

**DICTIONARY OF  
THE  
CHINOOK JARGON**

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Dictionary of the Chinook Jargon by Frederick J. Long

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**FREDERICK J. LONG**

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THE  
CHINOOK JARGON**



DICTIONARY

OF THE

CHINOOK  
JARGON



ENGLISH - - CHINOOK



COMPILED BY

FREDERICK J. LONG

LOWMAN & HANFORD CO.

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James M. S. Rice

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## PREFACE

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The Chinook Jargon originated primarily as a language of necessity. The early Spanish and English navigators who traded in and about Nootka Sound in the last quarter of the Seventeenth Century were responsible for its inception. Later, when the outposts of the Hudson's Bay Company reached the Pacific Coast and opened up trading relations with the Indians, a far larger vocabulary was evolved as a necessary means for bartering and communicating with the Indians of the Coast Tribes. Hence the Chinook Jargon which is a mixture of Spanish, French, English and Indian words, became, after a few years, the universal language of all the Indian tribes of the northwest Pacific Coast. These tribes were very numerous, there being nearly a hundred different tribes in Washington alone, each having its own peculiar dialect. Thus it can be very readily understood that the adoption of some such language as Chinook was an absolute necessity. This is a vocabulary of the language as spoken today: all obsolete words having been eliminated.

To attempt to give the exact pronunciation in phonetic English is futile, as the reproduction of the peculiar guttural articulation is impossible. However, this dictionary is properly accented, and nothing but a short talking acquaintance with the Indians themselves can convey the correct pronunciation.

In connection with the compiling of this pocket Lexicon of the Chinook Jargon I am indebted to many of the Pioneers of the Northwest Territories of Canada and Kittitas County, Washington, for valuable assistance given, and thanks are especially due to Mr. George Gibbs. It was through reference to his "A Dictionary of the Chinook Jargon, or Trade Language of Oregon," an exhaustive treatise published in 1863, that a correct and uniform system of spelling obtains herein.—  
F. J. L.



## ORTHOGRAPHY

### VOWELS

ä (-ä)	as in far, father.
a (-ä)	as in was, what.
e (-ä)	as in obey, they, prey.
ě (-ě)	as in met, wet, yet.
i (-ě)	as in marine, machine.
ī (-ī)	as in pin, tin, sin.
ō (-ō)	as in note, row, go.
ó (-ou)	as in whole, hole.
ū (-u)	as in mule, rule, rude.
u (-u)	as in pull, put, fulfill.

### CONSONANTS

c	as ch in church, chime, churn.
g	as in gig, gilt, gimlet.
kh	as in ach, loch.
k'h	asperate k only.

kl, ktl, and tlk represent the clucking sounds in pronunciation. Other consonants uttered the same as in English.

## CHINOOK NUMERALS

1. Ikt	10. Tāht-le-lum
2. Mokst	11. Tāht-le-lum pe ikt
3. Klone	12. Tāht-le-lum pe mokst
4. Lak'-it	20. Mokst tāht-le-lum
5. Kwin'-num	30. Klone tāht-le-lum
6. Tāgh-um	100. Ikt tak-a-mo-nuk
7. Sin'-a-mokst	1000. Tāht-le-lum tak-a-mo-nuk
8. Sto'-te-kin	2000. Mokst-lum tak-a-mo-nuk
9. Kwaist	

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# ENGLISH--CHINOOK

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Above	Sakh-a-li
Absolve	Mam'-ook stoh
Acorns	T'ban-a-we; Kwun-num
Across	In'-a-ti
Admiration	Hwah
Affection	Tik-egh
Afraid	Kwass
After	Kim'-ta
Afterwards	Kim'-tah
Again	Weght
Ague	Cole sick
Aid	E'-la-han
Alive	Ya'-ka-nat-ti
All	Kon-a-we'
Alms, to give	Mam'-ook kla-how-yum
Although	Kukh'-tsi; Kegh-tchie
Also	Weght
Always	Kwa-ni-sum
American	Boston man
Amount, large	Hy-in'
Amusement	Mam'-ook hee'-hee
And	Pee
Anger	Sol'-lecks
Angry, to make	Mam'-ook sol'lecks
Another	Hul-o'-ma
Appear, to	Klakh
Apple	Le pōme
Apron	E-ke'-so; Kis'-su
Arm	Le mah; E-be'-po-tektk
Arrive, to	Ko
Arrow	Ka-lai-tan
As though	Kah-kwa spouse
Assistance	E'-la-han
At once	Al-ta
At	Ko'-pa
Aunt	Kwal'h
Awl, tool	Keep'-woot
Axe	La hash