

St'at'imcets Translation and Pronunciation/Phonology IPA Guide

a xa kukwpi - Highest Chief/Spiritual leader/Creator/God

kukwshtum mulhcaow - Thank You

plishi dumulhcaow - Bless us

ulushen dumulhcaow - Gather Us Together

a - as in 'a' with a schwa (like in sofa)

x - as in h (with a fricative like in the Mexican pronunciation of Oaxaca)

u - as in oo

i - as in ee

Table 1

Spellings/Transliterations

Simplified	Original transliteration (First Voices website)	International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)
a xa kukwpi	a xa kúkwpíʔ	a ɣa kuk ^w piʔ
kukwshtum mulhcaow	kukwstumúlhkacw	kuk ^w ʃtumul ^k ax ^w
plishi dumulhcaow	plishi dumúlhkacw	pliʃi dumul ^k ax ^w
ulushen dumulhcaow	úllusen dumúlhkacw	uluʃɪn dumul ^k ax ^w

Table 2

IPA of sounds that are either difficult or easily confused with a similar English sound:

IPA	Pronunciation guide
p	how we say the letter
k	how we say the letter <g>
k ^w	a <k> with rounded your lips (like when saying 'oo')
x ^w	the <ch> in 'J. S Bach' but with rounded lips (like when saying 'oo')
ɣ	a farther back version of the <ch> in 'Bach'; like the French word 'très'
ʔ	the stop/silence in the phrase 'uh oh!' between the 2 words
ʃ	the <sh> in 'fish'
ɬ	<s> with a lisp

IPA	Pronunciation guide
ɪ	the letter <i> in 'bit'
u	an Italianate letter <u> as in 'una'
i	an Italianate letter <i> as in 'mio'
a	the first vowel sound in 'mouth'

Ways to practice some of these sounds

k^w

First do a few regular [k] sounds; notice how your lips are relaxed. Then do a few more [k] sounds but this time round your lips (like when saying 'oo')

x^w

First do the <ch> in 'J. S Bach'. Continue doing it, but now round your lips like when saying 'oo'

ʈ

Besides thinking of a lisp, you can think of it as a <s> with the air coming out the sides of the tongue rather than through the front

a

Beware: it is *not* the <a> in 'cat' or in 'ball' but somewhere in between; as in the first part of the diphthong 'mouth'. Say 'mouth' but pause on the first vowel (before the change to 'oo')

For even more, visit <https://www.firstvoices.com/northern-statimcets>