

### Podcast #3 - Short "A" versus Long "AA"

Because of the way Cahto grammar works, there aren't a lot of basic words where two words are the same except for having a long or short version of the same vowel, but with different meanings. Pairs like this are more common as grammatical forms, which you'll learn later on as you go on to learn the language.

Here are some words with single "a", the short "a" in "what", followed by a similar word with double "aa", the long "a" in "father":

Short		Long	
bang	will be	baang	edge
kash	theirs	yaa'kaash	they netted fish
k'an	before	k'aan	young
kat	this way	kaat	there
lah	seaweed	kaah	goose
shang	only	shaantc'ee'	my father-in-law
uut'akw	above it	taak'	three

Then here are some words that can either have a long "aa" or a short "a" in different dialects or ways of speaking:

gash	yew tree	gaash
galh	it's walking	gaalh
lah, lat	seaweed	laat
t'ang'	leaf	t'aang'
t'ast, t'ass	bread	t'aast

Finally, here are some words that have two "a"s in them, one long "aa" and one short "a":

For short "a" followed by long "aa":

shghandaan	my brother-in-law
k'antaaghiitc	jackrabbit
maskaalaa	handkerchief (Spanish mascara)
wantaah	some places, some times

Long "aa" followed by short "a":

haakwan	up there
k'aanshang	this time
naa'ang	from the south
naaltkat	they came back

So, that's the "a" vowels in Cahto. Next time we'll start up with the short "i", the sound in English "bit".