

# CHINOOK JARGON

## WORDS - Update June 11, 2020

**Ahah** – a-HA  
yes, I agree  
**Alta** – ALL-tah  
now, this instant, right away

**Chako** – CHAH-ko  
to come, become  
**Chuck** – CHUCK  
water  
**Chope** – CHO-pe  
grandfather  
**Cultus** – KUL-tus  
useless, worthless, bad

**Delate** – dee-LATE  
true, very, straight

**Halo** -HAY-low  
not, do not,  
**Hyas** – HIGH-as  
great, big, large, vast  
**Hyiu** – HIGH-you  
many, much, abundance

**Iktah** – IK-tah  
what  
**Iktas** – IK-tas  
things, goods, clothes, all things of a  
personal nature  
**Illahie** – ILL-a-hee  
land, earth, the ground, country

**Kah** – KAH  
Where  
**Kahta** – KAH-tah  
why  
**Klahanie** – KLA-ha-nee  
outside, outdoors

**Klahowya** – kla-HOW-ya  
hello, goodbye, welcome -it is a  
greeting

**Klaksta** – KLAKS-tah  
who, whose, which one

**Klaska** – KLAS-ka –  
them, they, those, their

**Klonas** – KLO-nas  
maybe, perhaps

**Kloshe** – KLO-sh  
good

**Kopa** – KO-pa  
in, at, by, with, from

**Kumtux** – KUM-tux  
to know, knowledge, wisdom,  
understand, learn

**Kunsih** – KON-see  
How (many, much), When (time  
related)

**Mahsie** – ma-SEE  
thank you

**Maika** –MY-ka -  
You in the singular form

**Mahkook** – ma-KOOK  
to buy, to sell, trade

**Mamook** – ma-MOOK  
to do, to make, to prepare, to work

**Mesaika** – me-SIGH-ka -  
you, yours in the plural form

**Mitlite** – MIT-lite  
to be, to live, to have, to sit, reside at

**Muckamuck** – muck-a-MUCK  
food, eat, drink, chew, devour – put  
anything into the mouth

**Naika** – NY-ka I,  
me, my, mine

**Nawitka** – nah-WIT-kah  
yes, indeed, certainly  
**Nesaika** – ne-SIGH-ka -  
we, us, our, ours

**Okoke** – o-COKE  
this, that, it, these, those

**Pe** -PEE  
and

**Potlatch** – POT-latch  
to give, a gift, pay

**Saghalie** – SAG-hal-lee  
up, above, high, sky, top, uppermost,  
Heaven

**Skookum** – SKOO-kum  
strong, powerful

**Tamanawas** – tah-MAH-na-was  
medicine spirit, guardian spirit,  
anything supernatural

**Tikegh** – TE-keg -  
like, want, desire, choose, pick, wish,  
affection, love

**Tillicum** – TIL-i-kum  
people, tribe, nation, friend

**Tumtum** – TUM-tum  
heart, mind

**Tyee** – TY-ee  
chief, leader, boss

**Wake** – WAKE  
No

**Wawa** – WA-wa  
to talk – anything to do with speech,  
whether written, printed or spoken

**Yaka** – YAH-ka  
he, she, it, him, he

## CHINOOK JARGON PHRASES

**Hyas Saghalie Tyee - GOD**  
Great Above Chief

**Q: Iktah Maika Nem?**  
What You Name?

**A: Naika Nem \_\_\_\_\_.**  
My Name \_\_\_\_\_.

**Q: Kah Maika Mitlite?**  
Where You Live/Reside?

**A: Naika Mitlite Kopa \_\_\_\_\_.**  
I Live In/Near \_\_\_\_\_.

**Q: Klaksta mamook okoke?**  
Who made this?

**A: Naika mamook yaka.**  
I made it.

**Q: Kahta maika tikegh okoke?**  
Why you want that?

**A: Naika tikegh okoke.**  
I like it.

**Q: Kunsih maika chako?**  
When you come?

**A: Naika chako alta.**  
I come now.

**Q: Kunsih tillicum mitlite?**  
How many people live/there.

**A: Delate Hyiu.**  
Very many.

## **7 Pronouns**

**Naika** – I, me, mine

**Maika** – you – singular form

**Nesaika** – we, us, our, ours

**Mesaika** – you – plural form

**Yaka** – he, she, it

**Klaksta** – who, whose, which one

**Klaska** – they, them, those, their

## **Affirmations**

**Ahah** – yes, I agree

**Nawitka** – yes indeed, certainly

**Wake** – no

**Halo** – not, do not

**Klonas** – maybe, perhaps

## **Question Sentence Starters**

**Who** – klaksta

**What** – iktah

**When** – kunsih

**Where** – kah

**Why** – kahta

**How** - kunsih