



CHOCTAW LANGUAGE

Choctaw Vowels

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a, i, o,

Choctaw Vowel “a”

The Choctaw vowel “a” is pronounced: “ah”. Listen to the sound of the Choctaw word: towa meaning ball. Do you hear the “ah” sound?

Choctaw Vowel “i”

The Choctaw vowel “i” makes the “ih” sound. A majority of Choctaw words make the “ih” sound. Listen to the sound of the Choctaw word: chukfi meaning rabbit. Do you hear the “ih” sound?

Choctaw Vowel “O”

The Choctaw vowel “O” has a unique sound.

The Choctaw vowel “O” sound
can be duplicated by
pronouncing the word “boy”.
Take away the letter “b” and
pronounce the letters “oy”.
Take away the letter “y” and
pronounce the letter “o”.

Each time you take away a letter, continue pronouncing. You will soon find yourself pronouncing the Choctaw vowel “O”.

Upsilon “Ϝ”

This special character, which looks similar to the cursive letter “V”, has the same “ah” sound as the Choctaw vowel “a”.

Letter “U”

The letter “U” makes the same sound as the Choctaw vowel “O”.

Choctaw Nasal Vowels

a, i, o

Practice pronouncing the nasal vowels. Pronounce the English word “ink”. Do you hear the nasal “i”?

Incorporate the nasal sound in your pronunciation of Choctaw words.

This concludes the Choctaw
vowels lesson.

Yakoke