



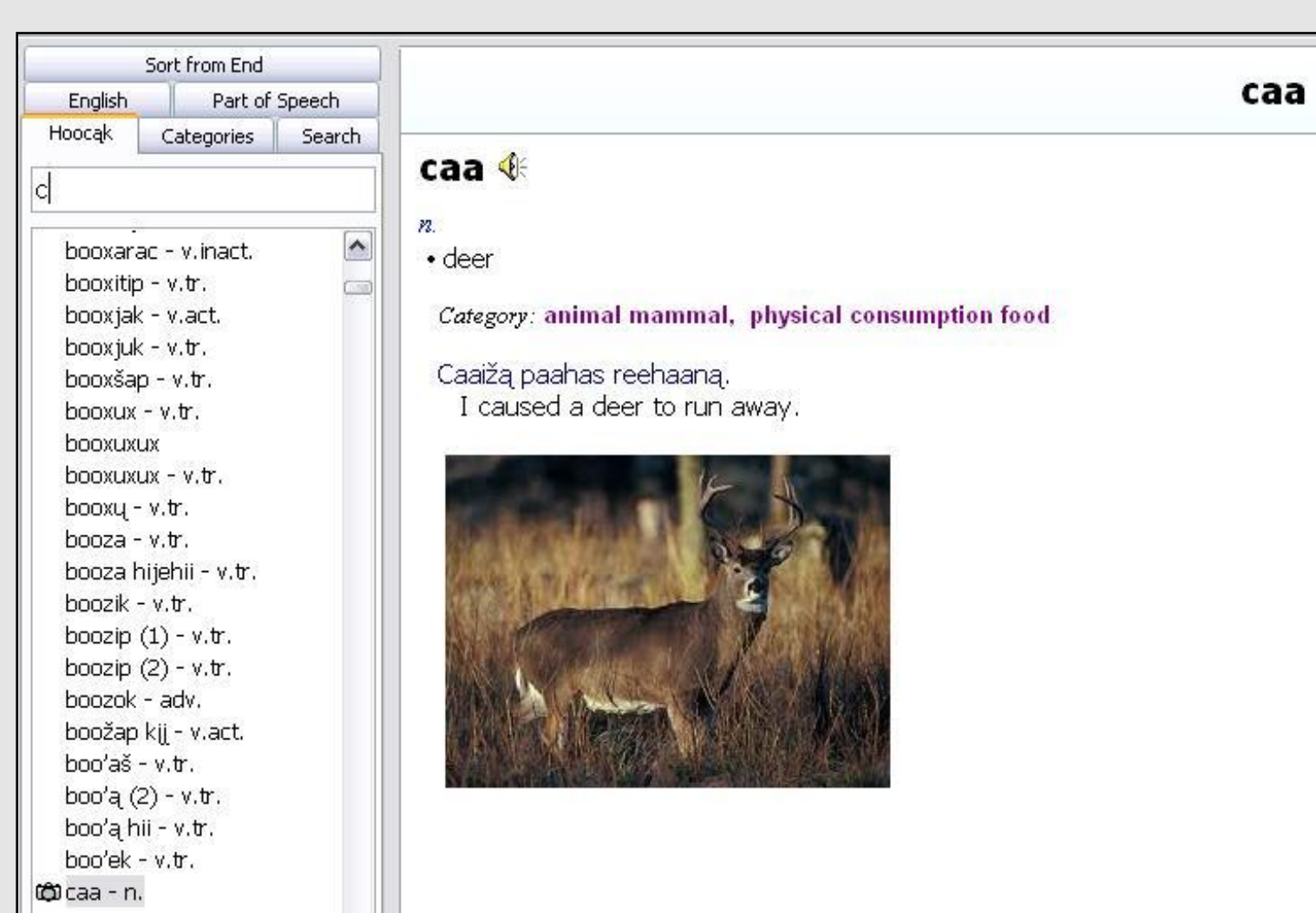
## Hoocak Documentation and Revitalization Efforts



Hoocak (formerly known as Winnebago) is a highly endangered Siouan language which is still spoken in two states of the USA, viz. in Wisconsin (less than 200 native speakers out of 7,000 tribal members) and Nebraska (less than 6 speakers out of 4,000 tribal members). Prior to the DoBeS Documentation project little had been done to document and describe this highly synthetic active-stative language.

### Achievements of the DoBeS project

The “Documentation of Hoocak” project was conducted at the University of Erfurt from June 2003 until February 2008. Under the leadership of Christian Lehmann and Johannes Helmbrecht six German linguists and more than 20 native speakers of Hoocak (working for the Hoocak Waazija Hacı Language Division in Mauston, WI) contributed to the project’s efforts.



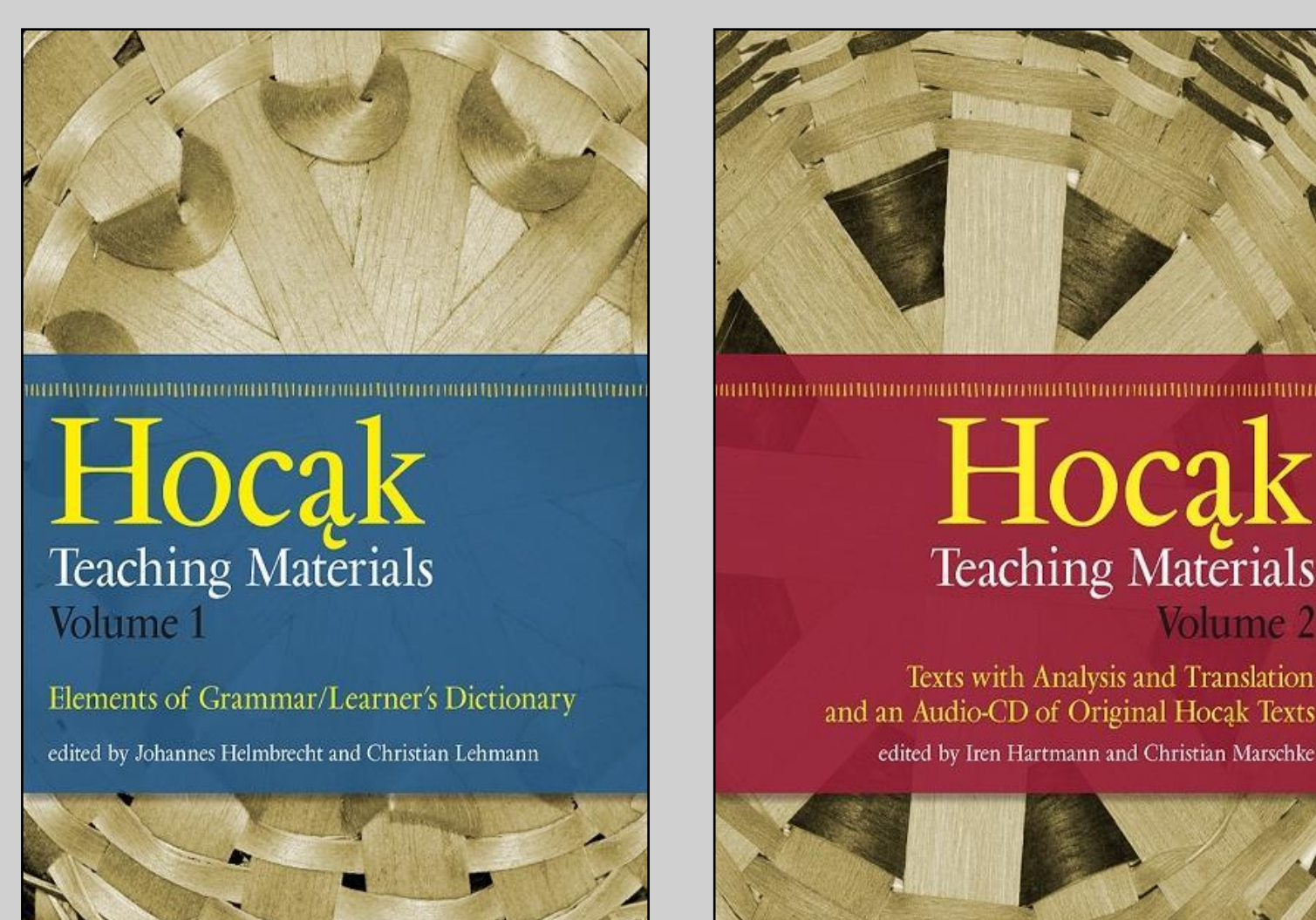
First stages of the new multimedia dictionary

Major results achieved during this time include the following:

- » a good collection of over 60 recorded and annotated texts (audio & video) including many different text types such as narratives, descriptive texts, conversations and procedural texts,
- » the compilation of a large dictionary database with over 7,000 lemmas and an equally large number of example sentences,
- » a Christmas songbook in Hoocak

### Publications resulting from the DoBeS project

A major achievement of the DoBeS Project was the compilation of a two volume publication consisting of a **learners’ dictionary** and a **collection of glossed Hoocak texts** (with audio CD).



### Post-DoBeS collaborative work

The linguistic work on the Hoocak language did not cease with the end of the DoBeS project. From 2008 to 2009 a new collaborative project was conducted by Iren Hartmann, Cecil Garvin and other staff members of the Hoocak Waazija Hacı Language Division. This project focused on development of a comprehensive **pedagogical grammar/textbook** to contribute to the language maintenance and revitalization efforts of the Hoocak people. The teaching materials produced during this time were collaboratively piloted at UW-Madison in a twice weekly Hoocak language class with great success.

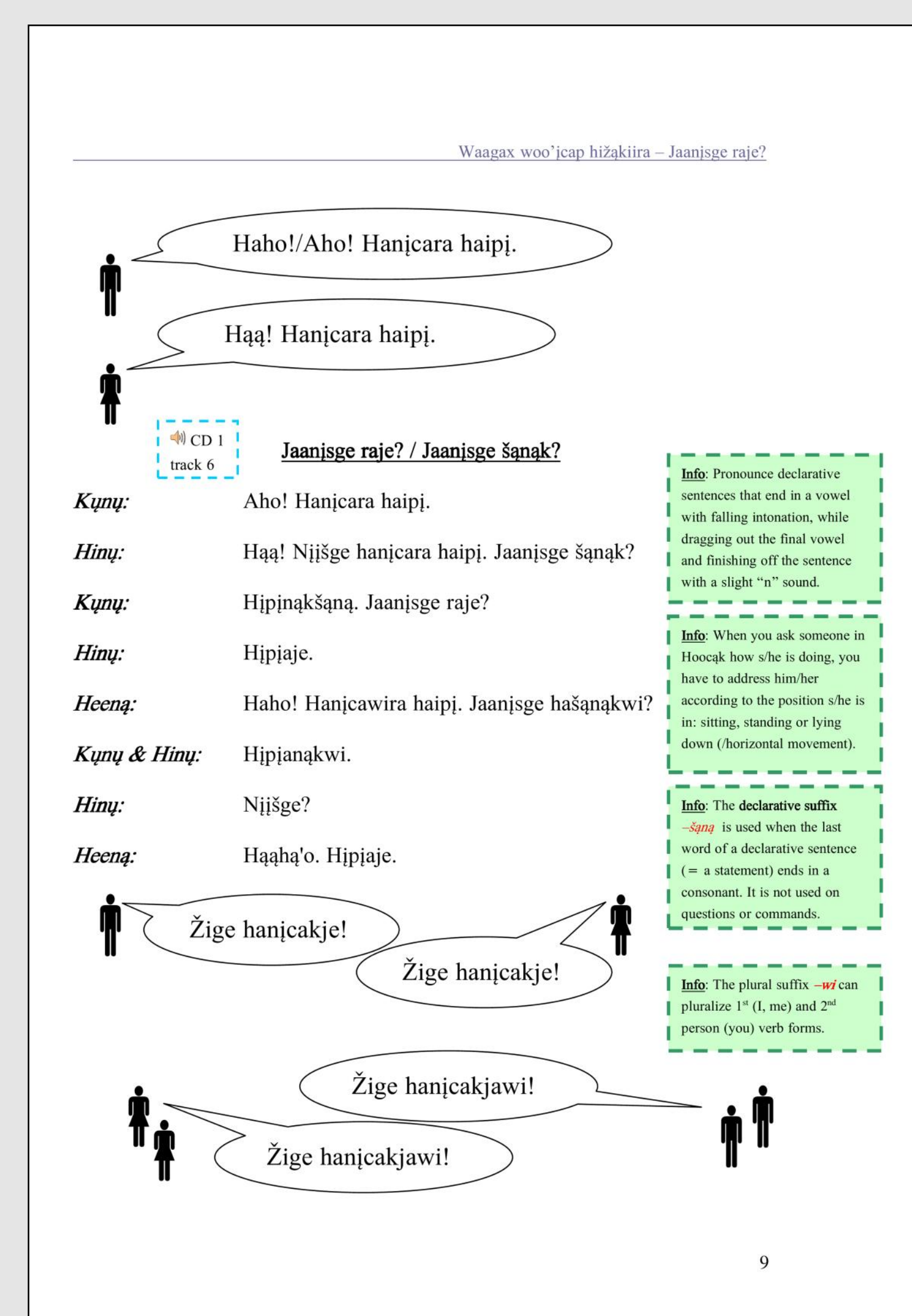


Elliott and Cecil Garvin during a recording session in 2011 involving a picture description and identification task

### Work in progress

Funded by the MPI-EVA more fieldwork was conducted in 2010-2012. Continued collaborative efforts are being made to:

- » further the documentation of the Hoocak language,
- » to contribute to the revitalization efforts of the Hoocak people by providing them with useful language materials of various kinds,
- » the compilation of a Hoocak Valency dictionary (within the framework of the Leipzig Valency Classes Project),
- » the creation of a multi-media dictionary of Hoocak which can be run on portable devices such as smart phones and tablets



Sample page of the completed Hoocak textbook

### References

Garvin, Cecil & Hartmann, Iren 2010. *Hoocak hijt'ekjawi - a Hoocak language textbook for beginners with accompanying audio-CD's*. Mauston, WI.

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