

Podcast #1 - The Vowel Short "A"

[...introduction...]

This podcast introduces the sound of "a" in English "what". It's a very common sound in Cahto. Some examples of short, reduced "a" are:

ang'	it was
antcing	peppernut
ban'tc	housefly, a little fly
ch'ningkat	deer lick
diidak'	east, uphill
dook'ang	long ago
hang	that person
k'at	now, already, still
k'ang	just now
k'andang'	yesterday
kwdak' OR kdak'	on top of it
lhkan OR lhkang	it is sweet, it tastes good
lh'ang'	so it is!
saljiitc	scaly lizard, fence lizard
t'ast OR t'ass	bread (originally acorn bread); this has a long "a" sometimes, t'aast
tl'ee'dang'	morning
uutagit	between them
uut'akw OR uut'ak	above it
wang	some
wanding	his home

If you're looking at books where Cahto words have been written down in the past you'll see this sound written various ways, such as with the letter "u", sometimes with a circumflex accent (a little hat sign) or breve (a short vowel sign) on top of it (u, û, ŭ); or with the letter "a", sometimes with an ogonek (a little hook) underneath it (a, ȧ); or with phonetic symbols like upside-down v (Λ) or the schwa or turned e (ə).

So, that's the Cahto short or reduced vowel "a", the single letter "a", always pronounced like the "a" in English "what".

In the next podcast you'll learn about its long counterpart.