Basic Accent Pronunciation adapted from Bright (1957)

- Each Karuk word has at most one accent
- The syllable with the written accent is always **stressed**
- A vowel written with acute accent has level high pitch:  
  Example: the á in ákah 'father' and the áa in áama 'salmon'
- A vowel written with circumflex accent has pitch that falls from high to low:  
  Example: the âa in yâamach 'pretty, nice' and the ôo in yôotva 'thank you'
- Depending on what the accent is, and where it is in the word, the pitches (or tune) of the rest of the word are all predictable:
  - An unaccented short vowel in the first syllable of a word has low pitch
  - All other syllables before the accented syllable have high pitch
    1a. \( ná\text{í}n\text{í}h\text{vuy} \) 'my name'
    b. \( xá\text{ñ}í\text{ñ}i\text{v}\text{k}i\text{h} \) 'seven'
    c. \( \text{uí}\text{m}k\text{at\text{á}r}ah \) 'it is bright'
    d. \( \text{ikr}\text{ivkihi}tráh\text{yar} \) 'sixty'
    e. \( xá\text{ñ}í\text{ñ}i\text{v}k\text{ih}\text{itr}áh\text{yar} \) 'seventy'
  - An unaccented long vowel in the first syllable of a word has high pitch
    2a. \( \text{teexú}\text{r}i\text{ha} \) 'you're hungry'
    b. \( \text{peeshkë}\text{e}sh \) 'the river'
  - All unaccented last syllables have low pitch
    3a. \( \text{áp}\text{x}a\text{an} \) 'hat'
    b. \( \text{pih}në\text{efich} \) 'coyote'
  - If there are more syllables between the accented syllable and the last syllable:
    - The syllable after a circumflex accent has mid pitch (4a, 4f)
    - A syllable with a long vowel after an acute accent has mid pitch (4b, 4d)
    - A syllable with a short vowel after an acute accent has low pitch (4c, 4e)
    - Any other syllables after the accented syllable have low pitch (4f)
    4a. \( \text{niv}\text{ô}\text{o}\text{nupuk} \) 'I went outside'
    b. \( \text{pa'\text{asiktåva}n\text{sa}} \) 'the women'
    c. \( \text{pà\text{'av}n\text{sas}} \) 'the men'
    d. \( \text{ám}k\text{uufkunish} \) 'blue'
    e. \( \text{pir}\text{ishkunish} \) 'green'
    f. \( \text{vo}\text{onpukti}h\text{ara} \) 'he didn't come outside'