
ᐄᔨᔫ	ᐄᔨ**ᔨ**ᔥ	ᐄᔨ**ᔨ**ᐦᒡ	ᓂᑎᔨ**ᔨ**ᒼ

There are some words which end in **ᒨ** or **ᑑ** that **do not** change to **ᒦ** or **ᑏ.**

	Diminutive	**Locative/Simulative**	**Possessive**
ᐋ**ᒨ**	ᐋ**ᒨ**ᔥ	ᐋ**ᒨ**ᐦᒡ	ᓂᑖ**ᒨ**ᒻ
ᒪᓂ**ᑑ**	ᒪᓂ**ᑑ**ᔥ	ᒪᓂ**ᑑ**ᐦᒡ	ᓂᒪᓂ**ᑑ**ᒻ
ᐧᐄ**ᑑ**	ᐧᐄ**ᑑ**ᔥ	ᐧᐄ**ᑑ**ᐦᒡ	ᓂᐧᐄ**ᑑ**ᒻ
ᐊᒥᔅᑯᐦ**ᑑ**	ᐊᒥᔅᑯᐦ**ᑑ**ᔥ	ᐊᒥᔅᑯᐦ**ᑑ**ᐦᒡ	ᓂᑕᒥᔅᑯᐦ**ᑑ**ᒻ

6.4 Adding endings to verbs which end in ᐆ, ᐦᐆ, ᐴ, ᑑ, ᒎ, ᔔ, ᓲ, ᔫ

ᔦᑳᐆ	ᔦᑳᐆᐧ**ᐃ**ᒡ
ᔮᐅᒋᐦᐆ	ᔮᐅᒋᐦᐆᐧ**ᐃ**ᒡ
ᐊᐴ	ᐊᐴᐧ**ᐃ**ᒡ
ᒋᓄ ᐴ	ᒋᓄ ᐴᐧ**ᐃ**ᒡ
ᒫᑑ	ᒫᑑᐧ**ᐃ**ᒡ
ᐱᓯᑰ	ᐱᓯᑰᐧ**ᐃ**ᒡ
ᐱᒎ	ᐱᒎᐧ**ᐃ**ᒡ
ᒥᔪᔔ	ᒥᔪᔔᐧ**ᐃ**ᒡ
ᒦᑭᓲ	ᒦᑭᓲᐧ**ᐃ**ᒡ
ᐹᐸᔫ	ᐹᐸᔫᐧ**ᐃ**ᒡ

6.5 Adding endings to verbs which end in ᓐ or ᒻ

The small ᓐ or ᒻ will change to a big ᒧ or ᓄ . This is difficult to hear in the coastal dialects but easier in the inland ones.

ᐧᐋᐸᐦᑕ**ᒻ**	ᐧᐋᐸᐦᑕ**ᒧ**ᒡ
ᐧᑖᐦᐊ**ᒻ**	ᐧᑖᐦᐊ**ᒧ**ᒡ
ᐱᒥᔑ**ᓐ**	ᐱᒥᔑ**ᓄ**ᒡ
ᑕᑯᔑ**ᓐ**	ᑕᑯᔑ**ᓄ**ᒡ
ᐅᑖᒥᔑ**ᓐ**	ᐅᑖᒥᔑ**ᓄ**ᒡ

Part Seven: Boundaries

7. 1.   Adding a personal prefix

The personal prefixes are **ᓂ**, **ᒋ**, and **ᐅ** and are added to possessed nouns.   Note that only **ᓂ** and **ᒋ** are added to Independent verbs. They are written joined to the word.

Nouns	**Verbs**
ᔒᔒᑉ	**ᒥᐢᑲᒼ**
ᓂᔒᔒᐱᒼ	**ᓂ**ᒥᐢᑫᓐ
ᒋᔒᔒᐱᒼ	**ᒋ**ᒥᐢᑫᓐ
ᐅᔒᔒᐱᒼᐦ	ᒥᐢᑲᒼ
ᓂᔒᔒᐱᒥᓈᓐ	**ᓂ**ᒥᐢᑫᓈᓐ
ᒋᔒᔒᐱᒥᓅ	**ᒋ**ᒥᐢᑫᓈᓅ
ᒋᔒᔒᐱᒥᐧᐋᐤ	**ᒋ**ᒥᐢᑫᓈᐧᐋᐤ
ᐅᔒᔒᐱᒥᐧᐋᐤᐦ	ᒥᐢᑲᒧᒡ

If the word begins with **ᐃ** then add **ᓂᑎ**, **ᒋᑎ** or **ᐅᑎ.**

ᐃᐢᐧᑫᐤ	**ᐃᐢᐧᑳᓰ**
ᓂᑎᐢᐧᑫᒼ	**ᓂᑎ**ᐢᐧᑳᓯᓐ
ᒋᑎᐢᐧᑫᒼ	**ᒋᑎ**ᐢᐧᑳᓯᓐ
ᐅᑎᐢᐧᑫᒼᐦ	

If the word begins with **ᐁ** then add **ᓂᑌ**, **ᒋᑌ**, or **ᐅᑌ**.

ᐁᒥᐦᐧᑲᓐ	**ᐁᑎᒋᓂᔑᓐ**
ᓂᑌᒥᐦᐧᑲᓐ	**ᓂᑌ**ᑎᒋᓂᔑᓐ
ᒋᑌᒥᐦᐧᑲᓐ	**ᒋᑌ**ᑎᒋᓂᔑᓐ
ᐅᑌᒥᐦᐧᑲᓐ	ᐁᑎᒋᓂᔑᓐ

If the word begins with **ᐊ** then add **ᓂᑕ**, **ᒋᑕ** or **ᐅᑕ.**

ᐊᐧᐋᔥ	**ᐊᐴ**
ᓂᑕᐧᐋᔒᒼ	**ᓂᑕ**ᐱᓐ
ᒋᑕᐧᐋᔒᒼ	**ᒋᑕ**ᐱᓐ
ᐅᑕᐧᐋᔒᒼᐦ	ᐊᐴ

If the word begins with **ᐋ** then add **ᓂᑖ**, **ᒋᑖ**, or **ᐅᑖ.**

ᐋᐸᐦᐄᑲᓐ	ᐋᐸᑎᓰᐤ / ᐋᐸᑎᓰ
ᓂᑖᐸᐦᐄᑲᓐ	ᓂᑖᐸᑎᓰᓐ / ᓂᑖᐸᑎᓯᓐ
ᒋᑖᐸᐦᐄᑲᓐ	ᒋᑖᐸᑎᓰᓐ / ᒋᑖᐸᑎᓯᓐ
ᐅᑖᐸᐦᐄᑲᓐ	ᐋᐸᑎᓰᐤ / ᐋᐸᑎᓰ

If the word begins with ᐅ, then use ᓅ, ᑰ. For the her/his third person make the ᐅ long by adding a dot ᐆ.

ᐅᑖᐹᓐ	ᐅᑎᓇᒻ
ᓅᑖᐹᓐ	ᓅᑎᓀᓐ
ᑰᑖᐹᓐ	ᑰᑎᓀᓐ
ᐆᑖᐹᓐ	

If a noun begins with ᐆ then add ᓂᑑ, ᒋᑑ, or ᐅᑑ.

ᐆᑦ
ᓂᑑᑎᐙᐤ
ᒋᑑᑎᐙᐤ
ᐅᑑᑎᐙᐤ

If a verb begins with ᐆ then change to ᓅ or ᑰ.

ᐆᐦᒌᐤ
ᓅᐦᒌᓐ
ᑰᐦᒌᓐ

Note that it is a very common mistake for children to use ᒎ instead of ᑰ in words:

Write...	**Not...**
ᑰᐦᑖᐑ	ᒎᐦᑖᐑ
ᑰᐦᑰᒻ	ᒎᐦᑯᒻ
ᑰᔪᒥᖕ	ᒎᔪᒥᖕ
ᑰᐦᑯᒥᒃ	ᒎᐦᑯᒥᒃ
ᑰᑖᐹᓐ	ᒎᑖᐹᓐ
ᑰᐦᒌᓐ	ᒎᐦᒌᓐ

Nouns that are already possessed do not add these prefixes, since these prefixes are already part of the word. These are mostly names of relatives and body parts and are called dependent nouns (marked **nad** or **nid** in the lexicon).

ᓂᑯᔅ	ᓂᔅᑳᑦ
ᑭᑯᔅ	ᑭᔅᑳᑦ
ᐅᑯᔅᐦ	ᐅᔅᑳᑦ

A few words are also dependent nouns that are not the names of relatives or body parts.

ᐊᑎᒼ		ᒥᑖᔅ	ᒦᐐᑦ	ᐊᓇᑯᐃ
ᓂᑌᒼ	ᓃᒡ	ᓂᑖᔅ	ᓃᐐᑦ	ᓂᓇᑯᐃ
ᑭᑌᒼ	ᑮᒡ	ᑭᑖᔅ	ᑮᐐᑦ	ᑭᓇᑯᐃ
ᐅᑌᒼᐦ	ᐑᒡ	ᐅᑖᔅ	ᐑᐐᑦ	ᐅᓇᑯᐃᐦ

7.2 Using a preverb

A preverb is a short word, which is used before a verb to indicate tense (future, past), mood (want, can, should) and a few other grammatical ideas. These are written separately from the verb, although the personal prefixes ᓂ and ᑭ are joined to the first preverb in the first and second persons of the Independent.

Independent third person	Independent first person	Conjunct verb ending
ᑭᑲ ᓂᐹᐤ	ᓂᑲ ᓂᐹᓐ	ᒉ ᓂᐹᑦ
ᑮ ᓂᐹᐤ	ᓂᑮ ᓂᐹᓐ	ᑳ ᓂᐹᑦ
ᐑ ᓂᐹᐤ	ᓂᐑ ᓂᐹᓐ	ᐚ ᓂᐹᑦ
ᑭᐸᐦ ᓂᐹᐤ	ᓂᐸᐦ ᓂᐹᓐ	ᐁ ᓂᐹᑦ

If there is more than one, they are all separated from each other.

ᑭᑲ ᐑ ᓂᐹᐤ	ᒉ ᓂᐹᑦ
ᑮ ᐑ ᓂᐹᐤ	ᑳ ᑮ ᓂᐹᑦ
ᑭᐸᐦ ᑮ ᓂᐹᐤ	ᐁ ᑮ ᓂᐹᑦ
ᑭᑲ ᑮ ᓂᐹᐤ	ᐁ ᐑ ᓂᐹᑦ

If one or more preverb occurs after a personal prefix **ᓂ** or **ᑭ**, the **ᓂ** or **ᑭ** is joined to the first preverb. Any other preverbs that follow are separated.

ᓂᐓ ᓂᐹᐣ	**ᓂᑲ ᐓ ᓂᐹᐣ**
ᓂᑲ ᓂᐹᐣ	
ᑭᐓ ᓂᐹᐣ	**ᑭᑲ ᐓ ᓂᐹᐣ**
ᑭᑲ ᐓ ᓂᐹᐣ	
ᓂᐸᐦ ᓂᐹᐣ	**ᓂᐸᐦ ᐓ ᓂᐹᐣ**
ᑭᐸᐦ ᓂᐹᐣ	**ᑭᐸᐦ ᑮ ᓂᐹᐣ**
ᓂᑮ ᓂᐹᐣ	**ᓂᑮ ᐓ ᓂᐹᐣ**

Some other preverbs that are separated are:

with Independent verbs	with Conjunct verbs	
ᑲ, ᑭᑲ, ᑲᑕ	ᑫ	future
ᑮ	ᑳ, ᑮ, ᑳ ᑮ	past
ᑮ	ᑮ	able
ᐓ	ᐓ, ᐚ	want
ᓂᐸᐦ, ᑭᐸᐦ	ᐁ	should
	ᑫ ᑮ	in order to
ᓇᒧᐃ, ᑖᐹ	ᐁᑳ	not
ᓇᒧᐃ ᐅᐦᑭ, ᑖᐹ ᐅᐦᑭ	ᐁᑳ ᐅᐦᑭ	not + past
ᐄᔑ	ᐄᔑ, ᐁᔑ	like, in a certain way
ᐊᑎ	ᐁᑎ	begin
ᑮᔑ	ᑮᔑ	finish
ᐯᑭ	ᐯᑭ, ᐱᔦᑭ	to here
ᐅᐦᑭ	ᐅᐦᑭ, ᐌᐦᑭ	from there
ᓂᑑ	ᓂᑑ, ᓀᑑ	go and
ᓈᓂᑑ	ᓈᓂᑑ, ᓂᔮᓂᑑ	go and

7.3 Making compound words

Two or three words can be joined together to make one new word, but there are almost always spelling changes when this happens. It is very complicated to give rules, so the best thing is to go by your pronunciation.

Sometimes there is no change to the spelling of the words
ᐋᒨ + ᔖᑳᐤ ᐋᒨᔖᑳᐤ
ᒪᑭ + ᓈᐯᔥ ᒪᑭᓈᐯᔥ

Often the syllabic final is made big when the second word begins with a consonant symbol (use the ᐱ ᑎ ᑭ ᓂ ᒥ ᓯ ᔑ symbol in this case)

ᐅᑖᐹ**ᓐ** + ᒣᐢᑲᓇᐤ ᐅᑖᐹ**ᓂ**ᒣᐢᑲᓇᐤ
ᐅᑖᐹ**ᓐ** + ᒣᐢᑲᓅ ᐅᑖᐹ**ᓂ**ᒣᐢᑲᓅ
ᓃᔥᑖ**ᒼ** + ᑯᐢᑯᐢᒡ ᓃᔥᑖ**ᒥ**ᑯᐢᑯᐢᒡ
ᓇᒣ**ᐢ** + ᐱᒦ ᓇᒣ**ᓯ**ᐱᒦ
ᐱᐳ**ᓐ** + ᐑᔥᑦ ᐱᐳ**ᓂ**ᐑᔥᑦ
Note: ᓂᐢᒃ + ᐱᒦ ᓂᐢ**ᑭ**ᐱᒦ or ᓂᐢ**ᕿ**ᐱᒦ

When the second word begins with a vowel symbol (ᐁ ᐃ ᐄ ᐅ ᐆ ᐊ ᐋ) this vowel disappears but the small symbol at the end of the first word becomes big.
ᐲᔖᑲ**ᓐ** + **ᐊ**ᐢᑎᐢ ᐲᔖᑲ**ᓇ**ᐢᑎᐢ
ᑭᒧᐏ**ᓐ** + **ᐊ**ᑯᐦᑊ ᑭᒧᐏ**ᓇ**ᑯᐦᑊ
ᒦᓂ**ᔥ** + **ᐋ**ᐃᐦᑯᓈᐤ ᒦᓂ**ᔖ**ᐃᐦᑯᓈᐤ
ᐲᔖᑲ**ᓐ** + **ᐋ**ᐲ ᐲᔖᑲ**ᓈ**ᐲ

Sometimes the beginning of the second word is dropped.
ᓂᑲ**ᒨ** + **ᒪ**ᓯᓇᐦᐄᑲᓐ ᓂᑲᒨᓯ**ᓇ**ᐦᐄᑲᓐ
ᐅᐦᑯ**ᓐ** + **ᐅ**ᑎᐦᑮ ᐅᐦᑯ**ᓂ**ᑎᐦᑮ
ᑮᒫ**ᓐ** + **ᐅ**ᑭᒫᐤ ᑮᒪ**ᓂ**ᑭᒫᐤ

The w-circle **ᐤ** is changed to **ᐅ**
ᐃᐢᑵ**ᐤ** + ᒦᑭᒼ ᐃᐢᑵ**ᐅ**ᒦᑭᒼ
ᓈᐯ**ᐤ** + ᒦᑭᒼ ᓈᐯ**ᐅ**ᒦᑭᒼ

The w-circle **ᐤ** is changed to **ᐅ** and the beginning of the second word is dropped if it is a vowel (ᐁ ᐃ ᐄ ᐅ ᐆ ᐊ ᐋ).

ᐄᐢᒌᒣᐤ	+	**ᐊ**ᐢᒌ	ᐄᐢᒌᒣ**ᐅ**ᐢᒌ
ᓇᒣᐤ	+	**ᐊ**ᐦᐄᐲ	ᓇᒣ**ᐅ**ᐦᐄᐲ

Sometimes the second part of the new word cannot stand alone but still makes a compound word.

ᐅᒋᒫᐤ	+	ᑲᒥᒄ	ᐅᒋᒫ**ᐅ**ᑲᒥᒄ
ᐅᒋᒫᔥ	+	ᑲᒥᒄ	ᐅᒋᒫ**ᔒᐅ**ᑲᒥᒄ
ᐃᔥᑯᑌᐤ	+	ᐋᐴ	ᐃᔥᑯᑌ·**ᐋ**ᐳ

The little **ᒄ** becomes big **ᑯ** or ·**ᑳ**.

ᑳᒄ	+	ᐱᒦ	ᑳ**ᑯ**ᐱᒦ
ᒥᐢᑎᒄ	+	ᐱᒎ	ᒥᐢᑎ**ᑯ**ᐱᒎ
ᒥᓇᐦᐄᒄ	+	ᐋᔑᐦᐨ	ᒥᓇᐦᐄ·**ᑳ**ᔑᐦᐨ

Many words add a **ᐅ** between the words (and may drop the beginning of the second word)

·ᐋᐢᑳᐦᐄᑲᓂᔥ	+	**ᐄ**ᔨᔫ	·ᐋᐢᑳᐦᐄᑲᓂ**ᔒᐅ**ᐄᔨᔫ
·ᐋᐢᑳᐦᐄᑲᓂᔥ	+	**ᐄ**ᓅ	·ᐋᐢᑳᐦᐄᑲᓂ**ᔒᐅ**ᐄᓅ
ᒥᐢᑕᓯᓃ	+	**ᐊ**ᔨᒧ·ᐃᓐ	ᒥᐢᑕᓯᓃ**ᐅ**ᔨᒧ·ᐃᓐ

A number of words have shorter forms for making compound words:

long form		short combining form		
ᓈᐯᐤ	»	ᐋᐯᐤ	ᒥᔥᑕ + ᓈᐯᐤ	ᒥᔥ**ᑖᐯᐤ**
ᐃᐢ·ᑯᐁᐤ	»	ᐢ·ᑫᐤ	ᒋᔐ + ᐃᐢ·ᑫᐤ	ᒋᔐ**ᐢ·ᑫᐤ**
ᓇᒣᐢ	»	ᒣᐢ	ᒥᔪ + ᓇᒣᐢ	ᒥᔪ**ᒣᐢ**
ᑳᒄ	»	ᐋᒄ	ᓈᐯᐤ + ᑳᒄ	ᓈᐯ**ᔮ**ᒄ
·ᐋᐳᔥ	»	ᐋᐳᔥ	ᑕᑯᐢᔮᑲᓐ + ·ᐋᐳᔥ	ᑕᓯᔮᑭ**ᓈᐳᔥ**
ᐄᔪ / ᐄᓅ	»	ᐄᔨ / ᐄᓂ	ᐄᔪ / ᐄᓄ + ᒦᒋᒼ	**ᐄᔨ**ᒦᒋᒼ / **ᐄᓂ**ᒥᓈᓐ

Sometimes a joining **y** or **w** is used

ᓈᐯᐤ + ᑳᒄ	ᓈᐯ**ᔮ**ᒄ

Part Eight: Punctuation

8.1 ᒋᐸᐦᐄᑲᓂᔆ Period

The end of a sentence is marked with ᙮ used as a period.

ᓂᒥᔆᑕᒥᔦᔭᐦᑌᓈᓐ ᓲᔆ ᐁ ᒌᔥᑖᑲᓅᐦᒡ ᐆ ᒪᓯᓇᐦᐄᑲᓐ᙮

8.2 ᐃᔥᑯᑖᒧᐚᑲᓐ, ᓇᐦᐊᑖᒧᐚᑲᓐ Comma

The comma is used to mark when you take a breath.

ᐁᓚ, ᕈᔾ, ᑌᐃᓲ ᑲᔦ ᒪᐠᑲᓃᑦ ᒥᔆᑖᐸᑎᓲᐅᒡ᙮

8.3 Question mark

The English question mark is not used when the sentence begins with a question word such as **ᑖᓐ**, **ᐊᐌᓐ**, **ᑫᒁᓐ**, **ᑖᐃᔥᐸ**, **ᑖᓂᑌᐦ**.

ᐊᐌᓐ ᑌᑯᔑᐦᒃ᙮
ᑫᒁᓐ ᑳ ᒥᓂᐦᑵᔭᓐ᙮
ᑖᓐ ᒋᒪᔥᒋᓯᓐ᙮
ᑖᐃᔥᐸ ᑫ ᑕᑯᔑᐦᒃ᙮
ᑖᓂᑌᐦ ᐁᐦᑖᑦ ᕈᔾ᙮

The question marker **ᐋ** is added to make a yes-no question and is written separately.

ᓂᐹᐤ	ᓂᐹᐤ **ᐋ**᙮
ᒦᒋᓲ	ᒦᒋᓲ **ᐋ**᙮
ᐋᐸᑎᓲᐤ	ᐋᐸᑎᓲᐤ **ᐋ**᙮

The question marker ᐋ is written after the word to which you would like the answer 'yes' or 'no'.

ᐅᑖᑯᔒᐦᒡ ᐋ ᒌ ᑕᑯᔑᓐ᙮ ᒌ ᑕᑯᔑᓐ ᐋ ᐅᑖᑯᔒᐦᒡ
ᒌ ᐙᐸᒣᐤ ᐋ ᐅᔒᒥᔥᐦ᙮ ᐅᔒᒥᔥᐦ ᐋ ᒌ ᐙᐸᒣᐤ᙮

8.4 Quotation marks

These are not used in writing Cree syllabics. Instead, verbs like **ᐃᑌᐤ**, **ᐃᓈᓅ**, **ᐃᑖᑲᓅ** are used to indicate that someone else is speaking, or that someone's words are being reported.

ᐑᐸᒡ ᓂᑲ ᒦᒋᓱᓐ **ᐃᑌᐤ** ᒣᕇ᙮

9. Writing names

Writing the names of children is very difficult these days when parents often give their sons and daughters English names which have non-Cree sounds and unusual spellings. The teacher and the parent may often have different ways of pronouncing, and therefore spelling, the child's name. The child may in fact change the way she or he wishes to spell the name in Syllabics after several years of schooling in Cree.

It is up to the teacher and the parent to agree on what to do, on the understanding that there can be two right ways to spell names, and that the child can choose for herself or himself, usually around grade 3.

Check the East Cree language website at **http://ayimuwin.eastcree.org** for suggestions on how to spell names.