



ᓄᓂᓐᓂᓗ

ᓂᓐᓂᓗᓂᓗᓂᓗᓂᓗᓂᓗ

LEARN TO WRITE IN
CREE SYLABICS

Lesson 3

Helen Pope

Lesson 3

THE CONSONANT (C)

c c̄ c c c
CA **CĀ** **CO** **CE** **CI**

CI	c	c	CE
CA	c	c	CO

cī c question
 cīhcī $\text{c}''\text{c}$ hand
 āhci $\text{c}'\text{c}$ anew, afresh
 ohci $\text{c}'''\text{c}$ from, because

1. Can you remember all we learned about the syllables of the consonant (" h)?

What is a consonant?

Write the Cree consonants. _ _ _ _ _

What is the sound of (" h)?

In what four ways can the (" h) be used?

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

Write the syllabics for the syllables of (h).

h ha hi ho he hā hī hō

— — — — — — — —

Write the Cree words in syllabics and give the meaning of each word in English.

ehe _____

ohi _____

oho _____

ohō _____

2. Look at the last page of lesson 2 to see if you have all the answers correct.

Today we want to learn:

- 1) how syllabics are made
- 2) the consonant (c)
- 3) four Cree words: ohci, cihcī, cī, and āhci

3. We have learned the vowel syllabics now and the (" h) syllabics. A "syllabic" is a syllable.

What is a syllable? _____

4. A syllable is a full sound in speech. It can be one letter like a vowel, or it may be a vowel and a consonant. A consonant always has to have a vowel helper to make a full sound or syllable.

A syllabic is a syllable. Can a consonant by itself make a syllable?

5. No, the consonant needs a vowel helper. You really cannot write most consonants by themselves in Cree. But, you may say, did we not write the (" h) by itself? Yes, we did. It made syllables with the vowels or it was used at the end of a syllable. Most of the other consonants in Cree syllabics can only be written separately when they come at the end of a syllable, or at the end of a word.

When only can most consonants in Cree be written separately?

6. Most consonants in Cree can only be written separately when they come at the end of a syllable or at the end of a word. At all other times the consonant and vowel are written as one syllabic.

What is a syllabic? _____

How are syllables in Cree syllabics written?

7. A syllabic is a syllable. A syllable in Cree is written as one syllabic.

Let us look at (c). It always sounds like (ch) as in church. It has only ONE sound in Cree.

How many sounds does (c) have in Cree? _____

8. (C) has only one sound. It always sounds like (ch) of the English. (C) works with all the vowels. Look at these words. These (c) syllables use the short vowels.

ca ca nicawāsimis ni ca-wā-si-mis my child

ᓕ ᓕ ᓕᓕᓕᓕᓕᓕᓕ ᓕ ᓕ ᓕᓕᓕᓕᓕᓕᓕ

ci ci peci pe-ci come

ᓕ ᓕ ᓕᓕ ᓕ ᓕ

co co Con Con Joan

ᓕ ᓕ ᓕᓕ ᓕᓕ

What does (c) always sound like in Cree? _____

9. (C) always sounds like (ch). Look at these words - ni-ca-wā-si-mis, pe-ci, and Con. Can you say these words? (Co) is not used very often except in names. It is used for the (c) and for the (j) of the English. In syllabics we write these syllables in this way:

 ł **ca** ɾ **ci** ʝ **co**

We sometimes call the (c) syllabics the candy cane syllabics.

Write the 3 syllables of (c) which use the short vowels.

_____ (English letters)

_____ (Syllabics)

10. The three syllables of (c) which use the short vowels are:

 ł **ca** ɾ **ci** ʝ **co**

Now let us look at the four syllables which use the long vowels.

In syllabics they are written this way:

ce **cā** **cī** **cō**
 ɿ ĺ ɾ ʝ

ce ce wīcewew wī-ce-we-w he is with him

ɿ ɿ Δ·ɿ∇·° Δ· ɿ ∇· °

cā cā ahcāhk ah-cāhk spirit

ĺ ĺ <"ĺ^x <" ĺ^x

cī cī cīkī cī-kī close

ɾ ɾ ɾp ɾ p

cō cō Cōsep Cō-sep Joseph
 J J Jꞥ J ꞥ

Write the four syllables of (c) which use the long vowels.

_____ (English letters)
 _____ (Syllabics)

11. The four syllables which use the long vowels are:

ꞥ **ce** ĩ **cā** ꞥ **cī** J **cō**

Often the (c) is used at the end of the word. The sound always stays the same (ch).

Here are some words which use (c) at the end of the word: wīpac and māskōc. In syllabics these words would be written:

wīpac wī-pac Δ<- soon
 māskōc mās-kōc ĩꞥd- maybe

When the (c) is written at the end of the word, it is written this way:(-).

Consonant	Before a vowel	After a vowel	End of syllable	End of word	Between consonant and vowel
h	h	h	h	h	
c	c			c	

In what ways is the (c) used?

- 1) _____ a vowel
- 2) at the _____ of a word

12. The (c) is used before a vowel and the end of a word.

Let us write in the Cree syllables in the chart we have started.

Consonant	short vowels			long vowels			
	a	i	o	e	ā	ī	ō
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
c	ca	ci	co	ce	cā	cī	cō
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

13. Turn to the big chart in the introduction and check that your answers are correct.

Now let us look at the words we want to learn.

ohci -	oh ci	▷"ᐱ	through, from, because
cihcī -	cih-cī	ᐱ"ᐱ	hand
āhci -	āh-ci	◁"ᐱ	anew, afresh
cī -	cī	ᐱ	a question

Notice that the (ci) or (cī) is used at the end of each word. Write them in English letters and also in syllabics.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

14. The words are: **cī** ᐱ **cihci** ᐱᐱ **āhci** ᐱᐱᐱ **ohci** ᐱᐱᐱ

Write all the words you are learning today on cards and learn them.

Write the English letters and the meaning in English on one side and the syllabics on the other side of the card.

15. Match the right words by writing the syllabics in the spaces.

_____	ohci	ᐱᐱᐱ
_____	cihci	ᐱᐱᐱᐱ
_____	cī	ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ
_____	āhci	ᐱᐱ

16. Let us review what we have learned today.

What is a syllabic? _____

How are syllables in Cree syllabics written?

When can the consonants other than (h) in Cree be written separately?

What does (c) always sound like in Cree? _____

Write the 3 syllables of (c) which use the short vowels.

_____ (English letters)

_____ (Syllabics)

Write the four syllables of (c) which use the long vowels.

____ (English letters)

____ (Syllabics)

Write the final (c) in syllabics. ____

In what ways is the (c) used?

1) _____ a vowel

2) at the _____ of a word

Write the syllabics and the meaning of these words.

cī _____

āhci _____

ohci _____

cihcī _____

SYLLABICS, CONSONANT C

A "syllabic" is a syllable.

A consonant and vowel are written as one syllabic in Cree.

All the consonants except (**h**) in Cree syllabics can only be written separately when they come at the end of a syllable, or at the end of a word. (**C**) always sound like (**ch**) as in church. It has only ONE sound in Cree.

The (**c**) is used before a vowel and the end of a word.

The three syllables of (**c**) which use the short vowels are:

ᓕ **ca** ᓕᓐ **ci** ᓕᓐ **co**

The (**c**) also uses the four syllables with the long vowels. They are written this way in syllabics:

ᓕᓐ **ce** ᓕᓐ **cā** ᓕᓐ **cī** ᓕᓐ **cō**

The words we learned today are:

ohci	oh-ci	ᓐᓕᓐ	through, from, because
cī	cī	ᓕᓐ	a word used to indicate a question
āhci	āh-ci	ᓐᓕᓐ	a new, afresh
cihcī	cih-cī	ᓕᓐᓐ	hand