

PRACTICAL GUIDE
TO MONTAGNAIS SPELLING

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March 1989

PREFACE

This Practical Guide to Montagnais Spelling is the outcome of an initiative taken by the Attikamek-Montagnais Cultural Institute, in the autumn of 1985, to make some progress on the question of standardization of the Montagnais writing system, with the collaboration of linguists.

The authors of the present document first analyzed recent Montagnais publications for the purpose of outlining current spelling practices throughout Quebec. In this way numerous points of spelling variation have been identified, some of which reflect dialect differences, and others of which are the result purely of spelling rules.

Each point was later discussed in workshops which took place at Longue-Pointe-de-Mingan (March 1986) and at Baie Comeau (October 1986), and recently at Natashquan (January 1989) and at Sept-Iles (February 1989). Under the direction of two linguists, these workshops brought together teachers, translators and editors from various Montagnais communities. The group workshop sessions allowed the discovery of additional points of variation which had not been found in the publication.

Because of the dialect differences which exist between regions and between communities, not all existing spelling differences were resolved but the discussions on spelling standardization have at least contributed to reducing them considerably.

This practical guide to spelling is the revised, up-dated and corrected version of the working paper The Standardization of Montagnais Spelling (November 1986). Revisions were made following the new workshops on spelling which took place in 1989. In the present version the naming of the sections and their order have been completely revised in order to make it easier to use.

For all those who write, edit, publish and teach in Montagnais, this document will provide the main elements of a spelling model which, although not perfectly standardized, is an important step in the right direction.

ABBREVIATIONS USED

PB	Pointe-Bleue
BETS	Betsiamites
SI	Sept Isles
SCH	Schefferville
MIN	Mingan
NAT	Natashquan
ROM	La Romaine
SA	Saint-Augustin
SHE	Sheshatshit (Labrador)
LNS	Lower North Shore
()	letter written in one dialect and not in another. Ex. maku(a)meu has two regional spellings: makuameu and makumeu.
AI	animate intransitive verb
II	inanimate intransitive verb
TA	transitive animate verb
TI	transitive inanimate verb
C	consonant
V	vowel
1S	1st person singular
2S	2nd person singular
1Pi	1st person plural inclusive

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE.....	i
ABBREVIATIONS.....	iii
Table of Contents.....	iv
Variation between l and n	1

VOWELS

long vowels.....	2
short vowels.....	3
a and i at the beginning of a word.....	4
a before k, m, p which should be written i	5
u which should be written i or a (1st case).....	6
u which should be written i or a (2nd case).....	7
false u	8
variation between a and i	9
variation between ai and ei	10
nasalization.....	11
e which drops in a sequence of vowels.....	12
i which drops in a sequence of vowels.....	13
variation between au and u	14
variation between ua and u	15
ua in final syllable in II verbs and adverbs.....	16
a as a marker of time.....	17

CONSONANTS

tsh	18
------------------	----

tsh at the end of a word.....	19
tshish	20
sh elsewhere than before a consonant.....	21
sh before a consonant.....	22
pre-aspirated consonants.....	23
false pre-aspirations.....	24
k + u at the end of a word.....	25
k^u in compound nouns	26
m + u at the end of a word.....	27
sh + u in `two', sht + u in `three'.....	28
ss diminutive of nouns and other cases.....	29
ss originating from sht at the end of a word.....	30
ss originating from shtsh	31
ss originating from tshish	32
sh originating from tshish	33
sht or st originating from tshit or tshisht	34
Dubitative tshe	35
tit originating from tshit	36

VOWELS BETWEEN CONSONANTS

pm and mp	37
tn originating from tin , tan or tun	38
tn originating from tshin	39
nt or lt which should be written nit or ñit	40
nt which should be written nat	41
ntsh which should be written nitsh , natsh or nutsh	42
mm which should be written mim	43
pp which should be written pip	44
nn and ln	45

nn, ll, nl, ln when an ending is added.....46

SYLLABLES

dropping of the syllable **ka**.....47

dropping of the syllable **pa**.....48

GRAMMAR

personal prefixes49

plural of animate nouns.....50

animate plural of independent verbs.....51

animate plural of pronouns.....52

locative of nouns.....53

inanimate plural in **a**.....54

inanimate plural in **i**.....55

animate obviative in **a**56

animate obviative in **i**.....57

reflexive verbs58

u-stem verbs.....59

u/i variation of II verbs in **n**60

impersonal subject verbs, **a** and **e** stems.....61

endings of impersonal subject verbs.....62

endings for 1Pi of possessives and independent verbs.....63

endings for 1S and 2S of verbs in the past.....64

endings for 1S and 2S of verbs like tshipaim^u65

endings for 1st and 2nd person conjunct.....66

endings for 1Pi of conjunct verbs.....67

conjunct of verbs endings in **n**.....68

conjunct of verbs ending in **sh(i)t** in the singular.....69

animate plural of AI conjunct verbs.....70

plural of participles in sht	71
plural of TI conjunct verbs.....	72
plural of TA conjunct verbs.....	73
plural of II conjunct verbs.....	74
Subjunctive of verbs.....	75
2S Imperative AI and TI verbs.....	76
TA Imperative of the 'give-me' type.....	77

BOUNDARY

boundary 1: personal prefix.....	78
boundary 2: preverbs of time.....	79
boundary 3: personal prefix + preverbs of time.....	80
boundary 4: participles in ka	81
boundary 5: Subjective mode in ka	82
boundary 6: adding i between preverb and vowel.....	83
boundary 7: compound words.....	84
boundary 8: uncertain compounds.....	85
boundary 9: Interrogative a	86

RULES FOR THE USE OF CAPITALS (UPPER CASE).....	87
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RULES FOR THE BREAKING OF WORDS AT THE END OF A LINE.....	88
---	----

APPENDIX: LIST OF WORDS.....	89
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ITEM variation between l and n	SPELLING VARIANTS l or n
CURRENT USAGE PB & BET: always l SI & LNS: always n	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Basic problem, difficult to resolve, theoretical solution possible.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS Related to actual differences in pronunciation.	
RELATED TO:	
EXAMPLES PB & BET: nelu, pilu, laleu, nil, nipimipal SI, SCH, LNS & SHE: nenu, pineu, naneu , nin, nipimipan	

SOLUTION

Theoretical Solution: **PB and BETS: write the sound `l' with the letter ñ**

elsewhere: write n

Ex. BETS and PB: ñañeu, neñu, niñan
 elsewhere: naneu, nenu, ninan

Difficulty: Teachers in PB and BETS would have to insert accents by hand on the **n** which corresponds to the sound `l' in their dialect, in the case of texts originating in other communities.

Pedagogy: At BETS and PB, it will be necessary to specifically teach the students to write the sound `l' using the letter ñ and to read this letter correctly: `l' and not `n'.

<p>ITEM long vowels</p>	<p>SPELLING VARIANTS a or à or â; u or ù or û; i or ì or î</p>																												
<p>CURRENT USAGE</p> <p>Montagnais: a, i, u, e Lemoine: long ~, š ã, short a, i, u Mailhot & Lescop: à, ì, ù McNulty: â, î, û</p>																													
<p>TYPE OF PROBLEM</p> <p>The Montagnais do not mark long vowels. This creates confusion, in writing, with short vowels which in turn leads to many problems in spelling and makes the system more difficult to learn and use.</p>																													
<p>LINGUISTIC COMMENTS</p> <p>Montagnais has two series of vowels: long ~, š ' , ã and short a, i, u. In total 7 vowels. In writing ~ and a get mixed up, as do š and i, ã and u.</p>																													
<p>RELATED TO:</p>																													
<p>EXAMPLES</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;"></th> <th style="width: 20%;">`die'</th> <th style="width: 20%;">`get married'</th> <th style="width: 20%;">`swollen'</th> <th style="width: 25%;">`nut'</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Montagnais:</td> <td>nipu</td> <td>nipu</td> <td>pakan</td> <td>pakan</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lemoine :</td> <td>n<u>ì</u>pu</td> <td>nšã</td> <td>p~k n</td> <td>pak~n</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mailhot :</td> <td>nìpu</td> <td>nìpù</td> <td>pàkan</td> <td>pakàn</td> </tr> <tr> <td>McNulty :</td> <td>nìpu</td> <td>nìpâu</td> <td>pâkan(?)</td> <td>pakân</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						`die'	`get married'	`swollen'	`nut'	Montagnais:	nipu	nipu	pakan	pakan	Lemoine :	n <u>ì</u> pu	n š ã	p~k n	pak~n	Mailhot :	nìpu	nìpù	pàkan	pakàn	McNulty :	nìpu	nìpâu	pâkan(?)	pakân
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McNulty :	nìpu	nìpâu	pâkan(?)	pakân																									

SOLUTION

Proposed: write the long vowels a, e, i, u

Ex. amiu, eñik^u, papiñapañu, ñeñeu, amu,
amatshuteu, nipishapui

SOLUTION

Proposed: write short vowels with a, i, u, never with e.

Ex. nussim, nipin, atusseu, patush, miñupañu,
pimipatau, miñueñuitam^u, minashtakan,
u(a)ñashinataim^u, ishinam^u, utishinikashun,
mishishtu, matshapekan

Difficulty: This presents the greatest Montagnais spelling problem, especially for the dialects of PB, BETS and SI-SCH.

- a) Reading: the spelling does not mark the difference between long vowels and short vowels. This creates a certain confusion in reading because some words which are different are spelled the same:

pakan = 'it is swollen' or 'nut'

nipu = 'he is married' or 'he is dead'.

- b) Writing: The Montagnais letter **e** is used to write only the sound 'e' as in **ñeñeu** 'he breathes'. Never write the vowel in **nimin** 'I drink' with the letter **e** but, depending on the word, use **a**, **i**, or **u**.

Real e (as in ate) False e (as in up)

eñik ^u	nipu 'he is dead'	and not *nepu
nemu	atusseu	and not *tesseu
miñuenitam ^u	nutim	and not *nutem
esh	añiman	and not *añemen
ñeñeu	miñupañu	and not *menepeñu
shenam ^u	massin	and not *messen

Thus, when the sound in ate is heard, write **e**; when unsure, check the word in a dictionary.

Remarks: Special attention needs to be paid to **u** as there is a tendency to write **i** in words like nitakunaushun, tshituteu, tapitshepishun, atusseu, ashukan, patush, miñutueu.

(continued)

Pedagogy: The writing of vowels should be taught very carefully and thoroughly. WARNING: it is absolutely necessary that students learn to read vowels in a natural manner, which means the way the vowels are pronounced in their own dialects. Above all, artificial pronunciations, such as pronouncing `a', `i', and `u' the same way they are pronounced in English, must be avoided. DO NOT MIX UP WRITING AND SPEAKING! Every one writes the same way but each person pronounces according to his or her own dialect.

SOLUTION

Proposed: **write the initial vowel**

Ex. **auass, ishkueu, aiau, aiamiau, akushiu, akunishkueun, atshinepik^u, anikutshash, akuteu, atusseu, atik^u, ishkuteu ishkuatem, ishkupañu, ishpimit, apu tshekuan, anutshish**

Difficulty: For the dialects of BETS and SI-SCH, the words which are written with an **a** or **i** which is not pronounced must be learned specially.

TEACHING METHOD: The words which have these vowels take personal prefixes like **nit-**, **tshit-** and **ut-**, just like the other words beginning with a vowel which is pronounced (while words which begin with a consonant take prefixes like **ni-**, **tshi-** and **u-**).

a) Words with a vowel which is not pronounced at the beginning:

ishkueu:	nit ishkuem	tshit ishkuem	ut ishkuem
auass:	nit auassim	tshit auassim	ut auassim
apu:	nit apin	tshit apin	

b) Words with a vowel pronounced at the beginning:

emikuan:	nit emikuan	tshit emikuan	ut emikuan
uñakan:	nit uñakan	tshit uñakan	ut uñakan

(continued...)

c) Words beginning with a consonant:

nipeun: **n**nipeun **tsh**nipeun **u**nipeun

It will often be necessary to check with a dictionary in order to know which words start with a vowel which is not pronounced.

LNS: pay attention to **a**tamit, **a**tamipekut, **a**tamakunat

Pedagogy: In the dialects of BETS and SI-SCH, the student should learn the list of words in which **i** and **a** are written but not pronounced.
IMPORTANT: the student should also learn to read the list of words without pronouncing the vowel.
 Pronunciation while reading must be natural and in line with the child's dialect:

write **auass** but pronounce uass

write **auen** but pronounce uen

write **ishkuteu** but pronounce shkuteu

ITEM a before k, m, p which should be written i	SPELLING VARIANTS i or a																																								
CURRENT USAGE BETS, SI & SCH: sometimes i , sometimes a , many mistakes LNS: tendency to write a before m, p and especially k																																									
TYPE OF PROBLEM Important, applies to a large number of words. Difficult on the LNS.																																									
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS The problem arises from the fact that the dialects of the LNS often pronounce i like a when this vowel occurs before the consonants k, m and p .																																									
RELATED TO: short vowels (3)																																									
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS <table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 33%;">Old Montagnais</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 33%;">BETS/SI/SCH</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 33%;">LNS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>shikak^u</td> <td>shikak^u</td> <td>shakak^u</td> </tr> <tr> <td>nikau<i>i</i></td> <td>nikau<i>i</i></td> <td>nakau</td> </tr> <tr> <td>shikuteu</td> <td>shikuteu</td> <td>shakuteu</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ushpikai</td> <td>ushpikai</td> <td>ushpakai</td> </tr> <tr> <td>pitsheñik</td> <td></td> <td>pitsheñak</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ñanikapeshamu</td> <td></td> <td>ñañakapesham</td> </tr> <tr> <td>tshiñikau</td> <td></td> <td>tshinakau</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ñikuashkateu</td> <td></td> <td>nakuashkateu</td> </tr> <tr> <td>pashiku `get up'</td> <td>pashiku</td> <td>pashaku</td> </tr> <tr> <td>nikamu</td> <td>nikamu</td> <td>nakamu</td> </tr> <tr> <td>atipish</td> <td></td> <td>atapish</td> </tr> <tr> <td>shiputenamu</td> <td></td> <td>shaputenam</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Old Montagnais	BETS/SI/SCH	LNS	shikak ^u	shikak ^u	shakak ^u	nikau <i>i</i>	nikau <i>i</i>	nakau	shikuteu	shikuteu	shakuteu	ushpikai	ushpikai	ushpakai	pitsheñik		pitsheñak	ñanikapeshamu		ñañakapesham	tshiñikau		tshinakau	ñikuashkateu		nakuashkateu	pashiku `get up'	pashiku	pashaku	nikamu	nikamu	nakamu	atipish		atapish	shiputenamu		shaputenam
Old Montagnais	BETS/SI/SCH	LNS																																							
shikak ^u	shikak ^u	shakak ^u																																							
nikau <i>i</i>	nikau <i>i</i>	nakau																																							
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ñanikapeshamu		ñañakapesham																																							
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atipish		atapish																																							
shiputenamu		shaputenam																																							

Old Montagnais	BETS/SI/SCH	LNS
nutim	nutam	nutam
nutimau	nutamau	nutamau
nutimashkuan	nutamashkuan	nutamashkuan
uitimushu		uitamushu
nimishtshuat	nanamissuat	nanamissuat
ishkueshtimu	? ishkueshtimu	ishkueshtamu
uatshishimu	uatshishamu	uatshishamu
mamashikushtimiku	?mamashikushtamuku	mamashikushtamuku
nashipetimit	nashipetamit	nashipetamit
atimapu	atamapu	atamapu
atimuteu	atamuteu	atamuteu
utitiman	utitamin	utitaman
natimit		natamit

SOLUTION

Proposed: write the vowel **i**, as in old montagnais

Ex. see the old forms in the section
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS

IMPORTANT: There are several cases where the vowel should be **u**

Ex. pitukamit (and not *pitakamit)
manukashu (and not *manakashu)

IMPORTANT: Not every **a** before **k**, **m** or **p** should be changed to **i**

Ex. mishanakau
ashameu
ushakai

Pedagogy: All these words require special teaching in all dialects. Check with a dictionary.

<p>ITEM u which should be written i or a (1st case)</p>	<p>SPELLING VARIANTS i/a or u</p>
<p>CURRENT USAGE</p> <p>BETS: make the effort to write the vowel as it is pronounced on the LNS but lack consistency ROM: no problem. Lack of data for other communities.</p>	
<p>TYPE OF PROBLEM</p> <p>Secondary problem - solution exists but difficult to apply for BETS, SI & SCH.</p>	
<p>LINGUISTIC COMMENTS</p> <p>Difficulties based on real differences in pronunciation. In certain words the vowel is clearly pronounced i or a on the LNS, but is pronounced u at BETS, SI, SCH.</p>	
<p>RELATED TO: short vowels (3), k and u at the end of words (25)</p>	
<p>EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS</p> <p>BETS : mikuau, atikuss, umik^u, pakueshikan, utashtamuk^u, puk^u, amukuan, assuk^u</p> <p>ROM : mikuau, atikush, umiuk, pakueshikan, assikuashk, emikuan</p>	

SOLUTION	
<u>Proposed:</u>	<p>write the original vowel (i or a depending on the word)</p> <p>Ex. mikuau (and not *mukuau), atikuss (and not *atukuss), pakuesham^u (and not *pukuesham^u), takut (and not *tukut)</p>
<u>Difficulty:</u>	<p>A problem to apply at PB, BETS, SI & SCH where all these vowels are short and pronounced u (SHE & LNS pronounce them long). One must know how the vowels are pronounced on the LNS or check with a list.</p> <p>Vowel i:</p> <p>mikuau, mikushiu, kamikuakamit atik^u, atikuss, atiku-pimi assik^u, assikuashk^u, assikuman emikuan, emikuaniss, utemikuanishu / uetemikuanishu LNS pik^u `powder', pikuss `snow louse' utashtamik^u, nitashtamikut nimik^u, tshimik^u, umik^u, umikuiapi tshishikushu / tshishikuashu LNS pikutau, kamatau-pikutat</p> <p>Vowel a:</p> <p>utshekatak^u, utshekatakut (locative) kañakunau, kañakunass tshakuñau pakuteun apakuai akakuai amak^u `lacing needle' takut, takutau(a)t, takutashtau, takutapu takumeu, takunam^u, takuneu, nitakunau(a)shun takukuman takuaikan, takuaitsheu takuashu, takuapekashu, takuashkuan takushkateu, takutitsheueu pakueshueu, pakueshikan pakuenam^u, pakuepitam^u, pakuekaim^u, pakuemeu</p> <p>This also implies that BETS writes: apu tutamak^u (and not *tutamuk^u) ekue uapatamak^u (and not *uapatamuk^u)</p> <p><u>Pedagogy:</u> In the dialects of PB, BETS, SI-SHE, teach the correct spelling of these words individually.</p>

ITEM u which should be written i or a (2nd case)		SPELLING VARIANTS i/a or u	
CURRENT USAGE BETS, SI & SCH: sometimes i/a, sometimes u; depends on the pronunciation. Often u is written and `e' is pronounced. LNS: very strong tendency to always write u before the syllables ku, k ^u , mu, m ^u .			
TYPE OF PROBLEM Major problem. Many words affected. Differences in pronunciation between dialects.			
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS Short a and i have a tendency to be pronounced u (vocalic Harmony) before syllables which contain u. While the pronunciation u in this context seems to be generalized on the LNS, it is much less so in the western dialects.			
RELATED TO: short vowels (3), k and u at the end of words (25)			
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS			
BETS ussishuk ^u mishtukut mishtikulu mishtuk ^u mishtik ^u - ishkuatem tshishik ^u tshishikau utshishikumu ushtikuan takushinu ka ititikut ituku nitukuna amishk ^u	SI mishtukut mishtukushu tshishukunu ushtukuan	ROM nissishukua missishikua ussishikua mistukuat tshishhuk tshishukunu tshishikunu ushtukuan	NAT ustsishukua mistuk tshishikunu tukushenu

BETS	SI	ROM	NAT																																				
kussikuashu uatshikuteu uapikuteu neshikuau kushikutu nutimikutam ushiku nikuteu pishikupanu uatuk ^u	kussikuashu uatshikuteu uapikuteu neshikuau kushikutu nutimikutam ushiku nakuteu pishikupanu uatak ^u	kushukuashu neshukuau kushukutu ushuku nukuteu uatuk	Ushuku																																				
SOLUTION																																							
<p><u>Theoretical Solution</u>: write the vowels <u>a</u> or <u>i</u> of Old Montagnais Exception: muk^u</p> <p><u>Before the syllable ku or k^u</u></p> <p>Vowel a:</p> <table> <tbody> <tr> <td>takushinu</td> <td>`autumn':</td> </tr> <tr> <td>takuan</td> <td>takuatshin</td> </tr> <tr> <td>peiakunnu LNS</td> <td>takuakut</td> </tr> <tr> <td>takuepañ/tapuepañ BETS</td> <td>takuatshi-pishim^u, etc.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Paku(a)t-shipu</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>`snare':</td> <td>`hole':</td> </tr> <tr> <td>nakuakaniapi</td> <td>pakuneiau</td> </tr> <tr> <td>nakuakanitsheu</td> <td>pakunetam^u</td> </tr> <tr> <td>nakuashu</td> <td>pakunesham^u</td> </tr> <tr> <td>nakuateu, etc.</td> <td>pakuneneu, etc.</td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>`island':</td> <td>`useful wood':</td> </tr> <tr> <td>missipenak^u</td> <td>ishpimitakut</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Uteinak^u</td> <td>iñnashtitak^u</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>papatshitak^u</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>pishkutshitak^u</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>ushkuetak^u, etc.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: right;">(continued...)</p>				takushinu	`autumn':	takuan	takuatshin	peiakunnu LNS	takuakut	takuepañ/tapuepañ BETS	takuatshi-pishim ^u , etc.	Paku(a)t-shipu		 		`snare':	`hole':	nakuakaniapi	pakuneiau	nakuakanitsheu	pakunetam ^u	nakuashu	pakunesham ^u	nakuateu, etc.	pakuneneu, etc.	 		`island':	`useful wood':	missipenak ^u	ishpimitakut	Uteinak ^u	iñnashtitak ^u		papatshitak ^u		pishkutshitak ^u		ushkuetak ^u , etc.
takushinu	`autumn':																																						
takuan	takuatshin																																						
peiakunnu LNS	takuakut																																						
takuepañ/tapuepañ BETS	takuatshi-pishim ^u , etc.																																						
Paku(a)t-shipu																																							
`snare':	`hole':																																						
nakuakaniapi	pakuneiau																																						
nakuakanitsheu	pakunetam ^u																																						
nakuashu	pakunesham ^u																																						
nakuateu, etc.	pakuneneu, etc.																																						
`island':	`useful wood':																																						
missipenak ^u	ishpimitakut																																						
Uteinak ^u	iñnashtitak ^u																																						
	papatshitak ^u																																						
	pishkutshitak ^u																																						
	ushkuetak ^u , etc.																																						

Vowel **i**:

mishtik ^u	nanikutin(i)
mishtikushu	tshishik ^u
uapikun	ushtikuan
apikushish	ussishik ^u
tshipiatik ^u	paushtik ^u
uatik ^u	nitshik ^u
ñikun	eñik ^u
ñikushkupañnu	kussikuashu
ñikuashkan	uâtshikuteu
ñikuashkateu	atshik ^u
shishtiku	nutikumateu
pishikupañu	nanitamikun
tshiñik(a)u	ushiku
neshikuau	nikuteu
kushikutu	mishishtikuau
pitikushiu	ukakumikueu
utshishikumumu	kauapikuesht
kutiku(a)niu	anikutshash
natamik ^u	atshinepik ^u
utatshikumumu	minishtik ^u

Conjugated verb forms:

he sees me: nuapamik^u
 the other sees him: uapamiku
 the other says to him: itiku
 he says to me: nitik^u
 someone sees to me: nuapamik(a)un
 someone sees you: tshuapamik(a)un
 something happens to him: utitiku
 something happens to me: nutitikun
 sit (you pl.): tetapik^u

Before the syllable **mu** or **m**^uVowel **a**:

nikamu
 tshikamu
 massekushkamik^u

(continued...)

Vowel **i**:

at**i**muss
at**i**m^u
uit**i**mua
nit**i**m^u

pish**i**muss
pish**i**m^u
uit**i**mushu

Important: In many cases, there is a real **u** which should not be written **i** or **a**.

Ex. sh**u**k^u
pak**u**mu
muk**u**man
k**u**kuetshimeu
k**u**kuetapat
tshitap**u**ku

ITEM	SPELLING VARIANTS				
false u	ø or u				
<p>CURRENT USAGE</p> <p>BETS & PB: does not exist SI : rare (demonstrative only) LNS : frequent (demonstrative, 3rd possessive, some words)</p>					
<p>TYPE OF PROBLEM</p> <p>Minor. Easy to settle.</p>					
<p>LINGUISTIC COMMENTS</p> <p>This phenomenon is the of copying u before mu... or after um... This copying goes in two directions: muak^u ---> umuak^u; umassin ---> umuassin.</p>					
<p>RELATED TO:</p>					
<p>EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS</p> <p>BETS : ume, umelu, mueu, umassin, muak^u PB : ume, umelu, mueu, umassin, muak SI : umue/mue, umuenu, mueu, umassin, muak MIN : umue, umuenu, umueu, umuak NAT : umueu, umuashtna, umuak ROM : umue, umuenu, umueu, umuak</p>					

SOLUTION

Proposed: **do not write the "false u"**

Ex. **ume** (and not *umue)
 umeñu (and not *umueñu)
 umashtshina (mashtshina)
 umashinaikan (mashinaikan)
 umakañipakan (makañipakan)
 umanitema
 umahkushim
 umatsheshima
 umatshi
 umatshishkapema

Not settled: the LNS speakers will continue to write:
 umueu, numuau (elsewhere mueu, nimuau)
 umuak^u, numuakum (elsewhere muak^u, nimuakum)

ITEM variation between a and e	SPELLING VARIANTS a or e
CURRENT USAGE 1. BETS: a but e everywhere else 2. LNS : a but e at BETS and SI	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Minor but difficult.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS	
RELATED TO: plural inanimate in a (54), animate obviative in a (56)	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS 1. BETS : amukuan tapateu nitshiuan ninashipan SI : emukuan tepateu ni tshiuen ni nashipen MIN : emikuan tepatau ni tshiuen ni nahipen ROM : emikuan ni tshiuen ni nashipen 2. BETS : meu nipeu teu SI : meu nipeu teu MIN : mau nipau tau ROM : mau nipau tau NAT : mau nipau tau	

other cases of variation:

ekute / ekuta
 apu tat / apu tet
 nite / nita `there'
 utehe / utahi
 tananu / tenanu

SOLUTION

Will vary between **a** or **e** according to the local pronunciation.

Recommended:

Ⓒ that the LNS write **e** in the word `one' and its derivatives

PB	BETS	SI-SCH	LINS
tepateu emikuan			
tau	Teu		Tau
	Meu		Mau
nipau	nipeu		Nipau
	Peik		paia ^u
shipissa	shipisse	shipissa	
mashkua	Mashkue	mashkua	

ITEM variation between ai and ei	SPELLING VARIANTS ai or ei																										
CURRENT USAGE BETS: ai ; problem of distinguishing between i and ai SI : generally ai , sometimes ei ; problem of distinguishing between ai and real ei																											
TYPE OF PROBLEM Important, easy to settle.																											
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS ai is pronounced î at BETS, ei at SI and LNS. The diphthongs ai and ei are phonetically confused with each other at SI and on the LNS.																											
RELATED TO:																											
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS <table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">BETS</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">SI</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">MIN</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">ROM</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>putai</td> <td>putai</td> <td>putai</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>ushakai</td> <td>ushakai/ ushakei</td> <td>uashakai</td> <td>ushakei</td> </tr> <tr> <td>naikam</td> <td>naikam/ neikam</td> <td>neikam</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>pimaim</td> <td>pimaim</td> <td>pimaim</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>maikan</td> <td>maikan</td> <td>maikan</td> <td>meikan</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Examples of real ei:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">teueikan, neueikanat, uteei, mei, auass-meish, uteiminan, ei- `knock against', pei(a)kuan, pei(a)k^u</p>				BETS	SI	MIN	ROM	put ai	put ai	put ai		ushak ai	ushak ai / ushak ei	uashak ai	ushak ei	na ikam	na ikam / ne ikam	ne ikam		pim aim	pim aim	pim aim		ma ikan	ma ikan	ma ikan	me ikan
BETS	SI	MIN	ROM																								
put ai	put ai	put ai																									
ushak ai	ushak ai / ushak ei	uashak ai	ushak ei																								
na ikam	na ikam / ne ikam	ne ikam																									
pim aim	pim aim	pim aim																									
ma ikan	ma ikan	ma ikan	me ikan																								

SOLUTION

Proposed: write **ai**

Ex. mikuash ai	ushpik ai	uiku ai
at ai	ushkat ai	ut(a)u(a)k ai
put ai	apaku ai	u(a)shku ai
ushak ai	ut ai	akaku ai
mi ai	upiu ai	ñak ai tshe <u>shu</u>
tapa ai kan		

naikam ^u	naikueu
mashina ai kan	mashina ai tshe <u>u</u>
uapeka ai kan	uapeka ai tshe <u>u</u>
tipa ai kan	tipa ai tshe <u>u</u>
tisha ai kan	tisha ai tshe <u>u</u>
tship ai	katship ai tshe <u>sht</u>
tauapeka ai kan	tauapeka ai tshe <u>u</u>
naitam ^u	naiapu

all verbs in **-aim^u** and in **-aitsheu**

ataim ^u	manaim ^u	utamaim ^u
utaim ^u	pitaim ^u	nitaim ^u
pimaim ^u	ñakaim ^u	k(a)uaim ^u
tshipuashkuaim ^u	pakaim ^u	nitashkuaim ^u
apaim ^u	tipaim ^u	manashkuaim ^u

Difficulty: 1) BETS, PB and SI: to distinguish **ai** from real **i**

Ex. put**ai** but nipi, a**ai**pi, apui

2) elsewhere: to distinguish **ai** from **ei**

Ex. mei	auass-meish	ñiue ei kanat
sheim ^u	teue ei kan	ñekaus sei
ute i	ute ei minan	te ei kateshinu
te ei shinu	te ei ueu	pe i (a)kussu
pe i (a)k ^u	pe i (a)kuan	tap ei tsheimashu
mi ai ue ei mashu		

		SOLUTION
<u>Proposed:</u>	do not represent nasalization in writing	
Ex.	nitanish	aku au ku
	uikanish	pim au ku
	uapeka ai kan	pisht au ku
	ma ai kan	e ukuan
	ashamaka ni sh	t au kam
	aiapan ni sh LNS	pit au kuan
	aishiñnuat	shaukushiu LNS/shukushiu
	nananish	patshu ai nitshuap
	ishpan ni shiu	Pieñ i sh
	kuañ i shiu	Piñame nu sh
	auass-me i sh(a)	Eñ e nish
	mañate ni sh	Tanieñ i sh
	uñak ni sh LNS	Shimuñ i sh
	utapan ni sh LNS	Misheñ i sh
	tetapuak ni sh LNS	Shaush
	matshu ni sha	
	manishueu	
	uanisham ^u LNS / unisham ^u	
	uanishinu LNS / unishinu	
	panishauatam ^u	
	utataku an iship LNS / utatakaniship	
	uasheshku an ishiu LNS / uasheshkunishiu	
	utshishtshiman ni shu MIN / utshissimanishu	
	Uañaman-shipu LNS / Uñaman-shipu	
	tan ishpi sh	
	nek ni LNS	
	eñitsh eni	
	ka-teñ u eni	
	atusseñitaku eni	
	auenñitsh eni	
<u>Difficulty:</u>	On the LNS & at SHE, where nasalization is very frequent, it is difficult for a speaker to know what the non-nasalized form is. However, the most frequent rules are as follows.	
		(continued...)

pronunciation	spelling
aish	anish
eish	enish
auk	auk
euk	euk
ei	eni

When in doubt, check with a word list or a SI-SCH or BETS dialect dictionary.

Pedagogy: On the LNS, the spelling of words with nasalization needs special teaching. The following beginning exercises are suggested: compare the spelling of a pair of words.

- Ex. 1) Pieñiss `young Pien' - Pieñish `old Pien'
Eñeniss `young Enen' - Eñenish `old Enen'
- 2) utapaniss `little car' - utapanish `old car'
tetapuakaniss `little chair' - tetapuakanish `old chair'

On the LNS, make up special exercises on the correct spelling of verbs ending in **eni**:

- inanimate plural verbs:

Ex. mishatsh**eni**
ka-mishau**eni**
mishataku**eni**
mishaku**eni**

- animate obviative verbs:

Ex. eñitsh**eni**
auenñitsh**eni**
atusseñitsh**eni**
atusseñiku**eni**
atusseñitaniku**eni**
ka-atusseñu**eni**

But it must be understood that THE FACT THAT NASALIZATION IS NOT WRITTEN SHOULD NOT INFLUENCE THE STUDENTS' PRONUNCIATION: when reading aloud, they should pronounce words in a natural way, with nasalization.

<p>ITEM e which drops in a sequence of vowels</p>	<p>SPELLING VARIANTS eia or ia aieu or aiu ie or i</p>
<p>CURRENT USAGE</p> <p>LNS: ia, aiu, i</p> <p>elsewhere: eia, ieu, ie</p>	
<p>TYPE OF PROBLEM</p> <p>Minor. Easy.</p>	
<p>LINGUISTIC COMMENTS</p> <p>In the LNS dialect, the e drops in a sequence of vowels ie ex. ukupaniema pronounced ukupanima), eia (ex. napeiak^u pronounced napiak^u) and aieu (ex. pitukaaieu pronounced pitukaaiu).</p>	
<p>RELATED TO:</p>	
<p>EXAMPLES</p> <p>LNS : nikupanim, napiak^u, nashipiat, nipaiu, pitukaaiu</p> <p>elsewhere: nikupaniem, napeiak^u, nashipeiat, nip(a)ieu, pituk(a)ieu</p>	



SOLUTION

Proposed: write e

Ex. napeiak^u
tshe atusseian
tshe atusseiat
tshe nashipeiak^u
nikupaniem
ukupaniema
pitukaieu
nipaieu
kushpitaieu

Difficulty: In the LNS dialect, it should be noted that this reduction of a sequence of vowels occurs in the following cases:

- 1) adding the syllable **ian** or **iat** or **iak^u** or **iek^u** after an **e**-stem

Ex. nape + iak^u = napeiak^u
atusse + ian = atusseian
atusse + iat = atusseiat
atusse + iak^u = atusseiak^u
atusse + iek^u = atusseiek^u

- 2) adding the TA verb ending after an **a**-stem:

Ex. nipaieu (elsewhere nipieu)
pitakaieu (elsewhere pitakieu)

- 3) in the words nikupaniem, nikupanieminan etc.

<p>ITEM</p> <p>i which drops in a sequence of vowels</p>	<p>SPELLING VARIANTS</p> <p>ai or a ei or e ui or u</p>
<p>CURRENT USAGE</p> <p>LNS: a, e, u</p> <p>elsewhere: ai, ei, ui</p>	
<p>TYPE OF PROBLEM</p> <p>Minor. Easy solution.</p>	
<p>LINGUISTIC COMMENTS</p> <p>In the LNS dialect, i drops in the endings of the 2nd pers.sing.simple conjunct and in the subjunctive of AI verbs.</p>	
<p>RELATED TO:</p>	
<p>EXAMPLES</p> <p>LNS : apu atussen, apu tan, apu mitshishun</p> <p>elsewhere: apu atussein, apu tain, apu mitshishuin</p>	

SOLUTION

Proposed: **write i**

Ex. apu atussein
 atusseini
 tshe nashipein
 niashipeini
 tshe tipatshimuin
 tepatshimuini

ITEM variation between au and u	SPELLING VARIANTS au or u		
CURRENT USAGE BETS & SI: u LNS : au			
TYPE OF PROBLEM Important. Difficult to settle.			
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS Sequence of au is systematically reduced to u at BETS and often, but not always, at SI.			
RELATED TO:			
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS			
BETS	SI	MIN	ROM
ushtishku	ushtishku	uhtihkau	uhtishkau
meshkanu	meshkanu	mehkanau	meskanau
leku	neku	nekau	nekau
nipu	nipu	nipau	nipau
aku	aku	akau	akau
apitu	apitu	apitau	apitau
aitu	aitu	aitau	aitau
milunam	minunam		minaunam
kunuelitam	kanuenitam	kanauenitam	kanauentam
uitumeu			uitaumeu
tuuan	tuuan		tauau
kushinu	kushinu	kauhinu	kaushinu
nuueu			nauaueu
anishkushtau	anishkushtau	anihkauhtau	anishkaushtau
`drip' papatshiku	papatshiku		papatshikau
`hair' milueu	minueu		minaueu

BETS	SI	MIN	ROM
`with an instrument' kasht u ku tship u eu	kasht au ku tship au ku		kasht au ku tship au eu
`with an axe' tshimik u eu	tshimik(a) u eu		tshimik au eu
`indefinite subject' nutamuk u n	nutamuk u n		nutamuk au n
SOLUTION			
<p>Regional differences maintained, except in the words:</p> <p>meshkanau (locative meshkanat) u(a)tenau (locative u(a)tenat) ñekau (locative ñekat)</p>			

ITEM variation between ua and u		SPELLING VARIANTS ua or u	
CURRENT USAGE BETS & SI: u LNS : ua			
TYPE OF PROBLEM Important. Difficult to settle.			
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS Sequences of ua are systematically pronounced u right at the beginning of a word at BET & SI and sometimes in other contexts as well.			
RELATED TO: au in a final syllable (16)			
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS			
BETS	SI	MIN	ROM
unieu unitau ukateu ukashiu ukun unaikan ulashinataim unishkut unushu uluiu ushkuai ushkuii ushtupu utshashk ^u utshishtun utshu ushakai utakussu makumeu	unieu unitau ukateu ukashiu ukun unaikan ulashinataim unishkut unushu uluiu ushkuai ushkuii ushtupu utshashk ^u utshishtun utshu ushakai utakussu makumeu	uanieu uakateu uakuan uanaikan uanaiiu uashkuai uashkuii uatshishtun uatshu uashakai utaku <u>assu</u> maku <u>ameu</u>	uanieue uanitau uakateu uakashiu uakuan uanaikan uanashinataim uanashkut uanaushu uanaiiu uashkuai uashkuii uashtauapu uatshashk uatshishtun uatshu utaku <u>assu</u> maku <u>ameu</u>

BETS	SI	MIN	ROM
<u>Other contexts</u>			
ui <u>u</u> shu	ui <u>u</u> shu	ui <u>u</u> ashu	ui <u>u</u> ashu
up <u>u</u>	m <u>u</u> pu up <u>u</u> /up <u>u</u>	um <u>u</u> ap <u>u</u> up <u>u</u>	m <u>u</u> ap <u>u</u> up <u>u</u> <u>u</u>
<i>sticky substance</i>			-ssuakau
uinass <u>u</u> kua	uinass <u>u</u> kau		uinass <u>u</u> akau
<i>hard sand</i>			-tau <u>u</u> at
takut <u>u</u> at		takut <u>u</u> a ht	tau <u>u</u> akau
takut <u>u</u> akau		takut <u>u</u> akau	tau <u>u</u> akaim
takut <u>u</u> akaim		takut <u>u</u> akaim	
<i>soft sand</i>			
- <u>u</u> at			- <u>u</u> at
- <u>u</u> akau			- <u>u</u> akau
- <u>u</u> akaim			- <u>u</u> akaim
<i>hunt</i>		nata <u>u</u>	nata <u>u</u>
natleueu		nata <u>u</u> neueu	nata <u>u</u> neueu
<i>child</i>			
nipekua <u>u</u> shu etc.		- <u>u</u> ashu	- <u>u</u> ashu
		nipeku <u>u</u> ashu	nipeku <u>u</u> ashu
SOLUTION			
Regional differences maintained			
Ex.	LNS	ELSEWHERE	
	u anitau	u nitau	
	u aniu	u niu	
	u anaushui	u nushu	
	u ashkuai	u shkuai	
	u atshu	u tshu	
	u atenau	u tenau	

16

ITEM ua in final syllable in II verbs and in adverbs	SPELLING VARIANTS u or ua
CURRENT USAGE	

BETS : generally **ua**
SI : **u**
MIN : generally **ua**
ROM : generally **ua**

TYPE OF PROBLEM

Important. Priority. Simple.

LINGUISTIC COMMENTS

RELATED TO: variation between **ua** and **u** (15)

EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS

BETS	SI	MIN	ROM
Adverbs:			
euk uan	eukun	euk uan	eukun
ek uan	ekun	ek uan	
ek uat	eukunu		
II Verbs:			
tak uan	takun	tak uan	tak uan
ishinak uat	ishinakut	ihinak uak	ishinak uak
matshelitak uan	matshenitakun		matshentakun
tshimun	tshimun	tshim uan	tshim uak

SOLUTION

Proposed: write ua

Ex. VERBS

ua

takuan
 tshimuan
 nukuan
 ñauañ
 piuan
 ishinakuan
 mataunakuan
 minueuañitakuan
 uineuañitakuan
 kushtikuan
 uasheshkuan

True u

uakashkuan
 kashteuashkuan
 nishtutakuan
 petakuan
 miuañutakuan
 mataushpukuan
 ishpakuan
 ishimakuan
 uitshimakuan

mishpun
 pipun
 (apu) nikut

Ex. ADVERBS

ekuan
 eukuan
 peikuan

but ekute/ekuta

ITEM	SPELLING VARIANTS
a as a marker of time	a or ø
<p>CURRENT USAGE</p> <p>LNS & SHE: always a elsewhere: always ø</p>	
<p>TYPE OF PROBLEM</p> <p>Minor. Simple solution and easy to apply.</p>	
<p>LINGUISTIC COMMENTS</p> <p>Reflects a real dialect differences: the final a which surfaces in the term for measurement of time is always pronounced in the LNS dialect although it is replaced by a low tone elsewhere.</p>	
<p>RELATED TO:</p>	
<p>EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS</p> <p>NAT : paiukunu tepaina, nistu tepishkua, paiukutsishukua elsewhere: peiku-tshishuk^u__, nishupun__</p>	

SOLUTION

Proposed: write the a

Ex. pei(a)kupishimua
pei(a)kuminashtakana
nishuminashtakana
nishtutshishikua
tatutipaikana

Difficulty: To write this **a** only in words having to do with units of time (hours, days, nights, weeks, years) and not with units of volume, length or weight.

timeother

pei(a)kutipaikana	pei(a)kutipapekaikan
nishutipishkua	nishuminakan
nishtupishimua	nishtukuapikakan
neutshishikua	neutipashkunikan
ishkanitipishkua	
eshukumitshishikua	

Remarks: at the time of the workshops, the terms for units of counting were spontaneously treated as compounds and written with a hyphen. This point was reexamined by the linguists along with the other cases of uncertain compounds.

See no. 85, point 6.

ITEM	SPELLING VARIANTS
tsh	tsh or ts
<p>CURRENT USAGE</p> <p>tsh everywhere (PB, BETS, SI, MIN, ROM)</p> <p>ts at NAT</p>	
<p>TYPE OF PROBLEM</p> <p>Priority. Major. Easy to settle.</p>	
<p>LINGUISTIC COMMENTS</p> <p>Pronounced ts at BETS & PB.</p> <p>Pronounced tsh elsewhere</p>	
<p>RELATED TO:</p>	
<p>EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS</p> <p>PB : atshen, atshimeu,</p> <p>BETS : atshen, atshimeu, tshishtukuan</p> <p>SI : atshen, atshimeu, tshishtukuan</p> <p>MIN : atshen, atshimeu,</p> <p>ROM : atshen,</p> <p>NAT : atsen, atsimeu, tsestukuan</p>	

SOLUTION

Proposed: **write tsh**

Ex. **Atshen, tshinuau, atshimeu**

ITEM tsh at the end of a word	SPELLING VARIANTS t or tsh or ts
CURRENT USAGE PB: systematically tsh BETS & SI: systematically t LNS: generally t , but sometimes ts or tsh at ROM	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Priority. Minor. Easy to settle.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS	
RELATED TO:	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS PB : tetaut sh , mishkut sh , uit sh , ueshkat sh , pahkuat sh BETS : tetaut, mishkut, uit, ueshkat, pakuat SI : tetaut, mishkut, uit, ueshkat, pakuat MIN : tetaut, uehkat ROM : tetaut s , mishkut sh , uit sh , ueshkat, pakua st	

SOLUTION

Proposed: write t except in `house': nitsh, tshitsh, uitsh

Ex. tetaut, mishkut, pakaut

special solution for PB who write and pronounce ts
and write tsh

Pedagogy: the exceptions nitsh, tshitsh and uitsh should be given special attention in the dialects of BETS, SI and SCH.

<p>ITEM</p> <p>tshish</p>	<p>SPELLING VARIANTS</p> <p>tshish or tsh</p>
<p>CURRENT USAGE</p> <p>tshish is sometimes written tsh by mistake.</p>	
<p>TYPE OF PROBLEM</p> <p>Priority. Minor. Easy to settle.</p>	
<p>LINGUISTIC COMMENTS</p> <p>It is sometimes difficult to distinguish the sounds tsh and tshish.</p>	
<p>RELATED TO: ss originating from tshish (32)</p>	
<p>EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS</p> <p>tshishennu is sometimes written *tshennu</p> <p>mitshishu is sometimes written *mitshu</p> <p>matshishiu is sometimes written *matshiu</p>	

SOLUTION

Proposed: write **tshish**

Ex.	tshishuapu	tshishimeu
	tshishin	tshishiteu
	tshisheñishu	tshishapishteu
	tshishuñue (a) shu	tshishipañu
	tshishashteu	tshishitamunueu
	tshishakamiteu	tshishitshu (a) n
	tshishetakushu	tshisheñnu
	tshisheñniu	tshishiku (a) shu
	tshishuaieu	

Difficulty: 1) the distinction must be made between **tsh** and **tshish**:

	tsh	tshish	
mit shu	`he eats something'	mit shishu	`he eats'
mat shiu	`he moves'	mat shishiu	`he is ugly'
at shenu	`he is an Atshen'	tshisheñnu	`an old man'

2) do not mix up **tshish** with **tish**:

tish

apat**tishu** (and not *apat**shishu**)
 uenut**tishiu** (and not *uenut**shishiu**)
 mat**tishu**akanu (and not *mat**shishu**akanu)

ITEM sh elsewhere than before a consonant	SPELLING VARIANTS sh or h [or ø or u]
CURRENT USAGE SI & BETS: agreement on sh in all positions NAT & ROM: sh everywhere except final, where sometimes there is ø (u is an anomaly) MIN: h is everywhere	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Priority, solution easy to find but difficult to apply to LNS.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS - always pronounced h on the LNS but also at BETS - at SI, the pronunciation varies between sh and h according to the position in the word - at NAT & ROM, h final is heard seldom or not at all	
RELATED TO: sh before a consonant (22)	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS BETS : shashish, Sheshush, shuliau, namesh, anutshish SI : shashish, shash, shuniau, nishtesh, apukushish ROM : shashish, Shenum, shesheshu, anutshi__, apukushi__ NAT : apishish, nutsish, meu MIN : apihih, anutshih, nameh, apukuhih	

SOLUTION

Proposed: write **sh**

Ex. **shashish, Sheshush, ashini, mitasha, eshat**
(and not *hahih, *Hehuh, *ahini, *mitaha, *ehat)

Difficulties: 1) problem of application for the LNS where the original **sh** is now pronounced **h**.

2) at the end of a word, at NAT, SA & ROM, final **h** is pronounced barely or not at all.

Ex. of words to check:

anutsh**ish**
apish**ish**
nisht**esh**
asht**ish**
apikush**ish**
ap**ish**
miu**ash**
u**sh**
name**sh**
Mesh (atanukan)
e**sh**
minu**sh**

3) difficulty on the LNS of distinguishing between **h** which should be written **sh** and **h** which should be written **h**

nete**he**
nite**he**
ute**he**
n**ahi** (vs. nashi `come towards me')
u**hu** `owl' (vs. ushu `he ends')

Pedagogy: On the LNS, the fact of teaching students to use **sh** instead of **h** in spelling DOES NOT MEAN THAT THEY SHOULD CHANGE THEIR PRONUNCIATION. When reading aloud, insist that the children pronounce as they normally do when speaking.

ITEM sh before a consonant	SPELLING VARIANTS shk or sk or hk shp or sp or hp sht or st or ht
CURRENT USAGE SI & BETS : agreement on sh everywhere ROM & NAT : variation between sh and s MIN : alternates between h or s LNS : spelling varies for the same word in each community	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Priority. Solution easy to find but difficulties in application for the LNS.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS Partially related to real differences in pronunciation.	
RELATED TO: sh elsewhere than before a consonant (21) DO NOT MIX UP WITH: PRE-ASPIRATED CONSONANTS (23)	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS BETS : uashka, nishk, nisht, lishtam, mishta, ushkat, ishpish, ishpalu SI & SCH: mashten, tapishku, mishkam, ushtukuan, ishpish, eshpish ROM : uaska, aishkat, nisk/nishk, nist/nisht, nishtam, miskutsh, uskat/ushkat, ishpish NAT : ueshkat, neshk, nashpit, ishkuteu, utishkuema, mistuk, mishestu, mista, tsistapakun MIN : mahk ^u , amisk ^u , uhkata, mistukua, apahtau, nishk, ustukuan/uhtukuan	

SOLUTION

Proposed: write **sh**

Ex. u esh kat	mish ta -min
mas hte ñ	i sh kueu
a ish kat	i sh kuteu
u sh kata	u sh tashk ^u
mish t ikua	u sh tashkuashk ^u
n ish k	mish i sh t u
a mish k ^u	u sh tikuan
ma sh k ^u	nish t ikuan

Difficulty: In the LNS dialect, it is very difficult to separate **sh** and pre-aspiration before a final consonant. In the doubtful cases, it is necessary to consult a dialect dictionary for SI or BETS.

sh

pre-aspiration

p**ish**k^u `nighthawk'
 na**sh**t
 usht**ash**k^u

pik^u (pronounced pi^hk^u)
 patetat (pronounced pateta^ht)
 apu takuak (pronounced apu takua^hk)

ITEM pre-aspirated consonants	SPELLING VARIANTS hC or shC or sC or C
CURRENT USAGE BETS & SI: k, p, t MIN : hk, hp, ht ... ROM : sk, sp, st ... NAT : shk, shp, sht ...	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Priority. Very important. Difficult to resolve. Theoretical solution possible, difficult to apply on the LNS.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS Only PB retains all the old pre-aspirations, as in Cree: pim ^h uteu, pe ^h tam ^u , uti ^h kumu, aku ^h pa, aku ^h p, mi ^h ta, mi ^h t. BETS, SI & SCH have lost the pre-aspiration in all positions: pimuteu, petam ^u , utikumu, akup(a), akup, mit(a), mit. LNS retains pre-aspiration only before a final consonant: pimuteu, petam ^u , utikumu, akupa, aku ^h p, mita, mi ^h t.	
RELATED TO: false pre-aspirates (24), locative of nouns (53), sh before a consonant (22).	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS THE END OF THE WORD: BETS: atik ^u , MIN: atiu hk , ROM: atik, NAT: ati shk /atikua BETS & SI: tshishat, ROM: tshishast BETS & SI: mit, MIN: mi ht /mita BETS & SI: uet, MIN: ue ht , ROM: ue sht , NAT: ue sht BETS & SI: mashkutit, NAT: mashkuatib shk , MIN: mahkauati ht BETS & SI: nashipeiat, MIN: nashipeia ht , ROM: nashipeia st	

SOLUTION

Proposed: do not write the pre-aspiration of final consonants

PB will continue to write pre-aspiration in all positions (Ex. pimuhteu, pahpu, pehtueu, mihta)

Difficulty: Speakers from the LNS cannot spontaneously know if what they are pronouncing `h' is an old **sh** (which must be written) or a pre-aspiration (which should not be written).

Most common cases of pre-aspiration:

1) Nouns

Ex.	akup	plural:	akupa
	mit		mita
	mitshuap		mitshuapa
	assik ^u		assikua
	atik ^u		atikuat
	ik ^u		ikuat
	amak ^u		amakuat

2) Adverbs

Ex.	patetat
	apu ut
	apu tshika ut
	atut
	uet
	aiat `different'
	nipinut

(continued ...)

Ex. pipunut
 takuakut
 shikuanut
 enat
 ishpimit
 atamit
 mamit
 natimit
 nutshimit
 eñuet
 uetshit

3) Locative nouns

Ex. mitshuapit
 ashinit
 Ekuanitshit
 U(a)ñaman-shipit
 Pessamit
 iñnit
 uinipekut
 shipissit
 nitshit
 nitshinat

4) TI Verbs in the conjunct, 3rd person singular:

Ex.	tshe utinak	subjunctive: utinaki
	tshe katshitinak	katshitinaki
	tshe tutak	tutaki
	tshe mamituneñitak	mamituneñitaki

5) II Verbs ending in -n, in the conjunct 3rd person singular:

Ex.	tshe tshimuak	subjunctive: tshimuaki
	tshe nipik	nipiki
	tshe nukuak	nukuaki
	tshe tshishik	tshishiki

(continued ...)

6) Endings of the 1st person plural of verbs in the conjunct:

Ex.	tshe tshimuak	subjunctive:	tshimuaki
	tshe nipik		nipiki
	tshe nukuak		nukuaki
	tshe tshishik		tshishiki

Ex. st person plural exclusive (niñan):

tshe atusseiat	subjunctive:	atusseiati
tshe uapamiat		uapamiati
tshe uapamitat		uapamitati
tshe uapamatshit		uapamatshiti
tshe uapami(a)mit		uapami(a)miti

Ex. 1st person plural inclusive (tshiñanu):

tshe atusseiak ^u	subjunctive:	atusseiakui
tshe uapamak ^u		uapamakui
tshe uapamitak ^u		uapamitakui

7) In other cases, check with a dictionary for the SI or BETS dialect.

Pedagogy: It is understood that the fact that pre-aspiration of final consonants is not written DOES NOT MEAN THAT LNS SPEAKERS CHANGE THEIR PRONUNCIATION. When reading aloud, children should pronounce the pre-aspirated consonants, as they do normally.

ITEM	SPELLING VARIANTS	
false pre-aspirates	CVC or C or hC	
CURRENT USAGE		
BETS, SI & SCH:	sometimes C, sometimes CVC (in this case, it often happens that the vowel does not match the one in Old Montagnais.)	
LNS: always hC		
TYPE OF PROBLEM		
Minor problem for the western dialects. Major problem for the LNS.		
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS		
In the western dialect, the consonants are pronounced strongly, like a double consonant. On the LNS, double consonants are pronounced hC which leads to confusion with `h' which should be written sh before a consonant.		
RELATED TO: sh before a consonant (22)		
EXAMPLES		
OLD MONTAGNAIS	BETS/SI/SCH	LNS
	write	pronounce
pimutatau	pimutitau	pimuhtau
tshiuetau	tshiuetitau	tshiehtau
itatau	itititau	itihtau
ukauitueu	ukauitueu	ukaihtueu
mashkauakateu	mashkuakateu	mashkauakahteu
utamititau	utamititau	utamihtau
akutitau	akutitau	akuhtau
pitute	pite	pihte
miñuatutam	? miñuatam	miñuahtam
matshatutam	? matshatam	matshahtam
pimutatutam	? pimutatam	pimutahtam
ka ititan	ka ititan	ka ihtan
tshimiñuatitin	tshimiñuatitin	tshimiñuahtin
etatau	etatu	ehtau
tshissitueu	tshissitueu	tshishtshihtueu
tshissitutam	tshissitam	tshishtshihtam

OLD MONTAGNAIS	BETS/SI/SCH write	LNS pronounce																									
pitutsh <u>eu</u> nanatuapatitsh <u>eu</u>	pitsh <u>eu</u> nanatuapatitsh <u>eu</u>	pihtsh <u>eu</u> /pisseu nanatuapahtsh <u>eu</u>																									
shikukata <u>u</u> (hiccup)	shikukata <u>u</u>	hahkata <u>u</u>																									
peikupip <u>u</u> na nishupip <u>u</u> neshu uapapip <u>u</u> ña (eyes) kuetipip <u>u</u> ña	peikup <u>u</u> n nishup <u>u</u> neshu uapapip <u>u</u> ña kudetipip <u>u</u> ña	peiaku <u>h</u> p <u>u</u> na nishu <u>h</u> p <u>u</u> neshu uapah <u>h</u> pa <u>u</u> ña kueti <u>h</u> pa <u>u</u> ña																									
SOLUTION																											
<p><u>Proposed</u>: west: write the old forms (CVC)</p> <p> LNS: write hC</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center; width: 50%;">WEST</th> <th style="text-align: center; width: 50%;">LNS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>pimut<u>t</u>atau</td> <td>pimu<u>h</u>tau</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ukauit<u>t</u>ueu</td> <td>ukaui<u>h</u>ueu</td> </tr> <tr> <td>mashkuakat<u>t</u>ueu</td> <td>mashkauaka<u>h</u>teu</td> </tr> <tr> <td>utamit<u>t</u>atau</td> <td>utami<u>h</u>tau</td> </tr> <tr> <td>akut<u>t</u>atau</td> <td>aku<u>h</u>tau</td> </tr> <tr> <td>kaupip<u>u</u>panit</td> <td>kau<u>h</u>panit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>pitutsh<u>eu</u></td> <td>pihtsh<u>eu</u></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>It is recommended that the LNS write the form CVC in verb conjugations:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Ex. tshit<u>t</u>itin</td> <td style="width: 40%;">(and not *tshihtin or</td> <td style="width: 30%;">*tshistin)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ka it<u>t</u>itan</td> <td>(and not *ka ihtan)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>tshimiña<u>t</u>itin</td> <td>(and not *tshiminuahtin)</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>			WEST	LNS	pimut <u>t</u> atau	pimu <u>h</u> tau	ukauit <u>t</u> ueu	ukaui <u>h</u> ueu	mashkuakat <u>t</u> ueu	mashkauaka <u>h</u> teu	utamit <u>t</u> atau	utami <u>h</u> tau	akut <u>t</u> atau	aku <u>h</u> tau	kaupip <u>u</u> panit	kau <u>h</u> panit	pitutsh <u>eu</u>	pihtsh <u>eu</u>	Ex. tshit <u>t</u> itin	(and not *tshihtin or	*tshistin)	ka it <u>t</u> itan	(and not *ka ihtan)		tshimiña <u>t</u> itin	(and not *tshiminuahtin)	
WEST	LNS																										
pimut <u>t</u> atau	pimu <u>h</u> tau																										
ukauit <u>t</u> ueu	ukaui <u>h</u> ueu																										
mashkuakat <u>t</u> ueu	mashkauaka <u>h</u> teu																										
utamit <u>t</u> atau	utami <u>h</u> tau																										
akut <u>t</u> atau	aku <u>h</u> tau																										
kaupip <u>u</u> panit	kau <u>h</u> panit																										
pitutsh <u>eu</u>	pihtsh <u>eu</u>																										
Ex. tshit <u>t</u> itin	(and not *tshihtin or	*tshistin)																									
ka it <u>t</u> itan	(and not *ka ihtan)																										
tshimiña <u>t</u> itin	(and not *tshiminuahtin)																										

ITEM k + u at the end of a word	SPELLING VARIANTS k or k^u or uk or ku
CURRENT USAGE BETS & MIN: agreement on k^u SI & NAT : always k NWR : alternates k and k^u ROM : k in general but also uk and ku Difficulties at MIN & SHE with the usage of k^u . Difficulties at ROM with uk .	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Priority, theoretically easy, purely conventional.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS There are 2 different kinds of k in Montagnais: k as in uapish k , k + u as in uapash k + u The u which follows k is pronounced in all dialects.	
RELATED TO: k^u in compound nouns (26)	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS BETS : esh k^u , kata k^u , uinipe k^u , amish k^u , atik u , muk u , ik u , metueiek u , nuitsheuakanituk u , apu uapame k^u , nitshiluemuk u SI : ek, eshk, katak, atshuk, atik, kak, ka taiak, muk ROM : uinepek, massek, muk/muku, kak, e nishiak, ni tshinuemuk, atiuk/atik/atiku, iuk, paiuk NAT : eshk, napiak, kak, paiuk, tse mitsiak, tse taiek MIN : kak ^u , tshiahk ^u , mahk ^u SHE : kak ^u , umik ^u , eshk, peik, katak ^u , muk	

SOLUTION

Proposed: **write k^u**

Solution on the way to being adopted in all communities except PB: Recommended that PB make an effort to use it, since Montagnais is taught as a second language: the fact of seeing k^u at the end of words will be an aid to pronunciation.

Ex. kak ^u	muk ^u
atik ^u	eshk ^u eka
katak ^u	shuk ^u
tshiashk ^u	ek ^u /eku LNS & SHE
amishk ^u	meteuk ^u `play'
mashk ^u	apu uapamek ^u
massek ^u	nuitamak ^u
atshik ^u	nuitsheuakanitik ^u
uinipek ^u	e nishiak ^u
ik ^u	peik ^u /peiak ^u LNS

k^u is useful for writing the distinction between certain words:

Ex. mak `and'
mak^u `cry'

ishkueshk `female goose'
ishkueshk^u `female bear'

apu uapamak `I do not see him'
apu uapamak^u `you and I do not see him'

apu shuk `not really'
shuk^u / shukwa LNS `go on', `again', `more'

tshek `suddenly'
tshek^u `which'

ITEM k ^u in compound nouns	SPELLING VARIANTS ku or k or k ^u
CURRENT USAGE Varies everywhere, no consistency in any community.	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Priority. Theoretically simple solution, requires vigilance and internal consistency.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS The differences observed are purely in writing.	
RELATED TO: k + u at the end of a word (25), boundary 7: compound words (84)	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS BETS: uinipeku-aueshisht, atiku-pimi SI : Uinishk-pishum, tshiashk-uau ROM : uinashk-pishum, atikupmi MIN : tshiahk ^u -uau	

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SOLUTION

Proposed: write u on the line

Ex.	uinipek ^u	-	uinipeku- au eshish
	atik ^u	-	atiku- pi mi
	atshik ^u	-	atshiku- pi mi
	mashk ^u	-	mashku- pi mi
	tshiashk ^u	-	tshiashku- ua u
	uinashk ^u	-	uinashku- pi shim ^u

ITEM m + u at the end of a word	SPELLING VARIANTS m or um or m^u
CURRENT USAGE <p>In general, m is written in singular words but mu in plural words (ex. atumuat but atum, tutamuat but tutam).</p> <p>The addition of a "small u" in singular forms is beginning to take hold.</p>	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Easy to apply.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS <p>The u which follows the m is generally not pronounced, except on the LNS, where it is light.</p> <p>In all dialects, the necessity for writing the final u is revealed in the plural forms of the TI verbs (ex. utinamuat, tutamuat) and in the diminutive and plural form of nouns (ex. atimuss & atimuat).</p> <p>The question is clearly related to that of the vowel which recedes m + u: from now on atum & pishum will be written atim^u & pishim^u.</p>	
RELATED TO: u which should be written i or a (7) animate plural of nouns (50) plural of independent verbs (51)	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS SI : atum ^u , pishum ^u , tutam ^u , petam ^u , shashkaim ^u , tshipaim ^u SA : pitaim ^u , uitam ^u NAT : pitaim/pitai um , uitam/uita um , menna um MIN : ata um elsewhere: atum, pishum, tutam, petam, shashkaim, tshipaim	

SOLUTION

Proposed: **write m^u**

Ex. TI VERBS: tutam^u
 utinam^u
 shenam^u
 ishinam^u
 mushtenam^u
 pitaim^u
 maim^u
 nataim^u
 munaim^u

Ex. NOUNS: pishim^u
 atim^u
 nitim^u `my brother-in-law/
 sister-in-law'

Pedagogy: m^u is very useful in understanding the formation:

- of the plural of TI verbs (shenamu+at, nataimu+at)
- of the diminutive of certain nouns (pishimu+ss, atimu+ss)
- of the plural of certain nouns (nitimu+at, atimu+at)
- of the animate obviative of certain nouns (uitimu+a, atimu+a)

ITEM sh + u in 'two' sht + u in 'three'	SPELLING VARIANTS with u or without u (or k)
CURRENT USAGE west: agreement to write nish & nisht LNS: a lot of variation in 'two', anomalies	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Easy to resolve.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS The final u of the word 'two' is not generally pronounced except in the dialects of LNS and SI-SCH (pronounced nüsh). The usefulness of writing this final u is revealed by the form of this word when it is joined to another word: ex. nish ut shishikua. The case of 'three' is similar even though the final u is never pronounced: nisht but nisht ut tipishkua.	
RELATED TO: k + u at the end of a word (25) k + u in compound nouns (26) m + u at the end of a word (27)	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS ROM: nishuat, ni uk (anomaly) NAT: nishuat, nish k (anomaly) MIN: nihuat, nih ^u /ni uhk ^u (anomaly) elsewhere: nishuat, nish	

SOLUTION

Proposed: write u at the end

nish^u `two'

nisht^u `three' (vs. pronoun nisht LNS)

ITEM ss diminutive of nouns and other cases	SPELLING VARIANTS ss or s or sh
CURRENT USAGE BETS, SI & NAT: agreement on ss everywhere ROM: sh everywhere MIN: ususally s but also ss	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Priority. Very easy solution.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS The differences are purely in writing: they do not reflect any real difference in speaking.	
RELATED TO:	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS BETS: au ass , nap ess , ishku ess , tshik uss , auet iss , nit uss , metuakan iss , emikuan iss SI: au assiss , ut assa , nap essat , ishku essat , kukush iss , ik uss , tshiashk uss ROM: au ash , nap esh , ishku esh , mish ip , emikuan ish , mashinaikan isha , auet ish NAT: au ass , miss ip MIN: au as , auet is , nap es , miss ip /mes sep	

SOLUTION

Proposed: **write ss**

Ex. diminutives:

emikuan iss	ut iss
utapan iss	shipi ssa
atim uss	iku ss
tshiashk uss	uten ass
kukush iss	ushku ass
nameshi ssat	utshim ass

other cases:

nit uss	neuapi ss
nik uss	nishuapi ss
nus sim	tshikap iss
missi pat	nishtuni ss
ishku essat	shikauni ss
nap essat	aueti ss
au assat	An iss

ITEM ss originating from sht at the end of a word	SPELLING VARIANTS sht or ss or st or ht
CURRENT USAGE BETS: sht MIN: ht NAT: sht ROM: st SI: ss	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Minor. Easy.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS sht is pronounced ss at the end of a word at PB, BETS and SI and ht on the LNS.	
RELATED TO: sh before a consonant (22)	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS BETS : kutuas sht , nishuas sht , nas sht , kashiuas sht , us sht SI : kutuass, nishuass, nass, kashiuas, uss MIN : kutua ht , nihua ht , na ht , ka-hiu aht , uht NAT : nishuas sht , nas sht , ROM : kutuast, nishuast, nas sht /nash	

SOLUTION

Proposed: write **sht**

Ex. kutuas**sht**, nishuas**sht**, nas**sht**, kashiuas**sht**, us**sht**

Difficulty: In the dialects of PB, BETS, SI and SCH, point out the difference between words ending with **ss** and those ending with **sht**.

ss

au**ass**
shipi**ss**
emikuani**ss**
minakani**ss**
atimu**ss**
ishku**ess**
nap**ess**
put**ass**

sht

kutuas**sht**
nishuas**sht**
nas**sht**
us**sht**
kashiuas**sht**
kauapikue**sht**
kapiminue**sht**
Anishpuas**sht**

Pedagogy: Words with final **sht** should receive special attention during teaching in the western dialects.

ITEM ss originating from shtsh		SPELLING VARIANTS ss or sht or sts or tsh or ht or htsh or stsh	
CURRENT USAGE BETS & SI: always ss ROM : most often ss but also sht, sts, tsh NAT : varies between sts, sht, ht but also ss MIN : alternates between htsh, stsh and ht			
TYPE OF PROBLEM Solution difficult to apply to all dialects.			
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS These spelling differences reflect real differences in pronunciation even among the individual LNS dialects.			
RELATED TO: sh before consonants (22), tn originating from tshin (39)			
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS			
BETS & SI	ROM	NAT	MIN
kassinu	kassinu	kassinu	kahtnu
pessish	pessish	pessish	pehtshih
passikan	--	passikan	pahtshikan
massek ^u	massek	--	--
ussishuk ^u	nissishuk	ustsishukua	--
umassin	messna/mashtna	umuashtna	umahtna
ussinitshishu	--	uhtnissu	uhtnitshu
ussi mishtuk ^u	--	ustsemistukut	uhtshimitshuap
passie	patshie/pastsie	--	pahtshe
atusseu	--	atustseu	atustsheu
tshisselimeu	tshissenimeu	tshistsenimeu/ tsissnimuku	tshistshenimeu
assi	assi	astsi/utassit	ahtshi
uelipissish	uenipishish	--	--

SOLUTION

On the LNS, will vary between **ss** and **shtsh**.

Principle to follow on the LNS: choose **ss** when the two pronunciations exist in local speech.

Ex. k**ass**inu / kas**htsh**inu
 pe**ss**ish / pes**htsh**ish
 at**usseu** / at**ushtsheu**
 a**ssi** / a**shtshi**
 um**ass**ina / um**ashtsh**ina
 u**ss**initshishu / u**shtsh**initshishu
 pa**ss**ikan / pa**shtsh**ikan
 ma**ss**ek^u / ma**shtsh**ek^u
 u**ssi**-mishtik^u / u**shtshi**-mishtik^u
 tsh**isse**nimeu / tsh**ishtsh**enimeu
 u**ss**ishk^u / u**shtsh**isk^u
 nitaku**assin** / nitaku**ashtsh**in
 pei(a)k**ussu** / peiak**ushtshu**
 i**ss**ishueu / i**shtsh**ishueu

Difficulty: In the LNS dialect, the **ss/shtsh** alternation is mixed up with the two other problems:

- 1) what is pronounced 'h' or 's' before a consonant should also be written **sh** before **tsh**:

Ex. at**ushtsheu** (and not *atustsheu)
 tsh**ishtsh**enimeu (and not tshistshenimeu)

(continued ...)

2) what is pronounced `tn' in the middle of a word should be written **tshin**:

Ex. masht**tshina** (and not *mahtna)
kash**tshinu** (and not *kahtnu)

Pedagogy: In the LNS dialect, the spelling of all these words requires special teaching.

Remarks: It is recommended that LNS speakers eventually reexamine the possibility of writing **ss** even if their pronunciation is different.

SOLUTION

Proposed: write **tshish**

Ex. utat**tshishi**
 mit**tshishimu**
 tat**tshishiu**, tat**tshishikamu**
 mit**tshishu**, mit**tshishuakan**
 pat**tshishimu**
 shut**tshishiu**
 uat**tshishiu**
 mat**tshishiu**
 tshet**tshishep** / shet**tshishep** LNS

Difficulty: For NAT, ROM and SA it is difficult to distinguish between **ss** which should be written **tshish** and the one which should be written **tsh**. For example, 'he must eat' should be written mit**tshishutshe** (and not *missusse).

Pedagogy: All words which include the **tshish** sequence should receive special attention on the LNS.

ITEM sh originating from tshish	SPELLING VARIANTS tshish or sh
CURRENT USAGE Sometimes at NAT, often at ROM: tshish is written sh .	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Minor.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS Reflects a difference in pronunciation.	
RELATED TO:	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS BETS: ukat tshish apishteshim SI: ukat tshish apishteshim NAT: uk ash apisteshim ROM: ka sh apishtesht MIN: ka h apisteht	

SOLUTION

Proposed: **write tshish**

Ex. **tshishapishteu**
katshishapishtesht

SOLUTION

Proposed: write **tshit** or **tshisht** depending on the case

Exception: **apashtau** (and not ***apatshitau**)

Ex. PREFIX **tshit** (2nd person)
tshitaiamian **tshit**assik^u
tshitañimishin **tshit**uñakan
tshititin **tshita**iamieunat
tshitau **tshit**em

tshit IN A WORD

tshit uteu	tshit utaieu
tshit ishaim ^u	tshit ish(a)ueu
papat tshit ak ^u	kapapat tshit akut
puet tshit u	
uit tshit u	
pat tshit inam ^u	pat tshit ineu pat tshit inaun
pat tshit eñimu	
tshit u	eka tshit u (and not *kashtu)
kat tshit inam ^u	kat tshit ineu kat tshit aim ^u kat tshit (a)ueu
tshit aimueu	
nut tshit au	eka nut tshit a
pat tshit (a)uakan	pat tshit (a)ueu

tshisht IN A WORD

tshishtemau
tshishtapakun
tshishtap(a)uñeu **tshisht**aputshikueu
uit**tshisht**am^u (and not ***uitshitam^u**)

Remarks: `laziness' and `poverty' should both be written
tshit...

Ex. **tshit**imatshenitakushu `he is pitiable'
tshitimatshishiu `he is miserable'
tshitimiushinu `he is stretched out lazily'

but distinguish:

tshitimau `he is poor'
tshitimu `he is lazy'

ITEM	SPELLING VARIANTS
Dubitative tshe	tshe or sse or stshe or stse
<p>CURRENT USAGE</p> <p>ROM: sse MIN: htshe (but also tshe) SA : htshe NAT: stshe or stse or sse elsewhere: tshe</p>	
<p>TYPE OF PROBLEM</p> <p>Minor. Easy to solve.</p>	
<p>LINGUISTIC COMMENTS</p> <p>The sequence htsh is pronounced ss at ROM & NAT.</p>	
<p>RELATED TO:</p>	
<p>EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS</p> <p>SA : ehtshe, enihtsheni, itukuhtshe MIN : ehtshe, enitshen, itukutshe ROM : eesse, enissei, itukusse NAT : estshe, enistseni, itukusse elsewhere: etshe, enitshen, itukutshe</p>	

SOLUTION

Proposed: **write -tshe** (and not *htshe)

Ex. **etshe** nushpuakan
tshika takushin**tshe**
eñ**tsheni** uitsheuakana
anutshish mitshish**tshe**
mashkua uapamik**tshe**

ITEM tit originating from tshit	SPELLING VARIANTS tshit or tit
CURRENT USAGE LNS: tit elsewhere: tshit	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Minor. Easy.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS In the LNS dialect, tshit is reduced to tit as an ending for the 1st person plural exclusive of TA conjunct verbs.	
RELATED TO:	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS LNS : apu uapamat tit , tshe kanauenimat tit elsewhere: apu uapamat tshit , apu kanauenimat tshit	

SOLUTION

Proposed: **write tshit**

Ex. apu uapamat**tshit**
uiapamat**shiti**
ka kan(a)ueñimat**tshit**
ken(a)ueñimat**shiti**

ITEM pm and mp	SPELLING VARIANTS pim or pm pam or pm
CURRENT USAGE BETS & SI: always write pim, mip, pam NAT & MIN: always write pm, mp ROM: generally pm, mp but sometimes pim	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Priority. Simple rule for all dialects.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS pm, mp are pronounced in all dialects.	
RELATED TO:	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS BETS : pimi, pimuteu, uapimin, apu uapamin, pimipalu, piminueu, uapameu, ashuaapameu SI : pimi, upime, pamipanu, ishpmimit, uitapimeu ROM : pmi, uapmin, ni pmuten/pimuteu, papampanu, ishpmimist, uitapmeu NAT : upmim, tshi ka pmuten, ishpmimit MIN : pmi, pmuteu, pmishkau, pmpatau, ispmiht	

SOLUTION

Proposed: write the vowel (i or a depending on the case)

Ex. pimi, pimuteu, pamipañu, uapameu

Difficulty: As this vowel is not pronounced in any dialect it is difficult to know whether it should be written **i** or **a**.

pim

pam (`see' family)

pimi

uapameu

uapimin (apple)

apu uapamin

uitapimeu

apu uapamek^u

nipimuten

uapamek^u (whale)

ishpimit

uapam

pimishkau

tshitapameu

pimipañu

nishtuapameu

kapiminuesht

nakatuapameu

upime

peshuapameu

pimit

natuapameu

ashuapameu

tushkapameu

mip

map

pamipañu

atimapu

papamipañu

pimapu

Uñiamipan

Sheñumipan

amipañu

atamipekut

amipushu

ITEM tn originating from tin, tan and tun	SPELLING VARIANTS tin or tn , tin or tan , tin or tun
CURRENT USAGE SI & BETS: tin but confusion with tan or tun at end NAT & MIN: tan and tun but always tn (tin) ROM: tan and tun but varies between tn and tin	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Priority. Easy solution but difficulties of application in the western dialect.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS At BETS, SI & SCH, vowels occurring between t and n are not pronounced. In the LNS dialect, tin is always pronounced tn .	
RELATED TO:	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS BETS : lutin, utinam, tshiuetin, nanikutin, tshiminitin, uepashtin, kashtin SI : tshika uitamatinau, tshinashkumitin, nutin, uepashtin, kashtin ROM : nutn, utneu, ntutnan, uapatneu, tshi naskumitinan/tshi nashkumitnau, nanikutni NAT : tsiuetn, tsuapatniti, meshestnua, nanekutni MIN : nanekutni	

SOLUTION

Proposed: write one vowel between t and n

usually **i**:

Ex. nanikutin(i)
 tshimiñitin
 tshinashkumitinau
 utinam^u
 nitutinan
 uapatiñieu
 mishishtiñua

sometimes **a**:

Ex. atañukan
 atañutsheu
 kaiatañutshesht

sometimes **u**:

Ex. mamituñenitam^u
 mituneñitshikan

Difficulty: In the western dialect, it is necessary to check the vowel in II verbs. Most of them take **i** but it is necessary to learn those where **a** or even **u** is written (in the LNS dialect, these vowels are clearly pronounced in the conjunct):

i		a
ñutin		kupitan
tshiuetin		apatan
patshitin		ueñutan
mashkutin / mashkauatin LNS		itan / aiatan LNS
ishkutin / ishkuatin LNS		tshishatan
tatshitin		uepashtan
ashatshitin		
pitshetin		
		u
		kashtun

SOLUTION

Proposed: write **tshin**

Ex.	tshinuau	tshinuapekan
	tshinuakamau	tshinuekan
	tshinuashkushu	tshinuashkuan
	uat tshin akan	uat tshin ashameu
	uat tshin akaniss	uat tshin akanitak ^u
	napueiet tshin am ^u	masht tshin LNS
	mat tshin akushu	mat tshin akuan
	takuat tshin	takuat tshin eñitakuan

Difficulty: Presents real difficulty especially on the LNS where the sequence **tshin** is systematically reduced to **tn**.

ITEM nt or lt which should Be written nit or ñit	SPELLING VARIANTS nit/lit or nt/lt
CURRENT USAGE BETS & SI: agreement to always write i between n (or l) and t NAT & MIN: never write i ROM : never write this i except in "manitu"	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Priority. Simple solution but difficult to apply because it is necessary to know when to write nat or nit .	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS The i is not pronounced in any dialect.	
RELATED TO: nt which should be written nat (41), conjunct plural of AI verbs (70), locative of nouns (53)	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS IN THE MIDDLE OF A WORD BETS : nite, nita, nanitam, tanite, maniteu, niteliten, manitikalau, miluelitakushu, muitsheuakanituk^u, patshitinitan SI : nite, nita, nanitam, tanite, manitush, kutshipanita, ka tipenitak, nipitepaniti, ni minueniten ROM : nite, nita, nantam, manitu/mantush, nikanteu, ka tipentak, minuentam, kutshipantauat NAT : nite, nita, nantam, tante, ka mentushit, minuentam, manteu, itentakushu MIN : nite, tante, nita, nantam	

AT THE END OF A WORD

- BETS : tan eshi nipiakanit pileu, tshima papalit, 2
etshishtuakanit
- SI : 8 e tshishtuakanit, ishi uapatam kashikanit, apu
unishinit
- ROM : ka minakant, ka mataupitakant (?), eskue ka
tshitshipant
- NAT : niatakant, kue tshuetant, nema nte ishpanit, eunkuan
tshiauepant

SOLUTION

Proposed: write i between n or ñ and t

Ex. IN THE MIDDLE OF A WORD

nite	niteñiten
apu nita	nikaniteu
nitau atusseu	minueñitam ^u
nanitam	tipeñitam ^u
tanite	iteñitakushu
maniteu	kutshipañitau
Tshishe-Manitu	pimipañitau
manitush	nuitsheuakanitik ^u

Ex. AT THE END OF A WORD

tshe itakanit (itakanitau, itakaniti, itakanñiti)
tshe tipishkañit (tipishkañiti)
tshe papañit (papañitau, papañiti)
ka miñakanit (miñakanitau, miñakaniti)

utapanit (locatif)
mitshishuakanit
tetapuakanit

ITEM nt which should be Written nat	SPELLING VARIANTS nat or nt
CURRENT USAGE SI & BETS: agreement on nat LNS: varies between nat and nt	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Easy theoretical solution but difficult to apply in all dialects because it is necessary to know when to write a or i .	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS At SI & BETS: This a is never pronounced. On the LNS, it is pronounced in the middle of a word but sometimes not in the last syllable.	
RELATED TO: animate plural of nouns (50), of independent verbs (51) and of pronouns (52)	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS IN THE MIDDLE OF A WORD: BETS: natuu, natuelitam, natutam, natuapameu, natukulin, nanatuapameu SI: natuu, natukun, kanatutakanit ROM: natuaishu, natutam, natuentam/ni ntuentamuau, innu-natukuna/ntukuntsheshishkuesh, nantuapmeu NAT: apu natutak, ntuapmant MIN: nantuataamuk, natuapmikut	

SOLUTION

Proposed: write **a** between **n** and **t**

Ex. IN THE MIDDLE OF A WORD

natuu / natau
 natukuieu
 natutam^u
 nat(a)uapameu, nanat(a)uapameu
 nat(a)uapatam^u, nanat(a)uapatam^u
 nataim^u
 natimit
 nat(a)u mitshishu
 nat(a)uñeueu
 natutikueu / natauatikueu LNS
 mañatenish

Ex. AT THE END OF A WORD

añushkanat (animate plural)
 eshkanat
 aiamieunat
 akushipanat
 takushinitshenat
 tutamushipanat

Attention: atamakunat (from -akunak- 'snow')
 Ussitakunat

ITEM ntsh which should be written nitsh , natsh or nutsh	SPELLING VARIANTS ntsh or nitsh , nitsh or nutsh
CURRENT USAGE BETS & SI: nitsh but sometimes confused with nutsh LNS : nitsh written ntsh	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Simple solution.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS In the western dialects vowels occurring between n and tsh are never pronounced. In the LNS dialect, a is always pronounced, u is sometimes pronounced, and i never.	
RELATED TO:	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS BETS : nitshen , auenitshe , akunitsheu , nitshuk^u , nakuanitsheu , pakueshikanitsheu SI : nitshent , auenitshent , manitsheu , nitshuk^u ROM : ntshent , uentshent , mantshheu , ntshuk , pakueshikantsheu , akuntsheu NAT : ntsent MIN : ntshent , Ekuantshiht	

SOLUTION

Proposed: write a vowel between n and tsh

usually **i**:

Ex. nitshenat
 auenitshe (pronounced aumentshe)
 nitshik^u
 akunitsheu
 Ekuanitshit
 massinitsheu / mashtshinitsheu MIN
 pakueshikanitsheu
 nakuanitsheu
 kaikunitshesht
 unitshissu / uanitshishtshu MIN

sometimes **a**:

Ex. natshishk
 u(a)natsheshk^u

sometimes **u**:

Ex. anutshish
 Manutsheu

ITEM mm which should be written mim	SPELLING VARIANTS mim or mm or m
CURRENT USAGE PB & BETS: mim Elsewhere: generally m and sometimes mm	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Minor. Simple solution.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS In TA verbs with an obviative object, at least two ms are pronounced in all dialects and PB pronounces mim . Simple spelling rule: write mm or mim ?	
RELATED TO:	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS PB & BETS: nuap mim au ukau elsewhere: nuap mm au / nuap m aua / nuap mm aua ukauia	

SOLUTION

Proposed: **write mim**

Ex. ukuma (t)shash nitshi uapamimaua
apu nishtuapamimaki utanisha
apu mishta iteñimimaki unapema

Difficulty: Seems to have created difficulties for many so far in spite of the fact that the 2 **ms** are pronounced clearly in all dialects.

ITEM pp which should be written pip	SPELLING VARIANTS pp or pip
CURRENT USAGE	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Minor. Rather rare.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS Purely a spelling rule: when -pan 'dead' is added to a noun which ends in p , is it necessary to write i between the two ps ? This i is pronounced at PB.	
RELATED TO:	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS	

SOLUTION

Proposed: **write pip**

Ex. Shushe**p** + **pan** = Shushe**pipan**
Piñ**p** + **pan** = Piñ**pipan**
Mashka**p** + **pan** = Mashka**pipan** (family name)
Miku**a**p + **pan** = Miku**a****pipan** (family name)

ITEM	SPELLING VARIANTS
nn and ln	lin or nn or n or nin
<p>CURRENT USAGE</p> <p>BETS: always lin SI & MIN: always nn ROM: varies between nn and sometimes nin NAT: always n</p>	
<p>TYPE OF PROBLEM</p> <p>Problem major - solution possible. NAT: anomaly to be corrected.</p>	
<p>LINGUISTIC COMMENTS</p> <p>Simple spelling rule: decide between n̄in and n̄n.</p>	
<p>RELATED TO: l/n variation (1), nn, ll, nl, ln when an ending is added (46)</p>	
<p>EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS</p> <p>BETS : ilinu, nitiliniun, uilinu, ilinishat, tshishelinu, kutulinu, natukulinish, nishiuelinan</p> <p>SI : innu, nitinniun, uinnu, innishat, tshishennu, kutunnu</p> <p>ROM : innu, inniminana, innishu, inniship, ininituk, uitshininua ka tshisheniut, utenima, inast, paiukunu</p> <p>NAT : inu, apu iniut, nishunu</p> <p>MIN : innu, innineu, innaht</p>	

SOLUTION

Proposed: write ñn

Ex.

iñnu	iñniu
pessamiuñnu	iñnishu
nitiñnim	niteñni
utiñniun	tshisheñnu
uiñnu	natukuñnish / natukuañnish

LNS

iñniship	atauñnu
iñniminana	kutuñnu / peiakuñnu LNS
iñnasht	nishuñnu
iñniñeu	nishtuñnu
iñnatshik ^u	
iñnikueu	
iñnitsheuai / iñnitsheuan	MIN

Difficulty: Problem of application on the LNS where these words are usually pronounced with a single **n**.

Pedagogy: On the LNS, it is necessary to individually teach the spelling of words containing **nn**.

ITEM nn, ll, nl, ln when an ending is added	SPELLING VARIANTS nn or nin, ll or lil nl or nil, ln or lin
CURRENT USAGE BETS: nin, lil, nil, lin elsewhere: varies between nn and n	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Major problem but solution possible.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS Two problems mixed up here: 1. n-dialects: when an ending which begins with n is added to a noun or stem which ends with n, the two consonants meet, thus, the double nn should be written. 2. Simple spelling rule: is it necessary to write i between these two consonants?	
RELATED TO: nn and ln (45), l/n variation (1)	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS BETS : nitamuk ^u tshekuanilu ashameu ekue tshiuetitatau nelu nipinilu uiapanilit mak, mishta uauashinaku uitsheukan umassin shipekunilu apu papalilit, apu pimishinilit nishiuelinan, shiuelinanun nutapaninan, tshutapaninu, nimashinaikaninan pimishininanun, takushininanun SI : apu tshekuannu nishtuapatak nitshent auassat eukunu e uapatakau ... mitshetut e kashtinakau nenu akushunu umassin nete nikan shepannu uin tshetshi tshitapatak nemenu tipan tshekuannu e ishinakunit utshent ka tutakau katshishkutamuakannit nishiuenannan, shiuenannanu, pimishinannanu	

46a

ROM	:kukuetshimeu tshekuanu mineu uanashinataikanu matsheshu tshinapekanu ushui Shinipest nashieu Atuana ka pikupanit uttapanu petau ka mataupitakanit apu apatentakunit at pepemau eshinakushit uen
-----	---

NAT :apu tshekuanu tutak
 eunkuanu muk etatusset
 inu astsinu nu tsi pa meshkuaaim kie nepua te
 mistukushiuastinu tukuannitse
 tshek ma nte pepunnit, nantam muk uin nukuteu
 apu nta ne ueuepnetant kun shiakuaniti

SOLUTION

Proposed: write nn or ññ or nñ or ñn

Ex. apu tshekuanñu issishuet
 akushunñu kushtam^u
 shepaññu umassin
 shiueññua uminushima
 nimish mitshenñua umatshunishima
 eukuannñu etat utishkuema
 auenñua k(u)enuenimikut ?
 tshika takushinñua ushima
 eshk^u apu papaññiti ukañuma
 apu tshika ut takushinñiti umanitema

Ex. nutapannan, tshutapannu
 nimashinaikannan, tshimashinaikannu
 nitetapuakannan, tshitetapuakannu
 nipimishinnan, tshipimishinnan(u), pimishinnan(u)
 nitakushinnan, tshitakushinnan(u), takushinnan(u)
 niminnan, tshiminnaan(u), kaminnaan(u)
 nipapañnan, tshipapañnan(u), papañnan(u)
 nishiueñnan, tshishiueñnan(u), shiueñnan(u)
 nipuñnan, tshipuñnan(u), puñnan(u)

(continued ...)

Difficulties: So far seems to have been a problem for any, event though the 2 **ns** are clearly pronounced in their dialect.

Problem of application in the LNS dialect where what is grammatically **n + n** is usually pronounced **n** and not **nn**.

Refer to grammatical analysis to identify the cases where **nn** should be written:

- 1) with the obviative marker **-ñu** or **-ñua**:

tshekuan + ñu = tshekuanñu
papañ + ñua = papaññua

- 2) with possessive endings **-nan** or **-nu**:

ni + massin + nan = nimassinana
tsh + utapan + nu = tshutapannu

- 3) with verb endings **-nan** or **-nan(u)**:

ni + shiueñ + nan = nishiueñnan
tshi + shiueñ + nan(u) = tshishiueñnan(u)

- 4) with **-nanu(n)** for impersonal subject verbs:

shiueñ + nanu(n) = shiueñnanu(n)
pimishin + nanu(n) = pimishinnanu(n)

Pedagogy: In all dialects, foresee the need for special exercises on nouns ending in **n** (ex. utapan, utaipan, massin, mitshishuakan, uñakan, minakan, etc.) and on **n**-stem verbs (ex. minu, takushinu, pimishinu, utamishinu, tshimishinu, teishinu, u(a)nishinu, etc.).

ITEM dropping of the syllable ka	SPELLING VARIANTS akan or an , kan or n
CURRENT USAGE BETS & SI: akan or kan (with rare omissions) LNS : often an or n (ka is omitted)	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Priority. Minor. Easy.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS In casual style, the syllable ka in the morphemes -akan , -kan , and -akanu drops in all dialects. It is, however, pronounced in formal style.	
RELATED TO:	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS mu akanu / mua_nu ashtuan akan / ashtuana_n uapatali akanit / uapatania_nist min akan / mina_n	

SOLUTION

Proposed: write **ka**

Ex. mitshishu**akan**, min**akan**, ashtua**akan**,
mu**akanu**, it**akanu**, uapama**kanu**

Difficulty: Not all nouns ending in **an** originate from **-akan** or **-kan**. For example, one will write:

pakakuan (and not *pakakuakan)
mukuman (and not *mukumakan)
tueunan (and not *tueunakan)
akutipan (and not *akutipakan)

The syllable **ka** drops in the following three contexts:

- 1) many nouns made with the **-akan** final, which mostly designate tools, instruments and other useful things:

tetapu akan	ushpu akan
tishu akan	upashtim akan
u akan	makanip akan
naku akaniapi	mitshishu akan
akushiu akan	atusseu akan
kassipit akan	uatshin akaniss
mikut akan	pakata akan
pashpapu akan	patshit(a)u akan `net fishing'
shetshipitu akan	shiuta kan
uashtenitam akan	pakak an LNS
a akapeshakan	minasht akan
uikupesh akan	uitsheu akana

but one must write: nikuashkan (and not *nikuashkakan)
ashpishan (and not *ashpishakan)

- 2) some nouns made with the **-kan** final:

tipa**ikan**
tipape**kaikan** (sometimes pronounced tipapain)

(continued)

- 3) transitive verbs made with **-akanu** which have the passive meaning 'it was done' (ex. 'he/it is eaten', 'he/it is seen', 'he/it is used', 'he is told'):

mu akanu	apu mu akanit
uapamak kanu	apu uapamak kanit
apashtak kanu	apu apashtak kanit
itak anu	apu itak ant

Pedagogy: The nouns in **-akan** and **-kan** and the passive verbs in **-akanu** require special teaching in all communities.

ITEM dropping of the syllable pa	SPELLING VARIANTS pa or ø
CURRENT USAGE BETS & SI: always written LNS : sometimes written	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Minor. Easy.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS The loss of the syllable pa affects the dialects of SI and the LNS, especially in the verb `see' and its derivatives.	
RELATED TO:	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS BETS : tshitap pa tamuk ^u , netuap pa tak, uap pa teu SI : tshitap pa tamuk, netuap pa tak, uap pa teu ROM : tshitta_tamuk, ua_teu MIN : tshita_tamuk, netua tahk, uap pa teu NAT : tshita_tam, ua_teu	

SOLUTION

Proposed: write **pa**

Ex. tshitapatam^u, natuapatam^u, uapateu, nanatuapatam^u

Difficulty: Especially in the LNS dialects, this syllable is often omitted. At SI and SCH pay special attention to verbs with a past tense in **-shipan**:

takushinishipan (and not *takushinishin)

nipishipan (and not *nipishin)

akushishipan (and not *akushishin)

Pedagogy: Special attention needed here for LNS dialects as well as for SI and SCH.

ITEM personal prefixes	SPELLING VARIANTS ni or n , tshi or tsh , and other variants		
CURRENT USAGE BETS: ni and tshi everywhere but n and tsh before u SI : ni and tshi everywhere ROM : ni and tshi in general but some inconsistency. Problems with the 3rd person NAT : in general n for 1st but also ne , no consistency for the 2nd person SPECIAL PROBLEM BEFORE A WORD BEGINNING WITH U			
TYPE OF PROBLEM Priority. Easy to resolve if the rule of internal consistency is used.			
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS Differences are only in spelling and do not at all reflect differences in pronunciation from one dialect to the next.			
RELATED TO: boundary 1: personal prefix (78)			
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS			
	1st	2nd	3rd
BETS	nitau nitassi nitem nuitsheuakan nuapamau nui uluin	tshitau tshitassi tshitem tshuitsheuakan tshuapamau tshui uluin	- utassi utem uitsheuakan
SI & SCH	nitau niteningen niuapamau ni uishamukuti niui uapamau	tshitau tshiteniten tshiuapamau tshiui uapamau	 uitsheuakan

	1st	2nd	3 rd
ROM	nakau ni uapaten nimushum niuishamau ni uinnun	statamiskatin tshi uapmanan tshi uitsheuakan tshuitamatnau tshi uauitshikuau tshi ui nakatuentenan	u-u anashinataikan u-u itsheuakan
NAT	nemushum ntashamuk ntuku nuapma nuiten nui tapuen	tsetip tsakau tsestukuan/tshustukuan tsuatau tsuapatnitn	
SOLUTION			
Proposed: 1st person: <u>ni-</u> or <u>nit</u> but <u>n-</u> before u			
2nd person: <u>tshi-</u> or <u>tshit-</u> but <u>tsh-</u> before u			
3rd person: <u>u-</u> or <u>ut-</u>			
Ex.	nipapin nitakunen nimiñuatau	nitapin nitishkuessiun nitinñishin	nu(a)nin nuapamau nuaneñiten
	nimitshishuakan nishuñiam nipassikan	nitassi nitakup nitasham	nushpuakan nutshimam nutshtashk^u
	tshipapin tshitakunen tshimiñuatau	tshitapin tshitishkuessiun tshitiñishin	tshu(a)nin tshuapamau tshuaneñiten
	tshimitshishuakan tshishuñiam tshipassikan	tshitassi tshitakup tshitasham	tshushpuakan tshutshimam tshushtashk^u
	umitshishuakan ushuñiam upassikan	utassi utakup utashama	ushpuakana utshimam ushtashk^u

50

ITEM plural of animate nouns	SPELLING VARIANTS at or t
CURRENT USAGE Great differences between communities.	

TYPE OF PROBLEM

Important problem. Priority. Complicated to solve.

LINGUISTIC COMMENTS

RELATED TO: animate plural of independent verbs (51)
animate plural of pronouns (52)

EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS

	BETS	SI	MIN	ROM
u#	ilinu t	innu t	innua t	innua t
k ^u #	kaku a t	kaku a t	kaku a t	utshékataku a t
C#	ku t aka t	ku t aka t	messepa t	ku t aka t
n#	eshka n a t	eshka n a t	ehka n a t	eshka n a t
sh#	minusht/ minusha t	minusha t	minuha t	minusha t
ai#	atai t	atai t	ataia t	ataia t
i#	alipi t	anipi t	anipia t	anipia t

SOLUTION

Proposed: **write -at**

Ex. aņipiat, ataiat, iņnuat, atimuat, nitimuat, missipat,
kakuat, mishtikuat, amishkuat, kutakat, minushat,
kukuminashat, mushat, nishimat, maikanat,
uapishtanat, aiamieunat

Pedagogy: For the western dialects, the rule of adding **-at** for the plural should be specially taught, especially after the consonant **n** where the **t** of the plural is not pronounced.

ITEM animate plural of independent verbs	SPELLING VARIANTS at or t			
CURRENT USAGE Great differences among communities.				
TYPE OF PROBLEM Important. Priority. Complicated to solve.				
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS				
RELATED TO: animate plural of nouns (50), animate plural of pronouns (52)				
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS				
	BETS	SI	MIN	ROM
u#	neut, metueut	neut, metueut	neu at , metue uat	neu at , metue uat
m#	tutam ut	tutam ut	tutam uat	tutam uat
k ^u #	uapamuk uat	nuapamuk ut	nuapamuk uat	nuapamuk uat
n#	tutamupan at	tutamupan at	tutamupan t	tutamupan t
i#	nuapamat it	nuapamat it	nuapamata it	nuapamata it

SOLUTION
<p><u>Proposed</u>: write -at</p> <p>Ex. after u:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">teuat/tauat, meuat/mauat, nipeuat/nipauat takushinuat, pimishinuat, shiueat tutamuaat, katshitinamuat, ishinamuat uapamakanuat, ai(a)miakanuat, itakanuat nitauat, iteuat, tshititauat, tshuapamauat nuapamikuat, tshititikuat, nitai(a)mikuat</p> <p>Ex. after n:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">nitshitapamananat, nipushiananat, nititananat metuepanat, ipanat, uapamepanat, tutamupanat itakanitshenat, takushinitshenat, kushpitshenat kushpikupanat, akushikupanat, issishuekupanat iteshipanat, uapameshipanat, pimuteshipanat</p> <p>Ex. after i:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">nuapamatiat, nitatiat, nipushiatiat nuapamikutiat, tshitai(a)mikutiat, tshitikutiat</p>

ITEM animate plural of pronouns	SPELLING VARIANTS t or nt tshe or tshen or tshent										
CURRENT USAGE In general t is written but the plural of the pronouns an and ne is a special case.											
TYPE OF PROBLEM Important because these words are very frequent.											
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS Two possibilities here: 1) apply to pronouns the same rule as for nouns and independent verbs 2) treat pronouns as a special case											
RELATED TO: animate plural of nouns (50) animate plural of independent verbs (51)											
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 50%;">SINGULAR</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 50%;">PLURAL</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>an</td> <td>ant or ntshe / nitshen / nitshent</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ne</td> <td>netshe / netshen / netshent</td> </tr> <tr> <td>nana</td> <td>nanan / nanant</td> </tr> <tr> <td>auen</td> <td>auenitshe / auenitshen / auenitshent</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		SINGULAR	PLURAL	an	ant or n tshe / nit shen / nit shent	ne	ne tshe / ne tshen / ne tshent	nana	nanan / nanant	auen	auen itshe / auenit shen / auenit shent
SINGULAR	PLURAL										
an	ant or n tshe / nit shen / nit shent										
ne	ne tshe / ne tshen / ne tshent										
nana	nanan / nanant										
auen	auen itshe / auenit shen / auenit shent										

SOLUTION

Proposed: **write -at**

Ex. **anat**
eukuanat
nananat (LNS **nekananat**)

NOTE: certain pronouns make them plural with **-tshenat**:

Ex. **nitshenat**
netshenat
utshenat
auenitshenat

ITEM locative of nouns	SPELLING VARIANTS -t or ø or -ht or -st																											
CURRENT USAGE BETS: -t after a vowel, -it after a consonant (including n) SI : -t after a vowel, -it after a consonant (-t after n) MIN : -ht after a vowel, -ht after a consonant (-t after n) ROM : -st after a vowel, -ist after a consonant (-t after n)																												
TYPE OF PROBLEM Important, frequent.																												
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS																												
RELATED TO: nt or lt which should be written nit or ñit (40) pre-aspirated consonants (23)																												
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS <table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 10%;"></th> <th style="width: 25%;">BETS</th> <th style="width: 25%;">SI</th> <th style="width: 25%;">MIN</th> <th style="width: 15%;">ROM</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Ex:</td> <td>assit</td> <td>assit</td> <td>ahtshiht</td> <td>assist</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>matakapit</td> <td>matakapit</td> <td>matakapiht</td> <td>matakapist</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>mishtukut</td> <td>mishktukut</td> <td>mihtukuht</td> <td>mistukust</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>utapanit</td> <td>utapan(t)</td> <td>utapant</td> <td>utapant</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					BETS	SI	MIN	ROM	Ex:	assit	assit	ahtshiht	assist		matakapi t	matakapi t	matakapi ht	matakapi st		mishtukut	mishktukut	mihtukuht	mistukust		utapanit	utapan(t)	utapant	utapant
	BETS	SI	MIN	ROM																								
Ex:	assit	assit	ahtshiht	assist																								
	matakapi t	matakapi t	matakapi ht	matakapi st																								
	mishtukut	mishktukut	mihtukuht	mistukust																								
	utapanit	utapan(t)	utapant	utapant																								

SOLUTION

Proposed: **after consonant:** -it

after vowel: -t

Ex:	assit	a ^h apit	utenat	ḥekat
	matakapit	mitshuapit	miutit	utit
	mishtukut	amishkut	minishtukut	atumut
	utapanit	u ^h akanit	tetapuakanit	

Difficulty: LNS, do not write pre-aspiration; in all dialects write -it after **n**, even if **i** is not pronounced.

ITEM	SPELLING VARIANTS
inanimate plural in a	a or e or ø
<p>CURRENT USAGE</p> <p>LNS : agreement everywhere to write a in nouns, verbs and pronouns</p> <p>SI : varies between a and ø - problems of agreement: only the plural of nouns is marked sometimes</p> <p>BETS: alternates between a, e and ø - same problem of agreement as at BETS</p> <p>BETS and SI are making efforts but lack consistency</p>	
<p>TYPE OF PROBLEM</p> <p>Priority, theoretically simple solution but requires an effort on the part of BETS, SCH and SI.</p> <p>Check on: rules of grammatical agreement.</p>	
<p>LINGUISTIC COMMENTS</p> <p>Spelling differences reflect in part real differences among speakers of Montagnais: the a of the inanimate plural is always pronounced on the LNS but rarely pronounced in other dialects, where a tonal difference marks a plural. Real difficulty at BETS: when plural is not marked by a tonal difference, the inanimate plural is pronounced e.</p>	
<p>RELATED TO: animate obviative in a (56)</p>	
<p>EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS</p> <p>BETS : uapukuna tashikam ekue ui metuatshet utapanisse mite ekue pimitat nite mushe tshima tshitshipalikau ume nimitim_ tshinishtuapaten a kutak_ minisha ? tan eshinakuat ne minisha ? ashteu_ mashinaikana</p> <p>SI : tshishkutamuakanut tshetshi tutakau uta nish tshekuan_ shash apu tshikut ishpanikau mitshiuap_ kanauenitamut nenu_ uinuau unatukunimuau_ nenu_ assia nika tuten kutak_ tshipita</p>	

<p>ROM : nissishukua nist mistukua maisham nenua uanashinataikana nishina niskata miam itashteua uanashinataikana</p> <p>NAT : matsi nateme mita kassinu shipissa</p>	
SOLUTION	
<p><u>Proposed</u>: marker with a (nouns, pronouns, and present tense independent verbs)</p> <p>Particularly at BETS: write e when the plural marker is pronounced as (mashinaikanisse apashta, nish^u aiapan mashinaikana):</p> <p>Ex. mita (BETS mite) pitukata mishta mitshena utapana pikupañua neñua utapanissa (BETS utapanisse) mushe ashteua mashinaikana kutaka tshimetuakana nika aian uiñuau unatakuñnimuaua neñua tshinishtuapaten a kutaka minisha? nisht^u mishtukua nitapashtan tshimassinuaua mannamik^u nishina nishkata kassinu shipissa (BETS shipisse) tan etatinikau (LNS etatiki) mitshuapa? nitasha nimishken natuapañua nimashinaikanashkua (BETS nimashinaikanashkue)</p> <p><u>Difficulty</u>: Problems of application in the western dialect, because the inanimate plural is usually marked by a low tone. It is indicated by a (e at BETS) only in certain contexts (after ss, shku, depending on the dialects).</p> <p>MIN, ROM & NAT: The only case where the usual a of the inanimate plural is replaced with a low tone is that of possessed nouns ending in uau. Check the spelling in these cases:</p>	

Pedagogy:

At PB, BETS, SI-SCH, a special lesson is needed very early on in the teaching of reading and writing. It is suggested that the students, from the beginning, be exposed to the forms which are generally used in the plural (massina, mitasha, ussishikauna, pishkueuna, minisha, in̄ niminana, etc.).

But it must be understood that in reading aloud, THE INANIMATE PLURAL OF NOUNS MUST BE PRONOUNCED IN A NATURAL WAY, AS SPOKEN IN EACH DIALECT.

At PB, where Montagnais is taught as a second language, the final **a** of plural nouns will be an aid to good pronunciation.

ITEM inanimate plural in i	SPELLING VARIANTS i or ai or ain or ø
CURRENT USAGE LNS: usually i but also ai or ain elsewhere: usually ø (the plural is not written differently from the singular except in the case of conjunct II verbs where it is sometimes indicated by -kau see 74).	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Priority. Easy theoretical solution but requires a good knowledge of grammar in the western dialect.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS -i as an inanimate plural marker surfaces in all verbs except those of the independent present (which takes -a) and except in the plural conjunct of II verbs (which take -kau in the western dialect but -i in the LNS dialect). It also surfaces in certain pronouns. In the western dialect, this inanimate plural is indicated by means of a low tone. In the LNS dialect the problem of marking the plural is often mixed with that of nasalization.	
RELATED TO: conjunct plural, II verbs (74), nasalization (11), inanimate plural in a (54), animate obviative in i (57)	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS MIN : aiamuna apu miam etahteti, aiamuna apu tshistakanti, katshi papeiuk ^u takuakau nenai etahteti: A, B, C, nenei aiamuna apu minashteti, umuenai ka uauiehteuai, ka iashteuai NAT : ka mikuashkuanuain iat nitautnnua, ne ka tsishpakauai nakashtamuna eunkuan eshinakuaki SCH : utshua, shipua, shakaikana, shipissa, uin nenu kassinu uauitam tshe ishinikatent_, mue ka ishteuen_, nishinipan_ uta	

ROM : ukuma
 aiatshimeu tshiashkua mak namesha
 nenua kutaka itashumeu
 iteu nenua Atuana
 Tshishe Manitu tshitshishkutamakunu tshetshi
 minuatumaku kassinu auennua uiapamaku
 itentakushinua ukupanima
 Enen ka nanatushimat Tania utuashiminua

NAT : namesha apu nipat
 utsimashkuess kue nestuapmat ushima, ushtesha
 nestuapmukut
 nishunua ukupanima, tshash mamesheshtnua nua
 apu uenua uapamat
 aiamianitaka ushima, ka-aimietaka ma

SOLUTION

Proposed: mark with **a** (nouns, pronouns and verbs in the present independent)

Special to BETS: write **e** when the obviative marker is pronounced as such (auasse kanueñimeu nimish, atikua nipiepan nutaui)

- in nouns and pronouns:

Ex. tshiñuemeu neñua Puñissa (BETS Puñisse) ne Mañi
 ushtesha nana nutau (i) Uñiama
 Puña unatshima ne Ishpashtien
 minuut nikauia uitshimepan Atuan
 nishtesha uitshimepan ne ishkuueu
 Puña uapameu Mañi
 Puñ uapameu Maña
 Puña uapamiku Mañi
 Puñ uapamiku Maña
 nishtesha pushieue nishim
 nishtesh pushieue nishima
 Puñ ushima utemiñua neñua

- in verbs:

Ex. ukauia akushiñua, itakanu (present, ordinary mode)
 ninishtuapamimaua utanisha
 takushinñitaka unapema (present, indirect mode)
 utishkuema pushiñitaka

(continued...)

Difficulti: Problems of application in the western dialect because the animate obviative is most often marked by a low tone. It is indicated by **a** (**e** at BETS) only in certain contexts which may vary according to the dialect (after **ss**, **shk^u** or **sh**).

MIN, ROM & NAT: the only case where the usual obviative **a** is replaced by a low tone is that of possessed nouns which end in **uau**. The spelling must be checked in these cases:

Ex. utauau**a** nipiñua
 tshishimuau**a** uishameu kauapikuesht
 matshishinua utemuau**a**

Pedagogy: At PB, BETS, SI-SCH should be specifically taught at the primary level but it is suggested that this point be introduced after the animate plural.

Suggested types of exercises:

- auditory discrimination (recognize a low tone)
- invert the subject and object of TA verbs (like pushieu, uapameu)
- word order (does not function as in English)

ATTENTION: The fact that the obviative **a** is marked should not change the natural pronunciation when reading aloud, pronunciation should be normal for each dialect.

ITEM	SPELLING VARIANTS
animate obviative in i	i or \emptyset
CURRENT USAGE	
BETS & SI: \emptyset LNS & SHE: i	
TYPE OF PROBLEM	
Major. Simple theoretical solution but its application in the western dialect requires a good knowledge of grammar.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS	
<p>-i as animate obviative marker appears in all verbs except those of the independent present (which take -a) and in some pronouns (others take -a).</p> <p>At BETS, SI and SCH, this i is never pronounced as such, it is replaced by a change of tone.</p>	
RELATED TO: animate obviative in a (56), inanimate plural in I (55)	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS	
BETS: ukau <i>i</i> akushilipan_, ushim telipan_, apu uapamimak_ ROM : akushinipani ukussa uauitamueu namesha eshinakushinti tekushint nte tanti NAT : eshk iniunipani ukauia nutsish apu iniunti eku nekani ushima put uitseuana enistseni kie emikuana tenitseni SHE : apu tshissenimmaki nukum uikanisha etashinitshi tapan nte ueshkat eshk ^u nte tanitshi utauia	

SOLUTION

Theoretical solution: **write i**

- In verbs other than the present independent:

Ex. apu iñniuñiti unapema
nateu nete etañiti
nukum uishamepan kauapikueshiñiti (participle)
teñipani ushtesha
teñikupani ukussa
eñikupani ukauapikueshimuaua
atusseñitsheni Pun utishkuema
eñitsheni uitimusha
akushiñishipani nimish utanisha
eñishipani utauaua
kushpiñitakueni ukussa, tshipa kushpipan kie uiñ
apu nita uapamimaki ukauia
apu tshisseñimimaki tshetshi tañikueni ushtesha
ka-teñueni uitimusha niteñimau

- In certain pronouns:

Ex. auenñitsheni utauia nimushum
tshekuenñitsheni uishamekupan ?
umushumuaua nanani (nekani LNS)

(continued...)

Difficulty: The theoretical solution seems to be very difficult to apply for BETS & SI-SCH speakers, especially since not writing final **i** does not lead to confusion (words in which it surfaces already carry another obviative marker). However, it is certain that in these dialects a low tone corresponds to **i** on the LNS and at SHE.

ITEM reflexive verbs	SPELLING VARIANTS tishu or shu
CURRENT USAGE LNS: shu elsewhere: tishu	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Minor.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS In the LNS dialect, the form -shu is more frequent but the form -tishu is also used.	
RELATED TO: u-stem verbs (59)	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS tshitapamit tishu / tshitapam ishu itenimit tishu / itenim ishu tshishkutamat tishu / tshishkutam ashu	

SOLUTION

Proposed: write **-tishu**

Ex. itenimit**ishu**
nitshitapamit**ishunan**
tshishkutamat**ishupan**
nitipeñimit**ishun**
nishtuapamit**ishuat**
mashinaimataut**ishunanu**(n)

Difficulty: In the LNS dialect, check the spelling of these verbs since the most usual form in the speech of this region is **-shu**.

ITEM	SPELLING VARIANTS
u-stem verbs	u or i
<p>CURRENT USAGE</p> <p>BETS & SI: alternates between i and u LNS : always u</p>	
<p>TYPE OF PROBLEM</p> <p>Minor. Simple solution but demands an effort on the part of BETS, SI & SCH.</p>	
<p>LINGUISTIC COMMENTS</p> <p>Reflects a differences in pronunciation at BETS and SI where the vowel in these verbs is not pronounced u.</p>	
<p>RELATED TO: short vowels (3), conjunct of verbs in shit in the singular (69)</p>	
<p>EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS</p> <p>BETS : nimitshishun/nimitshishin, apu mitshishit, apu mitshishian nitshitapamitishun/nitshitapamitishin, apu tshitapamitishian apu tshitapamititau/apu tshitapamitutau</p> <p>SI : nitapuetatishin, mashinatutishunanu</p> <p>ROM : ni mishun, ni tshissenimishun, tshetshi nishtuapamishut</p> <p>NAT : tsi ka ui nakatuenimishun</p>	

SOLUTION
<p><u>Proposed:</u> restore the vowel u</p> <p>Ex. nimitshishun, tshimitshishu(ti), apu mitshishuian, apu mitshishut, ninikamun, tshinikamu(ti), apu nikamuian, apu nikamut, nitshishkutamatishun, tshitshishkutamatishu(ti), apu tshishkutamatishuian, apu tshishkutamatishut</p> <p>N.B. In the imperative, regional variants will be kept (see no 76). In the 3rd person past, the variation among individuals and among dialects has not been solved.</p> <p>Ex. mitshishipan or mitshishupan</p> <p><u>Difficulty:</u> In the western dialect, where this vowel is not often pronounced i, it is impossible to predict which verbs have u-stems. These should be checked against a word list. Thus, this solution is difficult for speakers to apply because of the large number of words to be remembered. However, it is agreed that, with the help of a list, everyone will continue to make an effort to use this spelling solution.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(continued ...)</p>

Verbs with stem in **u**:

MUN

ninikamun
 nipakashimun
 nitipatshimun
 nipakumun
 nishakueñimun
 nipatshiteñimun
 nipuamun
 nikatshessimun
 nitakushimun
 nitshitishimun

PUN

nitatshipun
 nitshishpun

NUN

nuiñnun

`breath' family:
 nipitshishetamun
 nipakutamun
 nitishkutamun
 etc.

`sleep' family:
 nimiñukuamun
 nimushekuamun
 nimatuekuamun
 nishikatshikuamun
 nitaimikuamun / nitaiamikuamun LNS
 nueshamikuamun
 etc.

SHUN

nimitshishun
 nitshishikashun
 nikashun
 nipashun
 nishatshipashun
 nishukaitashun
 nitapashun
 nitapueshun / nitaiapueshun LNS

(continued ...)

nimaushun / nimaushun LNS
 ninatamishun
 nuiushun / nuiushun LNS
 ninanushun / ninanushun LNS
 ninakuashun

`sew' family:

nikussikuashun
 nitashpikuashun
 nueeshikuashun
 etc.

`dress' family:

nitshishuashpishun
 niminuashpishun
 ninapeuashpishun
 nitishkueuashpishun
 nitinnuashpishun
 nitatashpishun
 etc.

`be named' family:

nitishinikashun
 nitinnunikashun
 nitakanashaunikashun
 nimataunikashun
 etc.

`by heat' family:

nuanikashun
 nitishkuashun
 apu uakashkukashut
 apu pissikashut
 apu kuanapissikashut / kuanapishtshikashut LNS

`look like' family:

nitakushikashun
 ninipekashun / ninipakashun LNS
 ninipukashun / ninipaukashun LNS
 nitanimishikashun
 nitshishuapikashun
 etc.

(continued. . .)

`effects' family:
 ninaushtashun / ninauashtuashun LNS
 nipushtashun / nipushtuashun LNS
 nuñashtashun / nuañashtuashun LNS
 nitatashtashun / nitatashtuashun LNS
 nminushtashun / nminuashtuashun LNS
 nunitashun / nuanituashun LNS

`by the wind' family:
 nishapuashun
 nishekuashun
 nikuashun
 nipakuashun
 nuepashun
 nipimashun
 etc.

`child' family:
 nitashuapamaushun / nitashuapamauashun LNS
 nikanaushun / nikaniauashun LNS
 ninushaniaushun / ninushaniauashun LNS
 nitakunaushun / nitakunauashun LNS

`for himself' family:
 nimanukashun
 nutapanikashun
 ninipishakashun
 numitimikashun
 nitaiamituashun
 etc

reflexive verbs:
 nitshitapamitishun
 nuapamitishun
 ninaikatishun
 nitshishkutamatishun
 nitutamitishun
 nititeñimitishun
 nitipeñimitishun

(continued. . .)

reciprocal verbs:

nuapamitunan

nuepinitunan

nitaimitunan / nitaiamitunan LNS

nishatshitunan

nuakashinatunan

etc.

ITEM u/i variation of II verbs in n	SPELLING VARIANTS u or i
CURRENT USAGE PB & LNS: u elsewhere: mainly i but also u	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Minor. Easy solution.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS In old Montagnais, this vowel was u. In the dialects which change this vowel to i, the form with u can also be said.	
RELATED TO:	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS nipinupan / nipinipan nutinupan / nutinipan tshimuanupan / tshimuanipan	

SOLUTION

Proposed: **write u**

Ex. takuanupan, takuanutshe, takuanushipan
 tshimuanupan, tshimuanutshe, tshimuanushipan
 uikanupan, uikanutshe, uikanushipan

Difficulty: **-upan, -utshe, -ushipan** only surface in ordinary forms, not obviatives. In the obviative **-ñipan, -ñitshe, -ñishipan** must be written.

Ex. <u>ordinary</u>	<u>obviative</u>
takuanupan	takuan <u>ñ</u> ipan
mitshenutsheni	mitshen <u>ñ</u> itsheni
uikanushipan	uikan <u>ñ</u> ishipan

ITEM impersonal subject verbs, a and e stems	SPELLING VARIANTS nanu or nun
CURRENT USAGE PB & LNS: nanu SHE: nanu or nu BETS, SI, SCH: nun	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Complex problem.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS Two problems mixed up here: the alternatives of -nanu and -nu and the presence of a final n in -nun . The alteration of -nanu/-nu(n) already existed in Old Montagnais. It is also found in Cree. Contrary to what has been suggested it is not that the syllable -na drops in certain dialects, in which case the spelling solution is not as clear as first believed. Before proposing a spelling solution, there must be more information on the distribution of these forms in Montagnais dialects.	
RELATED TO: a/e variation (9) endings of impersonal subject verbs (62)	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS LNS & PB : nipan anu , tan anu , metu <u>an</u> anu , atuss <u>en</u> anu , naship <u>en</u> anu SHE:nipan anu / tan anu / metu <u>an</u> anu / atuss <u>en</u> anu / naship <u>en</u> anu / nipan u tan u , metu <u>an</u> u , atuss <u>an</u> u , naship <u>an</u> u BETS, SI-SCH: nipan un , tan un , metu <u>an</u> un , atuss <u>an</u> un , naship <u>an</u> un	

LNS: without **u**
elsewhere: with **u**

TYPE OF PROBLEM

Minor.

LINGUISTIC COMMENTS

It is a question of the endings of impersonal subject verbs, in non-present independent modes and in the conjunct: the LNS dialect does not have **u** in these endings even though it exists in all other dialects.

RELATED TO: impersonal subject verbs, **a** and **e** stems (61)

EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS

LNS: apu pushinant, apu akushinant, nimiranipan,
 inanitshe

elsewhere: apu pushinanut, apu akushinanut, nimiranuipan,
 inanutshe

SOLUTION	
<p><u>Proposed</u>: LNS: write <u>i</u> (independent & conjunct) elsewhere: write <u>ui</u> (independent), <u>u</u> (conjunct)</p>	
LNS	ELSEWHERE
Ex. independent verbs:	
niminanipan atapinanitshe inanishipan	niminanuipan atapinanu ⁱ tshe inanu ⁱ shipan
Ex. conjunct verbs:	
tshe niminanit tshe atapinanit apu akushinanit	tshe niminanut tshe atapinanut apu akushinanut

ITEM 1st person plural inclusive of possessives and independent verbs	SPELLING VARIANTS nu/nanu or nan tanu or tan
--	---

CURRENT USAGE

BETS & SI: **nu/nanu** and **tanu**

LNS : **nan** and **tan**, except in **tshinanu**

TYPE OF PROBLEM

Very secondary problem. Difficult to settle.

LINGUISTIC COMMENTS

Reflects a real dialect difference.

RELATED TO:

EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS

BETS & SI: **tshika itutenanu**, **tshimiluelitenanu**,
tshititutetanu, **tshimiluelitetanu**

LNS : **tshinanu tshitassinan**, **tshi ui nakatuenitenan tshi**
minuenitenan, **tsi ka shiuenan**

SOLUTION
<p>Regional differences not resolved:</p> <p>LNS: nan</p> <p>Elsewhere: nanu/nu</p> <p>Ex. LNS: tshitassinan, tshika shiuennan</p> <p>Elsewhere: tshitassinu, tshika shiueñnanu</p>

64

ITEM endings for 1st and 2nd person singular in the past	SPELLING VARIANTS - ti or ø
CURRENT USAGE	

LNS & SHE: ø
elsewhere: ti

TYPE OF PROBLEM

Important. Difficult. Not possible to settle.

LINGUISTIC COMMENTS

Reflects a real dialect difference.

RELATED TO:

EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS

LNS	elsewhere
ni nipa_ atiuk	ninipiati atik ^u
ni uapamiti pineuat	nuapamati atikuat
ni mitshi_ uaua	nimitshiti uaua
ni pmashi_ inutist	nipimashiti elutit
nuitamaku_	nuitamakuti `he told me'
nuitamakaui_	nuitamakuti `I was told'

SOLUTION	
Regional differences difficult to settle.	
Ex. LNS and SHE	Elsewhere
nuapama pineu nimitshi uau ninipa atik ^u nuitamaku nuitamakau	nuapamati piñeu mimitshiti uau ninipiati atik ^u nuitamakuti nuitamakuti

ITEM endings for 1st & 2nd person singular of verbs like tshipaim ^u	SPELLING VARIANTS aien or ain
CURRENT USAGE	

BETS: -**aien**

elsewhere: -**ain**

TYPE OF PROBLEM

Minor. Difficult to settle.

LINGUISTIC COMMENTS

Real dialect difference which surfaces in all verbs which form their 3rd person in -**aim**.

RELATED TO:

EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS

PB : nitship**ahen**

BETS : nitship**aien**

elsewhere: nitship**ain**

SOLUTION

Dialect differences difficult to resolve:

PB: -ahen	nitship ahen , nitip ahen , tshinak ahen
BETS: -aien	nitship aien , nitip aien , tshinak aien
elsewhere: -ain	nitship ain , nitip ain , tshinak ain

ITEM endings for 1st and 2nd person conjunct	SPELLING VARIANTS a or i
CURRENT USAGE Great variation in writing these words.	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Minor.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS These vowels are pronounced clearly only in the LNS dialect.	
RELATED TO:	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS TI (2S) : apu tutaman/tutamin TA (you-he) : apu uapamat/uapamit TA (we-he) : apu uapamatshit/uapamitshit	

ITEM endings for 1st person plural inclusive of conjunct verbs	SPELLING VARIANTS ak or shk^u or k^u
CURRENT USAGE BETS: varies between shk^u and k^u elsewhere: ak but ROM sometimes has ashk	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Minor problem. Difficult to settle.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS Special problem for BETS only, in the simple conjunct.	
RELATED TO:	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS BETS : tai ku akue, apu tai shk^u /tai k^u umitimikakue, apu umitimishk ^u SI : ka tai ak , tshe uapamak ROM : apu apatenim ashk , ishinakuanu tshetshi uauitshi ak	

SOLUTION

<u>Proposed:</u>	PB and BETS:	<u>k</u>^u	
	elsewhere:	<u>ak</u>^u	
	Ex.	`sleep'	`see someone'
	BETS	nipaik ^u	uapamaik ^u
	PB	nipaik ^u	uapamaik ^u
	elsewhere	nipaiak ^u	uapamak ^u
Remarks:	At PB and BETS, the forms of the type `see something' should be uapatamak ^u to conform with the principle adopted in point 6.		

ITEM conjunct of verbs in n	SPELLING VARIANTS k or tsh or t
CURRENT USAGE BETS & SI: t LNS : k	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Difficult to settle.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS Real dialect difference.	
RELATED TO:	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS BETS : apu lutit, ka takuat, tshe takuatshit, apu nukuat, apu tshimut SI : apu nutit, ka takut, e ishinakut, ka tshimut, uapat ROM : apu takuak, apu tshishik PB : lutitsh, takutsh SHE : takuak, nutik, uapak, nipik MIN : animahk, etakuahk, tan ehtshihuemakahk	

SOLUTION									
<p>Regional differences difficult to settle:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">PB: -tsh</td> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">apu ñutitsh</td> <td>apu takuatsh</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BETS, SI, SCH: -t</td> <td>apu ñutit</td> <td>apu takuat</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LNS and SHE: -k</td> <td>apu ñutik</td> <td>apu takuak</td> </tr> </table> <p>Remarks: in the LNS dialect, do not write pre-aspiration.</p>	PB: -tsh	apu ñutit sh	apu takuat sh	BETS, SI, SCH: -t	apu ñutit	apu takuat	LNS and SHE: -k	apu ñutik	apu takuak
PB: -tsh	apu ñutit sh	apu takuat sh							
BETS, SI, SCH: -t	apu ñutit	apu takuat							
LNS and SHE: -k	apu ñutik	apu takuak							

ITEM conjunct of verbs ending in shit in the singular	SPELLING VARIANTS shit or sht
CURRENT USAGE BETS: always sht SI : mostly sht but also shit LNS : mostly shit but also sht	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Priority because grammatical, theoretically simple solution but requires an effort on the part of BETS, SI and SCH.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS Partly related to differences in pronunciation: BETS, SI and SCH contract the pronunciation of the last syllable. Special difficulty for these dialects: knowing whether to write the i or u vowel.	
RELATED TO: conjunct plural, AI verbs (70), u -stem verbs (59)	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS BETS: apu akus ht , e miluas ht mitshiuap,tshetshishepaus ht , auass etelitakus ht SI : e itentakush it , eukuannu pus ht , ne assi eshpish minuas ht ROM : tshe push it , kassinu eshpitashkamikas ht , amushk etentakush it NAT : pemash it ma tepeshkant	

Everyone makes an effort to mark the plural, except in participles.

TYPE OF PROBLEM

Major grammatical problem. Very difficult to resolve.

LINGUISTIC COMMENTS

Reflects real dialect differences: LNS & SHE have a plural in **-h-** while elsewhere there is a plural in **-au** which alternates with a low tone (the **-au** form is used in formal style).

RELATED TO: conjunct plural, participles in **sht** (71) conjunct plural, TI verbs (72), TA verbs (73)

EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS

BETS: ekue pitsheta**u**, apu tshi pushit**u**, ka ishi natuelitak**u**, apu tatapishkut ishi shuelimat**u**, kassinu etashit_ ishku**e**ut, aueshisht nite etat_, apu takushinit**u**, ekue milakanit**u**, ekue uapamakanit**u**, kue amipalit**u**

SI : nitshent ka tata**u**, ka mamishishtit**u**, tshetshi eka unishinit**u**, apu takushinit**u**
e natapishtuakanit**u** Innut

ROM : nist ka t**ast**, tan etatusse**st** ntshent, nutem eshinakush**ist** aueshishat, ntshent ka uitsheu**ast**
Sheshusha, auashat ka minan**ist**, kustumu**at** tshetshi uttamuakan**ist**

NAT : apu nta pituas**ht** tiakuaitset**u**, eku ta eneusht mietau**esht**, eku push**isht**, eshpe**sh** tukushen**isht**, katsi mitsut_ kie katsi kutu**e**t_ eku tsiatute**sht**,
uiashaman**isht** utsimassat

MIN : ntshent ka ta**ht**, tshe itatuhtshe**ht** auassat, ntshent tepatshimakani**ht**, tshetshi eka uanta**ht**, uapuehat ekunan**ht**

70a

PARTICIPLES:

BETS: nitshen katshishkutamatsh**e**t_, nitshen ka akushit_

SI : auassat kaitus**e**t_, katshishe utshimautus**e**t_ ekue pashtinak**u**

ROM : katshishkutamatsh**est**, ka iakush**ist**, ka aiami**ast**

MIN : ka tshishkutamuani**ht**

SOLUTION

Proposed: LNS & SHE: **-h-** (and not s or sh)

elsewhere: -au

participles: -h- (all dialects)

Ex. ordinary AI verbs:

LNS & SHE	ELSEWHERE
ekue taht	ekue tatau
ekue metueht	ekue metuetau
ekue miniht	ekue minitau
ekue nikamuht	ekue nikamutau
ekue pushiht	ekue pushitau
ekue uapamituht	ekue uapamitutau
ekue tutamatishuht	ekue tutamatishutau

Ex. AI verbs in **-nit**:

LNS & SHE	ELSEWHERE
ekue takushiniht	ekue takushinitau
ekue uapamakaniht	ekue uapamakanitau
ekue minakaniht	ekue miñakanitau
ekue amipaniht	ekue amipañitau
ekue papaniht	ekue papañitau

(continued...)

Ex. Participles derived from AI verbs, except those in **sht** (see no. 71)

ALL DIALECTS

kaiatañutshe**ht**
 kauapishi**ht**
 kamanitushi**ht**
 kaiamituatshe**ht**
 kaiatusse**ht**
 kapikuta**ht**
 kapei(a)kussi**ht**
 kautishkuemi**ht**

Difficulty: It is recommended that in the western dialect, an effort be made to write the plural of participles (up until now not written differently from the singular, even if it has a low tone).

Remarks: Two solutions could theoretically reduce the regional spelling differences:

- 1) All dialects (except PB) mark the conjunct plural (including participles) by means of **-h-**.
- 2) All LNS speakers adopt the marker **-au**. In this case the form of the plural conjunct will be quite different from that of the simple conjunct.

subjunctive plural: auassat patush nipata**ui**
 conjunct plural: auassat apu nipata**au**

These two solutions should eventually be reexamined by speakers of all dialects.

ITEM plural of conjunct, participles in sht	SPELLING VARIANTS shit or shat or shisht																					
CURRENT USAGE BETS: always shit SI : alternates between shat and shit LNS : uncertain, lack of information																						
TYPE OF PROBLEM Secondary, but difficult to resolve.																						
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS																						
RELATED TO: conjunct verbs with singular in shit (69) conjunct plural, AI verbs (70)																						
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS <table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;"></th> <th style="width: 5%;"></th> <th style="width: 40%; text-align: center;">SINGULAR</th> <th style="width: 5%;"></th> <th style="width: 35%; text-align: center;">PLURAL</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>BETS</td> <td>:</td> <td>kauapukuiesht kamakunuesht kanikamusht</td> <td></td> <td>kauapukuiesshit kamakunueshit kanikamushit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SI</td> <td>:</td> <td>kamashinaitshesht kanikamusht kauitenitakusht</td> <td></td> <td>kamashinaitsheshat kanikamushat kauitenitakushit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NAT</td> <td>:</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td></td> <td>kamakunueshisht</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					SINGULAR		PLURAL	BETS	:	kauapukuiesht kamakunuesht kanikamusht		kauapukuies shit kamakunue shit kanikamu shit	SI	:	kamashinaitshesht kanikamusht kauitenitakusht		kamashinaitshes hat kanikamu shat kauitenitaku shit	NAT	:	-		kamakunue shisht
		SINGULAR		PLURAL																		
BETS	:	kauapukuiesht kamakunuesht kanikamusht		kauapukuies shit kamakunue shit kanikamu shit																		
SI	:	kamashinaitshesht kanikamusht kauitenitakusht		kamashinaitshes hat kanikamu shat kauitenitaku shit																		
NAT	:	-		kamakunue shisht																		

SOLUTION			
<p>Proposed: LNS: <u>shiht</u></p> <p>PB: <u>shat</u></p> <p>elsewhere: <u>shit</u></p> <p>(At PB the plural of these participles follows the rule for animate nouns and not that for conjunct verbs).</p>			
Ex.	LNS	PB	ELSEWHERE
	kanimi shiht	kanimi shat	kanimi shit
	kapiminu eshiht	kapiminu eshat	kapiminu eshit
	kanikamu shiht	kanikamu sh	kanikamu shit
	kakusse shiht	kakusse shat	kakusse shit

72

ITEM plural of TI conjunct verbs	SPELLING VARIANTS kau or t or shk or hk
CURRENT USAGE	

BETS: alternates between **-kau** and **-t**
SI : **kau**
ROM & NAT: **shk**
MIN : **hk**

TYPE OF PROBLEM

Major grammatical problem, theoretical solution possible.

LINGUISTIC COMMENTS

Same situation as for the plural of conjunct AI verbs.

RELATED TO: conjunct plural, AI verbs (70), TA verbs (73)

EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS

BETS : apu tapuetak**au**/tapuetat
 apu tshisselitak**au**/tshisselitat
SI : eukunu e uapatak**au**
ROM : teuat ntshent ka tapuetash**k**
 tshetshi tshissenitash**k** kie uinuau
NAT : nistuat katepentash**k**
MIN : tshetshi nistuata**hk** auassat

		SOLUTION
<u>Proposed:</u> LNS -hk (including participles) elsewhere: -au (participles: k changed to t)		
Ex.	LNS	ELSEWHERE
	ekue uatin hk ekue tapueta hk apu uapata hk	ekue utinaka u ekue tapueta ka apu uapata ka
Participles:	nisht ^u kakushapata hk nitshenat katipenita hk	nisht ^u kakushapata t nitshenat katipe ñ it a t
<u>Difficulty:</u>	The plural with -h- cannot be used in the LNS dialect unless pre-aspiration of final consonants is not marked (see no. 23). If pre-aspiration is written it will no longer be possible to write the difference between the singular and plural of TI conjunct verbs.	
	Pre-aspiration marked	not marked
	ne auass apu nishtut ahk auassat apu nishtut ahk	ne auass apu nishtut ak auassat apu nishtut ahk
Remarks:	Two solutions could theoretically reduce regional spelling differences:	
	1) That all dialects (except PB) mark the conjunct plural (including participles) by using -h- .	
	2) That the LNS speakers adopt the marker -au . In this case the form of the conjunct plural of the subjunctive will be quite different from that of the simple conjunct.	
	subjunctive plural: auassat patush nishtutak au	
	conjunct plural: auassat apu nishtutak au	
	These two solutions should eventually be reexamined by speakers of all dialects.	

73

ITEM	SPELLING VARIANTS
plural of TA conjunct verbs	t or at au h or sh or s or ø
CURRENT USAGE	

In all communities, it happens that the distinction is not made in writing between a singular and a plural verb.

TYPE OF PROBLEM

Extremely important. Very difficult to get uniformity.

LINGUISTIC COMMENTS

The TA verbs have three different markers in the plural: **-au**, **-t** and **-h-**.

-t plural: not a problem except for the spelling rule (should write **t** and not **at**).

Complex situation for the 2 other plurals because **-au** and **-h-** do not have the same distribution in the different dialects. In addition, in the western dialect, **h** is replaced by a low tone.

RELATED TO: conjunct plural, AI verbs (70), TI verbs (72)

EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS

SOLUTION

Proposed: IN ALL DIALECTS

write <u>-t</u>:	(we incl.-them) (you pl.-them) (they-us incl.) (they-you pl.)	tshe uapamakut tshe uapamekut tshe uapamitakut tshe uapamitakut
write <u>-au</u>:	(I-them) (you s.-them) (they-you s.)	tshe uapamakau tshe uapamatau tshe uapamishkau
write <u>-h-</u>:	(we excl.-them) (they-us excl.)	tshe uapamatshiht tshe uapami(a)miht

LNS & SHE: **write -h-**

ELSEWHERE: **write -au**

(they me) tshe uapami**ht**
(they him) tshe uapama**ht**

tshe uapamit**au**
tshe uapamata**au**

Difficulty: In all dialects, the plural of the following forms has until now been written the same for the singular and the plural. All therefore should write:

tshe uapamatshit `we excl. see him'
tshe uapamatshi**ht** `we excl. see them'

tshe uapami(a)mit `he sees us excl.'
tshe uapami(a)mi**ht** `they see us excl.'

ITEM plural of II conjunct verbs	SPELLING VARIANTS kau or i
CURRENT USAGE BETS & SI: -kau LNS : -i	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Very difficult to settle.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS	
RELATED TO: inanimate plural in i (55)	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS BETS: tan etapishtakan kau uishitshimina SI : eukun tshe ui unuipanitakan kau atusseuakan shash apu tshikut ishpan kau mitshiuap ROM : tan etatiki mitshuapa apu takuaki tshipaututshuap nte mamist	

SOLUTION

Proposed: LNS: -i (including participles)

 elsewhere: -kau (including participles)

 Ex. LNS

 ELSEWHERE

Singular: pashtet

pashtet

Plural: pashteti

pashtekau

Singular: takuak

takuat

Plural: takuaki

takuanikau

Singular: takat

takat

Plural: takati

takakau

Plural participle:

kamashinaitshepañiti kamashinaitshepañikau

Difficulty: At BETS, SI and SCH, a special effort should be made to teach **kau**; in practice, the **kau** is not often pronounced, but is usually replaced by a low tone.

ITEM subjunctive of verbs	SPELLING VARIANTS marked or not
CURRENT USAGE BETS & SI: subjunctive written like ordinary conjunct LNS : subjunctive usually different	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Secondary problem, theoretically solution easy but means an effort on the part of BETS, SI and SCH.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS In the speech of all Montagnais - except PB - there is a difference between the simple conjunct and the subjunctive. At BETS, SI & SCH, the subjunctive is indicated by a low tone, except after shk (ex. uapamishki/uapamishke BETS). On the LNS, it is indicated by -i , except after k^u (pronounced ku) and after au (pronounced with a low tone). NB: the subjunctive marker is always added to the ordinary conjunct form.	
RELATED TO:	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS BETS: uapat_ nika natshi shushukuan miamitunelitaman_, tapue... muk ^u essishuein_ tshika ishinakuan SI & SCH: tshishtaian_ ume kau nika kushpin shaputuepan_ nenu e itenitakushit, tshika tshi aitu..., aishkat itutein_ e peikussin, apu tshikut animiuin mushtuenitamin_ tshetshi tshiuein,tshe tshiuein ROM: uapaki nika tashkamain shipu mishta tshishin pepuki minuat takushiniani... muk aituteni, tshe ishi-nashatan tshishtata au auassat...	

SOLUTION

NAT: akua nipiutani tse passekan
 neshka nepati, kassinu mista mauatau umitshim
 tshi ka shiuenan eka meshkamaku tshekuan tse
 mitsiak
 eka tukusheniani...
 apu nta pituasht tiakuaitsetau

Theoretical solution: mark the subjunctive with **-i**

Does not apply at PB where the subjunctive does not exist
 -.

Ex. nipiki, eka ñutiki, uapaki, tshemuaki, uiapamitani
 itakaniti, eka iakushiani, takushinini,
 niminaniti, natishki, tati

Ex. tshishtaiani nitatusseun, nika natshi kussen minuat
 takushinini, apu tshika ut taian patush tati ninapem,
 nika tshituten akua u(a)nitaiakui tshitai(a)munnu
 muk^u essishueiati, nika tapuetakunan eka mishkamekui,
 niñ nika nanatuapamau tshe takushinin patush
 nitauassimat nipataui minuat niminaniti, nika natshi
 nimin kie niñ

Difficulty for LNS:

In this dialect, the **-i** vowel of the subjunctive is not pronounced in all cases. The following contexts where the subjunctive is marked differently must be checked.

- 1) after **k^u**: subjunctive pronounced **ku** but written **kui**
 (we incl.) (you pl.)

uapamakui	uapamekui
takushiniakui	takushiniekui
taiakui	taiekui
uapamitakui (he-us)	uapamitakui (he-you pl.)
uapamiekui (you pl.-me)	

(continued)

2) after **au** (subjunctive plural): indicated by a low tone but written **ai**:

AI & TI verbs	TA verbs
iakushitau i	uapamakau i (I-them)
tekushinitau i	uapamatau i (you s.-them)
pemutetau i	uapamatau i (they-him)
uetinakau i	uapamatshitau i (we excl.-them)
uiapatakau i	uapamitau i (they-me)
pietakau i	uapamishkau i (they-you s.)
etutakau i	uapami(a)mitau i (they-us excl.)

Rule to follow: write final **-I** in all cases. (But it is understood that in reading aloud, the pronunciation is as normal.)

Difficulty for BETS, SI & SCH:

Several factors work against the adoption of marking the subjunctive in the western dialect.

- 1) The theoretical solution appears to be very difficult for speakers of these dialects to apply, since the subjunctive is marked by a low tone.
- 2) The rules of distribution of the subjunctive are poorly understood by linguists.
- 3) The fact that the subjunctive is written differently from the simple conjunct does not seem to create confusion.
- 4) In certain cases the subjunctive marker is confused with the **i** of the inanimate plural and with the **i** of the animate obviative.

ITEM 2nd singular imperative AI and TI verbs	SPELLING VARIANTS final vowel or ø
CURRENT USAGE LNS : final vowel always written BETS: final vowel never written SCH : make an effort to write the final vowel	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Minor, very easy solution but requires an effort on the part of BETS, SI and SCH.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS The final vowel of certain verbs in the 2nd person singular imperative is not pronounced at BET, SI and SCH although it always is on the LNS.	
RELATED TO: u-stem verbs (59)	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS SCH : uinenita, aiashikaushi, tuta, tshitapata ROM : uauita, naushuna, nimi, mini, mitshi NAT : nakatuenta, shatshuapata, utna PB : tuta, papi SI : tut_, pap_, tshitapat_, naushun_, nim_, min_, mit_ BETS: tut_, pap_, tshitapat_, naushun_, nim_, min_, mit_	

		SOLUTION																	
<u>Proposed:</u>	1) write the final vowel when it is <u>i</u> or <u>a</u> 2) in u-stems: PB: <u>ui</u> LNS: <u>u</u> elsewhere: do not write the vowel u																		
1) <u>i</u> or <u>a</u> vowel	Ex. papi eka unineñita ai(a)mi tuta nimi tshitapata mini ashuapata mitshi uauita eka aiashikuashi u(a)tina																		
<u>Difficulty:</u>	At BETS, SI & SCH, one cannot count on the pronunciation in order to know which vowel to write. Ways of finding out: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - always a in verbs like tshitapatam^u, u(a)tinam^u, kushtam^u, uaneñitam^u, u(a)nisham^u, usham^u, sheshkam^u, shenam^u, uashtenam^u, uepinam^u, etc. - for verbs with no object, look at the 1st person singular independent form: <table style="margin-left: 20px; border: none;"> <tr> <td>ni</td><td>+</td><td>nimi</td><td>+</td><td>n</td></tr> <tr> <td>ni</td><td>+</td><td>mitshi</td><td>+</td><td>n</td></tr> <tr> <td>ni</td><td>+</td><td>papi</td><td>+</td><td>n</td></tr> </table> 	ni	+	nimi	+	n	ni	+	mitshi	+	n	ni	+	papi	+	n			
ni	+	nimi	+	n															
ni	+	mitshi	+	n															
ni	+	papi	+	n															
2) <u>u</u> vowel	No common solution for u-stem verbs (see no. 59) except mitshishu (eat!). Special problem on the LNS: no difference between 2nd person singular imperative and 3rd person singular independent. At BETS & SI-SCH, where the final u is not pronounced, it is better to not write this vowel and maintain the distinction.																		
`he sings'	LNS	PB	ELSEWHERE																
`sing!'	nikamu	nikamu	nikamu																
	nikamu	nikamui	nikam																
`he does it to himself'	tutamatishu	tutamatishu	tutamatishu																
`do it to yourself'	tutamatishu	tutamatishui	tutamatish																

ITEM TA imperative of the 'give-me' type	SPELLING VARIANTS i or ø
CURRENT USAGE LNS : i always written BETS: i never written SI : lack of information	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Minor, very easy solution but requires an effort on the part of BETS, SI and SCH.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS The final i is always pronounced on the LNS; at SI and BETS, it is never pronounced but there is a change of tone which allows the distinction to be made between verbs like `give- him', `make-him'.	
RELATED TO:	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS BETS : ashuapam_, uitamu_, uisham_, patshitin_, uitsheu_, shenamu_ SI : ashuapam_, uitamu_, uisham_ ROM : tutui, uitsheui, uitshishkumi, eka pissenimi, aui NAT : natutui, ashami, mini, nashpetutui, tsitapmi	

SOLUTION	
<u>Proposed</u> : write final i when the object is 'me'	
Does not apply at PB where the imperative is very different (uapam 'see him', uapamishi 'see me')	
Ex. `him'	`me'
ish	ishi
uitsheu	uitsheui
tutu	tutui
uitamu	uitamui
tipatshimushtu	tipatshimushtui
miñ	miñi
nashkum	nashkumi
asham	ashami
shenamu	shenamui
ashuapam	ashuapami
tshitapam	tshitapami
uisham	uishami
uitshishkum	uitshishkumi
natatu	natatui
<u>Not settled</u> : Case of imperative of verbs in -ieu . In all dialects, except PB, the distinction between the object `me' and `him' is marked by tone (PB uitshihi `help him' uitshihishi `help me').	
Ex. of verbs which will have ambiguous meaning in written form:	
uitshi `help him'	or `help me'
minatshi `clean him up'	or `clean me up'
pushi `put him in'	or `put me in'
shatshi `love him'	or `love me'
Even more complex case:	
ai(a)mi `talk' or `talk to him' or `talk to me'	

78

ITEM Boundary 1: personal prefix	SPELLING VARIANTS attached or detached or with hyphen
CURRENT USAGE	
BETS: attached	
SI : attached or detached	

MIN : attached or detached or with hyphen
ROM : attached or detached or with hyphen

TYPE OF PROBLEM

Priority.

LINGUISTIC COMMENTS

RELATED TO: boundary 3: personal prefix and preverbs of time (80), personal prefixes (49)

EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS

BETS: **ninakuan, ninatutuau, nituten**
 tshituteti
 ukatshishapishteshim, upiminueun
 nuapamau, tshuapamau
 nitakushin, nitassukuman
 tshitassuk^u, tshitush
 utakupilu, utassuk^u, utauassim

SI : **ni tshishkutamakunan**
 utinnu aitunuau

MIN : **ntutetan**
 tshi mahanaikanaht
 umahanaikan/u mahanaikan, u-mitshem
 tshitatustsheu mahanaikan

ROM : **ni-nakuan, ni natutuau, ni tuten**
 tshi tute
 u-kashapishteshim, upminauan
 ni uapamau
 tshi uapamau
 nit akushin, nitashikumana
 tshitush, tshit-assiuk
 utakupinu, ut-assiuk, utuashima

SOLUTION

Proposed: **attached to noun or to verb**

Ex.	nipapin	nimanitem
	nitauassiun	nitauassim
	tshipikutan	tshimetuakan
	tshitai (a)miau	tshitakup
	utishkuema	unapema
	utassik^u	ushpuakana

ITEM boundary 2: preverbs of time	SPELLING VARIANTS
CURRENT USAGE All agree to detach it.	
TYPE OF PROBLEM	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS Preverbs of time: e, ka, katshi, etshi, tshipa, tshika, ui, tshi, tshe	
RELATED TO: boundary 3: personal prefix + preverb of time (80)	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS	

SOLUTION	
<u>Proposed:</u>	<p>1) separate from verb, without hyphen</p> <p>Ex. ka papit ui papu tshe papit etshi papit katshi papit tshetshi papit tshi papit tshi papu tshipa papu</p> <p>2) separate each preverb</p> <p>Ex. tshipa tshi ui papu ka ui itutet tshipa tshi eka tshi tshitaimatishu tshe ui tutak ka ui tutak nipa tshi ui tuten</p> <p>N.B. write apu tshika ut (and not *tshikut)</p>

80

ITEM boundary 3: personal prefix + preverbs of time	SPELLING VARIANTS attached or detached
CURRENT USAGE	

SOLUTION

Proposed: personal prefix attached to first preverb of time

Ex. nika ituten
nipa nipanapan
tshitshi takushin
tshipa peten
nitshi uapaten
tshika papin
tshipa shiueñu
tshika tshi mishken
tshui nashen
tshika ui nashuau

ITEM boundary 4: participles in ka	SPELLING VARIANTS ka attached, detached, or with a hyphen
CURRENT USAGE BETS: the preverb ka is always attached to the verb SI : usually detached	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Simple. Pure spelling rule.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS These words with ka are called `participles'. They are used frequently for forming new words which designate people, professions or occupations, objects, places or activities. These words are characterized by the fact that they can be made possessive. Examples: nikashiuashim `my sugar' tshikauapikueshiminu `our priest'.	
RELATED TO: boundary 6: adding i between preverb and vowel (83). DO NOT MIX UP WITH THE PREVERB OF TIME KA (79)	
EXAMPLES `cook' : ka piminuesht ka-piminuesht kapiminuesht `priest': ka uapikuiesht ka-uapikuiesht kauapikuesht `sugar': ka shiuasht ka-shiuasht kashiuasht	

SOLUTION

Proposed: write as a single word, except Ka Tipeñitak

NAMES OF PERSONS AND PROFESSIONS

kautapanitshesht	nikautapanitsheshim
kapiminuesht	tshikapiminueshiminu
kauapikuesht	ukauapikueshimuaua
kanikutesht	tshikanikuteshim
kaiassitshesht	nikaiassitsheshim
kamanapitepishuesht	nikamanapitepishueshim
kautapesht	tshikautapeshiminu
kaimisht	nikaimishiminan
katshishkutamatshesht	nikatshishkutamatsheshim

PROPER NAMES OF PEOPLE

Kamiñuapeut
Kaiakuatapeut
Kaiakuatishkueut
Kakanupitunet

NAMES OF OBJECTS

kashiuasht	nikashiuashim
katshishapishtesht	tshikatshishapishteshim
kañipasht	tshikañipashim

NAMES OF PLACES

Kamassekuakamat
Katshipuñeu-shipiss

Difficulty: Accumulation of vowels when the verb begins with
ai: leave out an **a**

Ex. **k**aiminanut (and not *kaiaiminanut)
kaimisht (and not *kaaimisht)
kaiamituatshet (and not *kaaiamituatshet)

ITEM boundary 5: subjective mode in ka	SPELLING VARIANTS with or without hyphen
CURRENT USAGE BETS: hyphen Elsewhere: without hyphen	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Simple problem, purely a rule.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS Mode used, among others, for the telling of dreams. Function of the hyphen: to distinguish the prefix ka of the subjunctive mode (ex. ka-papua) from the preverb ka (ex. ka papit).	
RELATED TO: boundary 2: preverbs of time (79)	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS BETS : ka-tshipaikanua SI : ka tshipeikanua MIN : ka tshipeikanua	

SOLUTION	
<u>Proposed:</u>	ka attached to verb with a hyphen
	Ex. tshekuañnu ne ka -papua! ka -mishta mishaua, eshinakuat ka -kununua, niteñite(ti) ka -shiueñua, nitishinuau ka -nitakushinaua, nitishinen tshekuan ne ka -nakatinua

83

ITEM Boundary 6: Adding i between a preverb and a vowel	SPELLING VARIANTS i or ø
CURRENT USAGE	

BETS: never **i**
SI : variable
ROM : often **i**

TYPE OF PROBLEM

Minor.

LINGUISTIC COMMENTS

RELATED TO:

EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS

BETS: nika apin, ka akushilit, mishta atusseu, tshe
 apashtat

SI : ka atussetau/kaitusset

ROM : ka **i**akushinti, tshe **i**apashtat

Proposed: 1) **do not write i when the verb and preverb
are detached**

Ex. nika apin
 mishta atusseu
 ka akushiñiti
 tshika apashtan
 tshe akushit
 nite ka atusset

2) **write i in participles**

Ex. Kaianuet, kaiakushi(h)t, kaiatañ
 utshesht Kaissitshesht

ITEM boundary 7: compound words	SPELLING VARIANTS with or without hyphen
CURRENT USAGE No consistency in any dialect (except NAT which does not use a hyphen). Problem not solved during the workshops but analysed later by the linguists.	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Important. Concerns a very large number of words. Purely a spelling rule.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS The 2nd member of a compound word is a noun (compound noun), a verb (compound verb) or an adverb (compound adverb). The first member of a compound can be a noun, a verb, an adverb or any other element which does not stand as an isolated word (called a "preform"). The spelling problem arises from the fact that if one takes account of the meaning of the word, parts of certain compounds seem more strongly attached than others. The main question is whether to rely on the structure of the word or its meaning in order to decide whether or not to write a hyphen.	
RELATED TO: boundary 8: uncertain compounds (85)	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS BETS: shuliau-aueshish, nutshimiu-natukulin, tshishe-utshimau, nipun-tapitshepishun, uapimin-tapateu, Tshitshitua-Mali, pashtisse-kuashkutu, ilinu-pimipaliakanu, mishta papu, natshi kusseu, ishi apashtakanu, pami-takunam, mishku-atusseu, mishta milekash, mishta-min, ussi-naikuakanu SI : upishtukuiaiu assit, uitshi innu auasse, utinnu aitunuau, kakusseshiu innutshimau, tshishe utshimau, shuniaiu aueshish, nutshimiu aimun, innu-pimipaniakanu, minu mamitunenitam, nitau atusseu, ishi uapatakanu MIN : atustsheu mahanaikan, tipatshimu-mahanaikant, ehi tshistshenimaht, aihitshissuakanu ROM : tshishe-ka-aiamituatshet, Ulamen-shipist, innu-assist, akam-assist/akamassit, aiamieu-unakan, innu-aimun, Tshishe Manitu, aiamieu mashinaikan, natshi-kusseu, nat-assikumani, ka ishi-mushtuentamenti, nitau passitshet, natshi passitshepan, mishta uitshipueu <div style="text-align: right;">(continued)</div>	

SOLUTION

Solutions rejected by workshop participants:

- never put a hyphen
- always put a hyphen

Until now, there has been agreement to use the hyphen only in compound nouns of the following types:

NOUN + NOUN

Ex. ishkuteu-ush
ushkat-mitshishuakan
ushakai-pakueshikan
auass-meish

VERB + NOUN

Ex. aiamieu-mashinaikan
nipeu-akunishkueun
atusseu-añakapeshakan
tshimuan-akunishkueun

For all other categories of compound nouns, the participants were very reluctant to use hyphens. However, there do exist many other cases of compound words:

ADVERB + NOUN

Ex. ai(a)t + assi
nutshimiu + iñnu
mashteñ + atushkan
mamit + innuat LNS

(continued...)

PREFORM + NOUN	Ex.	Tshishkue + Atuan Tshishe + Manitu tshishe + napeu tshishe + kaiamituatshet miñu + napeu mashi + mitush matshi + manitu matsh + ush uss + ush ussi + tshekuan tshiashi + tshekuan Akam + assiss (Newfoundland) nitshi + kukuminash mishta + nutshimiuñnu mishta + utshimau Mishta + Napeu mishta + massek ^u Mishta + nipi LNS
NOUN + VERB	Ex.	kakusseshiu + pimipañiakanu iñnu + pakueshikanitsheu uashau + ai(a)mu akañeshau + tshishkutamatsheu iñnu + nikamu utshimau + atusseu
VERB + VERB	Ex.	ashineu + mitshishu aiamieu + nip(a)u tshetshishepau + mitshishu tipishkau + atusseu kuishkushiu + nikamu
ADVERB + VERB	Ex.	nutshimiu + atusseu pei(a)ku + mitshishu nishu + atusseuat pashtisse + kuashkutu ait(a)u + kupitan neu + tshishikau
PREFORM + VERB	Ex.	tshishkue + pituau nitau + kussikuashu ashte + miñukushu ashte + ñutin nanat(a)u + nipeu natshi + atusseu

(continued)

mishta + tshishkutamuakanipan
 pami + takuneu
 uapi + shipekun
 kashteu + mikuau
 tshiñip + nitautshu
 uani + shishiu
 matsh + akushu
 matsh + uteu
 matshi + tshishikau
 akua + tipishkau
 kukuetshi + mitshishu
 ishi + atusseau / itatusseau LNS
 ishi + tshishkutamatsheu
 uss + uteu / ushtsh + uteu LNS
 ussi + mitshuapeu
 mishta + mitshishu
 mishta + kamatshishiu
 miñu + mitshishu
 miñu + tshishikau
 miñu + iñniu
 miñu + uitamueu
 uesham + tshishiteu

PREFORM + ADVERB Ex. mishta + nutshimit
 mishta + añem
 uesham + katak^u

Note the following constructions:

1) COMPOUND NOUNS OR VERBS FORMED FROM THREE OR MORE ELEMENTS:

Ex. tshiash + iñnu + mashinaikan
 u(a)ñaman + shipiu + ai(a)mu
 mishta + miñu + mitshishu
 uitshi + kakusseshiu + auassa
 ishi + iñnu + tshishkutamuakanu
 nitau + matshi + tutam^u
 matshi + manitu + tshishe + utshimau

(continued...)

2) PARTICIPLES FORMED FROM COMPOUNDS (this type of participle is often used as a title):

Ex. katipatshimu + mashinaikanitshesht (the journalist)
 kaitshi + kakueñitak (the jealous one)
 kaitshi + papit (the joker)
 kanitau + kussikuasht (the good seamstress)
 kautei + akushi(h)t (those with a heart condition)
 kaussi + nipushi(h)t (the newlyweds)
 katshishe + utshimau + atusseht (the bureaucrats)

3) PREVERB KA- (SUBJECTIVE MODE, WITH HYPHEN) + COMPOUND VERB:

Ex. ka-nimishta + uiñnakushinaua ma kie !
 ka-mishta + mamishaueni ma tshitasha !
 ne ka-kashteu + shipekunua mitshuap, tshuapaten a?
 ka-tshinitau + kussikuashunaua ma !

* * * * *

Proposed by the linguists:

The linguists are of the opinion that it would be very difficult to work out rules which are CONSISTENT, CLEAR, EASY TO APPLY (AND THEREFORE EASY TO TEACH) to determine which categories of compound words should be written with a hyphen and which ones written without a hyphen.

The only way to proceed would be to decide for each word based on its meaning) and to teach these words individually.

Since,

- Montagnais spelling is already very difficult to learn and to teach (problem of writing correct short vowels, problems of grammatical agreement),
- there exist numerous uncertain compounds (see no. 85) where the decision must be made, case by case, which ones to write as a single word and which ones to write as two words (and thus learn and teach them individually),
- the question of hyphens in compound words is a simple spelling rule, and consequently should not create additional spelling difficulties.

(continued...)

Therefore, the linguists suggest:

that those using the spelling rules try out the solution which is simplest and easiest to learn and teach (even though it is the least popular):

write all words with a hyphen

Problem of connective i:

Is it necessary to write ussi-tshekuan or uss-tshekuan ?
 Akami-assiss or Akam-assis ?
 tshiashi-utshimau or tshiash-
 utshimau ?

rule: write the connective i when the 1st member of the compound is a preform (and not a word) and the second member begins with a consonant.

Ex. without connective i:

ushkat-mitshishuakan	(ushkat = one word)
taukam-tshiashk ^u	(taukam = one word)
Akam-assiss	(preform akam + V)
uss-uteu	(preform ushk/uss + V)
matsh-ush	(preform matsh + V)

Ex. with connective i:

mashi-mitush	(preform mash + C)
ussi-nip(a)u	(preform ushk/uss + C)
matshi-manitu	(preform matsh + C)
tshiashi-tshekuan	(preform tshiash + C)

ITEM boundary 8: uncertain compounds	SPELLING VARIANTS written as one word or as two words with a hyphen									
CURRENT USAGE No consistency in any community. Problem not deeply examined during the workshops but analysed later by the linguists.										
TYPE OF PROBLEM More than a simple spelling rule. Very complex at the level of analysis. Lack of data for the speech of the LNS.										
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS In numerous cases, it is not clear whether or not we are dealing with a compound word because the 2nd member is the same as the corresponding free word: ex. <table data-bbox="776 909 1218 1003" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">ushit</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">+</td> <td>amishk^u</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">pipun</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">+</td> <td>akup</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">pishakan</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">+</td> <td>ashtish.</td> </tr> </table> In other cases, the 2nd member is identical to the isolated word in one dialect and not in another: ex. iñnu + (a)ssi ushkan + (a)tik ^u . Should these cases be considered as single words or as compounds written as two words? If they are written as two words, a hyphen must be used. No solution proposed can be universal: it is necessary to memorize a list of words.		ushit	+	amishk ^u	pipun	+	akup	pishakan	+	ashtish.
ushit	+	amishk ^u								
pipun	+	akup								
pishakan	+	ashtish.								
RELATED TO: boundary 7: compound words (84).										
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS										

SOLUTION

Proposed by the linguists:

1. NOUNS DESIGNATING ANIMALS OR PARTS OF ANIMALS:

- a) when the 2nd member is different from the name of the animal itself:

write as a single word

Examples

-ak ^u (porcupine)	ushuiak ^u , napeiak ^u , ukauiak ^u
-(a)mesh (fish)	ushkanamesh, utatshishi(a)mesh, napemesh
-amek ^u (fish)	uapamek ^u , mishtamek ^u
-apishtan (martin)	ushkatapishtan, nipinapishtan
-atsheshu (fox)	kashteu(a)tsheshu, ushui(a)tsheshu
-apush (hare, rabbit)	utipapush, mishtapush, ushitapush
-ship (duck)	ishkueship, iñniship, ushkutiship
-ishk (goose)	ishkueshk, utashishk, uapishk
-ñeu (ptarmigan)	iñniñeu, uapiñeu
-apiñeu (white ptarmigan)	iñnapañeu
-tshashk ^u (muskrat)	ushkanitshashk ^u , uishinautshashk ^u
-apishu (lynx)	patapishu, ushtikuanapishu
-shik ^u (merganser)	mishtashik ^u
-ishkatshan (gray jay)	atshenishkatshan

(continued...)

- b) when the 2nd member is the same as the name of the animal itself:

write as two words

Examples:

mush (moose)	ushkat-mush, ishkie-mush, nushe-mush
muak ^u (loon)	ashi-muak ^u , mikuan-muak ^u , ushit-muak ^u
maikan (wolf)	ishkie-maikan, uitui-maikan
esh (shell)	mukuman-esh, kashteu-esh
shikushish (weasel)	ishkie-shikushish, uitui-shikushish
apikushish (mouse)	nipiu-apikushish, upau-apikushish
shikak ^u (skunk)	nape-shikak ^u , uitui-shikak ^u
tshiashk ^u (gull)	taukam-tshiashk ^u , tshetsheku-tshiashk ^u
kukush (pig)	ushkat-kukush, upuam-kukush
aueshish (animal)	uitui-aueshish, pipun-aueshish
etc.	

- c) **write as a single word in the following cases:**

Examples

-atik ^u (caribou)	upuamatik ^u , upanatik ^u , uishau(a)tik ^u
-amishk ^u (beaver)	ushitamishk ^u , patamishk ^u , ushui(a)mishk ^u N.B. Mishtamishk ^u (Giant Beaver) N.B. tshishemishk ^u (old beaver, also used in the sense of 'head boss')
-atshikash (mink)	uitui(a)tshikash, pipun(a)tshikash
-atshik ^u (seal or otter)	iñnatshik ^u , ushtikuanatshik ^u

note: in certain words it is impossible to tell the difference between 'otter' and 'seal'.

(continued...)

2. NOUN DESIGNATING OBJECTS (AS WELL AS DERIVED VERBS):

a) **usually written as two words:**

Examples:

ushkat-mitshishuakan, ashpi-mitshishuakan LNS
 ushakai-pakueshikan, iñnu-pakueshikanitsheu (V)
 ishkuteu-utiss, matsh-ush, matsh-uteu (V)
 uishau(a)tiku-uiash, tshikass-uiash
 utshashku-uatik^u, matsheshu-uatik^u
 mishta-atikuian, tshikass-atikuian
 mitashiapiu-assikuman, uishau-assikuman
 etc.

b) **write the following cases as a single word:**

Examples

-tapan (vehicle) akushiutapan, iñnutapan,
 ishkuteutapan, uishkuenitapan,
 ussitapaneu (V)
 -tapanashk^u (train) ushtikuanitapanashk^u
 -shpuakan (pipe) ushtikuanishpuakan, tshiaspuakan,
 pishteushpuakan, ashiniushpuakan
 -ñakan (dish) mishiñakan, uapikunñakan,
 nashupiñakan, tshishakamiteshuñakan
 -(a)ssik^u (metal
 container) ushui(a)ssik^u, shishipassik^u,
 nipishapussik^u, kuapitsheu(a)ssik^u,
 tshishpakau(a)ssik^u
 -asham (snowshoe) pipunashamat, takuakashamat,
 ushkasamat, ushkasameu (V),
 tshikasameu (V)
 -ashtish (mitten) pishakanashtishat, ñiñikashtishat,
 napateshtish, napateshtisheu (V)
 -(a)kup (clothing) tshimuanakup, mikueiaukup, ushkakupeu
 /ussikupeu (V)
 -atai (beaver skin) nipinatai, takuakati
 -tshekatak^u (star) uapanitshekatak^u

(continued...)

3. NOUN DESIGNATING PEOPLE:

a) **usually written as two words**

Examples:

iñnu-utshimau, tshishe-utshimau, mishta-utshimau
 tshishe-napeu, miñu-napeu
 innu-auass, pessamiu-auass, u(a)ñaman-shipiu-auass,
 uit-auassa
 nitshi-kukuminash, uitshi-kukuminasha
 nitshi-tshisheñnu, uitshi-tshisheñnua

b) **write the following cases as one word**

Examples

-iñnu (human, (Indian)	uashauñnuat, tshiashiñnuat, aitshiñnu, uitshiñnua, akushiuñnu, mashiñnu
-shkueu (woman)	iñnushkueu, akañeshashkueu, napeshkueu, kupanieshkueu, pessamiushkueu, N.B. tshisheishkueu, Tshisheishkueu
-shkuess (girl)	iñnushkuess, u(a)ñaman- shipiushkuess natukuñnishishkuessiu (V)

4. VERBS IN -INNIU: **write as one word**

Examples: nitishiñniun, nitakushiñniun, nitshiamiñniun
 minuenniu / miñuiñniun BETS `be healthy'

5. VERBS IN -APU, -ANEU, -ASHTEU, -ASHTAU: **write as one word**

Examples:

nitetapin, tetapi ! nitshiamapin, tshiamapi!, nimiñ
 u(a)pin, nitetañau, nitakutañau, nitshishkañau,
 nuaiapekañau
 innu(a)shteu / ñeñushteu BETS
 nitiñnu(a)shtan / niñeñushtan BETS

(continued...)

ATTENTION: do not make a distinction in spelling between contexts where a verb means 'write' as opposed to 'place' (it is the same verb):

Examples:

uauieshteu, nuauieshtan (place or write in a circle)
 miñu(a)shteu, nimiñu(a)shtan (place or write well)
 mamu(a)shteu, nimamu(a)shtan (place or write together)
 matau(a)shteu, nimatau(a)shtan (place or write strangely)
 tatipanashteu, nitatipanashtan (place or write separately)

6. TERMS FOR MEASUREMENT (WEIGHT, VOLUME, LENGTH, MONEY, TIME):

write as one word

Examples:

(2 pints)	nishuñakan
(2 spoonfuls)	nishuemikuan
(2 gallons)	nishuminakan
(2 cups)	nishutshishakamiteshuñakan
(2 "bottlesful")	nishuputai
(2 armloads)	nishutakunikan
(2 loads)	nishutapan
(2 pocketsful)	nishu(a)ssimuteush
(2 little boxes)	nishumishtikutiss
(2 yards)	nishutipashkunikan
(2 feet)	nishushit
(2 pounds)	nishutipapekaikan
(40 pounds)	nishukuapikakan
(200 pounds)	nishuatakan
(2 dollars)	nishuapiss
(40 cents)	nishu(a)tai
(2 pairs)	nishumitash, nishu(a)sham,
etc.	

(continued...)

ATTENTION: **also write as one word the terms for measurement of time** (inconsistent decisions were made during the workshops):

Examples:

(1 summer)	pei(a)kunipina, papei(a)kunipina
(2 weeks)	nishuminashtakana, nanishuminashtakana
(3 nights)	nishtutipishkua, nishtutipishkueshu (V)
(10 months)	kutuñnuepishimua / peiakunnuepishimua LNS
(4 hours)	neutipaikana, naneutipaikana
(10 days)	kutuñnuetshishikua / peiakunnuetshishikua LNS
(1 year)	peikupipuna / peiakuhpuna LNS
(so many years old)	tatupipuneshu / tatuhpuneshu LNS
(so many months)	tatupishimua, tatupishimueshu (V)
(every day)	eshukumitshishikua
(all month)	ishkanipishimua
(1/2 day)	pushkutshishikua
(several months)	mitshetupishimua
etc.	

ITEM boundary: 9 interrogative a	SPELLING VARIANTS with or without hyphen
CURRENT USAGE BETS: space MIN : hyphen and 2 spaces ROM : hyphen	
TYPE OF PROBLEM Minor. Simple.	
LINGUISTIC COMMENTS 	
RELATED TO: 	
EXAMPLES OF VARIATION FOUND IN TEXTS BETS : tshipetuau a ? MIN : minaushiu - a ? ROM : tshi petuau- a ?, tshi tshissentenu- a ?	

SOLUTION

Proposed: **detached, no hyphen**

Ex. tshipetuau **a** ?
tshitshisseñitenau **a** ?
miñaushiu **a** ?
tshika tshi **a** ituten ?
nipa tshi **a** tuten ?

RULES FOR THE USE OF CAPITALS (UPPER CASE)

Only cases where a capital (upper case) is used:

- names of people or characters in a story
 Ex. **Mañi**
Puñ
Tshakapesh
Mishtapeu
Uapush (if he is a character)
- compound names of people: capital for each part
 Ex. **Mishta-Napeu**
Mañi-Nush
Mishta-An-Piñamen
Tshishe-Manitu
Ka Tipeñitak
- compound names of a character: only one capital
 Ex. **Mishta-atim^u**
- compound names of organizations: capital for each part
 Ex. **Nutshimiu-Atusseun**
Iñnu-Nikamu
Upishtikuiiau-Tshishe-Utshimau
- place names
 Ex. **Kamishikamat**
Uashat
Pessamiu
Shatshit
Kamitapenanut
- compound place names: only one capital
 Ex. **Mishta-shipu**
Mishta-pakatakan
Tshishe-shipu
Paku(a)t-shipu
- names of Indian people and groups: no capital
 Ex. **iñnuat**
akañeshuat
mishtikushuat
uashauñnuat
mamiuñnuat
pessamiuñnuat
u(a)ñaman-shipiuñnuat
paku(a)t-shipiuñnuat

APPENDIX: LIST OF WORDS

AIAMIAU 'pray' AIMU 'talk', LNS: AIAMU

AIT 'different', LNS: AIAT

AMISHK^u 'beaver'

ATAUITSHUAP, LNS: ATAUEUTSHUAP

EKUT, EKUTE

ESHE 'yes'

IAPIT (and not *iat or *aiapit)

KANĀPUA (and not *napua or *mipua)

KAN(A)UENIMEU

KAUAPIKUESHT

MAÑIKANET

MASHK^u 'bear'

MASHINAIKAN

MASHKUAU 'hard'

MASHKUTIN 'frozen' LNS: MASHKAUATIN

MIÑEKASH, PB & LNS: MIÑAKASH

MISHKUMI 'ice'

MITSHISHU 'eagle'

MITSHUAP

MIUSH 'box', LNS: MIUASH

(continued...)

NANIKUTIN (I)

ÑASHUP

NATAMIK^u 'anyhow'

NATSHISHK

NIKAMU

NISHTUAU (and not *nishtua)

NISHUAU (and not *nishua)

ÑIUEIKAN NIEUITSHEU

PAPIÑAMAN

PASHPAPUAKAN, PB: PISHAPUAKAN

PATSHUIAN

PEI (A)K^u

PEI (A)KUAU (and not *peiakua)

PIÑASHUE

-PITSHU 'travel by toboggan': PIMIPITSHU / TSHITSHIPITSHU

PITSHU 'gum'

PITAMA

PITUKAMIT

SHAKAU 'bushes'

TSHITSHITUA 'saint'

TSHIMA 'would that ...'

TSHITSHUE

UAPASHK^u 'polar bear' / UAPISHK^u 'snow goose'

UISHATSHIMINA LNS: UISHATSHIMINANA

UKUEIAU 'neck'

TAN AN

TANEN, TANEN AN

TAN ISHPISH

TAN TAT

UINASHK^u 'muskrat'

UINASHKU-PISHIM^u

UEÑAPISSISH