



Resource Assistance for MSHS Programs Working with Mixtec Speaking People

I. Mixtec Language and Culture

People in the Oaxaca region speak Mixteco, Cuicatec, and Triqui. Cuicatec and Triqui only have a few variants, but Mixtec has more than 25 identified variants.

Mixtec is very tonal, which means that the pitch with which a word is pronounced is so important that a change in pitch can change the word into an entirely different one.

Mixtec is primarily spoken in the western part of Oaxaca, but it is also spoken in parts of Puebla and Guerrero. Basically, each town has its own variant. Social identity among the Mixtecs is based on the town, not the region. The linguistic differences are often reinforced by the distinctive clothing worn by the women in the town. The Mixtecs often remain loyal to their hometowns, returning for special fiestas and contributing toward town projects.

Much of their history is known from pictorial history books called *codices*.

II. Mixtec Related Resources, Organizations, and Websites

Language Line

Language line is a service that provides over the phone interpretation, for a fee. Mixtec (not sure which variant) is one of the languages that's available.

If your need for an interpreter is minimal, set up an account with the *Personal Interpreter Service* at <https://www.languageline.com/webpi.php>. You will need to provide contact information and a valid credit card number, and you will receive a PIN in return. When you need the services, simply call 1-877-886-3885 and provide your PIN. Your credit card will be charged \$3.95 per minute for this service.

There are two *Over the Phone Language Interpretation* options. To set up an account, fill out the form at http://www.languageline.com/open_account.php, or call 1-877-886-3885 to speak with a Language Line Services representative. After all of your information has been submitted, your account should be opened within 48 hours.

1. Subscribed Interpretation

This service is right for you if you have a consistent monthly need for Mixtec interpretation services (20 minutes).

2. Personal Interpretation

This services is right for you if you have occasional Mixtec interpretation needs.

Contact *Language Line* for general questions at:

Phone: 1-877-886-3885

Mail: 1 Lower Ragsdale Drive, Bldg. 2 Monterey, CA 93940

Website: www.languageline.com

General Information: info@languageline.com

Mixteco/Indigenca Community Organizing Project

The Mixteco/Indigenca Community Organizing Project (MICOP) is a group of English, Spanish, and indigenous Mexican language speaking people who have come together to aid the Oaxacan immigrant community in Ventura County. The "Necessities of Life" program distributes clothing, diapers, blankets, and other items to those in need. A

partnership with FOOD Share allows us to distribute food to 100 needy families each month. The "Access to Medical Care" project brings pregnant women into early prenatal care, provides ongoing education, and enables pregnant couples to attend a hospital orientation conducted in their own language. The "Education Project," a basic literacy class for adults, is held every Sunday so working families are able to attend. Monthly community meetings are held the last Saturday of each month from 5 pm to 7 pm.

Contact Info:

325 W. Channel Islands Blvd.
Oxnard, CA, 93033
805-385-8662;

Executive Director, Susan Muilenburg Haverland, 805-320-0839

Pronunciation Guide

The website <http://abyayala.nativeweb.org/mexico/mixtec.html> contains a pronunciation guide for Mixtec of Santa Catarina Estetla (Variant of Peñoles Mixtec).

SIL International (formerly known as the Summer Institute of Linguistics)

SIL is a service organization that works with people who speak the world's lesser known languages. Their main page for Mixtec resources (<http://www.sil.org/mexico/mixteca/00i-mixteca.htm>) contains resources concerning linguistics, anthropology, literacy and literature.

SIL International has made the first steps to creating a dictionary for Mixtec. Unfortunately, their study only covers the variant spoken in Alacatlazala, in the municipal of Malinaltepec, Guerrero. The following website provides a link to the publication: <http://www.sil.org/americas/mexico/mixteca/alacatlazala/P001-Vocab-MIM.htm>.

SIL International owns www.ethnologue.com, which is where you can research some of the world's lesser known languages. Here, you can search for more Mixtec language resources.

Contact the *International Academic Bookstore*:

International Academic Bookstore
7500 W. Camp Wisdom Road
Dallas, TX 75236-5699
Phone: 972-708-7404
Fax: 972-708-7363
Email: academic_books@sil.org

Contact the *Language and Cultures Archives*

Email: archive_dallas@sil.org

BEFORE contacting the *Ethnologue* editor for questions on the language data content, see the materials on:

http://www.ethnologue.com/ethno_docs/feedback.asp.

Editor, *Ethnologue*
c/o International Linguistics Center
7500 West Camp Wisdom Road

Dallas, TX 75236
Email: Editor_Ethnologue@sil.org

UCLA Language Materials Project

Includes a database produced by the Center for Applied Linguistics. You can search the database for Mixtec language publications. The Language Materials Project continually updates the language profiles section. Currently, Mixtec does not yet have a language profile posted, but continue to check the website for updates.

<http://www.lmp.ucla.edu/CAL.aspx?menu=007>

University of Minnesota's Less Commonly Taught Languages Program

This program's goal is to create awareness around the less commonly taught languages while creating advancement in teaching and learning of the less commonly taught languages. For the purposes of the program, less commonly taught languages mean all of the world's languages except English, Spanish, French, and German.

Their main page has links to many different resources. First, there is a database of course offerings at colleges and universities, and it includes contact information and availability of the courses. Second, there are sharable instructional materials for a variety of different languages. Currently, Mixtec is not one of them. There are resources for teaching the less commonly taught languages, including listservs, "ask the experts" section, etc.

<http://www.carla.umn.edu/lctl/index.html>

III. Mixtec Language Publications

SIL International

These publications can be ordered directly through the SIL. Fill out the order form, and mail with a check or money order to the address given. The shipping and handling charge for orders within the U.S. is \$5.00 for the first book and \$2.00 for each additional book. Make checks payable to:

Summer Institute of Linguistics, 16131 North Vernon Dr., Tucson, AZ 85739

Phone: (520) 825-6116 email: lingpub_mexico@sil.org; <http://www.sil.org/mexico>

Alexander, <i>Mixteco de Atatlahuaca, Oaxaca</i> (1980).	\$12.50
Bartholomew and Schoenhals, <i>Libro de texto: Bilingual dictionaries for indigenous languages</i> (1983).	\$10.00
Bradley, <i>A Linguistic Sketch of Jicaltepec Mixtec</i> (1970).	\$3.00
Butler, <i>Zapoteco de Yatzachi el Bajo</i> (1980).	\$14.00
Dyk, <i>Mixteco texts (Mixteco de San Miguel el Grande)</i> (1959).	\$7.50
Dyk y Stoudt, <i>Mixteco de San Miguel el Grande</i> (1965).	\$7.50
Farris, et al., <i>Mixteco de Yosondúa</i> (2002).	\$14.00
Long y Cruz M., <i>Zapoteco de Zoogocho</i> (1999).	\$30.00
Nellis y Nellis, <i>Zapoteco de Juárez</i> (1983).	\$17.00
Newbery, <i>Conjugación del verbo Zapoteco (zapoteco de Yalálag)</i> .	\$7.00
Pickett, Black y Marcial, <i>Gramática popular del zapoteco de istmo</i> (1998).	\$12.00
S.I.L. Mexico workpapers (Number 5, 1984) Daly: A sociolinguistic analysis of a Mixtec text comparing oral and written version	\$5.00
S.I.L. Mexico workpapers (Number 10, 1993) Anderson: You can say that again: Repetition in Alacatlazala Mixtec	\$5.00
S.I.L. Mexico workpapers (Number 11, 1995)	\$5.00
Stark y Johnson, <i>Mixteco de San Juan Colorado</i> (1986).	\$9.00
Stark, Johnson y Gonzalez de Guzman, <i>Mixteco de Xochapa, Guerrero</i> (1999).	\$12.50
Stubblefield y Stubblefield, <i>Mitla Zapotec texts</i> (1994).	\$12.50
Stubblefield y Stubblefield, <i>Zapoteco de Mitla</i> (1991).	\$13.50
<i>Studies in the Syntax of Mixtecan Languages</i> (4 volumes).	\$45.00

UCLA Language Materials Project, Center for Applied Linguistics – these also seem to be available through SIL

Alexander, Ruth Mary, *A Syntactic Sketch of Ocotepc Mixtec* (1988)

Daly, John, *A Generative Syntax of Peñoles Mixtec* (1973).

Daly, M and J., *Mixteco de Santa Maria Peñales*.

Dyk, Anne, *Mixteco Texts* (1959).

Hills, Robert A., *A Syntactic Sketch of Ayutla Mixtec* (1989).

Johnson, Audrey F., *A Syntactic Sketch of Jamiltepec Mixtec* (1988).

Merrifield, William R. and Betty Stoudt, *Molinos Mixtec Clause Structure* (1967).

Pensinger, Brenda, *Diccionario Mixteco del este de Jamiltepec, Pueblo de Chayuco* (1974).

Pike, Eunice V. and John H. Cowen, *Huajuapán Mixtec Phonology and Morphophonemics* (1967).

Pike, Kenneth L., *Analysis of a Mixteco Text* (1939).

Ruiz Becerril de Bravo Ahuja, Gloria et al., *Mixteco: Santa María Peñoles, Oaxaca* (1977).
Shields, Jana K., *A Syntactic Sketch of Silacayoapan Mixtec* (1988).
Shields, Juliana W., *Gramática Popular del Mixteco: Mixteco de Silacayoapan*. (1976).
Small, Priscilla, *A Syntactic Sketch of Coatzospan Mixtec* (1989).