

Lesson of The Day

Negation of the verb form ‘**ik-o**,’ means “**he/she/it doesn’t/they don’t.**” ‘**Ik**’ is prefixed before a verb (**ik+verb**) and the last vowel of the word is converted to an ‘**o**,’ (**ik+verb+o**) unless the verb already ends in an ‘**o**,’ then it remains the same.

Base word: **impa** = to eat (ik+**impa**+o) → **ikimpo** = he/she/it/they did not eat

Vocabulary: **ikimpo** – he/she/it/they did not eat

Ulla pvt ikimpo tuk. This child did not eat.

Ofosik mvt ikimpo tuk o? Did that puppy not eat?

Word Meaning: **vlla** (ahl-lah) = child

pvt (paht) = this/these **mvt** (maht)= that/those

ikimpo (ihk-ehm-poh) = he/she/it/they did not eat

tuk (tohk) = past tense marker

ofosik (o-fohn-sic) = puppy

o (ohn) = question marker

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

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