

Lesson of The Day

Negation of the verb form ‘**ke-o**,’ means “**we, not.**” ‘**Ke**’ is prefixed before a verb (**ke+verb**) and the last vowel of the word is converted to an ‘**o**,’ (**ke+verb+o**) unless the verb already ends in an ‘**o**,’ then it remains the same.

Base word: **haklo** = to hear (ke+hakle+o) → **kehaklo** = we don’t hear

Vocabulary: **kehaklo** – we don’t hear

Yumma kehaklo tuk. We did not hear that.

Nana kehaklo tuk. We didn’t hear anything.

Word Meaning:

yumma (yahm-mah) = that/those

kehaklo (key-hahk-loh) = we don’t hear

tuk (tohk) = past tense marker

nana (nah-nah) = anything

Choctaw has two forms of negation. The first one simply negates by adding ‘**kiyo**’ to the end of the sentence. *Example:* Impa li tuk kiyo. I did not eat.

The ‘**chik-o**’ negation shows a change of state, often translated in the past tense.

To see previous lessons visit the *Chahta Anumpa Aiikhvna* (School of Choctaw Language) website at: www.choctawschool.com