

following w; for instance, ʔā'wayō-g'a *this salmon-weir*, becomes ʔā'wayōgwa. aa is often contracted to ä; for instance, ō^sma-a *that chieftainness*, becomes ō^smä. oa is contracted to ô; for instance, ʔā'wayō-a *that salmon-weir*, becomes ʔā'wayô. It seems that combinations of consonants do not occur in the beginning of words. Extensive clusters of consonants are rare, and even combinations of two consonants are restricted in number. The first sound of such a combination is generally a spirans, nasal, l or ɭ, all of which are produced by stricture, not by closure. k sounds, which in the process of word-composition become first sounds of combinations of consonants, are aspirated; l sounds become ɭ. When, in the process of composition, inadmissible combinations of consonants occur, the second consonant is often dropped. Terminal consonants of words, when followed by words with initial consonants, are often modified in the manner here indicated. From g'ōk^u *house*, is formed g'ōX^udzē *large house*; from ^snēk' *to say*, ^snē'x'sō *he is told*. Instead of laa'mL mē'x^sēL *then he will sleep*, we have laa'mɭ mē'x^sēL. Examples of dropping of consonants are the following: qā's-x^sid *he begins to walk*, becomes qā's^sid; Wā'k!ēqēs-x^sLa *named Wā'k!ēqēs*, becomes Wā'k!ēqēsLa.

Suffixes influence the terminal sounds of stems, which they often harden or soften. When softened, surd and fortis are transformed into the sonans of the same series; when hardened, sonans and surd are transformed into the fortis. s softened becomes dz or y; hardened, it becomes ts!. x softened and hardened becomes n; Xw softened and hardened becomes w. ɭ softened and hardened becomes l. n, m, l, y, w, when softened, become sonant by being preceded by the laryngeal catch. The following examples will illustrate these processes:

Stem	Softened	Hardened
L!aqw-, <i>red</i>	L!ā'w-atō, <i>red-eared</i>	L!ā'q!w-ōbō, <i>red-breasted</i>
hanɭ-, <i>to shoot</i>	ha'nɭ-as, <i>place of shooting</i>	ha'nL!-āla, <i>noise of shooting</i>
qas-, <i>to walk</i>	qā'y-as, <i>place of walking</i>	qā'ts!-ēnox, <i>walker</i>