

# Lushootseed x<sup>w</sup>əlšucid

## Evaluation – Beginning Level

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

This is an evaluation and NOT a test. It is a means to evaluate your knowledge of x<sup>w</sup>əlšucid (Lushootseed) so that the rate of increase in comprehension may be measured.

1. Try to answer in writing the following questions in English:

A. What is **stulək<sup>w</sup>**.

\_\_\_\_\_

B. What is **wiiac**.

\_\_\_\_\_

C. What is **čəd**.

\_\_\_\_\_

D. What is **?al?al**.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Translate in writing the following into English:

A. **stab ti**.

\_\_\_\_\_

B. **stab əwə ti?iʔ**.

\_\_\_\_\_

C. **k<sup>w</sup>ag<sup>w</sup>ičəd ti?iʔ**.

\_\_\_\_\_

D. sčətx<sup>w</sup>əd tiʔiʔ.

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3. Try to answer the following questions by writing them in English:

A. ʔəsχid čəx<sup>w</sup>.

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B. stab əwə

tiʔiʔ.

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C. g<sup>w</sup>at əwə tiiʔ stubš.

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D. čad š(ə) adbad.

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4. Write the numbers one to five in x<sup>w</sup>əlšucid (Lushootseed):

5. Answer the following Questions in x<sup>w</sup>əlšucid (Lushootseed):

A. ʔəsχid əwə čəx<sup>w</sup>.

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B. stab tiʔiʔ diʔucid ʔal tə stulək<sup>w</sup>.

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C. g<sup>w</sup>at əwə tsiʔ sʔadəy ʔal tudiʔ.

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D. čad s(ə) adsk<sup>w</sup>uy.

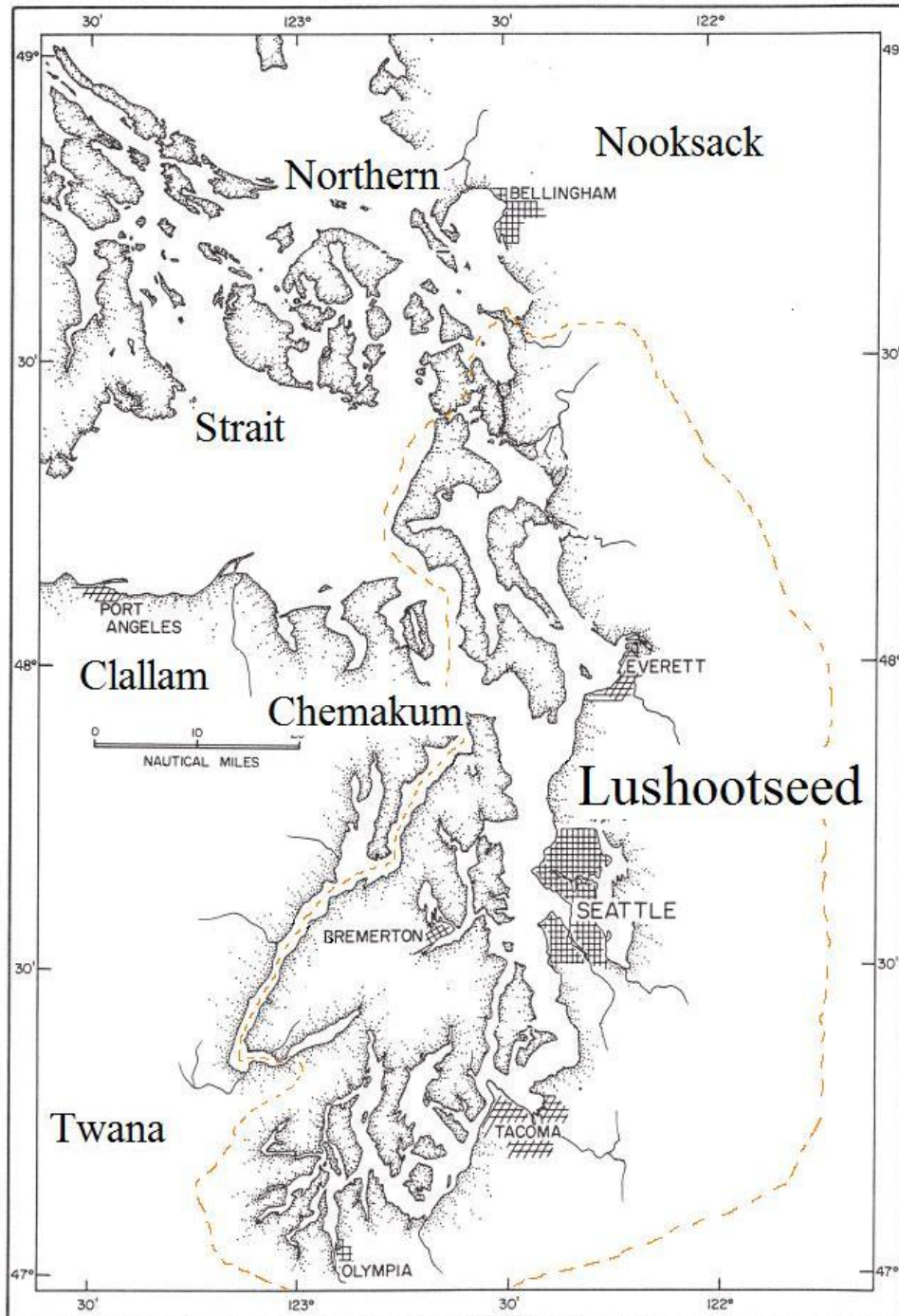
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# LUSHOOTSEED

The Language of the Duwamish, Nisqually,  
Skagit and other Tribes of Puget Sound.



This work is dedicated to Zalmai Zahir (ʔəswəli) my language teacher. He has dedicated many hours of his life to the Lushootseed Language. He has taught many classes in his own house and at various locations. He has conducted ceremonies, created songs and dances. He has preserved the language, translated and recorded Elders. He has created books, CD's, and other pieces of art. I consider him a dear friend and brother. See [www.pugetsalish.com](http://www.pugetsalish.com) for ʔəswəli's classes and items for sale.



This map is modified from one found in DeLacy, Miller and Borton's *Checklist of Puget Sound Fishes*, Seattle Division of Marine Resources, University of Washington, 1972.

# INSTRUCTIONS

Lushootseed is the name of a Native Language spoken in the vicinity of Seattle. It is pronounced **dx<sup>w</sup>ləsucid** or **(t)x<sup>w</sup>əlšucid**. Sometimes it is called ‘Puget Salish’. The affix **-ucid** that which comes from the mouth, and the **dx<sup>w</sup>-** combine to mean ‘language’. There was as many as 25 Salish languages between Puget Sound, Montana, Central British Columbia and as far south as Oregon. See Collins (1974), Shuttles (1990), Elmendorf (1993) and others for more information on the Salish languages.

Lushootseed covered roughly an area from the north including the Skagit River, Mount Vernon, Everett, Seattle, Tacoma, Olympia and almost into present-day Shelton. It also included Bremerton, Bainbridge Island, and vicinity.

The Northern part of the Lushootseed area, including the Snohomish and Skagit people, speak a sub-dialect called ‘Northern Lushootseed’ (NL). The Duwamish, Snoqualmie, and the rest speak ‘Southern Lushootseed’ (SL). With isolation, there developed a great many variations. It was said that they should identify which village you were from. The people moved to better themselves or to marry; this also included political and economic reasons. This increased with arrival of the European vessels and roads. Their identity was derived from the house and village that they lived and its affiliation, and not where they or their parents were born.

## TRY

The most important part of learning Lushootseed is that you try. It is not expected to be proficient. Like a newborn, they keep trying. It is a year or so before they can talk in sentences and can be understood, just not all at once. So keep on trying. You will get better with practice and correction.

The Lushootseed Dictionary is not a complete work. It has over five hundred roots and many variations. It also has examples of usage. The dictionary is based on the root and is indicated with a root-sign. The language is action-based and not subject-based. The dictionary has lots of information in it. Here is a moderate complex sentence;

<p>†u-g<sup>wə</sup>√xaliǰəd čə†</p> <p>will wrap it we</p> <p>predicate</p>	<p>tiʔəʔ</p> <p>this</p> <p>direct compliment</p>	<p>d-s√(h)eliʔ-du-b</p> <p>I/me give(n to)</p> <p>predicate</p>	<p>ʔə ti s-ʔub+√ʔubediʔ</p> <p>by the Hunters</p> <p>oblique complement</p>
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Sentence

†ug<sup>wə</sup>xaliǰəd čə† tiʔəʔ ds(h)alidub ʔə ti sʔubʔədiʔ  
 ‘We will wrap this given to me by the hunters.’

**†ug<sup>wə</sup>xaliǰəd**

**ǰal** is the root, to mark or write  
 =**ij** is a variety of **ič** meaning to cover, surface on top of or over. When combined with to mark it can mean to wrap or cover it.  
**†u** means to anticipate, expect or possible event (future)  
**g<sup>wə</sup>** is a variant of **g<sup>w</sup>** meaning if, maybe, might  
**əd** has three possible meanings but here it means second person  
 Thus **†ug<sup>wə</sup>xaliǰəd** means someone will wrap (it).

**čə†** means, we or our.                      **tiʔəʔ** This.

**ds(h)alidub**

**d** indicates me/mine.  
**s** nominalizes the action of **həliʔ**.  
**(h)əliʔ(?)** means ‘to live, to be alive’. Some sounds are silent in rapid speech and may change with adjacent sounds.  
**dub** to manage to do something to someone or thing.

**ʔə** by    **ti** The

**sʔubʔubədiʔ**

**sʔubədiʔ** means ‘hunter’. Found in the dictionary under ‘ʔ’ This is the reduplication form of hunter (hunters).

The dictionary is subject based on the root word and is alphabetical order. The glottal stop (ʔ) comes before the letter ‘a’. The barred-l (ɬ) comes after ‘l’ and is followed by ʃ.

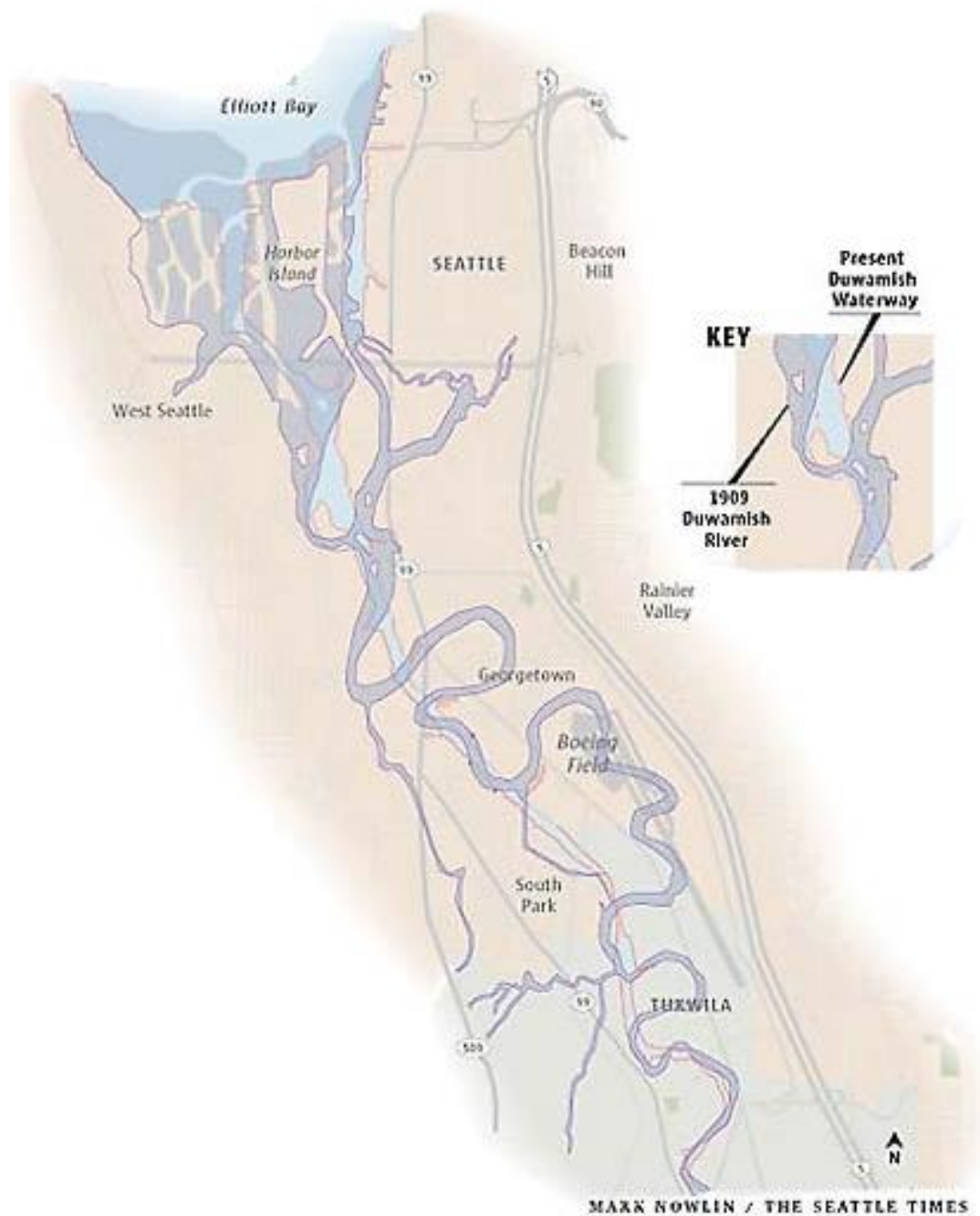
The CD provided has a folder called ‘font’. Inside this folder is a Word Document on how to install the Lushootseed font on your computer, ‘Install Instructions’. There is also a keyboard map, ‘Keypad’, so that you know which keys to click to make the characters in Lushootseed. There is a ‘Macro instruction’ on how to create a shortcut to toggle between ‘Fontootseed’ and ‘Times New Roman’ font. ‘Using Fontootseed’ is a Word Document with helpful hints. A pronunciation guide to Lushootseed characters called ‘International Phonetic Alphabet’ is also provided.

## dx<sup>w</sup>dəwʔabʃ      DUWAMISH

The identity of the people of this area came from the house that they lived in. Several houses built close to each other were known as a village. The village took the name of the predominant house. The people of a region may have affiliated together and taken the name of the predominate house/village. The word ‘Duwamish’ comes from the Lushootseed, dx<sup>w</sup>duʔabʃ or dx<sup>w</sup>dəwʔabʃ. The root is dəwʔ or duʔ and comes from dək<sup>w</sup> and means ‘inside something small or confining’. –abʃ is an affix indicating ‘people of’. dx<sup>w</sup>dək<sup>w</sup> is the name of the Cedar River.

In 1906, a great flood coupled with a large log and debris jam diverted the White River southward into the [Stuck River](#) thence into the Puyallup River, which empties into [Commencement Bay](#) at Tacoma.

The Cedar River dumped into the Black River near what now is downtown Renton. The Black River was entirely drained when the Hiram M. Chittenden locks opened, including Erickson (Mountlake) Cut. The locks were formally opened on July 4, 1917, although the first ship passed on August 3, 1916. The damming of the Black River had raised it about 10 feet. The Locks lowered Lake Washington up to 20 feet. At the junction of the Black and Cedar Rivers were several large longhouses. The people of this village was know as dx<sup>w</sup>dəwʔabʃ, ‘The Inside (the Bay) People’. See T. T. Waterman, Arthur Ballard, and others include <http://coastsalishmap.org/> for village locations.



Duwamish Archeological Site #1 is located almost across the street from the Duwamish Longhouse & Cultural Center, near Terminal 107 Park, yee-LEH-khood or yile'q!ud ('Basket Hat', like those worn by the Yakama People. Another village, 'Herring House' or 'Has Horse-Clams', was located where the original Duwamish River emptied into Elliot Bay, near the West Seattle Bridge and where 17th Ave SW intersects it. The River was straightened between 1913 and 1918.









1.5	s	Same value and sound as in Lushootseed. [voiceless alveolar fricative]
1.6	w	This symbol represents the sound like English ‘w’ in work. [high back rounded glide]
1.7	ʔu	Adding the ʔu after the action, actor indicates that the phrase is a question. Change čəd “I” to čəx <sup>w</sup> “You”. So to ask ‘Are <u>you</u> fine?’, say ʔəsʔubil čəx <sup>w</sup> ʔu.
1.8	ʔəs-	condition or state exists. Variation: əs, as
1.9	-əx <sup>w</sup>	Variant of –ax <sup>w</sup> . Now, at this particular time.
1.10	-il	Reach or achieve a state or position, becoming, begin. It’s like adding –ing in English.

## Sound Drills

Lushootseed has many sounds, which are not used in English. Some of these “different” sounds will require practice to hear and say correctly. However, over a period of several months, every student can master them. If a few seem difficult at first, please remember: Your parents and grandparents said them; so can you.

Repeat the following sentence after the teacher as exactly as you can. Each one has many examples of one of the Lushootseed sounds not heard in English. (The meaning may be ridiculous but what matters in this exercise is practice in making the sound correctly. Their meaning is not important.)

ʔ	ʔuʔəladiʔ ʔə tə ʔuʔubil. The very thin man listened a little. (tlu-tlel-adi a ta tlu-tlu-il)
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# Exercises

1. The teacher will call on each student (in no set order) to repeat the question **ʔəsχid čəx<sup>w</sup>** (How are you?). Each student should repeat this phrase.
2. Now each student in turn should respond to the question in Lushootseed **ʔəsχid čəx<sup>w</sup>** (How are you?). The answer in Lushootseed can be ‘I am Fine’ **ʔəsχubil čəd** (es-tlo-bil chud) or a variant of this.