

Cree Language Recordings (y or plains dialect)

The following audio recording was created for anyone who wants to use and teach basic Cree conversation to children. The sentences are commands that one may hear in everyday interactions. Remember that often, there is more than one way to convey the same meaning. We are presenting one version here. There are other ways of saying these same phrases.

The speaker is Irene Cardinal from Saddle Lake Cree Nation in Treaty Six Territory and Cree is her first language. Irene says when she pronounces the words, she thinks of them being written in syllabics. This is the reason you will hear the "full" version of how a word sounds. In everyday speech, speakers tend to shorten words, which is fine. But remember that for the most part the full version is recorded here so it may sound a little different. This is also fine, or as they say in Cree, "kiyâm".

1. listen (pay attention)

nitohta

nitohta

nitohta

nitohta

2. come eat

pê-mîciso

pê-mîciso

pê-mîciso

pê-mîciso

3. don't do that

kaya ekosi itôta
kaya ekosi itôta
kaya ekosi itôta
kaya ekosi itôta
kaya ekosi itôta

4. stop

poyiw
poyiw
poyiw
poyiw

5. that's good (way to go)

ekosi anima
ekosi anima
ekosi anima
ekosi anima