

**2. (10 points) Be Cree-ative**

Cree is the most widely spoken of the Canadian aboriginal languages, with about 117,000 people speaking one of its many varieties. Here are six words in Plains Cree (Nehiyawewin), a dialect spoken across much of the Western Canadian prairie and in parts of Minnesota, written using the Roman alphabet:

<i>tehtapiwin</i>	'chair'	<i>mistikwan</i>	'head'
<i>iskwahtem</i>	'door'	<i>tipahikan</i>	'hour'
<i>sakahikan</i>	'nail'	<i>astotin</i>	'hat'

**2.1. (1 point)** Below are six words, meaning 'little hat', 'little nail', 'little door', 'little head', 'minute', and 'little chair'. Which means which? (Use the answer sheet.)

<b>1.</b> cipahikanis	<b>2.</b> miscikwanis	<b>3.</b> cehcapiwinis
<b>4.</b> sakahikanis	<b>5.</b> ascocinis	<b>6.</b> iskwahcemis

*Pronunciation note: When writing Cree in the Roman alphabet, the letter <c> represents the [ts] sound.*

Although Cree can be written in the Roman alphabet, it is more frequently written in a writing system known as "**Syllabics**". This writing system has been adopted by speakers of other Canadian aboriginal languages as well; Inuktitut Syllabics are in wide use, and speakers of Ojibwe (Anishinaabemowin), Blackfoot, and Carrier (Dakelh) have also written their languages in Syllabics.

**2.2. (5 points)** The twelve words provided above in the Roman alphabet are given below (in random order) in Syllabics. Write their Roman alphabet equivalents in the answer sheet.

- a. ᑕᐅᐅᐅᑦᑦ
- b. ᐅᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ
- c. ᑕᐅᐅᐅᑦᑦ
- d. ᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ
- e. ᑕᐅᐅᑦᑦᑦ
- f. ᐅᑦᑦᐅᑦᑦᑦ
- g. ᑕᐅᐅᑦᑦᑦ
- h. ᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ
- i. ᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ
- j. ᐅᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ
- k. ᐅᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ
- l. ᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ

**2.3. (4 points)** Explain your answer (on the answer sheet).

<b>2.1. 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	

<b>2.2 a</b>	<b>b</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>c</b>	<b>d</b>	
<b>e</b>	<b>f</b>	
<b>g</b>	<b>h</b>	
<b>i</b>	<b>j</b>	
<b>k</b>	<b>l</b>	

<b>2.3</b>	<b>4</b>
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## Solutions

<b>2.1. 1 minute</b>	<b>2 little head</b>	1
<b>3 little chair</b>	<b>4 little nail</b>	
<b>5 little hat</b>	<b>6 little door</b>	

<b>2.2 a tipahikan</b>	<b>b ascocinis</b>	5
<b>c sakahikan</b>	<b>d mistikwan</b>	
<b>e cipahikanis</b>	<b>f iskwahcemis</b>	
<b>g sakahikanis</b>	<b>h tehtapiwin</b>	
<b>i miscikwanis</b>	<b>j iskwahtem</b>	
<b>k astotin</b>	<b>l cehcapiwinis</b>	

<b>2.3</b> <b>Mention mismatch between syllables and morphological structure.</b>	4
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