ARAPAHO LANGUAGE

If you want to study a language, you should be able to write it and devise an alphabet for the sounds of the language.

Arapaho has some sounds English doesn't. (x: wox)  
English has some sounds Arapaho doesn't. (r: rat)

ARAPAHO ALPHABET ---- 16 SYMBOLS

B C E H I K N O S T U W X Y ' 

CONSONANT STOPS: B T C K ' 

SEMI-STOP: H 

CONSONANT FRICATIVES: S X H 

VOWELS: E I O U 

SEMI-CONSONANTS W Y 

NASAL: N 

VOWEL COMBINATIONS: A long vowel is a combination of two or more same vowels.

Example: EE II OO UU EEE III OOO UUU 

DIPHTHONG: A diphthong is a combination of two or more different vowels.

Example: EI is the long A vowel sound as in day. 
OE is the long E vowel sound as in pie. 
OU is the long O vowel sound as in glow.
ARAPAHO ALPHABET

PRONUNCIATION KEY ---- CONSONANTS

B: is between the voiced B and the blown P. Usually more like a B at the beginning and middle of a syllable and more like a P at the end of the word.

C: is between the voiced J and the blown CH. Usually more like a J at the beginning and middle of a syllable and more like a CH at the end of the word.

K: is just breathed at either end of a syllable.

K: is between the voiced G (as in gum) and the blown K. Usually more like the voiced G at the beginning and middle of a syllable and the blown K at the end of a word.

N: as in noon.

S: is always pronounced as in sing, and never like the Z sound in trees or closet.

3: as in three, thin, and bath.

T: is between the voiced D and the blown T. Usually more like the voiced D at the beginning and middle of a syllable and the blown T at the end of the word.

W: as in water.

X: is the sound not heard in English, but similar to the German Machen or the Greek XI. To say the X sound, start to say the K sound, but breathe out hard enough to make the back of your throat (your glottis) vibrate a little.

Y: as in yes and young, unless it is blown following U or I.

' is called the glottal stop, and doesn't make a sound; it shows that the sound or breath is cut off suddenly.
ARAPANO ALPHABET

B C E H I K N O S T U W X Y

VOWELS (V):
E I O U

CONSONANTS (C):

STOPs:
B T C K

SEMI-STOP:
H

FRICATIVES:
S S X H

NASAL:
N

SEMI-CONSONANTS:
W Y

ACCENT: High level pitch with greater loudness over vowels, consonants, and vowel combinations. (not occurring in parentheses)

BE BI BO (BU)
CE CI CO (CU)
HE HI HO HU
KE KI KO KU
NE NI NO NU
SE SI SO (SU)
3E 3I 3O (3U)
TE TI TO TU
WE WI WO WU
XE XI XO (XU)
YE YI YO (YU)
'E 'I 'O 'U
ARAPANO ALPHABET

BCENIKNOS3TUVWX

12 CONSONANTS AND 4 VOWELS

VOWELS:
SHORT: E: nee water LONG: EE: nees my husband
l: his liver II: hiit here
O: ho3 arrow OO: toot where
U: nooku rabbit UU: woxuu bears

ACCENT: Nowo' - fish Wono' - ankle

CONSONANTS:
FIRST
B Be' - blood
C Cec - year
H His - liver
K Ketee? - Is it your heart? Nooku - rabbit
N Noon - egg
S Sitee - fire
3 3io'tox - nine
T Toot - where
W Woow - now
X Xouu - skunk
Y Yoo3on - five
'

MIDDLE
Hebes - beaver
Wookecii - cows
Hohou - thankyou
He3ebii - dogs
Wote' - hat
Nowo' - fish
Hixono - bones
Heeyoo' - it is long
W'o03 - leg

LAST
Neb - fish
Neic - arrow
Noh - and
Seenook - rope
Yein - four
Niis - two
He3 - dog
Hiit - here
HitotiIiw - his car
Wox - bear
Ceesey - one
Hisi' - tick
## ARAPAHO ALPHABET

### CONSONANT CLUSTERS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>H B</th>
<th>Kuhbii3?</th>
<th>Did he eat it?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T S</td>
<td>Betson</td>
<td>Elbow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H '</td>
<td>Biisnih’oo3oo</td>
<td>Monkey (hairy whiteman)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N T</td>
<td>3oonteec</td>
<td>Crown of head</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X H</td>
<td>Woxhoox</td>
<td>Horse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H K</td>
<td>Beihko'</td>
<td>Squash</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### VOWEL CLUSTERS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>E I</th>
<th>Hoseino'</th>
<th>Meat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>Hiil</td>
<td>Snow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O U</td>
<td>Hohou</td>
<td>Thank you</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O O O</td>
<td>Hooo</td>
<td>Bed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O'O O O</td>
<td>Wo'ooo</td>
<td>Cat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E I</td>
<td>Nei</td>
<td>My son (vocative)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O E</td>
<td>Wo3onohoe</td>
<td>Paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I O</td>
<td>Hisio</td>
<td>His uncle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I E</td>
<td>Wotie'noo</td>
<td>Clean it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E E E</td>
<td>Niinebeh'eeet</td>
<td>Kingfisher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U U U</td>
<td>Cih'oxuuu</td>
<td>Chips</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ARAPAHO ALPHABET

GRAMMAR - NOUN:

Dog           He3         Dogs  He3ebii
My dog        Nete3ebiiib  My dogs  Nete3ebiiwo'
Your dog      Nete3ebiiib  Your dogs  Hete3ebiiwo'
His dog       Hite3ebiibw  His dogs  Hite3ebiiwo
On my dog     Nete3ebiiibe'
On your dog   Nete3ebiiibe'
On his dog    Nite3ebiiibe'

VERB: (present tense)

I see you      Nonoohobe3en
I see him      Nonoohowo'
I see you (pl.) Nonoohobe3enee
You see me     Nonoohowun
You see him    Nonoohowot
You see us     Nonoohobei’een
You see them   Nonoohowotii
He sees him    Nonoohowoot
He sees himself Nonoohobetit
ARAPAHO LANGUAGE (MORPHOLOGY)

1. CONSONANT AND SHORT VOWEL COMBINATION

Nebi  My older sister
Nesi  My uncle
Bexo (pl) Wood
Nisice Antelope
Hixono Bones

2. CONSONANT AND LONG VOWEL COMBINATION

Niicli River Neecee Chief
Ceetee Smoke Heenili Ants
Biisee Bug Siisowoowoo Tobacco
Hoocoo Devil

3. CONSONANT WITH A SHORT AND LONG VOWEL COMBINATION
   (A) SHORT - LONG

Sitee Fire (fire place)
Betee Heart
Betii Mouth
Woxuu (pl) Bears
Notoo (voc) My daughter
[B] Long - Short

Wooxe          Knife
3ooxe          Glove

[C] Short - Short - Long

Hebesii        Beavers
Hite3oo        Crane
Tecenoo        Door
Cebitee        Grease (gas-oil)
He3ebii        Dogs

[D] Short - Long - Long

Heneecce       Buffalo bull
Woxuusoo       Bear cub
Bexookeee      Cougar

[E] Long - Short - Short

Niitoni        Hear me

[F] Long - Short - Long

Beenenoo       I am drinking

[G] Short - Short - Long - Long

Nebesiiwo       Grandfather (voc.)