ntenu, âshtamâshku eku

shî mitshishimunitî utemuâua. Tshekât nenu âkanniti nenua unâtshima, uet siii. pish mishta-ti lakanakuannit. Tshekat nenu au shâkaikannu) iâpit pimis mat ekue tipis îku e kassekâi

uiâpannit (mi

ienua Atshena

_ Uetîtamâku 1 u e kassekâuni mûteiâku eku iteu (mâk nen

kâshu kûkûm

innu-aimun spelling

tshe tshissekâ mâku, nîka ! niku! iteu. El etamuat nem iht, shâsh net Ekue mann âsh takuannu etânitî. Eku

Nenu mishta-ishpânishekumde ie nâpeu, anite mishikamânu shâkaikannu nenu i shinu, ekute anite uâtshit, nete matshiteu uîtshu. Eukuai enu pet itûtet, shâkâpûshteshinu. Eku apû tât unitî ne kûkûminâsh utema, mitshishimunua anite uter u nenua unâtshima ekue nipâikut. Ekue

mâ, nete ut uâshten ma. Kâtshî nipaiâka ushtineuat tshetshî

ishkutenu eshpish hkâht ât. Mînuât uiâpam itshima, uet shâteiâ utemuâua. Tshek hâkuannit. mânu nenu shâkaiki

. Lutuenitî nenua Atshena, nashakut nenu pet. M

innu-aimun spelling guide

2008

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Preface

What this guide is intended for. Should only be as long as one of these short pages.

Things to do:

Need to decide how to order the pages. They are not in a principled order currently. But strict alphabetical order by title might not be the most useful way. Think about it...

SHP (not SP)

Write **shp** instead of **sp**.





SHT (not ST)

Write sht instead of st.



In some dialects, people say **uht**. In other dialects, people say **ust**. This is why the shared spelling uses **usht**.

SHK (not SK)

Write **shk** instead of **sk**.





NN ("innu" words)

In words that refer to groups of people, write **nn** instead of **n**.





NN (numbers)

Write **nn** in numbers based on 10:





NN ("u" ending)

When the $-\mathbf{u}$ ending is added to a word that ends with **n**, write **nn**.





NT (inside a word)

The **nt** sound is never written as **"nt**". It is always broken up by putting in a vowel.

In the middle of words, write **nit** instead of **nt**.



NT (at beginning)

When the ${\bf nt}$ sound is at the beginning of the word, sometimes it is written as **nat**:





Other times it is written as nit:





MIP (not MP)

Write **mip** instead of **mp**:





PIM (not PM)

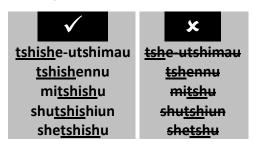
Write **pim** instead of **pm**:





TSHISH (not TSH)

In some words, the **tshe** sound is written as **tshishe**:





At the beginning of words, write tshiss instead of ss:

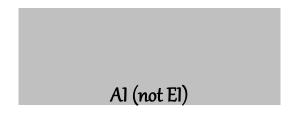




At the beginning of words, write **tshit** instead of **st**:



As **tshitapa<u>tshit</u>an** shows, sometimes this rule applies in the middle of the word as well. FIX



In many common words, the **ei** sound is written as **ai**:



K + small U

Words that end with a "kw" sound are written with $\mathbf{k}^{\mathbf{u}}$:





IK^U (not UK^U)

Words that end with the **uk**^u sound are usually written with **ik**^u instead:



One common exception is **muk**^u, which is written with **uk**^u.

1M^u (not UM)

Many words that end with the **um** sound are written with **im**^u:



Most words that act this way are nouns (words that name people, places, or things).

[is this true?]

AM^u (not UM)

Verbs (action words) ending with the \boldsymbol{um} sound are written with amu:





Small U (numbers)

The numbers **1**, **2**, and **3** are written with a small **u**. So is the quantity word **tat**^u.



SS (not S)

Rule(s)?

SHT in numbers

The numbers 6 and 7 are pronounced with ss at the end, but are written with sht.





Initial A

Some common words are written with an **a** at the beginning, even though it is not usually pronounced.



AKAN (not AN)

In certain words, **akan** is written, even though only **an** is pronounced.





Silent vowels

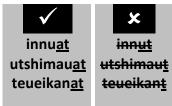
In some words, vowels are written even though they are not pronounced.



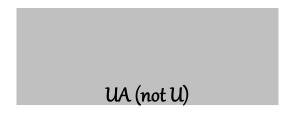


Plural nouns

Plural nouns refer to more than one person. The plural ending is always spelled as at, even if the **a** is not pronounced.





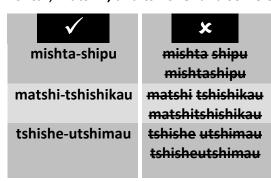


In certain common words, the \boldsymbol{u} sound is spelled \boldsymbol{ua} :



hyphens

Hyphens are used in words that begin with **mishta-**, **matshi-**, and **tshishe-** and some others.



Spaces

The following small words are always written on their own, followed by a space:

anite	nasht	tshika	ui
е	tshe	tshika tshi	ut
e tshi	tshe ishi	tshipa	
ka	tshetshi	tshipa tshi	
katshi	tshi	ua	



Plural pronouns

Pronouns have special plural forms. These forms are written with silent vowels.





UME (not MUE)

The word that means "this" is written ume, even though it is pronounced **mue**.





TSHIN (not TIN)

In many words -tshin- is pronounced as 'tn' but it should always be written as 'tshin'.



