

Activity 1b

Sound Differences in Cree-Innu

The differences in **the original 'l' sound** between the languages and dialects of Cree-Innu can be found in many different words. In activity 1a, you saw this difference occurring at the beginning of the word, but it can also occur in the middle of the word.

Instructions:

- ▶ Open the Linguistic Atlas found at www.atlas-ling.ca.
- ▶ Go to the 'orders and requests' category.
- ▶ Select the phrase "It's nice."
- ▶ Click on each marker on the map and listen carefully.
- ▶ When you find the speakers listed below, copy the word on the corresponding line.

What differences do you notice between the speakers?

	Written Word
▶ H��l��ne St-Onge - Innu - Pessamit	_____
▶ Brigitta Piwas Aylward - Innu - Mushuau	_____
▶ Silas Nabinicaboo - Naskapi	_____
▶ Margaret Cox - East Cree - North	_____
▶ Leda Corrigan - Plains Cree	_____
▶ Martha Michell - Woodland Cree - North	_____

Which speaker has a pronunciation that is different than the written word?

Answer:

	Written Word
▶ Innu - Pessamit	minuashu
▶ Innu - Mushuau	minuashu
▶ Naskapi	miywaasuw
▶ East Cree - North	miywaashiu
▶ Plains Cree	miyosin
▶ Woodland Cree - North	mithw��sin

The Innu dialect spoken in Pessamit has an 'l' sound in the middle of the word even though it is spelled with an 'n'. This was also seen in Activity 1.