

Lesson of The Day

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

Base word: **binili** = to sit (ak+**binili**+o) → **akbinilo** = I do not/did not sit

Vocabulary: **akbinilo** – I do not/did not sit

Pilashash kucha akninilo tuk. I did not sit outside yesterday.

Abinili ma shokvni yvt asha na akbinilo tuk.

I did not sit because there were ants on that chair.

Word Meaning: **pilashash** (pih-lah-shahsh) = yesterday

kucha (koh-chah) = outside **ma** (mah) = that **na** (nah) = because

akbinilo (ahk-bih-nih-loh) = I do not/did not sit

tuk (tohk) = past tense marker

abinili (ah-bih-nih-lih) = chair

shokvni (shohn-kah-nih) = ant

yvt (yaht)= subject marker

asha (ahn-shah) = plural – location/position (to be temporary)

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 ‘**ak-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