

Worksheet 1. Hopi Place Names (teacher version)

The Hopi Tribe is a sovereign nation located on over 1.5 million acres in northeastern Arizona. The reservation is made up of 12 villages on three mesas. Hopi Land or “Hopitutskwa” encompasses a much larger area of Arizona, Utah, New Mexico, and Colorado, where Hopi people have historically lived and traveled. Hopitutskwa includes a number of important places and landscapes to the Hopi culture. Today, around 20,000 people are part of the Hopi Tribe and they live all over the United States and around the world. Their homeland, Hopitutskwa, remains important as the political, spiritual, cultural, historical, and current home of many Hopi people.

Because Hopitutskwa has been home to the Hopi people for centuries, many places in the region have names written in the Hopi language. Sometimes those names appear on published maps; sometimes they do not. Many places that have published English language place names also have Hopi language names that are used by the Hopi people even though they are sometimes not included on maps.

Using the chart below and the map of Hopi Lands (Handout 1), try to find the following places in Hopitutskwa and complete the chart. If you find a location already included on the map, circle the name. If you can find the location based on information from a different map, add it to your map of Hopi Lands.

Complete the assignment by answering the questions that follow the chart.

Hopi name	English translation	Location/additional information	Can you find it? Circle location on Hopi Lands map or use reference map to add it.
1. Hopitutskwa	Hopi Lands	Everywhere Hopi people and their ancestors lived, traveled, and died as they moved from their place of origin to the Hopi Mesas	<i>This encompasses everything on the map in blue, green, and yellow: Hopi Reservation and Hopitutskwa or Hopi aboriginal lands</i>

Language of Place: Hopi Place Names, Poetry, Traditional Dance and Song

Hopi name	English translation	Location/additional information	Can you find it? Circle location on Hopi Lands map or use reference map to add it.
2. Yuvukpu	“cave-in,” “sink”	Meteor crater east of Flagstaff	<i>Use Arizona map for “Sunset Crater,” Volcano National Monument.</i>
3. Nuvakwewtaqa	“one wearing a snow belt”	Anderson Mesa	<i>On Hopi Lands map</i>
4. Sakwavayu	“Blue river”	Clear Creek	<i>On Hopi Lands map</i>
5. Itaakuku	“our footprints”	Archaeological sites and other artifacts across Hopi Land	<i>Any ruin, archaeological site, or historic site in Hopitutskwa—students may find some identified on other Arizona maps.</i>
6. Tutuveni	“writing on rocks,” “newspaper rock”	Shrine on pilgrimage to Grand Canyon, west of Tuba City	<i>Difficult to find on maps; students can locate Tuba City on map. Tutuveni is a few miles west.</i>
7. Wukoskyavi	“big valley”	Tonto Basin, Tonto National Forest	<i>Tonto National Forest is located south of Flagstaff and Winslow.</i>
8. Nuvatukya’ovi	“snow butte on top place”	San Francisco Peaks	<i>On Hopi Lands; map just north of Flagstaff</i>
9. Palatkwapi	“Red Land of the South”	Area near Tonto Cliff Dwellings in Central Arizona, Tonto National Monument	<i>Use Arizona map to find Tonto National Monument, east of Phoenix.</i>

Language of Place: Hopi Place Names, Poetry, Traditional Dance and Song

Hopi name	English translation	Location/additional information	Can you find it? Circle location on Hopi Lands map or use reference map to add it.
10. Village of Sichom'ovi'	"flower mount on top place"	Near Walpi on First Mesa	<i>Use Arizona map to find village or locate on Hopi Lands by locating Walpi.</i>
11. Village of Shungopavi, Songoopavi	"sand-grass spring place"	On Second Mesa	<i>On Hopi Lands map</i>
12. Village of Hotvela	"juniper slope"	On Third Mesa, close to Orayvi/Oraibi	<i>Use Arizona map to find or locate Orayvi on Hopi Lands map.</i>
13. Village of Paaqavi/Bacavi	"reed springs place"	On Third Mesa, close to Orayvi/Oraibi	<i>Use Arizona map to find or locate Orayvi on Hopi Lands map.</i>
14. Tusaqtsomo	"grass hill"	Bill Willams Mountain	<i>On Hopi Lands map</i>
15. Tsimontukwi	"jimson-weed butte"	Woodruff Butte	<i>On Hopi Lands map</i>
16. Pikya'ingwtsomo	"stone-axe material gathering hill"	Wildcat Peak	<i>Use Arizona map to find west of Tonalea, north of Moencopi Wash.</i>
17. Hunaptuyqa	"cliff-rose point"	Preston Mesa	<i>Use Arizona map to find west of Tonalea, north of Moencopi Wash.</i>
18. Pangwuvi	"mountain sheep place"	No-trail Mesa in Dinnebito Wash	<i>On Hopi Lands map</i>
19. Pisisvayu	"river of echoing sounds between canyon walls"	Colorado River through Grand Canyon	<i>On Hopi Lands map</i>

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20. Ongtupqa	“salt canyon,” “grand canyon”	Grand Canyon	<i>On Hopi Lands map</i>

- Carefully review the English translations of the Hopi place names. How might you describe these types of names? What do they have in common?

Suggested Answers:

Student answers here may vary, but generally speaking, these Hopi place names all reference something from the landscape or the environment. They describe a feature of the landscape in a particular place or they mention something that might be found there (plants, animals, snow, springs, stone).

- Based on these place names and your own knowledge of northeastern Arizona, describe the landscape and environment of Hopitutskwa.

Suggested Answers:

Student answers here may vary but likely include some of the following details:

3. An area with snow-covered mountains and mesas
 4. Streams and rivers cutting the rock in canyons and valleys
 5. Flowers, grasses, juniper and jimson weed
 6. Rock and sand
3. What do these (and other) place names tell us about Hopi people and culture? Be sure to include an example.

Suggested Answers:

Student answers here may vary, but they will likely include some of the following details:

7. Hopi people pay careful attention to the landscape and environment
8. Hopi people care about and know different plants and animals
9. Hopi people traveled far from their home villages all across the region