

Lesson of The Day

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

Base word: **binili** = to sit (**chik+binili+o**) → **chikbinilo** = you do not/did not sit

Vocabulary: **chikbinilo** – you do not/did not sit

Katimi ho chikbinilo? Why are you not sitting?

Himak nittak a kucha chikbinilo tuk o?

Did you not sit outside today?

Word Meaning: **o** (ohn) = question marker

tuk (tohk) = past tense marker

katimi ho (kah-tih-mih-hohn) = why

chikbinilo (chihk-bih-nih-loh) = you do not/did not sit

himak nittak (hih-mahk niht-tahk) = today

a (ahn) = emphasis on the word ‘today’

kucha (koh-chah) = outside

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 Aikhvna* (School of Choctaw Language) website at: www.choctawschool.com