

HANDOUT

Some differences in the speech
of a Lummi brother and sister

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1. Phonological Differences

Brother

Less glottalization of stops and
weaker glottal stop after vowels

hæ?^Wk "remember"

Sister (4 yrs. younger)

Strong glottalization of stops
and strong glottal stops
after vowels. There is
also an echo vowel after
glottal stops not found in
the brother's speech.
hæ?^Wæk^W

2. Morphological Differences

Brother

Uses -oŋes, -oŋeɣ as person affixes

Uses -oŋet reflexive affix
ɪŋɪx

Uses/reduced transitivizer with

3rd person: leŋ-ne-s-

Uses reportative with 1st person.

ye?-če-sen

Has -toŋeɣ hortative

ye?-toŋeɣ "let's go"

Sister

Uses nek^W, ?es; does not
like -oŋes.

Uses -esót reflexive

Uses unreduced transitivizer
with 3rd person leŋ-nex^W-s

Won't accept reportative

with 1st person *ye?-če-sen

Doesn't like -toŋeɣ hortative

*ye?-toŋeɣ

3. Lexical Differences

Brother

swi?qó?əʎ "boy"

čqin "straight, true"

-q- Modal, "possibility"

əʎ "when, whenever (hypothetical)"

Sister

wey?qə "boy"

čqin (used as intensifier)
"really"

ʎu modal, "possibility"

əʎ not used

4. Syntactic Differences

No hesitation in usage of two NP's in sentences

Translates different positions of subject marking in negatives as differences in control

?əw?-sən k^w s-leŋ-nəx^w cə swey?qə?

"I didn't see the man" (He was in the next room)

?əw? k^w nə-s-leŋ-nəx^w cə swey?qə?

"I didn't see the man" (He wasn't there that night)

Avoids using two NP's in sentences

Translates different positions in negatives as differences in certainty or tense

?əw? k^w nə-s-leŋ-nəx^w cə swey?qə? "I didn't see the man (a long time ago)"?əw?-sən k^w s-leŋ-nəx^w cə swey?qə?

"I can't see the man" or (more recently)

5. Stylistic Differences

Brother

Will never put a recent English word into a Lummi sentence. May resort to kennings.

leŋ-nəx^w-sən cə k^weləŋ šx^wooʎ

"I see the airplane"

k^weləŋ šx^wooʎ "flying vehicle"

Sister

Does not hesitate to use an English word when there is no English equivalent.