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**inuktitut for
health professionals**

A PHRASEBOOK



Λ^ρρ^b
pirurvik press

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ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Pirurvik is a centre of excellence for Inuit language, culture and well-being. Founded in the fall of 2003, and based in Iqaluit, Pirurvik has developed a reputation for innovation and quality. Through its team of highly skilled and experienced professionals, Pirurvik offers a range of specialized services, programs and productions.

As an Inuit firm, we are focused on three core concepts:

- Learning what has come before;
- Teaching what is here today; and
- Developing the future vitality of Inuit culture and the Inuktitut language.

The creation of Nunavut in 1999 sparked a renewed effort to protect and advance the use of the Inuktitut language in all aspects of daily life. Pirurvik is committed to developing new opportunities for people to learn and use Inuktitut. Our endeavours are as varied as the partners we work with, including daycares, preschools, Nunavut's francophone community, Inuit and non-profit organizations, government and the private sector.

In addition to our programs, Pirurvik has developed other Inuktitut resources, including text books, a CD of children's music with an accompanying songbook and the award-winning Tusaalanga website (www.tusaalanga.ca).

As an organization built on connecting with Inuit language and culture in all of its richness, our first instinct was to publish a phrasebook of traditional terminology that would revive some of the sophisticated words and expressions that have disappeared from daily speech. Such a resource would give mother tongue speakers of Inuktitut a new appreciation for their language and the cultural legacy that has been passed from one generation to another for centuries.

On the other hand, Pirurvik recognizes the strong desire of many English speakers to learn the Inuit Language. Many have come to the Arctic from elsewhere and are looking to enrich their experience and connection to the Inuit way of life. There is also a growing number of Inuit who have grown up speaking English and who are working to reclaim and enhance their abilities in the language of our ancestors. We see the importance of this reflected in initiatives and legislation designed to support Inuktitut in the workplace and in our education system.

This book marks the continuation of what is becoming a rich library of resources available to Inuit and non-Inuit alike.

About this phrasebook

Anyone who struggles with the vocabulary and grammar of an unfamiliar language looks for a handy reference that will make sense of it all.

Phrasebooks, of course, cannot teach you another language. If you want to be able to communicate beyond finger pointing and mono-syllabic sentences, there is no substitute for a good course taught by a competent instructor.

Our goal with this phrasebook is to provide Inuktitut learners with some simple and useful words and phrases that can be mastered easily. Keep in mind that fluent speakers of Inuktitut often use much more complex vocabulary and grammar than what appears here.

FINDING WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR

This book is not formatted to slip effortlessly into a back pocket. This is just as well as we don't recommend that you attempt a conversation with a unilingual Elder while frantically flipping through the pages of this book.

Instead, try to prepare ahead of time, researching the expressions you might need during an upcoming conversation. The material is arranged by topic in the front of the book with an Inuktitut-English and English-Inuktitut dictionary on the back pages.

Go to our website www.tusaalanga.ca and listen to the soundfiles so you get the pronunciation and the rhythm of the words right. All of this will help you to communicate successfully (if not elegantly) when the time arises.

DIALECT

As discussed in the following pages, Inuktitut in Nunavut is made up of numerous dialects. Pronunciation and vocabulary can vary considerably. Unfortunately, it isn't possible for us to list all of the terms that could be used depending on the community where you happen to find yourself.

Instead, we have made an effort to include only those terms that can be used across a range of dialects.

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Human Body

the human body

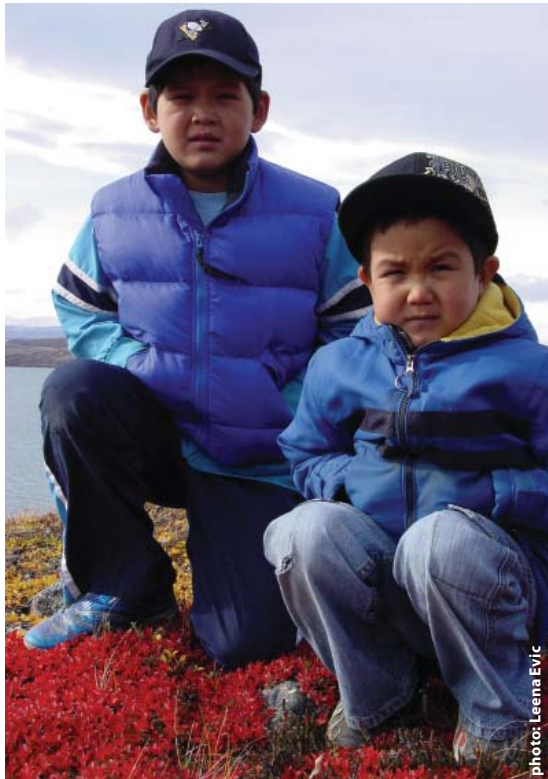


photo: Leena Ević

ANATOMICAL TERMINOLOGY

ᓯᓐᓯᓐᓐᓐ	singirniq	ankle
ᑕᓐᓐ	taliq	arm
ᑕᓐᓐᓐᓐᓐ	taqarjuaq	artery(ies)
ᑕᓐ	tunu	back
ᓐᓐᓐᓐ	qalasiq	belly button
ᓐᓐᓐ	nakasuk	bladder
ᑎᓯ	timi	body
ᓐᓐᓐᓐ	sauniq	bone
ᓐᓐᓐᓐ	qarasaq	brain
ᓐᓐᓐᓐᓐ	iviangiik	breasts
ᓐᓐᓐᓐᓐ	Qaqquaq (sometimes)	cartilage
ᓐᓐᓐᓐ	uluak	cheeks
ᓐᓐᓐ	savvik	chest
ᑕᓐᓐ	tallu	chin
ᓐᓐᓐᓐᓐᓐ	igalaujaak	ear(s)
ᓐᓐᓐᓐᓐᓐ	igalaujaak	eardrums
ᓐᓐᓐᓐ	ikusik	elbow
ᓐᓐ (ᓐᓐᓐ)	lji (ijiik)	eye(s)
ᓐᓐᓐ	kiinaq	face
ᓐᓐᓐᓐᓐᓐ	iqiqquq	finger(s): baby finger
ᓐᓐᓐᓐ	isigat	foot (feet)
ᓐᓐᓐᓐ	qauq	forehead
ᓐᓐᓐᓐ	sungaq	gall bladder
ᓐᓐᓐᓐ	Aggat	hand(s)

ᓂᐸᐸᓂᓂ	niaquq	<i>head</i>
ᐅᐸᐸᐅ	uummati	<i>heart</i>
ᓄᓂ	Nulu	<i>hip</i>
ᐅᓂᓂ	tikiq	<i>Index finger</i>
ᐸᓂᓂᐸ	irravit	<i>intestines</i>
ᓄᐸᐸᐸ	nagguat	<i>joint</i>
ᐸᓂᓂ,	Taqtu,	<i>kidney</i>
ᓂᓂᓂᓂ	siiqquq	<i>knee</i>
ᐸᓂᓂ/ᐸᐅᓂᓂ	lqtu/itiqu	<i>rectum / anus</i>
ᓂᓂ	niu	<i>leg</i>
ᓂᓂᓂᓂ	qaqtuuk	<i>lips</i>
ᐅᓂᓂ	tingu	<i>liver</i>
ᐸᐸᐸᐸᐸ	aggaut	<i>lower arm</i>
ᓂᓂ	kanaa	<i>lower leg</i>
ᓂᓂᓂ (ᓂᓂᓂ)	Puvak (puvat)	<i>Lung (lungs)</i>
ᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ	qitiqtiq	<i>Middle finger</i>
ᓂᓂᓂᓂ	qaniq	<i>mouth</i>
ᓄᓂ	nuki	<i>muscle</i>
ᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ	qungasiq	<i>neck</i>
ᐸᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ	ippinniajjutit	<i>nerve(s)</i>
ᓂᓂᓂᓂ	qingaq	<i>nose</i>
ᓂᓂᓂᓂ	surluuk	<i>nostrils</i>
ᐸᓂᓂᓂ	ingiq	<i>pelvis</i>
ᓂᓂᓂ	Usuk-	<i>penis</i>
ᓂᓂᓂᓂ	tulimaaq	<i>rib</i>
ᐅᓂᓂᓂᓂ	mikiliraq	<i>Ring finger</i>
ᓂᓂ	tui	<i>shoulder</i>
ᓂᓂᓂ	uvini	<i>skin</i>
ᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ ᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ	Niaquq sauniinnaq	<i>skull</i>
ᐸᓂᓂᓂ	anaut	<i>small bowel</i>
ᓂᓂᓂᓂ	qimirlu	<i>spine</i>

ᐸᓂᓂ	matsa	<i>spleen</i>
ᐸᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ, ᓂᓂᓂ	Aqiaruq, naaq	<i>stomach, belly</i>
ᐸᓂᓂᓂᓂ (for some)	lqsaak (for some)	<i>temples</i>
ᐸᓂᓂᓂ	ijjuuk	<i>testes</i>
ᐸᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ	inugannguat	<i>The rest of the toes</i>
ᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ	qutturaq	<i>thigh</i>
ᐸᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ	iggiaq	<i>throat</i>
ᓂᓂᓂ	kullu	<i>thumb</i>
ᓂᓂᓂᓂ	putuguq	<i>toe(s) big toe</i>
ᓂᓂᓂᓂ	uqaq	<i>tongue</i>
ᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ	qiliqsinat	<i>tonsils</i>
ᓂᓂᓂ (ᓂᓂᓂᓂ)	Kiguti (kigutiit)	<i>tooth (teeth)</i>
ᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ (ᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ)	Qurrivik (quvik)	<i>ureter, urethra</i>
ᐸᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ	illiaq	<i>uterus</i>
ᓂᓂᓂᓂ (ᓂᓂᓂᓂ)	Uttuuk (utsuuk)	<i>Vagina</i>
ᐸᓂᓂᓂᓂ (ᐸᓂᓂᓂ)	Taqaq (taqat)	<i>vein(s)</i>
ᐸᓂᓂᓂ	pavvik	<i>wrist</i>

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Occupational Titles

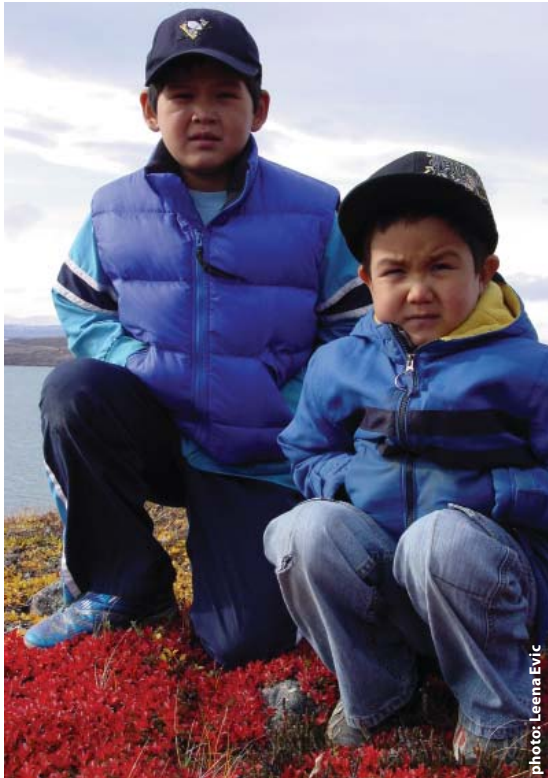


photo: Leena Ević

OCCUPATIONAL TITLES

Occupational titles are frequently just a general word such as “eye” with the ending ‘-liriji’ meaning “someone who works with”

ልብ ማሳሰቢያ ሰራተኛ	Ikpinniagunniittittiji	Anaesthesiologist
ሥራ ሰራተኛ	Sinittittiji	Anaesthesiologist
ሥነ ስራ	Siutiliriji	Audiologist
ጥሬ ስራ	Uummatiliriji	Cardiologist
የሥራ ልምድ	Kigunniyaqti	Dentist
ኃላፊ	Luuttaaq	Doctor
ልጅ ልጅ	Illialiriji	Gynaecologist
ልጅ ልጅ	Irnisussiji	Midwife
ሥራ ሰራተኛ	Niaquliriji	Neurologist
ሥራ ሰራተኛ	Aanniasuqti	Nurse
ወገን ሥራ	Najjijuliriji	Obstetrician
ልጅ ልጅ	Iqailisaiji	Occupational Therapist
ልጅ ልጅ	Ijiliriji	Ophthalmologist
ካህናት ሥራ / ወገን ሥራ	Sauniliriji/naggualiriji	Orthopaedic Surgeon
ሥራ ሰራተኛ ኃላፊ	Surusiliriji luuttaaq	Paediatrician
ጋላ ልምድ ሥራ	Tuavirnaqtuliriji	paramedic
ልጅ ልጅ ሥራ	Ijagaqtaattittiji	Pharmacist
ልጅ ልጅ	Iqailisaiji	Physiotherapist
ሥራ ሰራተኛ ልጅ ልጅ	Niaquliriji isumaliriulluni	Psychiatrist
ልጅ ልጅ	Isumaliriji	Psychologist
ልጅ ልጅ	Inuliriji	Social Worker
ሊሮ ልጅ	Pilattuui	Surgeon
ልጅ ልጅ	Inuusiliriji	Therapist
ወገን ሥራ	Nakasuliriji	Urologist

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inuktitut grammar

