

# The Kahtsaai Language

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## 1. Introduction

Begun in April 2011, Kahtsaai is created for experimenting with various ideas, including pervasive noun incorporation, especially for discourse rather than lexical reasons, but Mithun's class IV noun incorporation, classifiers, is also being played with. I'm also aiming for a less subordinating style than I normally favor.

The language is highly verb-focused, with a preference for nouns derived from verbs, though there is a good set of root nouns, too. The border between lexical and grammatical nominalization is thin.

Kahtsaai also incorporates various ideas that have been in development in several language sketches going back to early 2010. A good deal of the vocabulary is motivated by politics and economics (somewhat after the fashion of Frank Herbert), as well as a desire to avoid Tolkienesque prudishness and technophobia.

## 2. Phonology and Phonetics

**2.1. The Consonants.** Kahtsaai has a modest consonant inventory:

p	m		w
t	n	l	ɫ
ts			y [j]
k		h	,
s		r	

- The /r/ is a flap.
- The voiceless stops are moderately aspirated as onsets; a word-final stop is also likely to be aspirated, especially in pause. The affricate **ts** is most strongly aspirated.
- After a coda glottal stop, voiced resonants (**m n r l**) and glides (**w y**) will have a glottalic release, **teilo'mé** *I will go* [te:.lóʔ.m'É].
- Double **ɫ, ɬ**, is pronounced [ɬ:].

**2.2. The Vowels.** It has a four vowel system, with contrastive vowel length. Some long vowels have quality changes, which are reflected in the orthography. There is only one diphthong.

i [i]	ii [i:]				
e [ɛ]	ei [e:]			o [o]	ou [u:]
		a [a]	aa [a:]		
			aa [a:]		
			aai [a:j]		

In open syllables **o** is [o], in closed syllables it is [ɔ].

**2.3. Tone.** It has a simple two-tone system, low (**a**) and high (**á**), with tone contours possible on long vowels: **áá, áa, aá**. Note the spelling for tone contours in **áái** and **aaí**.

#### 2.4. Syllable Structure.

- All syllables must have a consonant onset. At the beginning of a word, initial glottal stop is not written.
- Any consonant except **w** or **y** may be a syllable coda.
- Any consonant except **h** or glottal stop may be geminate. Geminate **ts** is **tts**.
- A small number of interjections break syllable rules, **ma'ss** *darn*.

#### 2.5. Phonotactics.

- coda **-y** becomes **-ł**, e.g. **asriye + ko** > \***asriyko** > **asriłko** *modest*
- coda **-w** becomes **-h**, e.g. **askowe + ko** > \***askowko** > **askohko** *naive*
- **hh** and **”** > **’h**, e.g. **heweyé’hipi** *it got very strange* < **he-wei-yé’-’ipi**
- **ll** and **łł** > **łł** [ɭ:], e.g. **sáálł + -léi** > **sáálłléi** *to marry (one another)*; before a front vowel it is liable to palatalize, [ɭʲ:].
- **C + y + i** > **Cii**; the entire long vowel inherits the tone of the following /i/, so that \***yí** > **íi**; e.g. **werya + ko** > \***weryiko** > **weriiko** *be bitter*
- Before voiced resonants (**m n l r**) and glides (**w y**) the voiceless stops are pronounced voiced, and **ł** may be pronounced [ɭ].
- The cluster **-ły-** is pronounced [ɭʲ:].
- At morpheme boundaries, **h + s** > **-ss-**, **yo’ássaám** *he hurried them* < **yo-’áh-saai-m**.
- At morpheme boundaries, **t + s** > **-tss-**, **yonnotssó’ei** *he can drink it* < **yo-n-not-só’ei**. Thus, the results of **ts + s** and **t + s** are identical.
- The diphthong **aai** combines with agent nominalization suffixes irregularly (see §8.5.0.1).
- In suffixes a leading **-r-** tends to pattern as a cluster after other resonants (**m, n, l**) and **ł**, preferring an epenthetic vowel, **kénirén** < **kén + -(i)rén**.

### 3. Morphology and Basic Syntax

**3.1. Noun.** Kahtsaai nouns are not marked for number, though number can be indicated for core arguments since number is marked in subject and direct object verb forms: **wéíła te’ássitsák** *I saw people*.

**3.1.1. Possessed Forms.** A small number of nouns, most of them family and social relationship words, lose an initial vowel or syllable when taking possessive prefixes. This is indicated in the vocabulary when needed, as in “**emmé** (-mmé) *mother*.”

**3.1.1.1.** Some nouns are augmented when possessed, which is marked the same in the dictionary, **aaptaraai** *his health* from **taraai** (-ptaraai).

**3.1.2. Inanimate, Transitive Subjects.** Inanimate nouns require special treatment to be the subjects of transitive verbs. Inanimate nouns take the ending **C-is**, **V-s** and a different verb prefix is used for transitive vs. intransitive inanimate subjects.

**Kítánik wé kaarimis.** *This book is interesting to me.*

**Heléikouts wé kaarim.** *This book is dull.*

**3.1.3. Ambiguous Subject Marking.** A transitive verb with two noun-phrase arguments of the same animacy is potentially ambiguous, since there is no case marking. See the particle **mo** (§9.3) for a way to disambiguate.

**3.1.4. Incorporation.** Noun stems undergo some changes when incorporated into verbs.

- If a final short vowel, remove; if resulting stem has consonant cluster, add **-í-**.
- If a final long vowel, shorten (**ei** > **e**, **aai** > **aa**, **ou** > **o**); if high-toned or a contour, the shortened vowel has a high tone.
- In a number of words **ei** > **a**.<sup>1</sup> For example, **márei** *year* has **mára-**. These are noted in the lexicon as exceptions.
- If the stem ends in a final consonant, add **-í-**.
- Some words have irregular incorporation stems, such as **mon-** from **mouno** *word*.

Only one of the rules above will operate. So, the incorporation stem of **kopi** *water* is **kop-** (by the first rule), not **\*kopí** which would combine the first and the third.

**3.2. Pronoun.** Independent pronoun forms are used mostly for focus or contrast. Usually pronouns are affixed. The possessive prefixes are also used with the postpositions.

	Independent	Possessive
1sg.	<b>tán(e)</b>	<b>tá-</b>
2sg.	<b>rin(e)</b>	<b>ri-</b>
3an.	<b>atsne</b>	<b>aa-, ats-</b>
3inan.	<b>o'né</b>	<b>on- (oni-, ni-)</b>
1pl.	<b>katne</b>	<b>kat- (katii-)</b>
2pl.	<b>wéin(e)</b>	<b>wéi-</b>
3an.pl.	<b>áhne</b>	<b>áh- (áhíí-)</b>
refl.	<b>len(e)</b>	<b>le-</b>

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<sup>1</sup>Original **\*ai** merged with **ei**.

- The forms in **-(e)** have or drop the final vowel according to personal taste.
- The 3an. possessive prefixes are in free variation, though **ats-** is more common before resonants and glides.
- The possessives in parentheses are used before nouns which have separate possessed forms beginning with a consonant cluster, **katiimmé** *our mother*, and postpositions beginning with a consonant cluster, **áhíhta** *with them*. The 3an. prefix is always **aa-** before possessed forms starting with a cluster.
- The shorter 3inan. form, **ni-**, is more frequent than the longer **oni-** on nouns and postpositions of more than a single syllable.
- The third person pronouns are marginal, with the demonstratives (**hón**, etc.) more often used instead.

**3.2.1. Independent Possessed Forms.** The prop nouns **wim**, for inanimates, and **sii** (§6.4), for animates, are used for *mine*, *yours*, etc., **sei riwim mo wé** *that is not yours*.

<b>Kamtírík'é</b>	<b>mo</b>	<b>táwin.</b>
kamte-ríik-'é	mo	tá-win
story-true-NMNL	mo	1SG-PROP.INAN
<i>The true story is mine.</i>		

### 3.3. Deixis.

**3.3.1. Demonstratives.** Kahtsaai demonstratives may act as both pronouns and adjectives.

	Animate	Inanimate
this	<b>hón</b> (pl. <b>hón'áh</b> )	<b>hó'é, wé</b>
that	<b>ran</b> (pl. <b>ran'áh</b> )	<b>ra'é, ra'</b>
what, which, who?	<b>yen</b>	<b>ye'é</b>

**3.3.1.1.** The short form **wé** is most common, **hó'é** is focused. The onset is glottalized, **w'é**, though there is no change in the spelling.

**3.3.1.2.** The short form **ra'** is somewhat less frequent than **wé**, but is still common, and is especially likely before nominalized verbs (§8.5).

**3.3.1.3.** The animate plurals are used when the demonstratives are acting as pronouns, and even that is not a requirement.

**3.3.1.4. Indefinites.** Indefinites are created by prefixing **á-** to the question words, **áyen** *someone*.

**3.3.1.5. Free-choice Indefinites.** Indefinites marking free choice (“-ever” in English) are marked by suffixing **C-wał V-nał** to the question words, **ye'énał so'ólípto** *pick whichever (one you want)*.

**3.3.1.6. Compound Adverbials.** Nouns of measurement may be paired with the demonstratives and the question words to form adverbial expressions. For example, **lóuté** *weight* combined with **ye'é** means *how heavy, how much (weight)*, as in **ye'é lóuté herá rihaanéi?** *how much does your bed weigh?* These are listed in the lexicon.

**3.3.2. Other Determiners.** Several determiners, mostly quantifiers, are marked for animacy like demonstratives. These follow the noun, or may be used as pronouns.

	Animate	Inanimate
some, a certain	<b>laahkin</b>	<b>laahké</b>
other	<b>málin</b>	<b>mál'é</b>
the same	<b>kop</b>	<b>kopé</b>
such	<b>oyo'in</b>	<b>oyo'é</b>
all, every	<b>tasin</b>	<b>tas'é</b>
many	<b>pétei</b>	<b>péte'yé</b>
some, any (amount, partitive)		<b>ne</b>
whole, entire	<b>péken</b>	<b>péké</b>

The four quantity determiners, **tasin**, **pétei**, **ne** and **péken**, may be used with the others (see §9.1 for usage).

**3.3.3. Intensives.** Intensive nouns, pronouns and demonstratives are marked with the obligatorily possessed form **-ssi'**, which follows the word being intensified.

**Tássi' te'etsák.**  
 tá-ssi' tei-n-tsák  
 1SG-self 1SG-3INAN-see  
*I saw it myself.*

**Mo keil aassi' yo'áhlentén yolleile.**  
 mo keil ats-ssi' yo-'áh-lenté-n yolleile  
 SUBJ soldier 3SG.AN-self 3SG.AN-3PL-save-EVID children  
*The soldier himself saved the children.*

**3.3.4. Adverbials.** The correlative adverbs of place, time and manner are moderately regular:

	Place	Time	Reason	Manner
this	<b>hó'wei</b>	<b>hó'lin</b>	<b>hó'pas</b>	<b>hó'owa</b>
that	<b>ra'wei</b>	–	–	–
which?	<b>táá</b>	<b>ye'lin</b>	<b>louh</b>	<b>ye'owa</b>
all	<b>tastáá</b>	<b>taslin</b>	–	<b>taswa</b>

As with the demonstratives, prefixing **á-** to the question forms creates indefinites, and suffixing **C-waŋ V-naŋ** creates free-choice indefinites.

**3.3.4.1.** The adverbs of place (and time?) may take the directional suffixes (§5.2). The base sense is locative, but the suffix **-taak** may be used anyway for asseveration or focus.

**3.4. Verb.** The verb template:

Preverb Subject DO Adv NI Verb Tense/Aspect Evid./Mood

The verb stem itself may be complex, with valency and other derivational elements.

**3.4.1. Preverb.** Verbs, especially verbs of motion, may take one of five prefixes which occur to the left of the subject prefixes. In verbs of motion they describe the path, but they are very often used in idiomatic senses for which the dictionary is the best reference.

**la-** translocative, movement away from focus, usually the speaker

**kóh-** cislocative, motion toward the focus

**weri-** indicates downward motion, or contraction; sometimes marks sense of completion or thoroughness

**ís-** indicates upward motion, or inflation or expansion; may carry an overtone of something getting out of control

**pité-** back and forth, to and fro, cyclical motion

With verbs of motion in the perfective, **pité-** may have the sense of a single round trip.

**3.4.1.1.** There is an additional, non-productive preverb, **ná-**, which is only used with a few verbs (and one coerced noun). The resulting verb is always transitive and almost always takes a human object. See **lára**, **reik**, **ríík**, **terká**, **waar**, **yortá** in the dictionary. The meaning of the prefix relates to interpersonal relationships, but is not very specific beyond that.

**3.4.2. Conjugation.** Verbs are always conjugated for subject, and transitive verbs are always also marked for direct object.

	Subject	Object	(Relative Object)
1sg.	<b>tei-</b> ( <b>te-</b> )	<b>-tá-</b>	
2sg.	<b>sou-</b> ( <b>so-</b> )	<b>-ri-</b>	
3an.	<b>yo-</b>	<b>-ts-</b>	<b>ats-</b>
3an.indef	<b>ma-</b>	<b>-'ou-</b>	
3inan.	(intr. <b>he-</b> ) <b>kí-</b>	<b>-n-, -ni-, -V'V-</b>	<b>ni-</b>
3inan.indef	<b>wé-</b>	<b>-k-</b>	<b>ki-C, h-V</b>
1pl.	<b>káá-</b> ( <b>ká-</b> )	<b>-kat-</b>	
2pl.	<b>was(i)-</b>	<b>-wéi-</b>	
3an.pl.	<b>háái-</b>	<b>-'áh-</b>	
refl.		<b>-le-</b>	

- The indefinites (“someone, something”) are indifferent to number.
- **Tei-**, **sou-** and **káá-** shorten to **te-**, **so-** and **ká-** when in a closed syllable: **teiristsák** *I see you* vs. **tektsák** *I see things*.
- The short **te-**, **so-** and **ká-** may be used in open syllables if the following syllable is long: **te'oustsák** *I see people*. This is more likely when the onset consonant of the long syllable is a resonant or glide, **kámaana** *we were sleeping*, and very common before object affixes with long vowels.
- The subjects **tei-**, **sou-** and **káá-** also combine with a 3rd person inanimate ending irregularly, resulting in **te'e-**, **so'o-** and **ká'a-** (note tone): **ká'atsák** *we see it*.

- The subject prefixes **he-** and **háái-** merge with the distributive prefix **-na'a-**; see §3.4.3.1.
- The third person inanimate **-n-** takes an epenthetic **i** before verbs starting with **r**, as in **yonireł** *she carries it* < \***yonreł**
- The “relative object” forms are used when a transitive verb takes subject nominalization (see §8.5, §9.13).

3.4.2.1. Some examples of fully conjugated verbs. Forms in italics are missing expected noun incorporation to make the forms clear.

<b>teiritsák</b> <i>I see you</i>	<b>tei'áhtsák</b> <i>I see them</i>
<b>wastátsák</b> <i>you all see me</i>	<b>wasittsák</b> <i>you all see him</i>
<b>háááktsák</b> <i>they see things</i>	<b>hááiletsák</b> <i>they see themselves</i>
<b>kááritsák</b> <i>we see you</i>	<b>ká'atsák</b> <i>we see it</i>
<b>káwéítsák</b> <i>we see you all</i>	<b>te'etsák</b> <i>I see it</i>
<b>souló</b> <i>you go</i>	<b>maló</b> <i>people go</i>

3.4.3. **Adverbials.** There is a large collection of affixes which encode adverbial, aspectual and sometimes modal ideas. They can be used together, limited mostly by semantics. However, no more than one from any of the following three slots can be used.

3.4.3.1. **Slot One: Various.** Some of these prefixes are prone to lexicalization, with some verbs taking on fixed idiomatic meanings when used with them.

- **-laá-** “together with, con-, co-,”
- **-rou'-** “apart, separating, separately”
- **-na'a-** distributive; the sense is primarily local, for overspreading actions such as weather or actions repeated over space, but extends to mark one of the core arguments of the verb as being a distributive plural

The distributive **-na'a-** has portmanteau forms when it occurs with the person prefixes **he-** and **háái-**.

**he- + na'a > he'a-**  
**háái- + na'a > háá'ya-**

**He'a'ántsi** *it's hot (everywhere)*, **háá'yawósénats** *they were running all over the place.*

3.4.3.2. **Slot Two: Modals and Degree.**

- **-'éwó-** “enough, sufficiently”
- **-'ił-** used only with negative, “must not” (see §9.11)
- **-lóú-** “must, have to” (compulsory obligation)
- **-mátór-** “completely, fully, utterly”
- **-not-** “be able”

- **-pewár-** “too (much), excessively”
- **-riim-** “try”
- **-sakke-** “should” (non-compulsory)
- **-tsít-** “a little, a bit, somewhat”
- **-wei-** “very, very much;” **yowelóúksi** *he is very large*

#### 3.4.3.3. Slot Three: Aspect.

- **-kiits-** versitive, “re-, again”
- **-kís-** “for a little bit; for a (little) while” (purely temporal; slot two **-tsít-** is amount or degree)
- **-weíri-** reversitive, “un-”
- **-tsó-** habitual
- **-yé’-** inceptive, inchoative, “get X” (of statives), “start to X”

**3.4.4. Verb Stem.** Verb stems may be primitive or complex. Most of the complex forms are the result of deriving verbal forms from nouns. For these, see the section on derivations.

#### 3.4.5. Valency.

- Causative of intransitive: C-**im**, V-**m**
- Detransitive: C-**ki**, V-**k**
- Detransitive of causative: **-ríi-se**
- Reciprocal: **-léí** (intransitive)
- Benefactive (and malefactive) applicative: **-(o)lpa**
- Instrumental applicative: **-koh**

The causative ending **-(i)m** is not used on bare transitive stems (see §3.4.5.4). The detransitive of causative **-ríi-se** loses the **-se** element if any other suffix follows,

**Teiwósériise** *I hurried.*

**Teiwósériina** *I am/was hurrying.*

**Yowósériits** *She hurried.*

**3.4.5.1.** The applicative adds a single argument to the verb structure. When an intransitive verb is marked with an applicative, the new argument becomes a core argument, and an object prefix is used with the verb. When the main verb is transitive, the new argument does not fill the object slot in the verb chain. Pragmatic NI can open up the object slot for the applicative object.

**Tso’o tettsáapa.** *I cooked a duck.*

**Hóká tettsáapakoh tso’o.** *I cooked the duck with fire.*

**Hóká te’etso’tsáapakoh.** *I cooked the duck with fire.*

**Tettsáapalpa tso’o atsne.** *I cooked the duck for him.*

**Tetso’tsáapalpa.** *I cooked the duck for him.*

3.4.5.2. The instrumental applicative can mark the means by which an action takes place, but it also often marks the cause or reason for an act.

**Hááílláálnats.** *They were complaining.*

**Wé Hááínláálkohnats.** *They were complaining about this.*

<b>Te'ewimtsaaikikoh</b>	<b>to'pose'á.</b>
tei-n-wime-tsaai-koh	to'pose'á
1SG-3INAN-eye-itch-APPL.INST	allergy
<i>My eyes itch from allergies.</i>	

3.4.5.3. The applicatives may not be used with the causative, detransitive or reciprocal suffixes, nor with each other. Instead, the anaphoric verb **ya**, *do so*, is used with the appropriate applicative in a following dependent verb,

<b>Wé</b>	<b>te'esaaímmé</b>	<b>teiriyalpał.</b>
wé	tei-n-saaí-m-mé	tei-ri-ya-lpa-ł
this	1SG-3INAN-be.fast-CAUS-FUT	1SG-2SG-do.so-APPLIC-DEP
<i>I will rush this <u>for you</u>, lit. "I will rush this, I will do so for you."</i>		

3.4.5.4. **Causative of Transitive.** Only intransitive verbs take morphological causativity. The causative of a transitive uses complex syntax with the verb **ka'má** *make, do, cause*, **ká'aka'má'mé yontsákye** *we will make him see it*.

3.4.5.5. Quite a few transitive verbs are also causativized idiomatically with compounding, especially with **-kaai**, as in **yotálaatskaai kaarim** *she reminded me of the book*.

3.4.6. **Aspect and Tense.** Action verbs without other aspect or tense marking are perfective.

- Imperfective: **-na**
- Future: C-**mé**, V-'**mé**

3.4.6.1. The imperfective affix **-na** combines with the adverbial clause suffix **-hte/-ne** to produce **-naan**. This should not be confused with **-nan** < **-na-n**, the imperfective with the hear-say evidential.

3.4.6.2. A few verbs have an imperfective in **-rá/-réí**. This combines with the the adverbial clitic **-ne/-hte** (§9.17) as **-réín**. The verbs that take this imperfective may also have suppletion or other stem changes,

Perfective	Imperfective
<b>aas</b> <i>come</i>	<b>saréi</b>
<b>er</b> <i>float</i>	<b>eréi</b>
<b>harár</b> <i>purr</i>	<b>harará</b>
<b>hém</b> <i>snow</i>	<b>hérrá</b>
<b>hour</b> <i>stand</i>	<b>houréi</b>
<b>ka'yaas</b> <i>lightening</i>	<b>ka'yaará</b>
<b>kíisi</b> <i>rain</i>	<b>kíiréi</b>
<b>les</b> <i>move</i>	<b>lerá</b>
<b>lááisa</b> <i>storm</i>	<b>lááirá</b>
<b>pél</b> <i>lie (loc.)</i>	<b>péréi</b>
<b>ríts</b> <i>hang</i>	<b>rítsrá</b>
<b>síwe</b> <i>flow</i>	<b>síwerá</b>
<b>waakou</b> <i>remain</i>	<b>waakourá</b>
<b>yo' sit</b>	<b>yo'rá, yo'réi</b>

Note: **hehérráts** *it was snowing*, **hehérréin** *when it was snowing...*

3.4.6.3. The imperfective is not used with stative verbs, **yoháátin** *he's smart (I hear)*, never **\*yoháátnan**.

#### 3.4.7. Evidentiality and Mirativity.

- Direct: C-**tsi**, V-**ts**
- Hear-say, indirect: C-**in**, V-**n** (with future **-(')mé + -n > -(')méin**)
- Narrative hear-say: C-**nin**, V-**'nin**
- Inferential: **-koł**
- Mirative: C-**immér**, V-**mmér**

3.4.7.1. With the adverbial suffix **-hte**, the direct evidential will always take the form **-tsi**.

3.4.7.2. The direct and indirect evidentials are generally not used when a first person pronoun is a core case, except for ironic purposes, **lateséitin** *I hear I've died*. They are also dropped with certain modal adverbs, such as **e'áána** *perhaps*.

3.4.7.3. The narrative hear-say evidential is used at the start of a narrative, and at major transitions in the action in the narrative. It is also standard in proverbs and can add a rather sentential feel when stating commonplaces. **Kíkatlesó'nin layosis** *the grave is waiting (for us)*, a saying to motivate people to action.

3.4.7.4. The mirative, which marks new, surprising or remarkable information, is not uncommon with first person involvement, **teróúrkommér**, *how stupid I am!* It occurs with the particle **lop** (§10.4.2) to accent novelty.

**3.4.8. Mood.** Evidentials are not used when the verb has a mood suffix.

- Contrafactual: C-**kem**, V-'**hem**
- Dependent: C-**ye**, V-**ł**
- Imperative: C-**to** V-**tto**
- Optative: -**waal**

**3.4.8.1.** The contrafactual is only used with the perfective or imperfective, never the future.

**3.4.8.2.** In certain constructions the optative varies with the dependent mood, with the optative expressing a greater deal of personal interest or involvement by the speaker, or a judgement that a state of affairs is less likely,

**Te'ewén temaal.** *I want to sleep.*

**Te'ewén temaawaal.** *I wish I could sleep.*

### **3.4.9. Examples.**

**Łateiló.**

ła-tei-ló

TRANS-1SG-go.come

*I went.*

**Kóhteiló.**

kóh-tei-ló

CIS-1SG-go.come

*I came.*

**Weriyolóts.**

weri-yo-ló-ts

down-3SG-go.come-EVID

*He went down (I know).*

**Ísyolón.**

ís-yo-ló-n

up-3SG-go.come-EVID

*She went up (I hear).*

**Łakáálaaló.**

ła-káa-laá-ló

TRANS-1PL-together-go.come

*We went together.*

**Hewei'ántsi**

he-wei-'án-tsi

3INAN-too-hot-EVID

*This is too hot.*

**wé.**

wé

this

**Heyé'hántsi**                      **wé.**  
 he-yé'-'án-tsi                      wé  
 3INAN-INCEP-hot-EVID      this  
*This got hot.*

**Te'eyé'paaitána.**  
 tei-n-yé'-paaitá-na  
 1SG-3INAN-INCEP-understand-IPFV  
*I'm starting to understand (it).*

**Ii so'okórye**                      **ra' kaarim?**  
 ii sou-n-kór-ye                      ra' kaarim  
 Q 2SG-3INAN-read-DEP      that book  
*Can you read that book?*

**So'okórto**                      **ra' kaarim!**  
 Sou-n-kór-to                      ra' kaarim  
 2SG-3INAN-read-IMP      that book  
*Read that book!*

**Hááínotmaats.**  
 hááí-not-maa-ts  
 3PL-can-sleep-EVID  
*They can sleep.*

**Tor yonkoptsáapa'mékoł.**  
 tor yo-n-kop-tsaapa-'mé-koł  
 leaf 3SG.AN-3INAN-water-cook-FUT-EVID  
*I suppose he'll make tea.*

#### 4. Noun Incorporation

Kahtsaai uses noun incorporation for both lexical and pragmatic functions. Most uses often change the transitivity of the verb complex, with some resulting complexes having both transitive and intransitive uses.

**4.1. Animacy.** The higher a noun is in the animacy hierarchy, the less likely it is to be incorporated except in lexical incorporation. Human beings are almost never pragmatically incorporated, and motile animals are rarely incorporated except when discussing them as food, **káátso'wo** *we ate the duck*, or to background them completely in a narrative. Such backgrounding is likely to indicate the end of that incorporated animate as a discourse topic.

**4.2. Subject Incorporation with Unaccusatives.** Low-control, intransitive verbs — including statives — may incorporate grammatical subjects, as in **hehánínáána** *the stick is burning*. Note that the subject prefix is still used in this situation. This use is for definite but non-topical and non-focused subjects.

**4.3. Lexical Incorporation.** Incorporated nouns are used with verbs to create new lexical senses. The transitivity of the resulting form is fluid. If the incorporated noun is a conventional object — **tsommaanáás** *berry-picking* — the resulting form is usually intransitive. However, the more generic the object the more likely such an incorporation is likely to be interpreted as classificatory, leaving a transitive verb.

Some verbs may also incorporate a location, especially destinations. These usually retain the transitivity of base verb.

**4.4. Instrumental Incorporation.** This is a variant of lexical incorporation, with the incorporated noun indicating the means by which an action was accomplished. While any suitable noun may in principle be used this way, in practice a fairly restricted set of nouns are so used. Body parts and some basic tools and materials are the most frequent.

**4.4.1. Transitivity.** Instrumental prefixes result in transitive verbs, without the need of any overt valency affix. For example, the intransitive verb **nop** *fall over*, when combined with **mál** *foot*, gives **málinop** *knock something over with one's foot*, a transitive.

<b>Yonmálinopin</b>	<b>ráwas.</b>
yo-n-mál-nop-in	ráwas
3SG-3INAN-foot-fall.over-EVID	table
<i>He kicked over the table.</i>	

If, for some reason, you wanted to say that someone knocked over the foot of the table, **nop** would have to take the transitivizer, **-máli-nop-im**.

**4.4.1.1.** A verb with an instrumental noun may be detransitivized with the usual marker, C-**ki** V-**k**, as in **málatouk** *to censor oneself*, and **mesle'sóuk** *be resentful*.

**4.5. Classificatory Incorporation.** Even when there is an overt, non-incorporated object noun, sometimes verbs take NI to classify the object being acted upon. There are two situations likely to trigger classificatory incorporation. First, if the object is a human being or a larger animal (most mammals, larger reptiles, but not fish or bugs), the “body” or “animal” classifier stem will be used. Second, certain verbs of handling and manipulation almost always use shape and consistency incorporation.

**4.5.1. Body.** The incorporated noun for animate bodies is highly reduced, and bears no relationship to any full noun. If the nearest prefix ends in a vowel, the form is **-s-**, if it ends in a consonant, it is **-si-**.

**teisoustsák** *I see you.*  
**tetssitsák** *I see him.*

**4.5.1.1.** With verbs where it is appropriate, incorporation of **-s(i)-** is very likely — in the absence of other NI — when the subject of a stative verb or the object of a transitive verb are human beings, and very common for land-dwelling, motile animals (not insects).

4.5.1.2. More specific nouns may be incorporated instead of **-s(i)-**, which will evict it, **teri-hákyáá** *I hear you*, lit. *I voice-hear you*.

4.5.1.3. In intimate registers the incorporated noun is not **-s(i)-** but **-yá're-**, which also has no unincorporated stem.

4.5.2. **Animal.** The incorporated noun for most animals is **-ppó-** after a vowel, **-pó-** after a consonant.

<b>Kaahtsápi</b>	<b>ne</b>	<b>yo'áhpówékin.</b>
kaahtsápi	ne	yo-'áh-pó-wék-in
rabbit	some	3SG-3PL-animal-catch-EVID
<i>(I hear) he caught some rabbits.</i>		

Dogs, horses and bovines take **-s(i)-**.

4.5.3. **Mind.** The incorporation stem **mes-** refers to the mind, emotions and cognition. It has no free noun, and may be used for both classificatory and instrumental incorporation.

<b>meshem</b>	<i>investigate, analyze</i>	<b>(hem</b> <i>hunt, pursue</i> )
<b>meskén</b>	<i>motivate, inspire</i>	<b>(kén</b> <i>set in motion</i> )
<b>meskokla</b>	<i>confuse</i>	<b>(kókla</b> <i>cloud, muddy</i> )
<b>mesyáá</b>	<i>hear</i>	<b>(with attention)</b>

4.6. **Pragmatic Incorporation.** New topics are not generally introduced with incorporation, except for certain routine expressions, such as **kó'hem** *to fish*.

[Many examples needed here].

## 5. Postpositions

Kaahtsaai relies mostly on postpositions with pronoun prefixes, in combination with a few directional affixes.

5.1. **Postposition Form.** The postpositions other than the directionals can only appear with possessive prefixes<sup>2</sup>, **táhta** *with me*, **onpor** *wanting it*. As with possessed noun forms that begin with multiple consonants, some postpositions begin with a consonant cluster, and the longer possessive forms are used, **katiihhta** *together with us*.

5.1.1. **With Nouns.** Nouns don't take most postpositives directly, but appear as the bare stem followed by a postposition suffixed to an agreeing possessive pronoun, **támmé aahta** *with my mother*, lit. *my mother, her-with*.

5.1.2. **With Deictics.** Demonstratives and question words are treated like nouns, not taking postpositions directly, **yen aahta lasoulól** *with whom did you go?* lit. *who him/her-with?*

<sup>2</sup>Some nouns have postpositional uses, and all of the postpositions proper can be thought of as such.

**5.2. Directional Suffixes.** The directional suffixes may be attached to nouns, pronouns, some adverbs, and verbs.

Direction	Plain	Attributive
Locative, “in, at, on”	<b>-taak</b>	<b>-teim</b>
Lative, “to, towards”	<b>-te</b>	<b>-tim</b>
Ablative, “from”	<b>-lii</b>	<b>-liyom</b>
“Up to, as far as”	<b>-miits</b>	<b>-miim</b>

The plain suffixes are most often used in clauses. The attributives are used when a location or postpositional phrase is used attributively (§9.1.1).

**5.2.1. With Nouns.** All the directional suffixes are freely added to nouns to convey the general sense of direction, **mar’ááte lakáálótto** *let’s go (to) home*.

**5.2.1.1. The Body.** Locating things on or in the body (injury, adornment, sensation, etc.) is marked with the locative **-taak**, **teiyé’siilki tsaataak** *I started bleeding in my hand, my hand started to bleed*.

**5.2.1.2. Point of Comparison.** With stative verbs, the locative directional marks the point of comparison,

**Naltaak yoháátin.** *He’s as smart as a rock (I hear).*

**5.2.1.3. Partitive.** The ablative directional has a partitive sense with verbs of consumption or use,

**Kahtsálii káákopsó’ei.** *We drank water from the river.*

**5.2.1.4. Indefinite Possessum.** The attributive form of the ablative is also used for an indefinite possessum, **sour atsmar’áá** *the man’s house* vs. **sourliyom mar’áá** *a house of the man*.

**5.2.2. With Postpositions.** When attached to postpositions, these suffixes clarify path or location. If the meaning of the verb makes path or location information clear, there is no need to use these.

1. **Hepélnaan hokta onkotok.** *It lies behind the wall.*
2. **Yolóts hokta onkotokte.** *He went (to) behind the wall.* or
3. **Łayolóts hokta onkotok.**

In the third example, the translocative prefix **ła-** is sufficient to indicate path.

**5.2.3. With Verbs.** Two of the directionals may be used with verbs to express relations of time (see §9.14).

**5.3. List of Postpositions and Adverbials.** There are many words with postpositional morphology that are better thought of as adverbialized nouns, such as **-wéin** *willingly, by the will or permission of...*

**Atswéin lateiló.** *I went with his permission, with him willing.*

Such adverbialized phrases are included in the list below.

**5.3.1. -'aayen.** This postposition has two uses, the first is spatial and temporal, “short of, not reaching,” the second is used with stative verbs to mean “less than.”

**Hááítséits lotna on'aayen.** *They walked to just short of the fork in the road.*

**Ri'aayen teiláhme.** *I am less angry than you.*

This may also be used with non-stative verbs that admit scalar interpretations, **áh'aayen so'owén-in** *you want it less than them.*

**5.3.2. -háá'.** Meaning “in exchange for,” **-háá'** can be used for all sorts of exchanges and trade, barter, labor, simple payment or favors.

**Lére teirikaai'mé tsommaai onháá'.** *I'll give you the apple for the blueberries.*

**5.3.3. -hta.** This means “with” in the sense of “together with, accompanying.” See also **-te'éli.**

**5.3.3.1.** In formal or literary registers this may attach directly to nouns referring to people, including names. It takes the form **-ahta** if noun ends in a consonant.

**5.3.4. -keíya.** “Alone.” **Li temaana tákeíya** *and I sleep alone* (Sappho PMG 976).

**5.3.5. -kotok.** This means “behind, beyond, at the far side of.”

**5.3.6. -lesáa.** “Above.”

**5.3.7. -ltik.** This means “away from, apart from” or “fleeing.” Due to its intrinsic sense, it does not need a directional suffix; taking **-lii** is exaggerated.

**5.3.8. -íta'áki.** The central notion of this postposition is the crowd or group as a destination, “among.” It is thus only used with plural or collective nouns

**5.3.9. -meh.** “Using, with, by means of,” the core instrumental postposition.

**5.3.10. -mmaal.** Overlapping somewhat with the instrumental applicative, this means “because of, on account of, by reason of.” It replaces the instrumental applicative when the verb cannot take that morphology, to clarify possible ambiguity or as somewhat stylistic variant.

**5.3.11. -mo'im.** This means “before, in front of.”

**5.3.12. -nwaas.** This postposition answers for comparative adjectives, **tánwaas yoláhmets** *he's angrier than me.* With non-stative verb, it means simply “more than,” **rinwaas te'eyoł ra'é** *I know that more than you.*

5.3.13. **-naai.** This means both “about, concerning,” as well as “in reply to, in answer to.” In this latter sense, it refers to deeds and things, not people.

5.3.14. **-pó’e.** “Between, through.”

5.3.15. **-por.** The central notion of this suffix is that of the goal or end of some action, and means “wanting, after, in search of.”

5.3.16. **-próh.** This postposition has two uses. First, it is used in certain verbal phrases of emotion and judgement, to mark the person experiencing the emotion or judgement. This use is basically idiomatic, and verbs that take it are marked in the lexicon. For example, **tápróh heléíkou wé** *this bores me*.

It is frequently found in the company of detransitive or causatives in **-ríi-se**,

<b>Tárouka</b>	<b>aapróh</b>	<b>hemeyáriits</b>	<b>wé</b>	<b>taraai</b>	<b>oyo’ín.</b>
tá-róuka	aa-próh	he-meyá-ríise-ts	wé	taraai	oyo’ín
1SG-dog	3AN.SG-to	3INAN-holy-DETRANS.CAUS-EVID	this	weather	such.INAN
<i>Weather like this terrifies my dog.</i>					

5.3.16.1. The second use is the *judicantis* role, that is, it marks the person in whose judgement a statement holds true.

<b>Táttá</b>	<b>aapróh</b>	<b>máámo</b>	<b>łakíntsááłtsi</b>	<b>mo</b>	<b>wés.</b>
tá-ttá	aa-próh	máámo	łá-kí-n-tsaál-ts	mo	wé-s
1SG-father	3AN.SG-to	wealth	TRNS-3INAN.S-3INAN-misuse-EVID	S	this.INAN-INAN.SUBJ
<i>To my father, this is a waste of money.</i>					

5.3.17. **-pset.** This means “on, upon,” referring to a surface in any orientation.

5.3.18. **-skiil.** This has the meaning “stuck or impaled on,” such as **hán niskiil ká’atsáapa** *we cooked it on a stick*.

5.3.19. **-sóp.** Means “without, not having, lacking.”

5.3.20. **-te’éli.** “Under the covers or blankets with” is the base meaning of this postposition, **táte’éli kohyoyé’lóts moháái** *the cat got under the blankets with me*. It is also used in place of **-hta** with a somewhat disapproving or exasperated sense, “in cahoots with.”

5.3.21. **-tsiir.** This means “across, crossing.”

5.3.22. **-waraan.** “Like, resembling, similar to.” **sei atswaraan helortsi** *it doesn’t smell like him/it*

5.3.23. **-wéin.** This means “willingly,” with the willingness on the part of the pronoun attached,

**Táwéin teiya.** *I do so willingly.*

**Aawéin teiya.** *I do so with her willing, with her permission.*

The negative of this is **-wohkéin**, and has the same use patterns.

5.3.24. -wer. This means “in, within, into.” **Mar’áá onwer herákoł** *it must be in the house.*

5.3.25. -wol. “Near, beside.”

## 6. Numbers, Time and Measurement

Kahtsaai has a simple base ten number system.

1	<b>teim</b>	11	<b>sáwil teim</b>	21	<b>saaitzen li teim</b>
2	<b>saai</b>	12	<b>sáwil saai</b>	...	...
3	<b>kós</b>	13	<b>sáwil kós</b>	30	<b>kótsen</b>
4	<b>war</b>	14	<b>sáwil war</b>	40	<b>wartsen</b>
5	<b>piil</b>	15	<b>sáwil piil</b>	50	<b>piiltsen</b>
6	<b>piirte</b>	16	<b>sáwil piirte</b>	60	<b>piirtsen</b>
7	<b>sóhte</b>	17	<b>sáwil sóhte</b>	70	<b>sóhtsen</b>
8	<b>rous</b>	18	<b>sáwil rous</b>	80	<b>routsen</b>
9	<b>tamse</b>	19	<b>sáwil tamse</b>	90	<b>tamtsen</b>
10	<b>sáwi</b>	20	<b>saaitzen</b>	100	<b>tsaayen</b>

**6.1. Ordinals.** Suffixing the detransitive marker (C-**ki**, V-**k**) to a number creates an ordinal verb, **teimki** (*be*) *first*.

**6.2. Repetition.** Adverbials of repetition (“once, twice,” etc.) are formed by adding the suffix **-míin** to a number.

**6.3. Time Affixes.** There are two number suffixes which are used with noun phrases of time to indicate past and future.

**6.3.1. -rós.** This suffix marks the following time unit, **yéi saairós** *the day after tomorrow*.

**6.3.2. -tir.** This suffix marks a previous time unit, **yéi saaitir** *the day before yesterday*, **mátei sáwil piilíirós** *fifteen years ago*.

**6.3.3. With Nouns.** These suffixes can be attached to bare nouns, which then refer to a single instance of the time unit, **máreitir** *last year*, but **mátei saaitir** *two years ago*. Note, though, that single day units have their own vocabulary, **óúri** *yesterday* and **mós** *tomorrow*. However, for more than one day, the normal pattern applies, **yéi kóstir** *three days ago*.

**6.4. As Nouns.** Numbers by themselves may not be used as nouns. To say something like, “I see three,” a prop noun is used, **wim**.

**Ii moháái ne sou’áhpótsákye?** *Do you see any cats?*

**Wim saai tei’áhpótsák.** *I see two.*

When counting humans, though, the prop is **sii**.

**Táá hááirál tá’heiri?** *Where are my sisters?*

**Hó’wei yoráts sii teim.** *One is here.*

**6.5. Measurement and Distance.** The basic syntax for measurement of quantities and distances is the same: the noun for the thing being measured is followed by the unit measurement then the number.

**Hemki posaa saai.** *Two bottles of beer, lit., “beer bottle(s) two”*

With a single unit, it is not necessary to say **teim one, ke'náá mól (teim)** *a cup of milk.*

## 7. Ideophones

Ideophones are words that depict sensory events, and in Kahtsaai are most frequent in narrative. In less narrative language they can be used as a way to solicit involvement from listeners.

Kahtsaai's ideophones conform to the phonology and syllable structure of other words in the language. There is a large collection of “root” ideophones, stems with no obvious repetitions — **láalik, tsop**, etc. — but reduplication patterns of various sorts are very common — **ei'ín'ei'ín, harasras, koppíoppí**, etc.

Ideophones may, depending on the logic of the narrative, come at the start of the clause, immediately before the verb or immediately after the verb. When there are overt verb arguments, the ideophone will usually be deferred until after the verb.

## 8. Word Building

**8.1. Noun Affixes.** The forms in this and in the following section on affixes for noun-building are usually attached directly to unmodified noun stems (unlike the shortened NI forms or lengthened with the link syllable used in N-N compounds).

**8.1.1. -haam.** This suffix means “old, venerable” and implies at least a modicum of respect, **olhaam** *a grand, old oak.*

**8.1.2. -(o)kma.** The augmentative is only used to indicate actual size.

**8.1.3. -(i)'la.** The offspring of most animals is created with the suffix **-(i)'la**, as **moháái'la** *kitten.*

**8.1.3.1.** This suffix is also commonly used for the smaller, individual members of some larger mass, **hémi'la** *snowflake* (from **hém** *to snow*). This sense can be extended to the results of some action, **náá'la** *ash* from **náá** *be on fire.*

**8.1.3.2.** The suffix is also used to mark membership, **hási'la** *citizen* from **hási** *city*; **ikati'la** *follower of fads and fashion* from **ikat** *shape, fashion, fad.*

**8.1.4. -mol.** Attached to nouns or verbs to define areas of study, “-ology,” **tí'amol** *botany*, **yóramol** *astronomy.*

**8.1.5. -mol'aa.** Basically a derivation on **-mol**, for a person who studies something, “-ologist,” **tí'amol'aa** *botanist.*

8.1.6. **-(i)pyaa**. This may attach to nouns or verbs, and marks someone for whom the root is somehow characteristic, **aaisipyaa** “believer,” **kaarimipyaa** a book person.

8.1.7. **-rał**. Evaluative names or descriptions for people are created with this suffix, which can attach to nouns or verbs:

<b>koprarał</b> cry-baby	<b>kopra</b> tears
<b>leitrał</b> coward	<b>leit</b> to fear
<b>ípiral</b> wierdo	<b>ípi</b> strange

8.1.8. **-tát**. This diminutive ending is not used to be affectionate or endearing. It is used primarily for things that are genuinely small, **éitát** bush, shrub, from **éi** tree. It can also be used to indicate that something is minor or ancillary, such as **síłamtát** light jacket or sweater from **síłam** cloak.

8.1.8.1. Can be used with animate reference disparagingly, especially to suggest incompetence or impotence, or that they are of little consequence, **hón áálatát sei yonyołtsi** *this guy doesn't know*, with **áálatát** suggesting a certain ineffectual cluelessness.

8.1.9. **-tsáái**. The affectionate diminutive may attach to either nouns or to verbs, forming affectionate agentives. The vocative is **-tsáái'i**.

8.1.10. **-tsokwi**. Marking nouns in the past is done with **-tsokwi**, with sense of *former* or *ex*. When attached to things has the sense that something is worn-out or broken. With people, marks a relationship that no longer applies.

8.1.11. **-(i)tsrí**. Nouns for places of work or business end in **-(i)tsrí**, as in **hemkitsrí** tavern, bar. Can also attach to verbs.

8.1.12. **-yetsé**. This pejorative suffix has a rather routine, even stuffy, feel about it. To be really rude, Kahtsaai has other resources (see §10.7). With titles, it has rather the aroma of “so-called,” that someone or something is not living up to expectations, possibly not very exacting expectations.

## 8.2. Noun-building Affixes.

8.2.1. **-(o)l**. This produces process and result nouns, but occurs much less frequently than **-(i)t** below. While most **-(i)t** derived nouns need not be in the lexicon, all **-(o)l** nouns are, **séitol** death from **séit** to die.

8.2.1.1. If the stem ends in **-n**, and sometimes **-t**, the **-l** simply replaces it, **wél** want, desire from **wén** to want.

8.2.2. **-mou**. Nouns of quality, “-ness” and the like, can be derived from other nouns (in incorporation form) and stative verbs, such as **háátmou** intelligence from **háát** intelligent and **kíhapímou** inescapable inelegance, hackishness from **kíhap** something inelegant. In verbal derivations it can take on more concrete meanings, for things embodying the quality, **tsoukmou** danger from **tsouk** be dangerous.

**8.2.3. -paak.** Means “getter, receiver of ...” and is for animates. It’s attached to the incorporation stem of nouns, **ko’wipaak** *someone who benefits from privilege*.

**8.2.3.1.** This is the normal agent noun formation from compounds ending in **par**, instead of **-(‘)aa** (§8.5).

**8.2.4. -(i)rén.** This suffix produces a noun describing a complex system of or relating to the root. Can attach to verbs or nouns (incorporation form, usually).

**8.2.5. -síín.** A collection of the noun, conceived as a whole entity, is marked with this suffix, **mounosíín** *dictionary*, **éisíín** *forest*.

**8.2.6. -sina.** Derived mostly from other nouns, forms in **-sina** mean “model of X, copy of X,” **éisina** *bonsai* (< **éi** *tree*).

**8.2.7. -(i)t.** This very productive suffix (cf. **-(o)l** above) produces resultative nouns, especially from intransitive verbs, as in **haalit** *surrender*, from **haal** *give way*, **latout** *silence* from **latou** *be silent*.

**8.2.7.1.** With transitive verbs this suffix covers some of the same ground as verbs in **-wen** (§8.5.1). The suffix **-(i)t** produces nouns of a generic character, while nominalizations in **-wen** are specific.

**8.2.7.2.** When attached to nouns this creates words of material, such as **éit** *wood* from **éi** *tree*, **kaahomémat** *brick* from **kaahoméma** *mud, clay*, **heí’át** *string, thread* from **heí’á** *vein, sinew*.

**8.2.7.3.** The noun incorporation form is **-(i)’í**, not **\*-(i)tí**. In noun compounds it remains **-(i)t**, with the usual ligature, giving **-(i)tyo-**.

**8.2.8. -tsa’.** Nouns of means and instrument are derived with **-tsa’**, **káartsa’** *preservative*, **ki-tratsa’** *any means for producing tameness or civility, education*.

**8.2.9. -waal.** This suffix creates word for tools, implements or other human-made artifacts related to the stem. When attached to nouns it tends to indicate a man-made substitute or simplification of the noun (the noun takes the compounding stem), **kahtsowaal** *canal* from **kahtsá** *river*.

**8.2.10. -yat.** This nominalization of the anaphoric verb **ya**, *do so*, is suffixed to verbs to form action nouns, **wóséyat taraai hehiíolpan** *running is good for your health, they say*.

**8.2.11. Nouns of Place.** Derived words of place make a distinction between those characteristically related to or inhabited by an animate agent, and everything else.

**8.2.11.1.** Nouns of place associated with animate agents are formed with **-yá**, to either verbs or nouns. These nouns almost never appear without possessive prefixes, **támaayá** *my bedroom*.

**8.2.11.2.** Other derivations of place end in **-míi**, such as **koltémíi** *garden*.

8.2.11.3. Rooms, small buildings and even some other things constructed and which in regular use hold humans are created with compounds ending in **pér** room, **maapér** bedroom, **kopyopér** boat.

**8.3. Verb and Verb-building Affixes.** Unless otherwise indicated, suffixes which attach to nouns use the incorporation stem.

**8.3.1. -'áális.** This suffix creates a verb which means “to lack X, to not have X.” It somewhat implies a characteristic lack, rather than a merely temporary state of affairs, **háái'amáá'áálistsi** *they have no laws, they are lawless.*

**8.3.1.1.** May be used with agent nominalizer, **amáá'áálisaa** a lawless person, **sir'áálisaa** a bald person. It can also be used attributively, **kaarim'áális'é mar'áá** a house *without books.*

**8.3.2. -'át.** The attenuative, “-ish,” is created with this suffix, **he'a'an'áttsi** *it was hot-ish.*

**8.3.3. -'íil.** This derives from nouns a verb meaning, “to have X,” and suffixed to the full form of the noun, **tekaarim'íil** *I have a book.* Note that the resulting verb is formally intransitive.

**8.3.3.1.** As with -'áális, verbs derived with -'íil readily take agent nominalization, **toultí'íilaa** *someone with a master*, **tsa'ní'íilaa** *someone having or suffering from a delusion*, **kaarim'íil'é mar'áá** *a house with books.*

**8.3.4. -kaalke.** Attached to nouns, or rarely stative verbs,<sup>3</sup> this suffix creates a transitive verb meaning “consider X, consider to be X, treat as an X,” **hááitáróurkaalke** *they think I'm an idiot.*

**8.3.5. -ko.** The general quality of a noun is indicated with **-ko**, which comes closest to a pure adjective marker in Kahtsaai.

**8.3.6. -ohk-.** Infixes after the initial syllable of a primitive root, **-ohk-** is a modestly productive marker of privation and oppositeness, **lohkei** *unjust* < **lei** *just.*

**8.3.6.1.** Nouns that take this infix will be converted to their incorporation stem and take the **-ko** suffix, **rohkóurkoyá** *a moron-free place* < **róúre** *moron* and the place suffix **-yá.**

**8.3.7. -(i)rwa.** Only verbs take this suffix, which creates a stative verb which describes things or people having the quality of causing or allowing the verb action. If the stem ends in **l**, **ł**, **r**, **m** or **n** the suffix is simply **-wa**. Examples probably make the meaning easier to see:

<b>łeit</b> <i>fear, be afraid of</i>	<b>łeitirwa</b> <i>scary</i>
<b>weir</b> <i>be sick</i>	<b>weirwa</b> <i>contagious</i>
<b>póse</b> <i>trust, believe</i>	<b>póserwa</b> <i>trustworthy, believable.</i>

**8.3.8. -taas.** This suffix creates intransitive verbs of making, building or creating. Such forms are the most common way to express this idea, **hááihoktítaasnats** *they're building a wall.*

**8.3.9. Valency Marker.** A noun is promoted directly to a verb when taking either the causative or detransitive suffix, **siilki** *bleed* < **siila** *blood*, **éłtsim** *steep, brew* < **éłtsi** *tisane.*

<sup>3</sup>Stative verbs will often prefer a construction with **-próh**, §5.3.16.

**8.3.10. Intensives.** Verbs that end in a consonant other than **h** double that consonant and suffix **-éín**, as in **mattéín** *be malevolent* from **mat** *bad*. Verbs that end in a vowel suffix **-'séín**, and verbs that end in **h** take **-séín**, which gives **-sséín** after assimilation. Intensives tend to be highly lexicalized and idiomatic.

**8.4. Prefixes.** There are only a few lexical prefixes.

**8.4.1. Laá-** Like “con-, co-,” etc., marks things characterized by mutuality or co-occurrence. This is the same as the slot one adverbial verb prefix (§3.4.3.1).

**8.4.2. sor-** For animals, marks the male, **sor'áá** *bull* < **áá** *bovine*. This is a reduced form of **sour** *man*.

**8.4.3. Taas-** For animals, marks the female. This is a reduced form of **taaswe** *woman*.

**8.4.4. Yár-** Any noun or verb may take this prefix, which indicates that the thing or event is somehow mediated by communications or computing technology. It answers to the English “e-, cyber-, online,” etc. For example, **yárwéíla** *avatar* < **wéíla** *person*, or:

**Tekyárkórna.**

tei-k-yár-kór-na

1SG-3INAN.INDEF-online-read-IPFV

I'm reading (stuff) online.

**8.5. Nominalization.** The most basic agent nominalizers are C-**aa**, V-'**aa** for animates and -'**é** for inanimates. These form many lexical items from verbs or NI-verb complexes. For example, **hánináá'é** *candle, torch, flashlight* (< **hán** *stick* and **náá** *to burn*). This mechanism is also used in relative clauses (§9.13).

**8.5.0.1.** Verbs ending in **-aai** (with any tones) alter the stem slightly when combining with these suffixes:

**-aai + -'aa > -aa'yaa**

**-aai + -'é > -aa'yé**

If the **-i-** element of the diphthong has a high tone with **-'aa**, the nominalizer takes on a glide, so **róú'áá'yaa** from **róú'áái**, but **saa'yáa** from **saaí**. The **-aa-** element keeps whatever tone it had before, and the tone of the **-i-** portion has no effect on the **-'é** contraction. A simple example, **monkaa'yaa** for *speaker* (< **monkaai** + **-(')aa**).

**8.5.0.2.** It is most common for nominalized transitive verbs to use the indefinite object conjugation prefixes. The animate indefinite is easily accommodated, **ouwo'aa** *ferocious*, lit., “people-eater.” The inanimate indefinite, **-k-**, needs a prop to be prefixed to the verb. Before a vowel — remember this conceals a glottal stop — it merges with the stop and becomes **h-**, **houhtimaa** *vulgarizer, one who makes things pointless*, from **ouhti**. Before a consonant, it becomes **ki-**, as in **kike'hi'aa** *someone who screws things up*, from **ke'hi**.

Certain vocabulary, however, will take different object prefixes. This is most common when the agent noun refers to a person who has a fairly direct relationship with someone. Thus, **kat-tíno'aa** *our neighbor*, literally, “one who is a neighbor to us.”

**8.5.1. Object Nouns.** When the referent of the nominalization is the object of a transitive verb, different endings are used, **-ke** for animates and **-wen** for inanimates. Though the bare verb stem may be used in a few fixed lexical items, usually a subject affix is used, usually an indefinite, **masókwen** *what one thinks, thought*, but **teisókwen** *what I think*.

**8.5.2. Manner.** Nouns of manner or method are marked by attaching **-(i)kyaan** to fully conjugated verbs.

<b>Teklámikyaanis</b>	<b>kí'áhkaalin.</b>
tei-k-lám-kyaan-s	kí-'áh-kaal-in
1SG-3INAN.INDEF-speak-NMNL.way-INAN.NOM	3INAN-3PL-annoy-EVID
<i>The way I speak irritates them (I hear).</i>	

**8.5.3. Clause Nominalization.** Clauses are nominalized with the suffix C-**ó**, V--**hó**. Verbs within nominalized clauses are not marked for evidentiality or dependency.

**8.6. Compounds.** In addition to the many N-V compounds (covered under noun incorporation), head-final N-N compounds are common. The link syllable **-yo-** combines the two elements, **ka'wákyoháke** *the cry of a crow*, from **ka'wák** *crow* and **háke** *voice, sound*.

**8.6.0.1.** If the noun stem ends in a short vowel, that is likely to be elided before the link syllable is inserted, **yórolourá** *outer space* from **yóra** *star* and **lourá** *void*. Long vowels always take **-yo-**, **yéiyokaarim** *diary* from **yéi** *day* and **kaarim** *book*.

**8.6.1. Stem Alterations.** Final short vowels are dropped before the addition of the link syllable **-yo-**. If the resulting stem ends in a resonant (**l r m n**), glide (**w y**), glottal stop or consonant cluster the link is reduced to **-o-**, **waatrokopi** *rose water* from **waatre** *rose* and **kopi** *water*. Stems in **-aai** turn the **i** into **y**, dropping any tone.

**8.6.2. Incorporation.** In general, incorporation of compounds is avoided. In pragmatic NI, the head noun or a classifier will be incorporated.

**8.6.3. Possessed Forms.** If the non-head noun in a N-N compound has a possessed form, that form will be used in the compound. For example *mountain*, **tseł**, has the possessed form **-rotsseł**. So, **tselyomar'áá** *mountain home, vacation home* when possessed is **áhíírotsselyomar'áá** *their vacation home*.

**8.6.3.1.** When the head noun of a N-N compound has a possessed form, that is used in the compound, such as **lópi'yostoulta** *carpenter ant* from **lópi'** *ant* and **toulta** (**-stoulta**) *lord, master*.

**8.7. Verb Incorporation.** Complex verb stems may be produced by combining two verbs. The first verb of the compound gives a circumstantial or adverbial sense,

<b>Kááktséitsapa'na</b>
káá-k-tséi-tsapa'-na
1PL-3INAN.INDEF-walk-discuss-IPFV
<i>We were talking while walking.</i>

Unaccusative verbs are not used this way except to create new lexical entries. Unaccusatives are generally adverbial adjuncts in **-ne/-hte** (§9.17).

**8.7.1. Łom.** The verb **łom**, *throw, shoot, pelt*, can be used like a suffix on either transitive or intransitive verbs to create irresultatives. The resulting verbs describe states or events that don't quite accomplish their goal, or meet expectation.

**Yotásekliitaal tíkle.** *The snake struck me, vs.*

<b>Yotásekliitaalłom</b>	<b>tíkle.</b>
yo-tá-seklii-taal-łom	tíkle
3SG-1SG-sting-strike-throw	snake
<i>The snake struck at me.</i>	

<b>Toulta</b>	<b>matssisekliiłomne</b>	<b>matsłóúníír.</b>
toulta	ma-ts-s-seklii-łom-ne	ma-ts-łóú-níír.
lord	3INDEF-3SG-body-strike-IRRES-ADV	3INDEF-3SG-must-kill
<i>If you strike at the king you must kill him.</i>		

It can also be used with intransitive verbs or inanimate subjects.

**Hekíísíłomtsi.**  
 he-kíísi-łom-tsi  
 3IN-rain-throw-EVID  
*It was supposed to rain (but didn't).*

Though the base verb **łom** is transitive, when used for the irresultative sense, it inherits the transitivity of the verb it is attached to.

**8.7.1.1.** In irrealis or dependent clauses, the irresultative may have a purely conative sense, “try to” and the like, with a stronger sense that success is harder to attain.

**8.7.1.2.** Irresultatives are not negated.

## 9. Syntax

**9.1. Noun Phrase.** Word order within noun phrases is very strict:

Deixis   Noun   Determiner   Quantifier, Number

Examples:

<b>kaarim mál'é</b>	<i>(the, an) other book</i>
<b>ra'é kaarim mál'é</b>	<i>that other book</i>
<b>hón moháái</b>	<i>this cat</i>
<b>hón moháái oyo'in</b>	<i>such a cat as this</i>
<b>hón moháái oyo'in tas'é</b>	<i>all cats such these</i>
<b>hón moháái oyo'in saai</b>	<i>two cats such these</i>
<b>hón moháái kop</b>	<i>this same cat</i>
<b>moháái tasin</b>	<i>every cat, all cats</i>
<b>moháái málin tasin</b>	<i>every other cat, all other cats</i>

9.1.0.1. The determiner **kop**, **kopé** *same* is always found with a demonstrative.

9.1.1. **Attributive Directionals and Postpositions.** The attributive forms of the directional suffixes (§5.2) may modify noun phrases.

**Mar'áataak sour yomaanats.** *The man is sleeping at home.*

**Mar'áateim sour yomaanats.** *The man at home is sleeping.*

**Hispaniyaliyom taaswe** *the woman from Spain.*

The attributive phrase will always precede the noun.

9.1.1.1. Postpositions can also take an attributive morpheme, **-m** after a vowel, **-om** after the consonants **h**, **'** and **r**, and **-em** after all other consonants, **atsporom teyahtí** *desire for him/her*, **katihtam moháái** *the cat with us*.

9.1.1.2. If the postposition has a directional suffix, then that will take the attributive morphology,

**táte'éliteim moháái** *the cat under the blankets with me*

**támar'áá onmo'ímteim tospa** *the road in front of my house*

A postposition of location or movement will generally use the directional attributive, rather than a direct attributive.

9.2. **Possession.** A possessed noun will always have some possessive prefix. If the possessor is a noun, it comes before the possessed noun with the agreeing possessive pronoun:

**atsmar'áá**

ats-mar'áa

3SG-house

*his house*

**sour atsmar'áá**

sour atsmar'áa

man 3SG-house

*the man's house*

**sour áhmar'áá**

sour áh-mar'áa

man 3PL-house

*the men's house*

Possession chains forward naturally,

**táttá atsmar'áá**

tá-ttá atsmar'áa

1SG-father 3SG-house

*my father's house*

This construction marks a definite possessum. For indefinites, see §5.2.1.4.

**9.3. Argument Disambiguation.** Without case marking, there is a potential ambiguity in transitive verbs about who is doing what to whom. The particle **mo** before a noun phrase selects it as the subject, **yetssitsák mo taaswe maháái** *the woman saw the cat*.

**9.3.1. Subject Focus.** The particle **mo** is used in unambiguous phrases to focus the subject (but see §10.5.1).

**9.3.2. Single Word Answers.** When a simple noun acting as the subject of an implicit verb in an answer or other brief correction.

**Yen yonmonpáátye wé?** *Who wrote this?*  
**Mo Bob.** *Bob (did).*

**9.3.3. Copula Dropping.** It is more usual to use **mo** with a subject and an unmarked predicate noun than it is to use the copula:

<b>Kirááni'aa</b>	<b>mo</b>	<b>kaahtsápi.</b>
k-rááni-'aa	mo	kaahtsápi
things-steal-AGT	mo	rabbit

*The rabbit is a thief.*

Non-fronted adverbs in such clauses will typically come before **mo**, as in **róúre yal mo ran** *he's still an idiot*. The copular verb **ye** will reappear if mood or evidential marking is necessary.

**9.3.4. Switch Reference.** Kahtsaai has a simple switch reference system which is only used with third person pronouns. The word **mots** marks same subject (SS) and **mám** marks different subject (DS). Both words contain a reduced form of **mo**.

**Te'ewén temaal.** *I want to sleep, but*  
**Yonwén mots yomaal** *She wants to sleep (herself).*  
**Yonwén mám yomaal** *She wants him to sleep.*

**9.4. Pronouns.** It is least marked for the pronouns to occur as affixes on nouns, verbs and postpositions. The independent forms (§3.2) are used for focus and with the directional suffixes.

**9.4.1. Focus with Postpositions.** To focus a pronoun in a postpositional phrase, the independent form appears before the postposition with prefix,

**Łouh tán táltik hááítséif?** *Why did they walk away from me?*

**9.4.2. Pronouns with Directional Suffixes.** In comparisons (§5.2.1.2) and in certain idioms taking directional suffixes, the full pronouns take the directional. The long form of the pronoun is used, **táne** rather than **tán**, as in **rinete yoháátsi** *he's as smart as you*.

**9.5. Ditransitives.** With ditransitive verbs one object is the “core” object, which is cross-referenced by the direct object verb prefixes, and one is “secondary,” which is always external and almost always overt. Most of the time, the core object will be that object naturally higher on the animacy hierarchy. For example, with the verb **kaai** *give*, the recipient is the core object, **tetskaai'mé wé** *I'll give this to him*.

**9.5.0.1.** Certain derivational processes may alter the core object, or raise the verb’s valency and thus require a shuffle of arguments. For example, the verb **laats** *remember* takes as the core argument the thing remembered. However, when combined with **kaai** to form a kind of causative, **laatskaai** *remind*, the core object becomes the person reminded, with the thing remembered moved out to secondary status (see §B.1), **amáán káá’áhlaatskaai** *we reminded them of the law*.

**9.5.0.2.** In a language like English, the ditransitive construction is often used in a benefactive construction, “I made tea” vs. “I made her tea.” Where the benefactive applicative cannot be used, such as when other valence suffixes are used, or when using the applicative might produce a word the speaker finds unwieldy, Kahtsaai’s ditransitive construction can also be used for a benefactive sense. For example, the causative suffix on **éłtsim** *steep* means the benefactive cannot be used, so **tets’éłtsim tor** *I made her tea*.

**9.6. NI and Definiteness.** Inanimate discourse topics which have already been introduced into a conversation will frequently be incorporated into transitive verbs when used as objects. This can be the noun itself, but a classificatory noun is sufficient if it is unambiguous, and especially if the discourse topic was introduced with classification.

**9.6.1. Part of the Whole.** It is very common for constituent parts of a discourse topic to be incorporated.

<b>Hetorítérkats</b>	<b>kaarim</b>	<b>asaal.</b>
he-tor-térka-ts	kaarim	asaal
3INAN-leaf-let.go-EVID	book	to.my.disadvantage
<i>The book lost a page (which is a problem for me).</i>		

**9.7. Negation.** Simple negation is marked with the adverb **sei**, which comes before the verb.

**9.7.1. Indefinites.** Negative indefinites — *nobody, nowhere* — are indicated with indefinite demonstratives and adverbs and the negative adverb **sei**, as in **sei áye’é te’eyół** *I know nothing*, **sei yonyółtsi áyen** *no one knows*.

**9.7.2. Negative Answer.** In the answer to a yes-no question, the negative answer is **mo sei**, not just **sei**.

**9.7.3. Negative Verbs.** A small number of verbs have suppletive forms which must be used when negated. “I don’t want it” is **sei te’epits**, not **\*sei te’ewén**.

Positive	Negative
<b>maa</b> <i>sleep</i>	<b>rél</b>
<b>séit</b> <i>die</i>	<b>sénaméi</b>
<b>wén</b> <i>want</i>	<b>pits</b>

Any compounds with one of these verbs as the final element will also take the suppletion.

**9.8. Adverbs.** Adverbs can fall anywhere in the clause where they make sense. Those with more restricted scope will typically come before the word or phrase they apply to. In general the adverb will not follow the verb, unless the verb has been focus fronted (§10.4.8).

Adverbs with scope over the full clause will often fall in the second position in the clause, and may separate a noun from its postposition:

<b>Tá'heiri</b>	<b>e'áána</b>	<b>aahta</b>	<b>souló'mé.</b>
tá-eiri	e'áána	aa-hta	sou-ló-'mé
1SG-sister	perhaps	3AN-with	2SG-go-FUT

*Perhaps you will go with my sister.*

**9.9. Questions.** Yes-no questions are marked with the clause-initial particle **ii**.

**9.9.1. Eí.** The clause-final particle **eí** is informal, and equivalent to **ii** in full clauses. It is common, and least informal, in questions that aren't full clauses with verbs.

**Souyats taai!** *You did this!*  
**Mo táne eí?** *I did?*

**9.9.2. Choice Questions.** Either/or questions mark each clause with **ii**. If the choices are simply noun phrases, the particle may either be deferred from initial position, or may be repeated. All three of the sentences below mean, *will you read this or that?*

**Ii so'okórmél wé ii ra'é?**  
**So'okórmél ii wé ii ra'é?**  
**Ii so'okórmél ii wé ii ra'é?**

The last one is least common, the first is most common.

**9.9.3. Question Verb Mood.** All question types — yes-no, with question words, indirect — are marked dependent.

**Ii so'otsáknał?** *Do you see it?*  
**Wé yen yonyólye?** *Who knows this?*

**9.9.4. Conjectural Questions.** All question types may take the inferential evidential **-koł** instead of the dependent mood. These are conjectural questions — the speaker doesn't know the answer and further doesn't think their audience does either.

**Yen yoyakoł?** *I wonder who did this.*  
**Ii hetsoki'mékoł ra'é?** *I wonder if that'll be easy.*

**9.10. Verb Agreement and Valency.**

**9.10.1. Number Marking.** The only time (animate) nouns are marked for number is when they are the subject or direct object of a transitive verb, since the conjugation forms have number,

**Hááítémnał moháái.** *The cats were playing around.*

**9.10.2. Indefiniteness.** The indefinite subject and object prefixes are not used when overt indefinite pronouns are used. These prefixes are most often used to describe generic situations, where they almost have the sense “people, things.”

**Tápa yo’ouwon.** *Mountain lions eat people (I hear).*

The indefinite prefixes may also be used to describe long-standing states of affairs. [*“I didn’t see anyone” normally, vs. trapped on an island, say.*]

**9.10.3. Reflexives.** The reflexive object prefix, **-le-** is only used for true reflexives, and not as that middle voice marker so common in Western European languages.

<b>Teiletsákkoh</b>	<b>kiitsléip’é.</b>
tei-le-tsák-koh	kiits-léip-’é
1SG-REFL-see-INST.APPL	again-shine-NMNL
<i>I saw myself in (“with”) the mirror.</i>	

**9.11. Negative Obligation.** The two positive obligation modal affixes, **-lóú-** *must* and **-sakke-** *should*, have only a single negative, the affix **-’il-** with the negative adverb **sei**. Non-compulsory, negative obligation is marked with the clause-final particle **pá**.

**Łasoulóúló.** *You must go.*  
**Łasousakkeló.** *You should go.*  
**Sei łasou’illó.** *You must not go.*  
**Sei łasou’illó pá.** *You should not go.*

**9.12. Dependency.** Kahtsaai does not have infinitives, so dependent subclauses have fully conjugated verbs marked for dependency, usually in the dependent mood (C-**ye**, V-**ł**), but with some verbs the optative will be used.

**Te’ewén łateilól.** *I want to go (lit., I want (it) I go).*

**9.12.1. Person Chaining.** In many dependent constructions there may be subject or object chaining. In verbs of perception, the subject of the dependent clause is the object of the verb of perception,

<b>Tei’ássitsák</b>	<b>hááímorlaainał.</b>
tei-áh-si-tsák	háái-morlaai-na-ł
1SG-3PL-body-see	3PL-dance-IPFV-DEP
<i>I saw them dancing.</i>	

With subject chaining, the main and the dependent verb have the same subject, as seen with the example with “want” above. Some verbs will take subject chaining somewhat idiomatically,

<b>Hááímaríts</b>	<b>hááímorlaainał.</b>
háái-marí-ts	háái-morlaai-na-ł
3PL-likely-EVID	3PL-dance-IPFV-DEP
<i>It’s likely they are dancing.</i>	

**9.13. Attributive Nominalization and Relative Clauses.** The lexical nominalization markers (§8.5) can be used with full subject and object marking. The resulting word can stand alone or be used in apposition to another noun, acting much like a relative clause (RC).

**Yomaa’aa maháái tetssitsák.** *I see a cat that is sleeping.*

**Kaarim yonsourlo’aa sour sei tetei’íyoł.** *I don’t know the man reading the book.*

**Łasotssitsákke taaswe yomaknits.** *The woman you see over there was rude.*

**Łaso’otsákwen éi heweiwáspéts.** *The tree you see over there is very old.*

Note that the RC always comes before the noun it goes with.

**9.13.1. Word Order.** Within RC the word order is much more restrained, (Adv) - S - O - V. If more elaborated clause or discourse structure is needed with such a clause, it will be pulled out into a separate statement.

**9.14. Directional Suffixes with Verbs.** Two of the four directional suffixes have idiomatic senses when attached to a verb, forming adverbial adjuncts to a main clause. Clauses with verbs so marked tend strongly to be verb final. Clauses so mark typically come before the main clause, and may be further marked with the adverbial **-ne** (§9.17).

**9.14.1. -taak.** “While, during,” with imperfective.

<b>Somaanataak</b>	<b>tekkórmé.</b>
sou-maa-na-taak	tei-k-kór-me
2SG-sleep-IPFV-while	1SG-3INDEF-read-FUT
<i>I’ll read while you sleep.</i>	

**9.15. Conjunctions.** All conjunctions occur in the left-most position in the clause. There are no postpositive conjunctions.

**9.15.1. Im.** *or.*

**9.15.2. Kihi.** *but.*

**9.15.3. Li.** Meaning *and,...*

**9.15.4. Lílhar.** (*and*) *therefore.*

**9.15.4.1.** With the dependent mood it forms result clauses, **hááínka’má wé lílhar hááínlentél hási** *they did this so that they saved the city.* This use is somewhat formal, with plain indicative just as common.

**9.15.5. Mil.** *and then, next.*

**9.15.6. Óran.** *because.*

**9.15.7. Tson.** This conjunction, meaning *rather than, instead of*, has several different senses depending on the mood of the dependent verb.

**9.15.7.1. Non-Optative.** With independent or dependent verbs, the basic meaning is “instead of,”

**Hó’wei tewaakou’mé tson tekleitmé.**  
 hó’wei tei-waakou-’mé tson tei-k-leit-mé  
 here 1SG-stay-FUT instead.of 1SG-3INDEF-fear-FUT  
*I will stay here instead of being afraid.*

Note that the tense marking is used in both clauses.

**9.15.7.2. Optative.** With the optative in both clauses, the situation is hypothetical,

**Hó’wei tewaakouwaal tson tekleitwaal.**  
 hó’wei tei-waakou-waal tson tei-k-leit-waal  
 here 1SG-stay-OPT rather.than 1SG-3INDEF-fear-OPT  
*I would rather stay here than be afraid.*

**9.15.7.3. Elision.** A full clause is not required to follow **tson**. For example, **wé te’ekórmé tson ra’é** *I will read this book instead of that (one)*. With the optative, nothing need follow at all, giving the idiom “would rather,” **sei te’eyółwaal tson** *I would rather not know*.

**9.16. Asyndeton.** Normally Kahtsaai prefers overt connection between clauses, much more than English does. But several common circumstances will result in clauses occurring in succession without connection.

**9.16.1. Parallel Determiners.** Repeated determiners can be used in contrasting clauses,

**Mál’é katwer herá’nin, mál’é sei katwer herá.**  
 mál’é kat-wer he-rá-’nin, mál’é sei kat-wer he-rá  
 other 1PL-in 3INAN-be-EVID, other not 1PL-in 3INAN-be  
*Some things are up to us and other things are not up to us.*

**9.17. Adverbial Clauses.** Single words and simple clauses may be turned into clause adjuncts with an adverbial suffix: C-**ne**, V-**hte**. Verbs are not marked for evidentiality when this suffix is used with them.

**9.17.1. Portmanteaus.** The imperfective **-na** combines with this suffix to form **-naan**. The few verbs with the imperfective in **-rá** or **-réi** form **-réin**.

**9.17.2. Stative Verbs.** With stative verbs this suffix creates what English speakers would recognize as basic adverbs, **hehíłne yoklámtsi** *he speaks well*. Note that the stative is fully conjugated.

**9.17.3. Pleonastic.** Root adverbs of time or manner — but not of place — may also take this suffix for stylistic or prosodic reasons. This is especially common in single word utterances.

A: **Łayolół ye’lin?** *When did he go?*  
 B: **Awaróhte** *Today.*

This use is more common when the adverb is describing background information. If the adverb is focused or especially salient, it is used bare.

**9.17.4. Conditionals.** The adverbial suffix is used to mark the protatis of a conditional sentence. There are a few conditional types:

Type	Protatis	Apodasis
<i>General</i>	Clause <b>-hte</b>	Clause
<i>Future</i>	Clause in future <b>-hte</b>	Clause in future
<i>Hypothetical</i>	Clause in optative <b>-hte</b>	Clause in optative
<i>Contrafactual</i>	Clause in cf. <b>-hte</b>	Clause in cf.

**9.17.4.1.** The general condition is not really distinguishable from a temporal use of the adverbial,

**Hekíisihte,**      **tewaakou**    **mar'áá.**  
 he-kíisi-hte      tei-waakou    mar'áá  
 3INAN-rain-ADV    1SG-remain    home  
*When/if it rains I stay at home.*

## 10. Discourse

**10.1. Constituent Order.** The basic word order is determined by topicality and definiteness:

(Topic)    Focus    Verb    (X)

The focus slot may either contain new information or be set up as a point of contrast. Note especially that old discourse topics are often incorporated into the verb, either directly or with classificatory elements.

**10.2. Definiteness.** Definiteness is only weakly marked in Kahtsaai. There is a modest tendency for known, definite discourse topics to follow the verb, but this is by no means required.

**Sour tetssítsákna.** *I see a man.*  
**Tetssítsákna sour.** *I see the man.*

**10.3. Narrative Control with Demonstratives.** When discussing two or more third person discourse topics, confusion can arise since Kahtsaai only distinguishes animacy, and number is marginal. Talking about two people could get messy unless you wanted to keep repeating names. Kahtsaai uses the demonstrative pronouns to keep discourse topics clear.

**10.3.1. Topicality.** The most topical or salient element in a discourse will get the proximal demonstrative (**hón, wé**), and all others<sup>4</sup> will get the distal (**ran, ra'é**).

<sup>4</sup>In Algonquian languages this is called the “obviative.”

**10.4. Discourse Particles.** Most discourse particles accumulate in Wackernagel position (after the first constituent of the clause), though they very commonly follow basic conjunctions. A few, due to their meaning, may follow whatever word they go with.

Limited by sense, the particles may gather together:

síin (má), (óts)	li	lop, łak, mel	taai, páán
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Due to its meaning, **óts** rarely combines with other discourse particles, except sometimes **taai**.

When a clause consists of a single verb and particles, the particles may either follow the verb or the clause has a prop **mil** and then or **hó'owa** thus at the start which the particles use as the base. **Hó'owa** is sometimes used with a particle and no other word at all.

**Hó'owa taai hááímaats!** *They are asleep!*

**10.4.1. Li.** This marks commonplaces, statements of fact the speaker expects to be widely acknowledged as true. It typically evicts any evidential,

**Tápa li hááítsouk.** *Cougers are dangerous.*

This particle is different from the conjunction **li** and. Prosodically, this **li** is pronounced with the word it follows, while the conjunction is pronounced with the word it comes before.

**10.4.1.1.** The combination **li lop** means something like, “after all,”

**Porí li lop yonlempó.** *She tried it in secret after all.*

**10.4.1.2.** The combination **li taai** is either sincerely regretful of a realization made too late, or piously sentential.

**10.4.2. Lop.** This particle marks either a realization or the acceptance of a state of affairs. For example, it may be used when conceding a dispute. Operates at the level of the clause.

<b>Yoróurkommér</b>	<b>lop!</b>
yo-róúre-ko-mmér	lop
3AN-idiot-STATIVE-MIR	lop
<i>Wow, how stupid he is!</i>	

The phrase **hó'owa lop** matches the wearied or exhausted “so there’s that,” summing up and concluding a distressing or annoying topic.

**10.4.3. Łak.** A complement to **mel**, it marks an event that is against expectation, inappropriate, or unsuited to the current context.

**10.4.3.1.** The combination **łak taai** is used when the speaker wants to prop up a statement they don’t expect their listener to believe.

**Mil yolónats łak taai yoklámna.** *And then she actually kept talking.*

10.4.4. **Mel.** Translated variously, “as expected, indeed, (and) so,” this particle indicates situational or narrative integrity.

**He’asasots — kehiné mel soutákaaitto.** *It’s cold — (so) give me a blanket.*

10.4.4.1. With questions, indicates that the question is expected and natural to the context.

10.4.5. **Óts.** Incredulous disparagement is marked with **óts**. Operates at the level of the clause, but may also occur after a bare noun.

10.4.6. **Pá.** Unlike the others in this list, **pá** comes at the end of a clause. It used to soften assertions when it might be rude or uncomfortable for the listener to hear what is being said. It is especially used with the direct evidential. It is also used with negative verbs of obligation (see §9.11).

10.4.7. **Páán.** This particle solicits the involvement or agreement of the person being spoken to, meaning something like “you know” or “you see.”

10.4.8. **Síín.** A focused verb is moved to the head of its clause, and must be followed by this particle. It marks contrast, surprising information or asseveration, **te’eke’li síín** *I did screw it up.*

10.4.8.1. When the adverb **má** *only, just, merely* goes with a verb that verb is focused and moved to the head of the clause, **hekeltsi síín má ra’é** *that just happened!*

10.4.9. **Taai.** The basic sense of **taai** is asseveration, “really, truly,” but it interacts with moods, tenses, evidentiality and other particles for various other related senses.

10.4.9.1. With the future, **taai** marks the intent of the speaker, **mats’ákwí’mé taai** *he will be sanctioned.*

10.4.9.2. With the optative, it marks a very sincere desire, **hekíisiwaał taai** *may it rain!* It has a somewhat pleading tone.

10.4.9.3. With the evidential **-koł**, **taai** marks a supposition or an inference in which the speaker is quite confident, **hááíhaanáreikléínakoł taai** *I rather imagine they are sleeping together.*

10.4.9.4. The clause-final particle **pá** may be used to soften the blow of a statement propped up with **taai**. The speaker may also use this combination to signal their own discomfort with a state of affairs, **sei taai hó’wei yoráts pá** *he’s really not here.*

10.5. **Discourse Enclitics.** These enclitics occur after all other suffixes and enclitics are added.

10.5.1. **-(i)tní.** Focus particle for nouns or nominalized elements only. Verbs use **síín** (§10.4.8). In a noun phrase usually the enclitic goes with the noun and scopes over the entire phrase, but any element of the noun phrase can be focused with this particle.

<b>Hónitní</b>	<b>sour</b>	<b>sei</b>	<b>tetstei’yoł.</b>
hón-tní	sour	sei	tei-ts-tei’-yoł
this.AN-FOC	man	not	1SG-3SG.AN-face-know

*I don’t know this man.*

**Hón sour máfinitní sei tei'áhteí'íyoł.**  
 hón sour málin-tní sei tei-áh-tei'-yoł  
 this.AN man other.AN-FOC not 1SG-3PL.AN-face-know  
*I don't know these other men.*

**Hón souritní málin sei tei'áhteí'íyoł.**  
 hón sour-tní málin sei tei-áh-tei'-yoł  
 this.AN man-FOC other.AN not 1SG-3PL.AN-face-know  
*I don't know these other men.*

**10.5.1.1.** Verb subjects are more often focused with the particle **mo** (§9.3). A subject marked with **-(i)tní** carries the sense of asseveration or confirmation, “truly, really, indeed.”<sup>5</sup> In this sense, **mo** and **-(i)tní** are often used together.

**(Mo) ran áálatní yohóustsi.** *It really is that guy who shouted.*

**10.5.2. -aap.** This suffix (C-**aap**, V-**hap**) means “also, even.” The independent pronouns can take these,

**Wé te'ekopríkaai tánaap.**  
 wé tei-n-kopra-kaai tán-aap  
 this 1SG-3INAN-tear-give I-even.  
*Even I cried about this. or I also cried about this.*

**Wéhap te'ekopríkaai.**  
 wé-hap tei-n-kopra-kaai  
 this-even 1SG-3INAN-tear-give  
*I cried about this, too. or I cried about even this.*

The suffix is also used in single word utterances announcing the presence of something or a realization, **á, mohááhhap** *oh, (it's the) cat.*

**10.5.3. -yááh.** This marks the lower limit of any word capable of a scalar interpretation, “at least.” It is usable on numbers,

**Sour waryááh tei'ássitsák.**  
 sour war-yááh tei-'áh-s-tsák  
 man four-at.least 1SG-3PL-BODY-see  
*I saw at least four men.*

**10.5.3.1. With Names.** This enclitic cannot attach to names of people or relations. In that situation, **-yááh** is attached to a pronoun or demonstrative, typically at the end of the clause,

**John li Mary yo'áhyémkaain ran'áhyááh.**  
 John li Mary yo-'áh-yémá-kaai-n ran'áh-yááh  
 John and Mary 3SG.AN-3PL-invite-give-EVID those.AN-at.least  
*She invited at least John and mary.*

The third person animate plural **áhne** may be used in place of **ran'áh**

<sup>5</sup>This, of course, is the same translation given to **taai**. This enclitic has scope only over the noun phrase it's attached to. **Taai** has scope over the entire clause.

**10.6. Commentary Particles.** These particles allow a speaker to comment on what is being said in various ways. Unlike the broader discourse particles that tend to land in Wackernagel position, these usually come at the end of a clause. However, they may from time to time migrate to immediately after that constituent the speaker is commenting on.

These particles may comment either on the state of affairs coded in the clause they appear in, or, like certain conjunctions, may instead relate to the reasons for making the statement in the first place. These reasons may be already established information, or completely unmentioned but implicit. For example, when talking about a matchmaker, **hááireikléinan** *they are hanging out together*, could take the addition of **atóú** to signal the finesse of that matchmaker, rather than anything the people hanging out are doing.

**10.6.1. Asaal.** “To the speaker’s disadvantage.”

<b>Teiyé’kaptísíwe</b>	<b>lop</b>	<b>asaal.</b>
tei-yé’-kapto-síwe	lop	asaal
1SG-INCH-nose-flow	PRT.realization	PRT.to.my.disadvantage
<i>I’m getting a cold.</i>		

**10.6.2. Atóú.** “Finesse, done with excellence.”

**10.6.3. Het.** “Faddish, hyped, current likely transient.”

**10.6.4. Iyé.** “Amorous interest or intent.”

**10.6.5. Kóhá.** “So-called,” purporting to be one thing but not really.

**10.6.6. Kou’ára.** Interpersonal marker, indicating that the audience is a colleague or comrade with the speaker in some state of affairs or undertaking.

**10.6.7. Láái.** “About which nothing can be done.”

**10.6.8. Łiin.** “To the speaker’s advantage.”

**10.6.9. Ópa, ópaar.** Marks that the speaker’s personal desires are focused on one of the clause constituents; quite blunt when used of sexual desire, and would only be used that way among very close friends.

**10.6.10. Rowi.** “Cultivated nonsense, opportunistic skepticism, bullshit, theoretical delirium.”

**10.6.11. Satwí.** “Baffling, completely outside one’s usual worldview.”

**10.6.12. Síhour.** “Touching on the speaker’s pride, honor, dignity, sense of self-worth, etc.”

**10.6.13. Tís.** “Causing impatience.”

<b>Yoklámnnats</b>	<b>tís.</b>
yo-k-lám-na-ts	tís
3SG-3INDEF-speak-IPFV-EVID	PRT.causingimpatience
<i>He’s still talking!</i>	

10.6.14. **Tsappi.** “Dilberto-machiavellianism,” that is, power politics, especially of an incompetent and amoral variety (in any context, not only the office)

10.6.15. **Tsepou.** “Mercenary, done for gain without regard for consequences.”

10.6.16. **Wá’riiye.** “*Saudade*, with nostalgia, longing for something absent or unattainable.”

10.7. **Cursing, Insults and Other Unfriendliness.** In cursing both the imperative and the optative are available, with the latter somewhat milder in tone. For example, **lasounátto**, in the imperative, is more or less *go to hell!*, while **lasounátwaał** is better understood as *get lost* or the like.

10.7.1. **Unlikely Experiences.** Kahtsaai symbolic verbal violence consists of, in increasing levels of hostility, **róúka** a dog, **má’aat** a donkey, **kamlaai** a horse, or **aais** ghosts doing unexpected things to one’s enemies, vexing tools, etc.

The most mild form of such curses uses the verb **mahti** *mount* (lit., “cover”), with the target as the direct object. Leaving out an explicit subject forms the most basic curse against things, **yonmahtitto**, and is roughly equivalent to “damn it” where “it” refers to something in particular. Against a person, **yorimahtitto**. A complaint about the general state of affairs can be shown with the third person inanimate indefinite object. In such general expressions a commentary particle is necessary, which comments on the state of affairs rather than the unkind suggestion of the verb expression. So **yokmahtitto tsappi** might be uttered in frustration with the general (small-scale, office) political situation.

Far more aggressive is the compound verb **tsóhkípar** (< **tsókha** *buttocks*, **par** *receive*), **má’aat yoritsóhkíparto!** *may a donkey take you.*

Short, sweet, to the point — and highly aggressive — a simple noun followed by the appropriate form of the postposition **-skiil** *stuck or impaled on* also gets the job done, **aais áhífskiil**.

Wishing things away or discreetly dead is another way to express displeasure. The most common verb for this is **la-nát** *disappear, perish* (lit., “fall away”), which answers more or less to English “go to hell” for people but is freely usable with inanimates. Again, indefinite conjugation can be used for generalized dissatisfaction, **lawénátto**. Similarly, **layoste** “(in)to the grave” is a brief and very minor curse, but may be added to a form of **la-nát** for more punch.

10.7.2. **Unfriendly PRO-Nouns.** The demonstratives combine with certain nouns, often marked with the diminutive or augmentative, to provide disparaging or dismissive ways to refer to people. The most common nouns for this role are **poł** *shit* implying irritation, **méma** *mush* implying incompetence especially, and **tsóhka** *buttocks* also marking irritation. The diminutive accents ineffectualness or general irritation, while the augmentative is aggressive.

**Yoye’taas ra’é połtát?** *What did that little shit do?*

**Rou yonke’li wé mémakma.** *This colossal putz screwed it up again.*

Note that though nouns phrases are formally inanimate, verbal agreement is animate.

Creative individuals may use the **wé/ra’é + N-tát/N-kma** frame for additional entertainment. The demonstratives are fundamental to this disparaging use, and can only be omitted if replaced by the vocative particle **ni**.

## A. Vocabulary

For the most part, animacy is semantic (animals and insects are animate, other things are not). There are some exceptions, marked with *n.an.* below. The *primary object* of a ditransitive verb is the one marked in the prefix chain.

A word with a trailing dash that appears after a noun headword is the incorporation form of a noun (e.g., **mon-**, the incorporation form of **mouno** word). A word with an initial dash is for nouns that take separate forms when possessed (e.g., **-mmé**, the possessed form of **emmé** mother). The symbol ~ refers to the main lemma in idioms and subdefinitions.

Compounds with the final element **-kaai**, **-par** and **-noró** (§B.1) are listed under the first element, but otherwise verb compounds are defined under the final element. So, **kalkaai** is found under **kal**, but **amááyéim** is defined under **yéim**.

Examples with ideophones are often translated bluntly, since English is so impoverished in this regard. A descriptive translation should be taken as a stop-gap. Ideophones are supposed to depict — to be mini-performances, in effect.

Determiners are marked *det.* and give the animate and then inanimate forms in the lemma. Commentary particles are marked with *com.part.*

### A A A A A

**á** interj. *ah, oh.*

**áá** 1. n. *bovine, cow, bull.* 2. n. *beef.*

**áa'epé** interj. *holy crap!* for surprise; more positive than **kónyaál**.

**aahpé** n. *viscera, "guts."*

a. **-aahpé kínyé'wetsim** idiom, *unsettle someone, tá'aahpé taai kínyé'wetsim mo ra'és* that was really unsettling, lit., "that really made my guts start to tremble" (see **wets**).

**aaif** n. *ancestor.*

**aairou** - -.

**aais** n.an. *ghost, spirit, daemon, god.*

**áál** n.an. *seed; semen.*

**áálokókka** n. *pumpkin.*

**áála** n. *man, dude, guy, colloq.,* most often with vocative, **ni áála**; not actually gender-specific.

**aamá** 1. v.in. *be dead.* 2. of water, *be stagnant, be flat* (cf. **lá'kí**); of any drink, *be "flat," insipid, flavorless.*

**aamné** v.tr. *weave.*

**aamnél** n. *cloth, fabric.*

**ááni** adv. *lately, recently.*

**aap** v.tr. *alarm, startle*; **mes'aap** preferred with human objects, **wés kítámes'aap** that startled me; **kaarim yonkórnaan, tetsmes'aap — pehem!** she was reading a book when I startled her — *thunk!*

**aaru** (-'haaru) n. *brother.*

**aas** (ipfv. *saréí*) v.in. *come*; prefers ego-or discourse-based deictic center, otherwise cislocative **kóh-** with **ló** is preferred.

**áátsíhke** n. *dominance gift, something given to demonstrate social or political power rather than generosity*; almost always from someone of significantly more power than the recipient; act of giving is with either **kaai** or, expressing misgivings, **nenó**; when possessed, the possessor always refers to the giver; **áátsíhke yotákaai — hirííhiríí** he gave me the dominance gift and smiled superficially.

**-'aayen** postpos. *short of, not reaching; less than.*

a. **on'aayen** idiom *scarcely, hardly*, follows the verb immediately, **wé werite'eyoł on'aayen I**

hardly understand this.

**áhne** pron. *they*, plural animate 3rd. person pronoun.

**ákwi** v.tr. *sanction, punish*; with **-s(i)**- “body” incorporation for incarceration or capital punishment; with **-mmaal** for the offense.

**áláái** n. *pine*.

**amáán** (amáá-) n. *law*. The incorporation prefix **amáá-** is also used in noun compounds.

**amáápér** 1. n. *courthouse*. 2. n. *court*.

**amáát** n. *coin, coinage*; **amáát wéiya’wéi háái-naarnats** — **píhiim** *they were handling the coins carelessly, and clink!*

**amááyéim** see **yéim**.

**án** v.in. *be hot*, of the weather (cf. **róú’áái**).

**apaai** 1. n. *bowl*. 2. n. *basin* (a large bowl for washing), *sink*.

**apaai’la** n. *client*, someone receiving patronage.

**-’áppi** postpos. *in(to) the middle (of)*.

**ar** n. *rice*.

**arpóu** n. *ivy*.

**asaal** com.part. *to the speaker’s disadvantage*.

**áskohko** v.in. *be naive*; with either **-naai** *about* or **-mo’im** *before* for the domain, **kitrarén onmo’im tei’áskohko** *I am naive about civilization*.

**áskowe** n. *a naive, simple or imperturbably optimistic person*.

**asríiko** v.in. *be temperate, be modest*.

**asríye** n. *temperance, decorum*.

**atóu** com.part. *finesse, done with excellence*.

**attá** (-ttá) n. *father*.

**atsne** pron. *he, she*, animate 3rd. person pronoun.

**awaró** adv., n. *today*.

## E E E E E

**e’áána** adv. *perhaps, maybe*; usually inhibits evidential marking, and often follows the verb, **yos yosár e’áána** *maybe she’s already arrived*.

**éi** n. *tree*.

**eí** part. post-sentence question particle. Colloquial, and in verbless questions.

**ei’ín’ei’ín** ideo. *for something small to protrude out horizontally; also of minor nuisances and interruptions*.

**éik** 1. n. *head*. 2. in general, *the uppermost part of something, apex*. 3. geography, *the top of a hill or mountain*. 4. of people, *chief, boss*, or otherwise of people in charge of something.

**eiri** (-’heiri) n. *sister*.

**éit** 1. n. *wood*. 2. n. *timber, lumber*, wood for construction.

**éiyomoutit** n. *syrup; sugar*.

**eľnaan** adv. *yet, nonetheless*.

**éłtsi** n. *tisane*.

a. **éłtsim** v.tr. *brew, steep*.

**éméi** n. *future*.

**emmé** (-mmé) n. *mother*.

**er** (ipfv. **eréi**) 1. v.in. *float, hover*, of anything in the air on its own power, including things moving around without apparent goal, including clouds of bugs, hummingbirds, celestial objects, etc. 2. with inceptive, *come out, be out*, of celestial objects or bugs, **hááiyé’hertsi hókyowáalé** *fireflies are out*, **heyé’hertsi rohwe** *the moon has come out*.

**éspímeisáái’é** n. “barren crisis,” a major event which should have pushed a change in a situation,

but didn't in fact do so.

**éspin** (éspí-) n. *balance point, inflection point*; of events, *turning point*. With verbs and postpositions of location, this indicates remaining at a balance point, while movement into or away from **éspin** indicates everything from a change in state to a

change in fortune. **Éspinmiits kááhour** *we stand on the brink* (for good or ill); **he'ááísakoł éspinlii** *the storm has turned*.

**eyá'** 1. n. *acorn*. 2. n. (slang) *head of the penis*; by metonymy, *penis*.

## H H H H H

**-háá'** postpos. *in exchange for, (in payment) for, in place of*.

**háá'ya-** = **háái-** + **-na'a-** (see §3.4.3.1).

**hááke** n. *floor* (of a room, not levels of a building, for which see **sán'e**).

**háákmahti'é** n. *rug, carpet*.

**haal** v.in. *yield, give way, surrender*;

a. **haalkaai** v.tr. *surrender to, give way to*.

b. **haalló** see **ló**.

c. **haalpekki** see **pek**.

**haanéi** (haaná-) n. *bed, couch*; **haanéitaak yomaana** *she's sleeping in bed*.

**háát** v.in. *be intelligent, smart*; only of animate agents; **tasin katiinwaas yoháátsi** *she's smarter than all of us*.

**háke** n. *voice, of human or animal*; of non-living things, *sound, noise* in general.

a. **háke onsóp** idiom, *without a word, without a sound*.

**hakóú** n. *chaos, confusion, disorder*.

**hałte** n. *baby, infant*.

**hałtotsa'** n. *woman*, a rather rude word used when speaking of those groups who deny women full agency.

**háłtsí** 1. v.in. *be exhausted, be used up*. 2. of ideas and style, *old-fashioned*.

**hamsa** n. *lake, pond*.

**hán** n. *stick*; often classifier for long, thin things.

a. **hánim** v.tr. *to stake something*, such as a plant.

**háníyoł** see **yoł**.

**hapka** 1. n. *substitute*; with **-háá'** for the thing substituted for, **éiyomoutit sei heyets páya onháá'om hapka** *sugar is not a substitute for honey*. 2. n. *man or woman someone has an affair with*.

a. **hapkam** 1. v.tr. *substitute, replace*; with **-háá'** for the thing replaced, **wasinhapkammé wé onháá'** *you all will replace it with this*.

**harár** (ipfv. *harárâ*) v.in. *purr*.

**harasras** ideo. *sound of wind, blowing through broadleaf trees*.

**hárkí** n. *last day of the month*.

**harwá** n. *gay man*.

**hási** n. *city, town*; **hásiitaak matsáámtsi** *things are expensive in the city*.

**hási'la** n. *citizen*.

**háskii** v.in. *be sophisticated, be subtle, be refined*.

**hátyou** v.in. *to fail by being overwhelmed* (cf. **siháán**).

**he'a-** = **he-** + **-na'a-** (see §3.4.3.1).

**he'olá** adv. *finally*.

**he'á** n. *vein, artery; sinew*.

**he'át** n. *string, thread*.

**heilo** n. *trace of previous existence, footprint, impres-*

sion, memory; history.

**hem** v.tr. pursue, hunt.

**a. kó'hem** v.in. fish, with **-por** to specify a particular type of fish, generally in the plural, **naksoul áhpor káákó'hemna** we were fishing for salmon.

**b. lo'hem** v.in. to seek profit, seek gain.

**hém** (ipfv. hérrá) v.in. to snow.

**hemki** n. beer; **hemki hááípewársó'ein, li memná'toná' hááítsókák** they drank too much beer and set off home staggering.

**hemki'la** n. vinegar.

**hemkitsrí** n. tavern, bar.

**hémméin** v.in. to blizzard.

**hér** v.tr. ask (a question, about).

**hérrá** see **hém**.

**hes'éi** n. trunk of a tree.

**hes'éiyonísa** n. hierarchical power (cf. **toronísa**).

**hesé** n. back (of a body).

**het** com.part. faddish, hyped, current likely transient.

**hi'yél** n. glass (the material).

**hiil** v.in. be good; **wé sorlo nineła hehiiltsi** this bread tastes good; **wóséyat taraai hehiilolpan** running is good for your health, they say.

**a. heyé'hiilmé pá** idiom, it'll be alright; also **wéyé'hiilmé pá** for a more general sense.

**hiiste** v.in. sulk;

**a. taraahiiste** v.in. sullen, moody.

**hil** n. garlic.

**híru híru** ideo. a cry of astonishment or pain.

**hiskou** v.tr. abandon.

**hó'owa** 1. adv. thus. 2. with particles, used as a clause-initial prop for particles to follow when the clause has only a verb, or when there are no other constituents at all, **hó'owa taai hááímaats** they are asleep!

**a. li hó'owa eí** idiom really? not asking for more

information, but an expression of exasperation for unwelcome or unexpected developments.

**b. hó'owa lop** idiom so there's that, a wearied expression of resignation.

**hó'é** prn.inan., adj.inan. this. More often appears as **wé**.

**hóltin** n. shoes.

**hón** (pl. **hón'áh**) prn.an., adj.an. this.

**hóká** n. fire, flame.

**hóká'la** n. sparks.

**hókpér** n. fireplace, hearth; by metonymy, the fire in the hearth; **hókpér henáánats lesek** the fire was burning with the coals glowing red.

**hokta** n. wall; barrier; **moháái ouhtil yonhemnat-sihte — kap! — hoktate** the cat was chasing the toy and — bonk! — into the wall.

**hókse** n. (rail) train; **hókse te'emaakmé táttá atsmar'ááte** I will ride the train to my father's house. Etym., from **hókyola'se** railroad, by metonymy.

**hókyowáalé** n. firefly.

**hoppé** v.tr. constrain, hinder, block.

**-hta** postpos. with, accompanying.

**hour** (ipfv. houréí) v.in. stand.

**a. hourim** 1. v.tr. set up, stand up. 2. of organization, nominate, recommend someone for a task; the verb phrase describing the task will be in the future, **tetshourim Bob, yokatlíisméł** I nominate Bob to lead us. 3. of a party, hold or have a party, **hááínhourimmé atslákiityolaáka** they will have his birthday party.

**b. ís-hour** v.in. matter, be important, always in the most general sense, **nískílwe íshehourtsi** politics matters; with the distributive to focus on wide scope, **nískílwe íshe'ahourtsi** politics matters everywhere.

**c. -wer hour** idiom, be a question of, be a matter of, **ko'wii niwer hehourtsi** it's a question of traditional rights.

**houréí** see **hour**.

**hourol** n. party, faction; side; **ye'é hourol souy-  
oŷe?** which side are you on? which party do you follow?  
**-hte** adverbial adjunct suffix after vowels (cf. **-ne**)

**hóus** v.in. yell, shout.  
**hoyáat** n. (earth)worm.

### I I I I I

**ii** clause-initial question particle.

**íitse** n. mosquito; **yapáátaak pétei íitse hááírátš**  
there are many mosquitos in the swamp.

**ikat** (iktí-) 1. n. form, shape. 2. n. fashion, fad.

**ikati'la** n. follower of a fad, follower of fashion.

**iktíyoŷ** see **yol**.

**im** conj. or.

**ímte** n. aspiration, fantasy, "dream".

**ípaaro** n. cousin (male).

**ípeiri** n. cousin (female).

**ípi** v.in. be strange.

**iriki** n. rat.

**isáá** n. bird.

**ískelit** n. outcome, aftermath (see **kel**).

**itkéí** n. summer.

**iyé** com.part. amorous interest or intent.

### K K K K K

**ka'má** v.tr. to make, to do; to cause.

**ka'wák** n. crow.

**ka'yaas** (ipfv. ka'yaará) v.in. to lightning.

a. **ka'yaasłom** v.tr. lightning strike (see **łom**), **tá-  
mar'áá taai kínka'yaasłom** lightning struck my  
house.

b. **wimka'yaas** v.tr. to fall in "love at first sight".

**kaah** n.an. land, earth, terra firma, ground.

**kaahi'la** n. plot (of land).

**kaahoméma** n. mud, clay.

**kaahomémat** n. brick.

**kaahopér** n. coffin.

**kaahtsápi** n. rabbit.

**kaai** v.tr. give; **he'asasots — kehiné mel  
soutákaaitto** it's cold — give me a blanket.

**kaaíké** v.in. to "do," to suffice for a time.

**kaal** v.tr. vex, irritate, annoy.

**kaálei** v.in. be enough, be sufficient; be "ok," be so-so.  
**weri-kaáleim** v.tr. be sufficient for, in the philo-  
sophical sense that the subject causes the object,  
though it may not be the only cause in existence,  
**kítle'as penket werikínkaáleim** our sun is sufficient  
for life.

**kaalóú** v.tr. teach, instruct.

**kaalóúpér** n. elementary school.

**kaalóúyá** n. school (post-elementary).

**káánii** n a kept man or woman, someone willingly in  
thrall to a person or system. To be really offensive,  
use the diminutive, **káániitát mo ran'áh** they're mi-  
nor courtiers.

**kaanaai** v.in. stand back up; get up and continue after  
some problem.

**káar** v.tr. *save, preserve, store for later use*

**kaarim** n. *book.*

**kaarimpér** n. *library, a room in a building (see kaarimyá).*

**kaarimyá** n. *library (the institution).*

**kááwa** v.tr. *use, make use of.*

**káhkapi** v.in. *masturbate.*

**kahtsá** n. *river.*

**kahtsowaal** n. *canal.*

**kahtsowaar** n. *tributary.*

**káhwe** n. *coffee.*

**kakó** n. *millet.*

**kal** n. *greeting; may be used by itself as a greeting, “hello;” often used with kou’ára when addressing a group of like-minded individuals, kal kou’ára.*

a. **kalkaai** 1. v.tr. *greet;* 2. v.tr., with **-porte** *welcome someone to a place or event, tewéikalkaai tá-mar’áá onporte* *I welcome you to my home.*

b. **kalnoro** v.tr. *greet each other, only with pl. subjects.*

**kalmei** n. *widow, widower.*

a. **kalmei’la** n. *orphan.*

**kálkał** *ideo. for something revealing itself to be crap; táyárhák kálkał hepiisik* *my phone dropped the damn call!* (this focuses on the unwelcome realization that a phone thought to be quality has turned out to be, in fact, crap).

**kamáái** v.tr. *to fight, to battle.*

**kamlaai** n. *horse.*

**kámoł** n. *sweet potato.*

**kamte** n. *story, narration*

a. **kamtíkaai** v.tr. *tell a story to.*

**kanón** v.in. *be ready, be prepared; with subject chaining, ii waskanónye kááló’mél* *are you all ready for us to go?* lit., “are you ready (that) we will go.”

a. **weri-kanón** v.in. *be suitable, be appropriate.*

**kap** *ideo. hitting your head on something, but not too hard (see also kouppó); moháái ouhtil yonhem-natsihte — kap! — hoktate* *the cat was chasing the toy and — bonk! — into the wall.*

**kapei** v.in. *be welcome, be agreeable; of things and events only, not people (cf. nakí).*

**kapín** n. *(purposeful) movement, gesture, strategem; frequently of actions that further a plan.*

**káplá** v.in. *be new.*

a. **ís-káplá** v.in. *be novel, be innovative, be alluringly or even alarmingly new.*

**kapto** n. *nose; beak.*

**kar** v.tr. *pass (by), overtake.*

**kaspaan** n. *shooting star, meteor, meteorite.*

**káta’lí** adv. *olim, once (upon a time).*

**kátkarwen** n. *the past.*

**katne** pron. *we.*

**kats** n. *object, thing.*

**ké’** 1. n. *(bone)marrow.* 2. n. *the “heart” of a matter, the central issue.*

**ke’li** v.tr. *botch, screw up (see also máái).*

a. **tei’ike’li** v.in. *publicly do something embarrassing.*

**ke’firwa** v.in. *be incompetent.*

**ke’náá** n. *milk.*

**kehiné** n. *blanket; he’asasots — kehiné mel soutákaaitto* *it’s cold — give me a blanket.*

**keil** n. *soldier, fighter.*

**keilo’éik** n. *poppy.*

**kéif** v.tr. *be equal to (a task), be a match for (in ability), sei káá’áhkéif* *we are not their equal.*

**kéin** v.tr. *sing.*

**kéinéi** 1. v.in. *be out (of a fire or light), be extinguished; hekéinéits hóká* *the fire is out, heyé’kéinéits hóká* *the fire went out.* 2. v.in. *disappear from sight, often with la-*

**keítyém** --.

**-kéíya** adv. *alone*, obligatorily possessed, **tákeíya**  
**teíló** *I went alone.*

**kel** v.in. *happen, occur.*

**kelwa** v.in. *be potential, be possible.*

**kél** 1. n. *belt.* 2. n. *anything that goes around like a belt, esp. in compounds.*

**kél'aai** v.in. *be last, be final, be ultimate.*

a. **hér'íkél'aai'é** n. *death, an oblique, literary term.*

**kełtin** (kełti-) n. *grape (fruit and plant).*

**kén** v.tr. *urge, impel, set in motion.*

**kénirén** n. *instinct; motivation; taken as a whole across a life, not a single instance.*

**kénwa** v.in. ?

**képé** n. *shard, spike, blade; knife; képé yonserwanats, sísiri sísiri she was sharpening the blade.*

a. **képsérwa** v.tr. *shave; (cf. serwa).*

**képyonal** n. *obsidian; obsidian blade.*

**kér** n. *want, privation; poverty.*

**keráái** n. *witness, as a deliberate role, not an accidental witness to an incident; with -mo'ím before for the thing witnessed, ássáálit onmo'ím keráái mo tán I was a witness to their wedding.*

**kerem** ideo. *a moderately sized, round or amorphous mass falling to the ground; apai yontérkats — kerem she dropped the bowl — thud!*

**kerím** v.tr. *create, fashion, especially of artistic and technical works.*

**ketne** n. *fig (fruit and tree).*

**kíhap** n. *something inelegant, hobbled or dreadful, but used because there is no option or choice.*

**kihi** conj. *but.*

**kii pá** (< **kihi pá**) a discourse repair expression, *rather, I mean.*

**kii'** n. *regime, world(view), school (of thought, art, phi-*

*losophy, etc.).*

**kii'ísekłii** v.tr. *poke or prod at matters someone cares about to elicit a response, a.k.a., trolling; only human direct object.*

**kíikohni** v.tr. *miss (a person).*

**kííréei** see **kíisi**.

**kíisi** (ipfv. **kííréei**) v.in. *rain.*

**kiit** 1. adv., with non-future verb *just.* 2. with future *about to; marker of proximal time.*

**kiitshóksó'ei** see **só'ei**.

**kíłkar** n. *moment, time, especially times of importance for some task, or of some other significance.*

**kíłtíirit** n. *daddy longlegs (Opiliones).*

**kíriim** ideo. *for something small and round or mass-like to fall to the ground; eyá' he'anátnats kíriim kíriim the acorns are falling, plonk plonk.*

**kírítsei** n. *gnat, any small insect that tends to fly in swarms.*

**kítpítsá** see **tsá**.

**kítpo** n. *spectacle, overwhelming sensory experience, as well as the fuzzed mental state that results from that.*

**kitra** v.tr. *tame, subdue.*

**kitratsa'** n. *any means for producing tameness or civility; education (generally of a rather punitive variety).*

**kitrarén** n. *civilization.*

**kítsí'iya** n. *"crap" maple, silver or Norwegian maples; metaphorically of things that are a bit unruly and make a mess.*

**kiyánli** (kiyán-) n. *illusion of agency, personal or political.*

**ko'ón** n. *raspberry.*

**ko'oukrá** n. *charm, apotropaion, "security blanket;" when speaking of poorly behaved or poorly socialized men, dismissive slang for their penis.*

a. **ko'oukrínaar** v.in. *"be at it again," of a man*

- engaging in customarily obnoxious behavior (see **naar**).
- ko'wii** n. a prerogative that follows from being part of a particular social or economic class.
- a. ko'wikááwa** v.in. enjoy, use one's prerogatives; may take dependent clause, **yoko'wikááwats pá, mám sei hááítssi'ákwíł** she used her position to avoid punishment, lit. "she used her prerogatives and-DS they didn't punish her."
- b. ko'wiirén** n. social or economic class (as a system)
- c. málíko'wiim** v.tr. impose or assert prerogatives over someone else.
- ko'wiyolki** see **yoł**.
- kó** (kóhí-) n. onion.
- kóhá** com.part. so-called, purporting to be one thing but not really; very likely to follow a noun.
- kohkapei** v.in. be unpleasant, be disagreeable, especially of sensations and experiences; with **-próh** for the person judging something unpleasant, **aapróh hekohkapein maro** she found the music unpleasant.
- kohkel** v.in. be anomalous, be out of place.
- kohni** 1. v.in. be in pain, hurt. 2. with NI experience privation, a lack of satiety, mostly with instrumental NI as a derivational base;
- a. kopkohni** v.in. be thirsty.
- b. wo'kohni** v.in. be hungry.
- kohnil** n. pain, hurt.
- kóhtsa** n. fear and anxiety in response to sudden and uncertain social or political developments.
- kóhtsílátou'é** n. the sudden hush that comes over a conversation when an unexpected person approaches and one is uncertain of their loyalties; **katiilta'áki kóhtsílátou'é hesárin** the sudden hush came over us, lit., "the sudden hush arrived among us."
- kókka** n. squash.
- kokkát** n. great blue heron, *Ardea herodias*.
- kokła** v.tr. muddy, cloud, muddle.
- a. meskokła** v.tr. confuse (someone).
- b. meskokłak** v.in. be confused.
- c. mohkíkokła** v.in. be dispirited; be of uncertain mood.
- d. łakkokła'aa** n. an agent of bullshit; propagandist.
- e. taraakokła** v.tr. disappoint, dishearten, disillusion, of inan. subjects only.
- kóktéi** v.in. be poor; be in misery; **máámkóktéi** for clarity about being poor in wealth (v. **máámo**).
- kól** v.in. be long, be tall.
- kolté** v.tr. plant.
- a. koltémii** n. garden (but see **kólap**).
- kóna** 1. n. crowd, large gathering, esp. if noisy; may be animate plural or inanimate singular; **kóna yos heyé'reikkinats** a crowd is already starting to form. 2. n. (crowd) noise, uproar.
- kónyaáł** interj. wow!, holy crap!, crap!, marking surprise, usually unwelcome; see also **áa'epé**.
- kop, kopé** det. the same.
- kopi** n. water; often used in classifier NI to indicate liquid direct objects, **tor yonkoptśáapana** he's preparing tea.
- kopkohni** see **kohni**.
- koppíkoppí** ideo. of provoking, button-pushing or provocative behavior; can only refer to people (or perhaps a naughty monkey).
- kopra** n. tears.
- a. kopríkaai** v.tr. cry (about, for).
- kopyopér** n. boat, ship.
- kór** v.tr. read.
- kós** num. three.
- koskin** (koski-) n.in. the coercive or bullying force of a community; as animate (singular or plural), the community as exercising that force.
- kosó** v.in. be (on the) left (side).
- kotá** adv., n. later today.
- kótar** n. a burly man.

**-kotok** postpos. *behind, beyond, at the far side of.*

**kótra** v.in. *thunder; he'akótrats, mil pekataák teilám* it thundered and I woke up suddenly.

**a. kótrapaak** n. *a possessed person, a frenzied person; a lunatic.*

**kóts** 1. v.in. *be fair, of complexion.* 2. of hair, *be blond, often with sir-* incorporated.

**kótsóu** n. *drought.*

**a. kótsóuk** v.in. *for a drought to be on, usually with -na'a-, ááni he'akótsóuknats láái* there has been a drought recently.

**kotswe** n. *shelf, cupboard, cabinet.*

**kotswola'se** n. *stairs; motion along stairs marked with the instrumental applicative on a verb of motion, aammé weriyo'aaskoh kotswola'se* her mother came down the stairs (note the *weri-* for downward motion); *ísrilótto kotswola'se!* go up the stairs!

<sup>1</sup>**kóú** n. *source, origin, wellspring.*

<sup>2</sup>**kóú** v.tr. *pound (with fist); crush, grind.*

**a. ko'wikóú** v.tr. *assert one's dominance over a weaker or outsider group, for no purpose except to reinforce dominance. The violence may take non-physical forms (verbal, economic, etc.).*

**b. ko'wikóúrén** n. *authoritarianism, specifically, the interrelationship between the followers and*

*the leaders.*

**kou'ára** com.part. *interpersonal marker, indicating that the audience is a colleague or comrade with the speaker in some state of affairs or undertaking.*

**kóu'ó** n. *size.*

**a. ye'é kóu'ó** adv. *how large, how big/small?* takes the verb *rá* for asking size, *áhmar'áá ye'é kóu'ó herá?* how large is their house?

**kóu'wa** (kó'-) n. *fish.*

**kouppó** ideo. *hitting your head on something, fairly hard (see also kap).*

**kour** v.tr. *ask (for), request (petō).*

**kouróm** ideo. *a round or amorphous mass of large size falling to the ground; metaphorically of clumsy or impaired people and animals; áála pemó yon-pewársó'eits, li... kouróm* the guy drank too much mead... and thud!

**kouté** (-kyouté) n. *penis.*

**kóuto** v.in. *freeze; gel, congeal.*

**a. kóutot** 1. n. *ice.* 2. n. *crystal (mineral, not glassware).*

**kóutokíísi** v.in. *sleet.*

**kowa** v.tr. *please; sei kítákowa* I don't like it.

**koyoł** n. *coyote.*

## L L L L L

**lá'ei** v.in. *open.*

**lá'kí** 1. v.in. *be stagnant, be brackish, be foul(ed) (of water); esp. water that has a foul aroma or might be dangerous to drink (cf. aamá).* 2. of people, *intellectually stubborn or isolated.*

**láá** v.in. *be far, be distant; with ablative -lii* for what one is distant from, *hó'weilii helááts* it is far from here.

**laahkin, laahké** det. *some, (a) certain.*

**láái** com.part. *about which nothing can be done.*

**laáka** n. *party; compounded to specify the occasion, lákiityolaáka* birthday party.

**láál** v.in. *to grumble, grouse, complain; with instrumental applicative or -mmaal* for cause of complaint.

**a. láálkaai** v.tr. *complain to (someone), with NI possible for the thing complained about.*

**laari** n. *flower, bloom.*

**láármó** n. red cedar, *Juniperus virginiana*.

**láarohemaa** n. dragonfly, damselfly

**láarou** 1. n. reed, any large water grass, not just family *Poales*, but also cattails (*Typha*). 2. musical instrument, *flute*.

**laan** v.in. cease, stop; a more formal, literary word than **ramék** (similar to the difference between “cease” and “stop” in English).

**lah** v.tr. work through (problems, tasks), talk through (matters).

**láhme** 1. v.in. be angry, be unpleasant. 2. of the weather, bad.

a. **X-próh láhmerí-se** v.in. to anger X, make X angry, **ii ripróh yoláhmeríí?** did he make you angry?

**laká** v.tr. bind, tie.

a. **níslaká** v.tr. be loyal to.

**lákii** v.tr. give birth to.

**lákii’la** n. offspring, child.

**laltó** v.in. to get carried away, to get out of control.

**lám** 1. v.tr. speak, say; may take either the person spoken to or the thing said as primary object; when both are mentioned, the person addressed is primary, **te’elám** I said it vs. **wé tetslám** I said this to him. 2. with ideophones, the standard verb used with ideophones; the ideophone typically comes at the start of the clause, or immediately before the verb, **laháyoł se’á helám̄tsi** the trees whooshed.

**lámlári** v.tr. mean, in speaking; **ii so’olámlárił ra’é?** did you mean that?

**lamó’** n. news, report; fame; **lamó’ yotslám̄tsi** — **litíłlitíł** she gave him the news, smirking.

a. **lamó’ikaai** v.tr. be a fan of someone, especially as part of a larger fan base.

b. **lamó’ípar** v.tr. to be famous to, to be an object of fan veneration to.

**lapen** ideo. a moderately sized, long, stick-like item falling to the ground; **tsanna nimeh yoletaaltsi** — **lapen** he hit himself with the hammer — thud!

**lapri** 1. n. bunch or cluster of grapes. 2. in general, group, cluster. 3. of people, clan, tribe, clique.

**lári** v.tr. mean, signify.

**láriri** ideo. sticky, tacky; **áláái te’enaar** — **láriri** I touched the pine — sticky! (of getting pitch on your hands).

**láriyel** v.in. be important, be significant, in general; for personal significance, see under **łoké**.

**las-** classifier noun, marking long, thin and floppy things.

**lastóúłit** see **tóúł**.

**látne** n. necessity; compulsion.

a. ~ **herá ri** idiom, it is necessary that, **látne heráts ri wé kaarim so’okórye** it is necessary that you read this book.

b. **látnem** v.tr. compel (someone).

**latou** v.in. be silent, be quiet;

a. **málılatouk** v.in. self-censor.

**layos** n. mound, small hill; grave.

a. **hekatlesó’nin layosis** idiom, the grave is waiting (for us), an exhortation to get to work.

**lé** v.in. exist, use for “there is, there are,” **hó’wei helén éi kopé** there are the same trees here.

a. **kóh-lé** v.in. exist, identical to plain **lé** in usage, but indicates that speaker is significantly influenced or affected by the existence, **kó’heléts látne** there is necessity, there a necessary reason, cause, etc, **kó’heléts tsoukmou** there is (imminent) danger.

**le’sóu** v.tr. wear away at, abrade.

a. **le’sóuk** v.in. be cranky, be crabby (with animate subjects).

b. **X-próh le’sóuk** v.in. make one weary of, make one tired of; **wé tápróh hele’sóuk** this makes me weary, I’m sick of this.

**lei** v.in. be just, be fair.

**léilkáát** n. carrot.

**léíkou** 1. v.in. be insipid, have little flavor; be dull, boring. 2. with **-próh**, bore, **áhípróh heléikoun**

- tákaarim** *my book bores them (I hear); tápróh taai wéléikou I'm bored!*
- lein** v.in. *be soft (to the touch), be smooth.*
- leis** v.in. *seek, search, with -por for what is sought, eyá' onpor teleisna I'm looking for acorns.*
- lekáá** n. *tools, kit, implements, all of which are of a kind or belong to a single individual or shop.*
- lét** - -
- lempó** 1. v.tr. *try, tempt.* 2. v.tr. *put someone or something through its paces, in the search for weakness or flaw.*  
a. **wimlempó** v.tr. *(try to) seduce.*
- lemya** v.in. *function (properly), "work."*
- len(e)** pron. *oneself, reflexive pronoun.*
- lenaa** n. *iron.*
- lenako** 1. v.in. *iron, of iron.* 2. of hair color, *red, "ginger."*
- lenke** 1. n. *worth, value.* 2. n. *appropriate, fair response, whether in words or deeds.*
- lenté** v.tr. *save (from harm), with -ltik for the thing saved from.*  
a. **lenték** v.in. *escape, avoid, also with -ltik for the thing escaped, séitol niltik hááilenték they escaped death.*
- lépe** n. *war.*  
a. **lépkaai** v.tr. *make war on.*  
b. **lépnoró** v.in. *be at war (of multiple parties only).*
- lépiin** *ideo. something small and saliently stick-like hitting the ground; Áláái heyé'tsówarnakoł. Rál lépiin helámtsi. The pine must be getting dry. The needles are falling.*
- lepyar** n. *thyme.*
- lerá** see **les**.
- lére** n. *apple.*
- leryál'úi** n. *ginko, the tree; just the fruit is leryál'é.*
- les** (ipfv. *lerá*) v.in. *move.*  
a. **lesit** 1. n. *movement.* 2. n. *movie.*
- lesáa** postpos. *above.*
- <sup>1</sup>**li** conj. *and, joining both noun phrases and clauses.*
- <sup>2</sup>**li** postpositive discourse particle, *marks a general truth; tápa li hááitsouk cougars are dangerous.*  
a. **li lop** postpos. *"after all," porí li lop yonlempó she tried it in secret after all.*
- líihar** conj., with indic., *(and) therefore.* with dependent mood, *(with the result) that.*
- líir'í** adv. *basically, fundamentally, essentially.*
- líire** (-mlíire) n. *grain (in wood or stone), character, fundamental nature.*
- líírola'se** n. *habit(s).*
- líís** v.tr. *lead, guide; rule.*
- liitskat** n. *a terrible thing, an awful thing.*  
a. **~ X-próh sárríi-se** v.in. *an awful thing happens to one, or reaches one.*
- ló** 1. v.in. *go, come; except in certain idioms, this will always have a directional affix either on the noun or a preverb. But also see aas for come; awaró mar'áálii sei lateiló I didn't leave home today.* 2. in ipfv., with another verb, *keep (on), continue to.* This will not have any preverb, and occurs in apposition with another verb phrase in the ipfv., **teilóna teisatseina I kept on coughing.**  
a. **haalló** v.in. *retreat.*
- lo'a** 1. n. *gain, reward, profit.* 2. n. *goal, aim.*
- lo'hem** see **hem**.
- lokkat** v.in. *be pliant to power, susceptible to corruption or bribery.*
- lokróú** 1. n. *feather.* 2. n. *pen (writing implement).*
- lóm'í** 1. adv. *upriver, upstream.* 2. of time, *in the past.*
- lómme** n.an. *forest.*

**lónou** v.tr. *endure, submit, be patient (about).*

**a. weri-lónou** v.tr. *submit to, with a disapproving implication of cowardice, weakness or disinterest leading to the submission.*

**lop** particle marking realization or acceptance.

**lor** v.in. *have an aroma; often takes incorporated noun, hetsomirlortsi it smells of leaf mould; or an incorporated stative verb for qualities, heweikohkapeilortsi it smells terrible; or with post-position -waraan like, which is more common with high-animacy comparands that normally resist NI, atswaraan sei helortsi it doesn't smell like him/it.*

**lót** v.in. *be closed.*

**lotna** n. *fork in the road, and other forks, crotch, armpit, slingshot, fork in branches.*

**lótta** n. *gratitude, thanks; also as expression, thank you;*

**a. lóttíyoł** v.tr. *thank, person thanked is core argument, the thing thanked for is secondary, yorilóttíyołtsi kaarim he thanked you for the book.*

**lopto** 1. n. *finger; digit.* 2. n. *toe, if complete clarity is needed, mál nilopto.*

**loptokél** n. *ring (for the finger).*

**-lólú-** preverb aux. *must, have to.*

**lou'** v.in. *jump, leap.*

**a. pitélou'aa** n. *instigator, someone who will agitate for some unpleasant or dangerous action but will not themselves participate.*

**lóúk** v.in. *be large, big.*

**lóulou'rit** n. *small jumping spider (Salticidae).*

**lóúm** n. *wax.*

**loupe** (-ronloup) n. *mind, intellect, voūç, animus.*

**lourá** n. *gap, space, void.*

**lóurté** n. *fennel.*

**lous** 1. v.tr. *pull, draw.* 2. of enclosures, *remove, take out, with -lii, sálii so'olousto remove it from the bag.*

**a. kilous'é nal** n. *magnet.*

**lousrén** n. *magnetism.*

**lóuté** n. *weight.*

**a. ye'é lóuté** adv. *how heavy, how light, how much (weight)? takes the verb rá for asking weight, ye'é lóuté herá éit how much does the wood weigh?*

**lóúts** 1. v.tr. *happen upon, find by chance.* 2. of people *meet (with -s(i)- incorporation), aammé tetssilóúts I met his mother.*

**-ltik** postpos. *away from, apart from; fleeing.*

## Ł Ł Ł Ł Ł

**łai** ??part. -.

**łááirá** see **łááísa**.

**łááísa** (ipfv. **łááírá**) v.in. *to storm;*

**a. łááísa'é** n. *storm.*

**b. łááísa'yotei'** n. *gust front, the first big, cool gusts of wind before a storm finally arrives.*

**łáalik** ideo. *of slick, slippery unusually quick and easy motion.*

**łaaťs** v.tr. *remember;*

**a. łaaťskaai** v.tr. *remind; the thing reminded*

is an external secondary object, **ii sots-łaaťskaai'mél ra'é** *will you remind him of that?*

**łak** adv. *against expectation, inappropriately, not according to the current context; gravitates to Wackernagel position, but is not required to go there (cf. mel).*

**łakal** n. *one who deforms or abuses the character, mind or spirit of another person; demon, monster.*

**łám** v.tr. *smell, sniff.*

**łanta** v.tr. *be content with, be satisfied with, have*

enough of;

**a. rómíľantak** v.in. be “full”, not hungry;

**b. kopľantak** v.in. not be thirsty.

**ľára** v.tr. *εραυαί*, have sexual attraction to someone.

**a. ná-ľára** v.tr. love (romantic).

**ľáral** n. sexual attraction.

**a. náľáral** n. love (romantic).

**ľásaa** v.in. burst, explode;

**ľat** n. metal.

**ľatsá** v.in. wise, σοφός, possessing, demonstrating, or appreciating, skill requiring insider knowledge or training; the artist, their work, and their connoisseurs all possess this quality, for example; an outsider might use this word of a work to condemn it for insularity.

**tei'ľatsál** n. wisdom.

**ľe'a** n.an. sun.

**ľe'tsóp** v.in. be noon.

**ľéi** (in n. compounds, ľéyo-) n. middle, center.

**ľéiká** v.in. be surprised, be astonished; with inst. applic. for thing astonished at, **hááika'máwen ká'aléikákoh** we were surprised at what they did.

**ľéip** v.in. shine, glisten; be smooth.

**ľeit** v.tr. fear, be afraid of.

**ľeitirwa** v.in. be scary, frightening.

**ľekké** v.in. be brutal, savage; implies greater violence than **tsaklei**; can only refer to semantic animates.

**ľekkerwa** v.in. brutalizing, causing people to become savage, **náaya heľekkerwats** the age was savage.

**ľesek** ideo. glowing coals; **hókpér henáánats ľesek** the fire was burning with the coals glowing red.

**ľesó** v.tr. wait for; **ká'alesó éspin** we're waiting for (the weather) to change.

**a. ľa-ľesó** v.tr. omit, put aside, delay; **ra'é ľaso'olesótto** put that away; leave that out.

**ľesó'séin** v.tr. expect, anticipate, hope; with either subject or object chaining with future, dependent

verb, **teilesó'séin teinotmaa'méľ** I hope I will be able to sleep, **kátslesó'séin sei yoya'méľ** we hope he will not do so.

**ľétsei** 1. v.tr. contaminate by aroma (as a cut onion in the refrigerator), often metaphorical of any sort of noxious contagion. 2. figuratively, “haunt,” as in a memory or history affecting someone, **heĩlos tasin kí'áhlétsei'mé** the memory will haunt them all.

**ľéyonísa** n. “connections,” the network of associations one might call upon to further one's own aims, which in turn they might call upon you for. The relationship may be interpersonally and socially benign, or may be outright cronyism or an old boy network. The less positive sense is usually marked with the augmentative, **ľéyonísakma**.

**ľí'ye** v.tr. peel, skin;

**a. ľí'yek** v.in. have an erection.

**ľiiké** interj. ouch!

**ľiin** com.part. to the speaker's advantage

**ľíp** v.tr. select, decide, judge; cf. **messár** under **sár**.

**a. weri-ľíp** v.tr. decide carelessly or with too little thought.

**ľiríľiríí** ideo. smiling superficially, making a fake smile; **áátsihke yotákaai — ľiríľiríí** he gave me the dominance gift and smiled superficially.

**ľís** v.in. hiss, whisper.

**ľíta** n. stringed instrument; more often used in derivations.

**ľitíľitíí** ideo. smiling in a menacing or mean-spirited way; **lamó' yotslámtsi — ľitíľitíí** she gave him the news, smirking.

**ľíwan** 1. n. foreskin. 2. n. cap, cupule, of an acorn especially, but more generally, too.

**ľo'aai** adv. earlier, previously, before.

**ľaháyol** ideo. sound of wind, through pines or during a winter storm through mostly bare trees; **ľaháyol se'á heľámtsi** the trees whooshed.

**ľoké** v.tr. invest something with significance, **kaarim**

**hááinpewárlókéts** *they invest the book with too much significance; with -háá' to specify a specific significance, aais atsháá' hááítslokéts le'a they invest the sun with the significance of a spirit, they see the sun as a god, etc.*

**a. X-próh lokém** v.in. *be personally significant to someone, hási tápróh hewełokém the city is important to me.*

**łom** v.tr. *throw, shoot, pelt; direct object may be either the thing thrown, or the person thrown at with the thing thrown will use the instrumental applicative, nal yotáłomkoh he hit me with a rock.*

**a. sóukłom** 1. v.in. *spit (saliva).* 2. v.tr. *spit at; spit out.*

**łópi'** n. *ant; with wé'ko walk (wander) for movement or location, mar'áataak łópi' hááíwé'kona there are ants in my house, lit., "ants are wandering in my house."*

**łópi'yostoulta** n. *carpenter ant.*

**łorou** v.tr. *bury.*

**łosní'itsrí** n. *restaurant (< łosteíńí'itsrí).*

**łosteí** v.tr. *divide, portion.*

**a. łosteít** 1. n. *division, portion, part.* 2. n. *meal.*

**łotóma** n. *tomato, fruit and plant.*

**łotómárei** n. *pizza.*

**łouh** adv. *why?*

**łous** v.in. *abound, be plentiful.* This is the normal idiom to say that there is much or many of something, rather than **lé**, as in **hó'wei wéłła oyo'in hááíłoustsi** *there are many such people here.*

**-łta'áki** postpos. *to or among a croud or group, among only used with plural or collective nouns, katiłta'áki hááíwóséríits they rushed to (the group of) us.*

## M M M M M

**má** adv. *only, just, merely, follows the word it goes with, raaitsa má mo hón he's merely a slave; when following a verb, that verb is focused and takes síin, heraméktsi síin má it just stopped.*

**má'aat** n. *donkey.*

**ma'láái** n. *darkness.*

**ma'ss** interj. *drat, nuts, darn, marks mild irritation.*

**má'sil** n. *a clearing in the woods, meadow.*

**a. ~-te sár** idiom, *reach a clearing, refers to overcoming a minor difficulty, especially intellectual or emotional.*

**maa** (neg. stem **rél**) v.in. *sleep; hó'owa taai háái-maats they are asleep!*

**maá'le** n. *komboloi, worry beads.*

**a. maá'línaar** v.in. *handle worry beads.*

**máa'eté** 1. v.in. *ήπιος.* 2. of people and their actions *kind, gentle.* 3. of weather *mild, not excessive.*

**máái** v.tr. *to (aim at and) miss, to err; unlike ke'li botch, this implies more competence in the attempt.*

**maai'ó** v.in. *fly.*

**maai'á** n. *pistachio (nut and tree).*

**maaik** v.in. *be firm, hard, rigid.*

**mááił** v.tr. *regret, repent.*

**a. wimmááił** v.in. *have an affair, cheat; with -hta for the person the affair is with; with applicative for the unfortunate one.*

**maak** 1. v.tr. *follow (after).* 2. of trains, *ride; hókse te'emaakmé táttá atsmar'ááte I will ride the train to my father's house.*

**maál** 1. v.in. *thrive, flourish, of living things. Most often ís-maál; tosparenaa íshemaáltsi asaal unfortunately dandelions thrive here.*

**máámo** 1. n. *wealth, riches.* 2. n. *money.*

**maan** v.in. *be humid*; **ról'o he'amaantsi li tsekkít tsekkít he'alámsti** *the night was humid and the katydid's were making a racket.*

**a. rikmaan** v.in. *be humid and hazy.*

**maapér** n. *bedroom.*

**maáse** n. *amber.*

**maatri** n. *basil.*

**maatsákki** v.in. *dream.*

**maatsákkirén** n. *dream logic, myth logic, the mystifying inviolable rules of dreams and stories.*

**mahéi** n. *bullshit, exalted nonsense*; verbs of communication take the instr. applic. to employ this word, **mahéi hááíklámkohna** *they're talking nonsense*, or with **-meh**, **mahéi nimeh hááíklámna** *they're talking nonsense.*

**mahti** 1. v.tr. *cover.* 2. v.tr. *"mount" sexually*, most often of animals, and used in less hair-raising sorts of cursing (§10.7). Somewhat vulgar in reference to people, signifying casual sex only.

**makis** v.in. *be dirty.*

**makni** v.in. *be rude, self-involved; act in an entitled fashion.*

**maknirwa** v.in. *be selfish.*

**mál** n. *foot.*

**mal'áái** v.tr. *to hate (things).*

**a. tei'ímal'áái** v.tr. *to hate (people or their actions).*

**maláá** n. *oats.*

**malárik'é** n. *barley.*

**málító'om** v.tr. *impose cultural or religious strictures on someone.*

**málohán** n. *leg.*

**málonísa** n. *enforcing a dependent or subordinate social or political status on someone.*

**a. málonísake** n. *someone locked into such subordinate position.*

**mał** n. *cloud*; **mał heyé'reikkits** *the clouds are starting to threaten.*

**a. mał he'aléts** idiom, *it's cloudy (see lé).*

**málin, málé** det. *other, another.*

**małke** n. *underwear.*

**mám** switch reference particle for different subject.

**mar'áá** 1. n. *home, house*; **awaró mar'áálii sei lateiló** *I didn't leave home today.* 2. n. *family.*

**mar'ámahti'é** n. *roof, ceiling.*

**mar'ásím** v.in. *move (to a new home)*, with **-taak** to specify new location, **-lii** the original.

**mar'áwime** n. *window.*

**maráái** v.tr. *be anxious about, worry about.*

**márei** (mára-) n. *circle, cycle; year.*

**márei'la** n. *season.*

**marí** v.in. *be probable, be likely*; uses subject chaining (§9.12.1); **hááímarí hááísáálléi'mél** *it is likely they will marry*, lit., "they are likely, they will marry."

**maro** n. *music.*

**masaa** n. *deer.*

**masaayo'éi** n. *sumac (any of the edible species of Rhus).*

**mat** v.in. *be bad.*

**a. mesmat** v.in. *be (morally) bad, be evil*, only of beings with agency.

**mattéin** v.in. *be malevolent.*

**mattii** n. *mushroom.*

**matóú** 1. v.in. *be beautiful*; with **-pset** to specify a particular portion, **óre nipset hematóúts wé éi** *this tree has beautiful fruit.* 2. of people for men or women, *be beautiful, be handsome.*

**mé** v.in. *appear, become visible or otherwise apparent to one of the senses*

**-meh** postpos. *using, with, by means of*; **kaarim**

**pilóú nimeh yonnaainim** *I wrapped the book with paper.*

**mei** v.in. *be (on the) right (side).*

**méi** v.tr. *φιλέω, be a friend to, be friendly with.*

**meir** n. *tongue.*

**meisáái** v.in. *be barren, be unproductive; to have no effect.*

**méitspo** n. *cape; serape.*

**mel** particle marking situational or narrative integrity, as *expected, indeed, (and) so*; tends to fall in Wackernagel position (cf. **lak**).

**mellémellé** *ideo. something crappy behaving crap-pily – as expected; táýárhák mellémellé hepiisik my crappy cell phone dropped the call.*

**méma** n. *mush, goo, powder.*

**memná'toná'** *ideo. staggering walk, as if stunned or intoxicated; hemki hááípewársó'ein, li memná'toná' hááítsókák they drank too much beer and set off home staggering.*

**memwaktowak** *ideo. gibbering, jabbering, of people or animals, but for people it implies they're having some sort of overwhelming emotional experience.*

**menaple** n. *poor thing, sad/pathetic thing, miserable thing.*

**menle** n. *violin, or any member of that family of instruments.*

**merór** n. *lime; also the default term for citrus, esp. as a compound element.*

**mes-** classifier noun *mind, spirit, cognition*; sometimes also used in instrumental NI.

**meshem** v.tr. *investigate, analyze (cf. hem).*

**meskén** v.tr. *motivate, inspire an idea, a vision, etc. (cf. kén).*

**mesképém** v.tr. *“get to” someone, upset (cf. képe).*

**meskokla** see **kokla**.

**mesle'sóuk** v.in. *be aggrieved, be resentful; with instrumental applicative for the cause, yon-mesle'sóukkohin teilámwen she is resentful of what I said.*

**-mesló** v.tr., always with **weri-**, *be done with, be fed up with, put something out of mind.*

**meslou'** v.tr. *to occur to one; sei he'áhmeslou'tsi ra'é that didn't occur to them.*

**mesmat** see **mat**.

**messáh** see **sáh**.

**messár** see **sár**.

**messímim** v.tr. *persuade.*

**metssi** n. *liquor.*

**metyek** (-hmetyek) n. *medectasia.*

**mewaas** *ideo. depicts stepping into something soft and mushy; moháái yoweirkoł — mewaas kiit teilám the cat must be sick – I just stepped in something.*

**meyá** v.in. *be forbidden (access), be either holy or blessed, or cursed, be inviolable.* The fundamental idea is of something remote, untouchable, probably dangerous and straining the edges of comprehension or ability, though not necessarily supernatural – the speed of light is **meyá**.

**a. X-próh meyáru-se** v.in. *to terrify X, to horrify X, táróúka aapróh hemeyáriits wé taraai oyo'in weather like this terrifies my dog.*

**miits** v.tr. *cultivate, grow;*

**a. kóh-miits** v.tr. *study, especially focused, long-term study of a single thing (cf. mos).*

**miitsla'se** n. *intellectual tradition.*

**miittséin** v.tr. *collect resources intensively; colonize;*  
**a. miittséinyá** n. *colony.*

**mil** conj. *and then; implicitly same-subject.*

**misri** n. *Egypt.*

**-mmaal** postpos. *because of, on account of.*

**mo** 1. part. *subject focus particle.* 2. with neg-

ative, **mo sei** no, *it's not, he doesn't*, etc. Used instead of bare **sei** in an answer. 3. with adverbs, where English can use single adverbs in an utterance for answers or clarification, in Kahtsaai will use **mo** before the adverb, **Yomaanats. Mo rou.** *He's sleeping.* Again.

**-mo'ím** postpos. *before, in front of.*

**moháái** n. (domestic) cat.

**mohkíkokla** see **kokla**.

**mohko** n. *vital spirit; emotional, instinctual mind, anima.*

a. **sei kí'outsák X-mohkos** idiom, *be single, esp. be lonely*, with possession of **mohko** for the person; **sei kí'outsák atsmohkos** *s/he is lonely.*

**móka** 1. v.tr. *deceive, trick.* 2. with **-por**, *trick someone for*, if there is a larger goal for the deception, **máámo onpor yokatmókats pá** *he tricked us for the money.*

a. **mókak** v.in. *be in error, make a mistake*; refers primarily to cognitive errors (cf. **yetí**); with instrumental applicative for the thing one is in error about.

**moksá** v.in. *hint at, intimate; speak in riddles.*

a. **moksá'é** n. *enigma, puzzle.*

**mól** n. *cup, (drinking) glass.*

**mól** v.tr. *change.*

**mópá** n. *shoulder; upper arm.*

**mor'a** v.tr. *starve.*

**móri** v.tr. *"work" someone, manipulate someone psychologically.*

a. **kóh-móri** v.tr. *to scam or con someone.*

**morlaai** v.in. *dance.*

**mórpé** n. *sea, ocean*; for specificity **pentsámórpé** may be used for ocean.

a. **weri-ló ~-te** idiom, *die, "pass away."*

**mos** v.tr. *investigate, study.*

**mós** adv., n. *tomorrow.*

**mosla'se** n. *theory, as a guiding set of principles for some field.*

**mossi** n. *computer mouse.*

**mots** switch reference particle for same subject.

**móts** v.in. *retire or withdraw from society.*

a. **wimmóts** v.in. *be celibate.*

**motsrou** v.in. *be heavy; be difficult.*

**móu'** n. *king, queen, "prince," any hereditary leader.*

**móúkte** n. *bear.*

**moúl** n. *deep time into the future.*

a. **moúlte** idiom *forever.*

**mouno** (mon-) n. *word;*

a. **monkaai** v.tr. *speak to someone, yotá-monkaaina* *he was speaking to me;*

b. **monnáás** v.tr. *discuss, plan together, discuss with a goal in mind.*

c. **monnoró** v.in. *chat together* (cf. **noró**).

d. **monséipe** v.tr. (verbally) *threaten* (cf. **séipe**).

**móúnsó** v.in. *swell, grow large, grow protuberant, such as an injury.*

**móúro** n. *incense; móúro te'eyé'náámmé* *I will light incense.*

a. **móúrkaai** v.tr. *sacrifice.* In English one can sacrifice things temporarily; **móúrkaai** is permanent.

**mouri** n. *language.*

**mouritát** n. *sublanguage, jargon, argot.*

**mout** 1. v.tr. *"juice," extract liquid from something;* 2. *a very vulgar term for sexual intercourse;*

a. **la-moutki** v.in. *to waste one's time or resources pursuing trivialities or pleasures, also quite vulgar.*

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**na'á** v.in. *subside, go down (of swelling).*

**náá** v.in. *burn, be on fire.*

a. **náám** v.tr. *burn (something); móúro te'eyé'náámmé I will light incense.*

**náá'la** n. *ash, cinders.*

**náá'loméma** n. *black ink.*

**-naai** postpos. *about, concerning; in response to, in answer to.*

**naain** v.in. *bend, fold.*

a. **naainim** 1. v.tr. *bend, fold.* 2. v.tr. *wrap; kaarim pilóú nimeh yonnaainim I wrapped the book with paper.*

**nááit** 1. v.in. *be highly-wrought, detailed, complex; teikerímwen henááitsti her work is very detailed.* 2. of people, *high-maintenance.*

**-naan** combination of imperfective **-na** and adverbial adjunct **-ne**.

**naar** 1. v.tr. *touch, handle; amáát wéíya'wéi háái-naarnats — píhiim they were handling the coins carelessly, and clink!* 2. v.tr. *undertake, engage in.* 3. of musical instruments, *play.*

**náás** v.tr. *gather, collect.*

**náaya** n. *period, age, lifetime, aeon, epoch.*

**náayokii'** n.an. *Zeitgeist, spirit of an era.*

**nah** interj., *yes; most often mo nah.*

**náhke** n. *wing.*

**nakí** v.in. *be pleasant, be agreeable; of people only (cf. kapei).*

**nal** n. *stone, rock.*

**nantel** n. *tarragon, Artemisia dracuncululus.*

**náp** ideo. *any computer or computerized appliance crashing hard; kiit náp helámsti it just crashed.*

a. **nápáápe** ideo. *crashing of multiple devices, for some sort of collective malfunction, probably of the same cause, not just a few crashes that happen to coincide in time.*

**nárta** v.tr. *to shade;*

a. **nártat** n. *shadow, shade.*

b. **nártatteim matóú'é** proverb *beauty in the dark, descriptive of exalted nonsense.*

**náséi** 1. v.tr. *to comfort; to make safe.* 2. milit. *provide supplies and personel to.*

**nát** v.in. *fall (free fall in gravity); eyá' he'anátnats kíriim kíriim the acorns are falling, plonk plonk.*

a. **la-nát** 1. v.in. *disappear (utterly), perish.* 2. in swearing, *get lost, go to hell; wé lahenátto — simél-simél helámsti damn this thing! — it's locked up.*

b. **weri-na'anát** v.in. *descend, settle, of dew and frost.*

**nátssá** n. *cheese.*

**ne'sa** n. *tooth.*

**-ne** adverbial adjunct suffix after consonants (cf. **-hte**).

**ne** pospos. *some, quantifier of general amount, kopi ne te'ewén I want some water.*

**neí** v.in. *be tired.*

**neksoul** n. *salmon.*

**neła** 1. n. *flavor, taste.* 2. possessed, idiom for taste, **wé sorlo ninela hehiitsti** *this bread tastes good, lit., "the flavor of this bread is good."*

**nemyó** v.in. *be out of season; occur at a bad time.*

**nenó** v.tr. *stick to, attach to; with -miits for the point of attachment.*

a. **nenok** v.in. *adhere to, be stuck to, again with -miits.*

b. **tsaneno** v.tr. *clutch, esp. clutch to one's chest.*

**ner** com.part. -

**newe** 1. v.in. *labor, work; with instrumental applicative for the task being engaged in, koltémíi teinewena I was working in (on) the garden; or a verb chain, teinewena tekkolténa I was working planting things.* 2. with **-por**, *work with the goal of, marking the final goal or purpose of the work, kopi unpor hááip'una they were digging (to get) water; for a verbal goal, use a demonstrative with a depen-*

dent verb, **teinewe wé onpor mar'áá kóhtekní'ye** *I worked to buy a house.*

**newe'márei** n. *career.*

**ni** vocative particle, comes before the name, relationship or title noun. **Kal, ni Bob** *Hi, Bob.* In a single utterance, has the effect of English “you X,” as in **ni róúre** *you moron!*

**níí'** v.tr. *transact business*, mostly with preverbs in the simple stem. The primary object is the thing changing hands, and the person one is doing business with is with **-hta** *with.*

a. **níí'aa** n. *trader, businessperson.*

b. **la-níí'** v.tr. *sell*; **late'eníí'mé rihta** *I will sell this to you.*

c. **kóh-níí'** v.tr. *buy*; **kóhte'eníí'mé rihta** *I will buy this from you.*

**niim** n. *container, vessel.*

**níir** v.tr. *kill.*

**nik** v.tr. *be of interest to, matter to*; **sei kítánik ra'és** *that doesn't interest me*; see also **loup'oráá** under **oráá**.

**nimme** v.tr. *leave (from), depart; abandon*; of people, takes body incorporation, **-s(i)-**, **mar'áátaak hááításnimme** *they left me at home.*

**nirou** v.in. *be hard (to cut or break), be tough.*

**nír** n. *the main fig crop*; cf. **tsííla**.

**níril** v.tr. *harvest.*

a. **la-níril** v.tr. *forage, go out to collect food or resources.*

**nísa** n. *the flow of political or social power and authority.* Conceptualized as flowing water, so that strong authority is **téí'o** *wide* and weak authority is **yáh** *narrow.*

**nísakit** n. *tribal, in-group loyalty.*

**nísattá** n. *patron, influential supporter*, especially in political and economic contexts; **nísattá sóukkaairén hááínaarnats** *the patrons are engaging in kayfabe.*

**nískílwe** (nískíl-) n. *politics*;

a. **nískílko** v.in. *be political, related to politics.*

**níslakák** see **laká**.

**níso'aais** n. *god*, specifically one inherited from one's parents or community.

**nísola'se** n. *hierarchy* (of political or social power).

**nísotei'** n. *“hat,” the social role one is fulfilling at the moment.*

**níspe'kous** see **pe'kous**.

**nísreikit** n. *“circle” of acquaintances, clique, social group*; when possessed the implication is of a group with which one self-identifies, **atsnísreikit** *her crowd.*

**nísséíperwa** v.in. *having the quality of disturbing or threatening mutual social relationships.*

**nohwí** v.tr.  *dwell in/at.*

**nokéí** v.in. *be adult.*

**nokke** n.  *fingernail; claw.*

**noksé** 1. v.in. *be broken, be busted, be defective.* 2. of people, *manqué* in the English use, *fail to become what one could have or wanted to be.* 3. of social or personal relationships *fail, fall apart*, usually in inchoative, **-yé'noksé**.

**nop** v.in. *fall over.*

**nopwél** see **wél**.

**noró** v.tr. *exchange, share*, always with plural subject. Derivations with **noró** also avoid singular subjects.

a. **norókaai** v.tr. *share with someone.*

b. **tei'inorók** v.in. *be “naval-gazing,” become preoccupied with one's own activities in an abstract way.*

**nots** v.tr. *help*; **yotánotsmé ká'aserwaí** *he will help me fix it*, lit., *he will help me, we will fix it*; **wés kítánots werite'eyolye** *it helps me to understand it*, lit., *it helps me (so that) I understand it.*

**nóú** v.tr. *separate; sort.*

- a. aahpínóú** v.in. prognosticate, tell the future, practice haruspicy; always carries a contemptuous tone.
- nóum** v.tr. find, discover.
- nóúr** v.in. fine, subtle, delicate.
- nówei** (nówa-) 1. n. straw, hay. 2. final element of compounds, with words for grains to name the plant that produces them, **malááyonówei** oat grass.
- nwaas** 1. postpos. -er than, creates comparisons, **aanwaas soháátko!** you must be smarter than him. 2. with non-stative verbs, more than, of degree or quantity.

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- o'ón'o'ón** ideo. for something large to protrude out horizontally.
- o'né** pron. it, them inanimate 3rd. person pronoun, indifferent to number.
- ó'ya** adv. now.
- oké** n. breast.
- ol** n. oak.
- ópa, ópaar** com.part., marks that the speaker's personal desires are focused on one of the clause constituents; quite blunt when used of sexual desire
- oráá** v.tr. to excite desire in someone.
- a. loup'oráá** v.tr. to interest someone, to be interesting to someone, with a covetous overtone, unlike **nik**.
- óran** conj. because, for, since.
- oráyo** v.in. fanatical, zealous; prone to trying to convert people to certain way of thinking;
- a. ís-oráyo** v.in. dangerously fanatic.
- b. kiits'oráyot** n. religious or partisan revanchism.
- óre** 1. n. fruit. 2. n. grain (as in oats, wheat, etc.).
- osnoró** v.tr. to gossip together, always with plural subject (cf. **noró**).
- oso** n. gossip (without the strong pejorative sense that word has in English), catching up.
- otnó** v.tr. to shrink from, to hesitate, to delay; **hakóú yon'otnóts** he pulled back from chaos; **hááín'otnón hááíya!** they hesitated to do so, they delayed doing so.
- a. wim'otnó** v.tr. deliberately avoid romantic entanglement with someone.
- óts** particle marking incredulous disparagement.
- otyéin** n. culture, lifeway, lifestyle, religion.
- ouhti** v.in. empty, vain, μάταιος, futile.
- ouhtil** n. toy, plaything.
- óúri** adv., n. yesterday.
- ówa** n. corn (maize).
- oyíí** interj. yuck! icky!

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- pá** clause-final particle which softens assertions, especially with statements having the direct evidential.
- pá'ou** v.in. dig.
- pa'ri** adv. soon.
- paa'** v.tr. poke, jab; "bug" or pester someone, often with **mon-** word incorporated for this sense.
- a. oupaa'aa** n. jerk, asshole.

**paahím** n. *painting, drawing, fresco*; general term for any static, visual art piece.

**paaí** v.tr. *count, calculate*.

**paaitá** v.tr. *know, understand*. This refers to indirect knowledge especially (as opposed to forms of **yoł**). Further, one might use it to be tentative, or to disparage a source or method of knowledge, **kaarim so'opaaitákohtsi het you (merely) know this from a book**.

**paaíwaal** n. *computer*.

**paák** n. *web, net, mesh*.

**paalípek** see **pek**.

**paálo'i** n. *butterfly*.

**paalyom** (paalí-) n. *touchstone; proof*.

**páán** interactional particle which solicits audience involvement or agreement, “you know, you see.”

**paarka** n. *hazlenut (tree and fruit)*.

**páát** v.tr. *paint, draw, write, inscribe*; instrumental incorporation very common.

**paátsa** n. -.

**pahál** n. *horn (of an animal)*.

**páhwe** v.in. *be red*.

**palaatyom** n. *palace, capitol (building and institution)*.

**paprá** n. *flour, groats, any hulled or ground grain*.  
a. **paprá** v.tr. *grind (up)*.

**paprá** n. *porridge*; **hałte paprát yonłomnats — pıl** *the infant was throwing porridge — plop!*

**papti** n. *cave*.

**par** v.tr. *accept, receive*.

**patsi** n. *chance, luck, fortune*.

**páwí** 1. v.in. *decrease, diminish, fade, wane*. 2. of the sun, moon and other celestial objects, *to set*.

**páya** n. *honey*.

**pé** (-spé) n. *garment, clothing*.

**pe'it** v.in. *(take a) rest*.

**pe'kó** v.in. *awake, wake up*.

**pe'kous** v.in. *stay awake, stay up; stand a vigil*.

a. **níspe'kous** v.tr. *to protest something (of the standing and chanting with signs variety)*.

**pehem** ideo. *something saliently flat, of moderate size falling to the ground*; **kaarim yonkórnaan, tetsmes'aap — pehem!** *she was reading a book when I startled her — thunk!*

**peile** n. *sky, heavens*.

**pek** v.tr. *conceal, keep hidden, keep secret*.

a. **haalpekki** v.in. “hole up,” *conceal oneself from dangers, hide from the world*.

b. **paalípek** v.in. *conceal one's reasons for making an argument*.

**pekatáák** ideo. *waking up suddenly*, **he'akótrats, mil pekatáák teilám** *it thundered and I woke up suddenly*.

**péken, péké** quant. *whole, entire*.

**pél** (ipfv. **péréi**) v.in. *lie (in a place)*.

**pelítse** n. *police*.

**péléi** v.in. *be strong*.

**pemó** n. *mead, fermented honey*; **áála pemó yon-pewársó'eits, li... kouróm** *the guy drank too much mead... and thud!*

**penke** 1. v.in. *live, be alive*. 2. of water, *be “sweet,” be fresh*.

a. **ís-penkekoh** v.tr. *live on, subsist on*, **sei ísmats-notpenkekohnin sorlo má** *you can't live on bread alone*.

**penket** n. *life*.

**pentsán** (pentsá-) n.an. *world*.

**pér** n. *room, small building*; used in compounds for things constructed to contain a person or a small number of people.

**péréi** see **pél**.

**pesá** 1. v.in. *be (living) in diaspora, be living apart*

from one's homeland, with **-lii** for home location. 2. by metaphor, *be alienated*, also with **Ł-lii**, **mar'áalii yopesáts** *she's alienated from her family*.

**pétei, péte'yé** quant. *much, many*.

**petrik** n. *salt*.

**petssí** v.in. *fart*.

**píhiim** ideo. *something small and saliently flat falling to the ground*; **amáát wéíya'wéi hááínaarnats** — **píhiim píhiim** *they were handling the money carelessly, and clink!*

**pífl** v.tr. *forget*, usually with translocative **łate'epífl** *I forgot (it)*.

**piifl** num. *five*.

**piiflta** n. *banjo*.

**piirte** num. *six*.

**piis** 1. v.tr. *cut*. 2. of electronic communications, *end, stop, hang-up*.

a. **piisik** v.in. *disconnect, hang-up*, of electronic communication, usually unexpected, but a scheduled or correctly functioning disconnect can use this verb, too; **táyárhák meflémeflé hepiisik** *my crappy cell phone dropped the call*.

**pilóu** n. *paper*.

**pífl** ideo. *depicts something mushy falling to the ground*; **halte paprát yonłomnats** — **pífl** *the infant was throwing porridge — plop!*

**píflpa** v.in. *be false, be untrue; be untrustworthy*.

a. **X-próh píflparíi-se** v.in. *be considered untrustworthy by, be distrusted by*, **aapróh teipíflparíise** *she distrusted me*.

**piske** v.in. *be black*.

**piskol** n. *charcoal*, specifically, that intended for making marks with.

**pitélou'aa** see **lou'**.

**pitétsákit** see **tsák**.

**pits** the negative stem of **wén**.

**pitsit** 1. n. *lack of want, lack of desire*. 2. n. *aversion*.

**po'á** v.in. *be blue, be green*.

**-pó'e** postpos. *between, through*.

**póhaa** (in n. compounds **póho-**) n. *winter*.

**póhonantel** n. *sweet annie, Artemisia annua*.

**pok** v.tr. *watch; guard, protect*.

**pól** n. *bone*.

**poł** n. *shit* (cf. non-vulgar **tatki**).

**póm** v.ditr. *blame, accuse*, primary object is the person blamed, **wé teiripóm** *I blame you for this*.

**-por** 1. postpos. *wanting, after, in search of, for the purpose of*; may mark either an immediate goal or an ultimate one. 2. with words of desire, longing, aspiration, etc. *for, of*, marking the focus of the emotion; often used attributively with this sense, **atsporom teyahtí** *desire for him/her*.

a. **-porte** pospos. *to*, used with verbs of welcoming, invitation, etc., of the place or occasion, **tewéikalkaai támar'áá onporte** *I welcome you to my home*.

**porí** adv. *in secret, secretly*; **porí li lop yonlempó** *she tried it in secret after all*.

**póró** n. *beard*.

a. **póróm** v.in. *grow a beard*.

**pórmattii** n. *Heridium erinaceus, lion's mane mushroom*.

**posaa** n. *jar, bottle*.

**póse** v.tr. *trust, believe*;

a. **monpóse** v.tr. *trust a person, specifically what they are saying*.

b. **weri-póse** v.tr. *rely on, depend on*, of inanimate objects only (cf. **ná-ríik**).

**póserwa** v.in. *trustworthy, believable*; refers to the ability to convince people, while **tei'ríik** (under **ríik**) refers to character.

a. **weri-póserwa** v.in. *be (philosophically) contingent, that is, be true or false only in relation to*

other matters; with **-mo'ím** for the thing contingent on; or with object chaining.

**pottse** 1. n. *things (or people) indirectly connected by a shared item or person*; with people, the word is usually prefixed with **laá-** *co(n)-*. 2. geometry, hypotenuse. 3. of people, *two people who have had a relationship with the same person, but not necessarily each other*, usually **laápottse**.

**pouhóm** *ideo. something large and saliently flat falling to the ground*; **hokta heyé'wetkin, li he'olá — pouhóm!** *the wall became weak and finally — crash!*

**poulaai** n. *desert (desolate place)*.

**pouł** n. *straight guy*.

**póur** n. *hole, pit; well*.

**póús** v.in. *be short (horizontally or vertically)*.

**-príí** n. *alone, by oneself*; takes possessive prefixes and is used adverbially, **káánewena katiipríí** *we were working alone*.

**-próh** 1. postpos. *to*, used in verbal idioms of emotion and judgement. These uses will appear in the lexicon with the verbs it is used with. 2. postpos. *to*, as *judicantis*, marking the person in whose judgement a statement holds true, **tápróh róúre mo hón** *to me, he's a fool*.

**-pset** postpos. *on, upon*, for a surface in any orientation; **terou onipset** *in the sky*; **kaarim onipset** *in a book*.

## R R R R R

**rá** v.in. *be*, copula, used with adverbs and postpositional phrases, **mar'áá onwer yoráts** *he's in the house*; used with **ri** to attach nouns to clauses, **kíhap heráts ri hó'wei kááneweł** *it's an unfortunate necessity that we read here*. See also **ye**.

**ra'é** (often just **ra'**) prn.inan., adj.inan. *that*.

**rá'ni** (rán-) n. *ear*;

a. **ránkaai** v.tr. *listen to*.

**raaha** n. *song, poem*.

**raal** n. *autumn, fall*.

**ráámpa** num. *half*.

**rááni** v.tr. *steal*.

**ráás** v.in. *engage in dominance or sexual display behavior, show off*; with **-mo'ím** or benefactive applicative for the person the subject is trying to impress.

**raaitsa** n. *slave*.

**rakaa** n. *flesh; meat*; **rakaa hááínwots** *they don't eat meat*.

**rakór** 1. v.tr. *slaughter (of food animals)*. 2. v.tr.

*murder (of people)*.

**rál** 1. n. *conifer needle*; **Áláái heyé'tsówarnakoł. Rál lépiin helámtsi.** *The pine must be getting dry. The needles are falling.* 2. n. *the scent of pine*.

**ramáálta** adv. *always, at all times, on all occasions*; distinguish from **moúlte** (under **moúl**) for the sense “for all time.”

**ramé** 1. v.tr. *dam (up a river)*. 2. of plans or methods, *obstruct, block, impede*. 3. in verb chains, *prevent, stop, keep from*; the verb takes the negative, **yotáramé sei tekwoł** *he kept me from eating*.

a. **ramék** 1. v.in. *back up, stop (up)*; (see also **laan**). 2. of plans or methods, *be stuck, be stopped*. 3. v.in. *stop, cease*; usable with subject chaining.

**ran** (pl. **ran'áh**) prn.an., adj.an. *that*.

**rarkéil** n. *coriander, seeds or leaves*.

**ras** v.in. *be wet*; **moháái łouh yorasye?** *why is the cat wet?*

**rasáái** 1. v.in. *be calm, be tranquil*. 2. of weather and water, *be good for traveling*.

a. **heyé'rasáái'mé pá** *idiom, it will get better, also*

- wéyé'rasáái'mé pá** things will get better.
- rásé** 1. n. cause, reason; motive. 2. n. blame, guilt.  
**a. ráslám** v.tr. explain to, give the reasons.
- ráwas** n. table, desk; **ráwastaak teiyo'na** I'm sitting at a desk.
- rehánóu** n. copper.
- reí** 1. v.in. be high (up), be elevated. 2. of geographic features, be expansive, be large, as in the open ocean or the deep desert, **poulaareí'é**.
- reik** v.tr. associate with, hang out with; with the reciprocal **-léi** for plural subjects acting in concert.  
**a. haanáreik** v.tr. sleep together with (in the sexual sense); with reciprocal **-léi** for plural subjects acting together.  
**b. ná-reik** v.tr. to date (a person).  
**c. reikki** 1. v.in. gather together. 2. of clouds, blow up, threaten; **mał heyé'reikkits** the clouds are starting to threaten.
- réiké** n. consent by silence.
- reikléitsa'** n. meeting, gathering.
- reili** v.in. to serve;  
**a. reilikaai** v.tr. to serve someone or something.
- reirme** 1. n. youth. 2. n. prime of youth, strength of youth
- réisu** n. highly androgenous person; (etym. Wraeththu).
- réitwol** v.tr. defile, taint, spoil (see also **yál**).
- reká** 1. n. sheep. 2. n. mutton.
- rél** negative stem of **maa**.
- relá** v.tr. stab, pierce, with locative for part affected.
- reł** 1. v.tr. carry, bear. 2. of clothing, wear.  
**a. is-reł** 1. v.tr. carry up. 2. v.tr. to pretend, put on a pretense; **mahéi ísyonireł** he put on a show of bullshit; **íste'erełmé teiyortál** I will pretend to be happy.
- ren** n. wheat.
- renááhe** v.in. be still, be quiet, be undisturbed.
- renai** v.in. be yellow.
- reséi** v.tr. push, move by pushing, shove.  
**a. -s(i)reséi** v.tr. jostle a person.
- reséil** 1. n. a push. 2. n. influence; often **nísreséil** for social influence.
- ret** v.in. be vulgar, be crude, be crass (of people or things); **hááilámwen heweirettsi** what they said was very crude.
- reténha** n. excellence, virtue, ἀρετή.
- reténharén** n. ethics.
- ri** conj. that introduces several kinds of dependent clauses.
- riim-** modal prefix, try (to), **teriimteipto'mé taai** I will really try to succeed.
- riis** v.in. spread out horizontally, of water and other flowing materials, and of animals and people.  
**a. weri-riis** 1. v.in. spill (out), leak. 2. v.in., with animate subject, urinate; with **-te** for urinate on.  
**b. weri-riisim** v.tr. pour (onto the ground).
- ríik** v.in. be true; be real, be genuine;  
**a. kóh-ríik** v.in. be reliable, trustworthy, of people and things.  
**b. ná-ríik** v.tr. to trust someone, to rely on someone.  
**c. tei'íríik** v.in. be honorable, be of good character; cf. **póserwa**.
- rik** v.in. be white.
- rin(e)** pron. you (sg.).
- ríts** (ipfv. **rítsrá**) v.in. hang; the location where something is hanging takes the lative directional **-te**, **éite heríttsi** it's hanging on/from the tree.
- ritse** n. fur, hair (on the body).
- ro'ou** conj. even though, in spite of.
- ro'wei** n. month.
- róhaa** adv. later, afterwards.
- rohwe** n. moon;

**a. hetéir rohwe** idiom, *the moon is full*.

**rohwokopi** n. *dew*.

**rokii** v.tr. *conquer, defeat*.

**rokkaai** n. *testicles, scrotum*.

**a. li tárokkaai** idiom, *yeah, right! X, my ass!* a vulgar expression of dismissal, contempt or disparagement; may take augmentative or diminutive to lighten the tone somewhat.

**ról'í'eraa** n. *moth*.

**ról'íkéinaa** n. *cricket* (lit., “night-singer”). The verb for “chirp” is **hákkai** (< **háke, kaai**).

**ról'o** 1. n. *night*. 2. adv. *at night*; often **ról'ohte**.

**a. ról'o awaró, ról'awaró** adv. *this evening*;

**b. ról'o mós** adv. *tomorrow night*.

**c. ról'o óúri, ról'óúri** adv. *last night*.

**róm** n. *belly*.

**romli** v.in. *be clear, transparent, sparkling*.

**ropmaai** v.tr. *break in two, snap*.

**rou** adv. *again*.

**róú'áái** v.in. *be hot (to touch)* (cf. **án**).

**a. róú'ááiri-se** v.in. *blush; be embarrassed*.

**róúka** n. *dog*.

**róúł** n. *animal* (but see §4.5.2 for incorporation).

**roukko** v.tr. *measure*.

**roul** v.tr. *to feel, to experience, to suffer, πάσχω*.

**a. monroul** v.tr. *to gossip about, to slander someone*.

**b. ís-roul** v.tr. *be the victim* (of a crime or offense).

**roumé** 1. n. *board, plank, tablet*; can be used in classifier NI for stiff, flat things. 2. n. *bridge*. 3. n. *plate* (for eating from).

**róupá** n. *broccoli*.

**rour** 1. v.in. *be grey*. 2. of people, *be aloof, be distant, be distant from common concerns*, used especially of people of high status or power, to describe the inability to see beyond one's own interests.

**a. rouraa** n. *elite*, any member of a distant ruling class.

**róúre** n. *idiot, moron, fool*.

**rous** num. *eight*.

**rowi** com.part. *cultivated nonsense, opportunistic skepticism, bullshit, theoretical delirium*

## S S S S S

**sá** (séi-) n. *bag, sack*; **sorlo sá niwer heráts** *the bread is in the sack*; **sálii so'olousto** *remove it from the bag*.

**saai** num. *two*.

**saái** v.in. *be quick, be fast*, usually of inanimates; with animates, forms of **wósé** *run* are used.

**saaikiyánlirén** n. *conspiracy theory* (cf. **kiyánli**).

**sááił** n. *frost*, **ról'óúri sááił werihe'anátsi** *last night there was frost* (see **weri-na'anát** under **nát**).

**saaiπά** v.in. *be beefy, burly, muscular*.

**saal** n. *matter, business, affair*

**a. ye'é saal** idiom, *what's up? what's going on?*

**b. saal -na'a-teipto** idiom for wishing any endeavor well, such as **wéisaal he'ateiptowaal** *may your event go well*.

**sááił** v.tr. *marry*, one person to another.

**a. sááiłléi** v.tr. *marry (one another)*, the usual form used in the plural of two people.

**sááiłit** 1. n. *wedding* 2. n. *marriage*.

**saapéi** v.tr. *avert one's eyes from*; in negative, *stare at*.

**a. weri-saapéi** 1. v.tr. *be shy around*, with people only. 2. with indef. object -'ou-, *be shy* (in general), **weriyo'ousaapéin** *he's shy*.

**saar** v.in. *practice, exercise, train*; with instrumental applicative, or incorporation, for the thing training in, **róhaa piilíta te'esaarkohmé** *later I will practice the banjo*; with **-s-** (§4.5.1) for physical exercise, **hááíssaarna** *they were exercising*.

**sáaré** v.tr. *twist, braid, coil*.

**a. messáaré** v.in. *“think too much,” engage in over-analysis*.

**sáárik** v.in. *be auspicious, well-omened, be a good sign*; with **-naai** *be a good sign for*.

**sáárpaai** n. *kipple*.

**saas** v.tr. *answer, reply to*.

**sáh** v.tr. *take, grab, seize*. **la-sáh** 1. v.tr. *remove, take away*. 2. of tasks, *accomplish*.

**a. messáh** v.tr. *learn (after study)*.

**sahlo** n.an. *zahhlut*.

**sáhpa** n. *lesbian*.

**saká** n. *thread, line, rope*.

**sakaai** adv. *on arrival, after arriving*; **sakaai áhpor teiye'leis** *I started to look for them when I arrived*.

**saknó** v.tr. *flee, run away, usually la-saknó*.

**sákohá** v.in. *be well-behaved*.

**saló** 1. n. *stand, patch* (a place where plants of the same kind grow). 2. of animates, *haunt, hang-out (place)*.

**sámká** n. *knee*.

**a. sámkálíi** idiom, *on the knees*, **sámkálíi yokkór-nats** *she was reading on her knees*.

**sán'e** 1. n. *flat ground, level ground*. 2. of buildings, *level*. 3. of intellectual or social projects, *foundation, fundamentals*.

**a. sán'e henal'íil** idiom, *the foundation is rocky*, focusing on a lack of sufficient preparation.

**sápo** n. *chalk*.

**a. lenaayosápo** n. *sanguine chalk*, used in drawing.

**sár** 1. v.in. *ἤκω, reach, arrive*; by default refers to

the location most current in the discourse, likely where the speaker is; for other locations the lative directional suffix **-te** is used, possibly also with the translocative prefix **la-**, (**la**)**káásár mar'ááte** *we reached home*. 2. of celestial objects, *rise*; **mil hesártsi le'a** *and then the sun rose*. 3. with dep. verb, *come to, to eventually*, of intellectual, emotional or social attainments acquired over time, **teisár tetsmesyoŷe** *I came to understand her*.

**a. kiitssár** v.in. *return*.

**b. kóh-sár** v.in. *turn into, become, the target of the transformation takes -te*, **attáte kóhyosármé pa'ri** *he will become a father soon*.

**c. messár** v.tr. *decide on, select*; implies deliberation (cf. **líp**).

**saréi** see **aas**.

**a. saso** v.in. *be cold*; of weather, with **-na'a**; **he'asasots — kehiné mel soutákaaitto** *it's cold — give me a blanket*.

**satwí** com.part. *baffling; completely outside one's usual worldview*

**satsei** v.in. *to cough*.

**sáwi** num. *ten*. For the teens, it is **sáwil**, as in **sáwil teim** *eleven*, etc.

**saya'án** 1. v.in. *be simple, obvious, banal*. 2. of an idea or person, *naive*.

**a. X-próh saya'ánríi-se** with **-próh**, - (some day I will find an English word for this)

**se'á** n. *wind; air*.

**a. se'par** v.in. *have a cold*.

**b. se'á hekéintsi** idiom, *the wind howls* (lit., “sings”).

**se'ísáaré'é** n. *tornado*.

**se'kóuto'é** n. *quartz*.

**se'yomík** n. *flag, standard*.

**sei** adv. *not*.

**a. mo sei** idiom, *no*; used in answers rather than bare **sei**.

**seíknáá** v.in. *be nude, be naked*.

**séino** n. mercenary; commonly of anyone who follows on their own interests—especially monetary—at the expense of others.

**séipe** v.tr. threaten (not verbally), menace, endanger; see also **monséipe** under **mouno**.

**seirírí** ideo, for surprised pain.

**séít** (neg. stem **sénaméí**) v.in. die, often **la-séít**;  
a. **kóh-séít** v.in. to give up (in a fairly profound way).  
b. **kopséít** v.tr. drown (someone or something).  
c. **kopséítki** v.in. drown.

**séitol** n. death.

**seklíi** v.tr. bite, sting.

**sénaméí** negative stem of **séít**.

**sépaan** (sépa-) n. machine, engine.

**serwa** 1. v.tr. sharpen (a tool); **képe yonserwanats, sísiri sísiri** she was sharpening the blade. 2. v.tr. tune (a musical instrument or radio receiver). 3. v.tr. fix, shape up, bring back into a preferred state.

**siháán** v.in. to fail due to internal flaw or weakness (cf. **hátyou**); **paaíwaal rou hesiháantsi** the computer crashed again.

**síhour** com.part. touching on the speaker's pride, honor, dignity, sense of self-worth, etc.

**sii** 1. n. the prop noun for using (almost) bare numbers as nouns (§6.4). Used only with humans (cf. **wim**). 2. possessed, prop noun for independent possessive pronouns, **sei risii mo hón** he is not yours.

**siila** n.an. blood;

a. **siilki** v.in. bleed; prefers **-taak** to noun incorporation to locate source, **teiyé'siilki tsaataak** I started bleeding in my hand, my hand started to bleed.

**siilaais** n. vampire.

**síílam** n. cloak, any large article of clothing worn over other clothing for warmth.

a. **síílamtát** n. light jacket or sweater.

**síín** verb focus particle, follows a verb that has been fronted for focus; **te'ehákyáá síín ra'é** I heard

that.

**sím** v.in. turn, rotate; roll; things with which one uses “stand” usually use **yéím** instead of **sím**.

a. **símim** 1. v.tr. rotate something. 2. v.tr. affect, drive or motivate someone, especially of mental states, **nísakitis kí'ássímimtsi pá** tribal loyalty moves them.

**simélsimél** ideo. for a computer to be stuck, that is, locked in a loop or a bad network connection; in Ap-ple parlance, beachballed; **wé lahenátto — simélsimél helámtsi** damn this thing! — it's locked up.

**símwa** 1. v.in. be persuadable, be pliant. 2. slang, be “easy,” sexually available. 3. v.in. be turnable, be easy to turn or rotate.

**sirí** n. hair (on the head).

**sisáhaa** (< sáh) n. policeman, policewoman.

**sísiri** ideo. sharpening a blade, often repeated, **képe yonserwanats, sísiri sísiri** she was sharpening the blade.

**síwe** (ipfv. **síwerá**) v.in. flow, run (of liquid).

**-skiil** postpos. impaled on, stuck on; **hán niskiil ká'atsáapa** we cooked it on a stick.

**só'ei** 1. v.tr. to drink; **kahtsálii káákopsó'ei** we drank water from the river; 2. with **tsótsok**, gulp down, **hemki tsótsok yonsó'ei** he gulped down the beer.

a. **kiitshóksó'ei** v.in. be an (out)rage junkie, be in a snit (cf. **hóká, só'ei**).

b. **wimsó'ei** v.tr. to stare at one's beloved.

**sohkímwa** v.in. be stubborn.

**sóhte** num. seven.

**sók** v.tr. opine, be of the opinion, think; with object nominalization, opinion, **teisókwén** my opinion(s).

**solsol** ideo. drizzling, light rain.

a. **solsolmáá** ideo. drizzling, light rain, that has gone on for a long time; **awaró mar'áálii sei lateiló, óran solsolmáá he'alámtsi** I didn't leave the house today because it was rainy and dreary.

**son** v.tr. *promise, make an oath to*; person promised to is the primary object, thing promised is secondary, **wáarat yotásontsi** *she promised me freedom to act*.

**a. kóh-son** v.tr. *commit oneself to*.

**sonyéím** v.in. *forswear, break an oath*;

**a. sonyéímkaai** v.tr. *break an oath to, betray*.

**b. sonyéímwa** v.in. *be treacherous*.

**-sóp** postpos. *without, lacking, not having*.

**soptéí** 1. v.in. *be abandoned, be desolate*. 2. of ideas or culture, *intellectually impoverished*.

**a. wimsoptéí** v.in. *to be coming out of a romantic relationship*.

**soráán** n. *sarrane*.

**sóritori** n. *churn, upheaval*; also used as an ideophone.

**sorlo** n. *bread*.

**sóú** v.in. *be free* (in the political and social sense).

**a. hesóú ko'oukrá** idiom, *(their) junk is free*, idiom for any absurdly constrained definition of freedom (see **ko'oukrá**). With hearsay evidential, this is very sarcastic.

**sóuka** n. *spit, saliva*.

**soukesouke** ideo. *full to overflowing*; the primary sense is liquid, but can be used for any sort of overflowing fullness, including having eaten too much; **mól hááínyemóts** — **soukesouke** *they filled the cup to overflowing*.

**sóukkaairén** n. *kayfabe*.

**a. sóukkaairén naar** idiom, *engage in kayfabe*; **nísattá sóukkaairén hááínaarnats** *the patrons are engaging in kayfabe*.

**b. sóukkaai'aa** n. *someone engaging in kayfabe*.

**sóunka** v.in. *be sweet*.

**a. tei'ísóunka** v.tr. *flatter, cajole*.

**sour** 1. n. *man*. 2. n. *husband*, esp. if possessed.

**sourí** 1. v.in. *be raw, uncooked*. 2. of people, *be inexperienced*, with **-mo'ím** for the area of inexperience, **kolté onmo'ím yosouríts pá** *he knows little about plants*. 3. of ideas or actions, *be premature, be "half-baked"*. 4. of finance, *gross, before taxes and operating costs are factored in*.

**sourispo** v.in. *be sexually attracted to men*.

**-ssi'** intensive, *myself, yourself, -self*; see §3.3.3.

## T T T T T

**tá'á** 1. v.in. *to pant, from heat or exertion*. 2. v.in. *from. breathe with the mouth open*. 3. v.in. *be congested, have a stuffed up nose*.

**ta'ít** v.tr. *challenge or test a newcomer for position or status*.

**ta'óú** v.in. *defecate*.

**táá** adv. *where?*

**taai** 1. pospos. particle of asseveration *really, truly*; 2. with the future, intent; 3. with the optative, a very sincere desire.

**tááít** v.tr. *to go to someone for protection or help, seek sanctuary*; with **-ltik** for the thing needing defense

**taaité** n. *hawk*.

**tááítirwa** v.in. *messed up or dangerous beyond one's ability to cope with alone*.

**tááítyá** n. *(place of) sanctuary*.

**taakyo** v.tr. *order, arrange, lay out*.

**a. taakyot** 1. n. *arrangement*. 2. n. *list*. 3. n. *manifesto*.

**taakyot** 1. n. *order, arrangement*. 2. n. *grammar*.

**taal** v.tr. *strike, beat, hit*; **tsanna nimeh yoletaaltsi** — **lapen** *he hit himself with the hammer — thud!*

**táám** n. vulva, vagina.

**táapéhá** --.

**táár** v.tr. plan, intend, scheme.

**taaswe** 1. n. woman. 2. n. wife, esp. if possessed.

**taaswispo** v.in. be sexually attracted to women.

**táatik** ideo. of dripping sounds or motions.

**táátsitóts** ideo. of small things flying around in a cloud.

**take** n. bee.

**tál** (-ktáál) n. γέρας, (political) right.

**tamse** num. nine.

**tán(e)** pron. I.

**tanki** v.tr. hold or consider first, give advantage to, privilege.

**tápa** n. mountain lion, cougar.

**tapoul** 1. n. parsley. 2. n. tabouli.

**taraa'aais** n. elemental spirit, not unlike Japanese *kami*; in the plural, *elements*, especially of the weather or local conditions.

**taraai** (-ptaraai; in n. compounds taraa- or taraayo-) n. state, status, condition, health, weather; frequently incorporated element in describing weather and sometimes health; **wóséyat taraai hehiilolpan** running is good for your health, they say.

**taraakokla** see **kokla**.

**taré** v.tr. to call (to), beckon.

**tasin, tas'é** quant. all, every; **tasin katiinwaas yoháátsi** she's smarter than all of us.

**táttaai** n. eyass (unfledged hawk).

**tatki** n. feces, excrement; (cf. **poł**).

**táts** v.tr. spread a fork further apart, such as legs, or branches of a tree (cf. **lotna**).

**-te** directional to, towards.

**-te'éli** postpos. under the covers with; in cahoots

with.

**te'wí** adv. almost, nearly.

**tei'** 1. n. face. 2. n. stance or attitude toward something.

a. **tei'ítaas** v.in. perform an act to assert one's independence or identity.

b. **tei'lii** idiom face to face.

**tei'ímal'áái** see **mal'áái**.

**tei'ínorók** see **noró**.

**tei'íríik** see **ríik**.

**tei'ísóunka** see **sóunka**.

**tei'ítsaplim** see **tsapli**.

**tei'íyéim** see **yéim**.

**tei'íyoł** see **yoł**.

**téí'o** v.in. be wide, be broad.

**tei'oyemá** n. guest of an organization or in some formal capacity, such as an invited speaker, someone staying at a hotel, etc. (cf. **yémá**, which refers to friendly house-guests only).

**téih** n. straight woman.

**téik** n. vegetable.

**teim** num. one.

**teipto** v.in. to succeed; with instrumental applicative for the thing at which one succeeds.

**téír** 1. v.in. full, round; ripe. 2. of leaves, be in autumn colors.

a. **téirpar** v.in. attain one's aim, get what one worked for; with subject chaining, **ii sotéirpar so'omessáhye raaha?** did you learn the song (you were trying to)? with **-por** for nouns, **sei atspor yotéirparin** she didn't get what she sought from/about him.

**ték** v.in. be bold, be unafraid, be brave; be forthright.

**teknór** v.tr. cross, go across.

**tél** 1. v.in. to fit; to harmonize. 2. with **-próh**, to suit, be acceptable to.

- a. télaa** n. *insider*, a person who belongs to a group.
- tém** v.in. *goof off, play around*.
- temmi** n. *mint*.
- tenyé** v.in. *be lost at sea*; **hááiyé'tenyén** they were lost at sea (I hear).
- tép** n. *smoke*.
- a. téпки** v.in. *to (give off) smoke*; usually with motion preverbs, **ís-** for rising smoke, **la-** for smoke spreading out.
- b. téppar** v.in. *to smoke* (tobacco, etc.).
- tépyomoháái** n. *dustbunnies*.
- térka** 1. v.tr. *let fly, let loose, let go, drop, release; dismiss*; **apaai yontérkats kerem** she dropped the bowl — thud! 2. of trees, *drop leaves, esp. in the autumn*.
- a. térkak** v.in., of leaves, *fall*.
- b. ná-térka** v.tr. *let someone go*, in the sense of moving on from the loss of a relationship.
- terou** n. *sky*.
- tétsi** v.in. *be dried out; droop, be flacid, be floppy*.
- teyahtí** n. *sexual desire*.
- tí'a** n. *plant* (terrestrial or aquatic).
- tíkle** n. *snake*.
- tíí** v.tr. *approach, come near*; **áláái te'etíhte**, “tsop!” **waar helámtsi** I approached the pine, and “snap!” went the branches.
- tííno** v.tr. *live near, be a neighbor to*.
- timse** n. *sand*.
- timsolére** n. *pear* (cf. **lére**).
- tirta** v.in. *break* (in many pieces).
- tís** com.part. *causing impatience*.
- tó'o** n. *rule, custom, tradition*.
- a. aaiyotó'o** n. *tradition*, emphasizes the ancientness of practice.
- b. málító'om** v.tr. *impose a political or social regime on someone*.
- tó'olépe** n. *culture war*.
- to'pe** n. *spruce*.
- to'pose'á** n. *allergy; the conditions producing allergies*.
- tohkél** 1. v.in. *to not fit, be disharmonious*. 2. with **-próh**, *to not suit, be unacceptable to*.
- a. tohkélaa** n. *outsider*, a person who doesn't belong to a group.
- toké** v.tr. *rule, command*.
- tol** v.in. *smile*.
- tólap** n. *decorative or ornamental garden* (as distinct from **koltémíi**).
- tólaí** n. *hummingbird*.
- topaa** n. *goat*.
- topaayoláarou** n. *bagpipes*.
- tor** 1. n. *leaf*. 2. n. *tea*. 3. of books, *page* or a *sheet of paper* in general. 4. *computing, file*.
- tori'la** n. *bud of leaf or flower*.
- tórii** v.in. *be meretricious, seem good but lack substance*.
- tóriirén** n. *Crapification*.
- torolapri** n. *file system* (computing).
- toronísa** n. *non-hierarchical power* (cf. **hes'éiyonísa**).
- tospa** n. *road, path*.
- a. tospiyetí** v.in. *get lost, lose one's way*.
- tosparenaa** n. *dandelion*.
- totó** n. *frog*.
- touk** v.in. *to breathe*.
- a. touki'íméí** v.tr. *kiss* (cf. **méí**).
- b. toukit** 1. n. *breath*; 2. with the verb **saknó** (“flee”), *to lose consciousness, hesaknón toukit* he passed out (I hear).
- toulta** (-stoulta) n. *lord, master, tyrant*.
- a. toultak** v.in. *be arbitrary, be capricious; may use*

subject chaining, **káátoultak ká'amessárye** we were arbitrary in our decision, lit., “we were arbitrary (when) we decided on it.”

**tóúł** v.in. *be complete, be whole, be finished.*

**a. tóúłit** n. *finish, end, completion.*

**b. lastóúłit** n. *end, of any line-like thing, roads, queues, etc.*

**tóúłnéí** 1. v.in. *be cooked, be prepared.* 2. of people, *be knowledgeable.* 3. of finance, *net, after taxes and operating costs are factored in.*

**tóúpaai** n. *thorn.*

**tóúro** v.tr. *to have enmity toward, to be an enemy of; to hate.*

**tóúsentó** v.tr. *to scratch, specifically addressing an itch; with NI for the part scratched.*

**tóútsaai** v.in. *last a long time, persist, endure* (without any sense of suffering); uses subject chaining, **yotóútsaait** **yomaal** *he slept a long time.*

**tóúwaar** conj. *meanwhile, and in other news; topic discontinuity marker, both interruptions and the start of a new topic;*

**a. tóúwaar li** conj. *marker of incredulity, especially common as a question, ii tóúwaar li.*

**b. tóúwaar rou** conj. *anyway, resuming an interrupted topic.*

**-ttaan** postpos. -.

## Ts Ts Ts Ts Ts

**tsá** v.in. *be intoxicated, with NI for the cause, souhemkítsáts* *you're drunk.*

**a. kítpítsá** v.in. *be overwhelmed by a spectacle.*

**b. yártsá** v.in. *be in an internet-induced stupor, from overuse, etc.*

**tsa'tsa'í** *ideo. pins and needles.*

**tsa'né** n. *delusion, blindness, bewilderment, ἄτη.*

**tsaa** n. *hand.*

**tsaaha** n. *sir, ma'am, used only in direct address.*

**tsaai** v.in. *itch, be itchy; usually takes incorporated noun of the part affected, animate subject of the agent experiencer, teimálítsaai *my hand itches.**

**a. weri-tsaai** v.in. *to suck, in the colloquial sense.*

**tsaairó** 1. n. *(state of) ritual purity; often used metonymically for systems or practices of ritual purity; with -miits and the verb rá for being in such a state, hááírán tsaairómiits* *they're (ritually) pure; with ablative -lii for the opposite, tsaairólii káará* *we're not (ritually) pure; with sár reach for entering a pure state, and nimme depart for leaving, tsaairó*

**ká'animme** *we became impure.* 2. in a political context may be used, somewhat aggressively, to refer to excessive partisan zeal or devotion, *ideological purity.*

**tsáál** v.tr. *misuse; fail to appreciate.*

**a. la-tsáál** v.tr. *waste, fail to put to good use.*

**tsáám** v.in. *expensive, costly; hásitaa **matsáám** **tsi** *things are expensive in the city.**

**tsaap** 1. n. *manner, style.* 2. n. *dialect, idiom.*

**tsáapa** v.tr. *cook, prepare (food).*

**a. ís-tsáapa** v.tr. *bake* (cook with dry, indirect heat); **róhaa ískáásorlítsáapa'mé** *we'll bake the bread later.*

**tsáapal** n. *food which has been prepared (but see wot).*

**tsáatsne** adv. *suddenly.*

**tsaayen** num. *hundred.*

**tsák** v.tr. *see.*

**a. ís-tsák** v.tr. *approve, endorse; adopt (a person).*

**b. pitétsákit** n. *illusion, ἄτη, with a strong overtone of self-delusion.*

**tsaklei** v.in. vicious, cruel; implies less overt violence than **lekké**.

**tsál** v.in. be different; the comparand may be marked with the ablative, **-lii**, **wé ra'élii hetsátsi** this is different from that.

**tsalé** v.in. be old (of people only).

**tsaltsih** (tsaltsí-) n. jade.

a. **tsaltsih hetirta** idiom, the jade broke, referring to any self-inflicted loss of face, acts that result in public loss of status (see **tirta**).

**tsaneno** see **nenó**.

**tsanna** n. hammer; **tsanna nimeh yoletaaltsi** — **lapen** he hit himself with the hammer — thud!

**tsapa'** v.tr. talk about, discuss.

**tsapli** v.in. to smart, to sting; usually incorporating the body part affected.

a. **tei'ítsapli** v.tr. insult, demean, “dis.”

**tsappi** com.part. dilberto-machiavellianism, that is, power politics, especially of an incompetent and amoral variety (in any context, not only the office).

**tsatyem** v.in. be loud, be noisy.

**tséi** v.in. walk (with a destination); cf. **wé'ko**; **tsoromáá layotséíts** he walked away, acting suspiciously.

**tseik** v.tr. lack, be free of, be missing.

a. **X-tseikki** v.in., always with NI, have a craving for, be wanting, be in the mood for.

**tséipa** n. wolf.

**tséipyolapri** 1. n. wolf pack. 2. n. a group of young males, esp. if out carousing or otherwise cause for wariness.

**tséír** v.tr. heal; object may be a person or affected part, with NI more likely for part.

a. **la-tséír** v.tr. heal, cure, with the malady as object, **to'pose'á sei lahetséírtsi** it didn't cure the allergies.

**tseim** v.tr. destroy, ruin.

**tsekó** v.in. be absurd, be preposterous.

**tsekkít tsekkít** ideo. the sound of katydids in the night; **ról'o he'amaantsi li tsekkít tsekkít he'alámtsi** the night was humid and the katydids were making a racket.

**tsékró** v.tr. wipe, always with the filth as the direct object, **-lii** for what is being cleaned, **mar'áwimelii yoktsékrón** he wiped the windows.

**tsél** 1. n. scale, as in juniper leaves, or of fish. 2. n. flake, chip.

**tseł** (-rotsseł) n. mountain;

**tsełináá'é** n. volcano.

**tsém** v.tr. perform magic on; with person as object, enchant.

a. **pité-tsém** v.tr. display one's wares, of commerce only, with secondary objects the things being presented, **pitéyotátsém tor péte'yé** he showed me many teas.

b. **weri-tsém** v.tr. perform destructive magic on, more commonly “black magic.”

**tseméi** (tsemá-) n. garbage, refuse.

**tsén** n. spume; foam.

**tsepou** com.part. mercenary, done for gain without regard for consequences

**tserí** n. car, truck, van, any motorized vehicle except trains.

**tséya** n. tendon.

**tsí** (tsí-; in n. compounds, tsíyo-) n. air.

**tsii** v.in. begin, start; **káátsii kóhká'amiitsye** we started to study it.

**tsíila** n. breba (the season's first crop of figs which grows on the previous year's growth); idiomatically for any result of deliberate waiting or cultivation.

a. **tsíila hesártsi** idiom, come to fruition, of long-term plans that finally pay off.

**-tsiir** postpos. across, crossing.

**tsiktsi** v.in. yammer, babble, jabber.

**tsili** v.in. *small, little.*

**tsire** n. *body*; the incorporation stem is **-s(i)-** in public registers, and **-yá're-** in intimate registers; see §4.5.1.

**tsista** v.in. *to laugh*;

a. **tsistakaai** v.tr. *to laugh at.*

**tsittsikáái** n. *chipmunk.*

**tsitú** ideo. *the sound of piercing or stabbing.*

**tsiwaaspí** n. *cicada.*

**tsiyasla** (tsii'-) n. *drug, poison.*

**tso'o** n.an. *duck.*

**tsóhka** n. *buttocks*; incorporated into verbs of motion to humorously refer to careless movement or travel.

a. **li tátsóhka** idiom, *yeah, right! X, my ass!* a vulgar expression of dismissal, contempt or disparagement; may take augmentative or diminutive to lighten the tone somewhat.

**tsóhkák** (< tsák) v.tr. *be careless about, be thoughtless about, be inattentive to*; as a general statement with indef. obj., **yoktsohkáktsi pá** *he is careless.*

**tsoki** v.in. *be light (weight); be easy.*

**tsokkán** v.in. *be weak, submissive, humbled; be dejected.*

**-tsokwi** noun suffix, *former, ex-*; of objects, marks something worn-out or broken.

**tsolóú** v.in. *unexpected, unhoped-for, unanticipated.*

**tsól** 1. v.tr. *look at.* 2. v.tr. *take care of, look after.*

**tsomirá** n. *layer of leaves on the ground of a forest, or at least under a stand of trees.*

**tsommaai** n. *blueberry.*

**tson** conj. *rather than, instead of.*

**tsop** ideo. *for something bent to snap straight*, such as a branch or spring, **áláái te'etiíhte**, "**tsop!**" **waar helámtsi** *I approached the pine, and "snap!" went the branches.*

**tsóp** 1. v.in. *be straight, going directly to where one is heading.* 2. of plans, *be effective.*

a. **sei hááítsópin** idiom, *they are out of favor, i.e., people hold them in poor opinion.*

b. **tsópkaalke** v.tr., idiom in the negative *hold someone in low esteem or low opinion*, **sei yokattsóp-kaalken** *he has a bad opinion of us (I hear).*

**tsór'ei** (tsór'a-) 1. n. *pig.* 2. n. *pork.*

**tsoromáá** ideo. *suspiciously, behaving or acting suspiciously*; **tsoromáá layotséíts** *he walked away, acting suspiciously.*

**tsótaak** v.tr. *program a computer (to).*

**tsótsok** ideo. *make gurgling sound, gulping*, **tsótsuk yonsó'ei hemki** *he gulped down the beer.*

**tsóu'óú** n. *cucumber.*

**tsouk** v.in. *be dangerous, be a risk*, **sotáárwen he-tsouktsi** *what you intend is dangerous.*

**tsóuká** 1. v.tr. *send.* 2. v.tr. *send away, dismiss.*

a. **tsóukák** v.in. *depart on one's way home, set off homeward.*

**tsoukmou** n. *danger* (both the quality of being dangerous, and an actual threat).

**tsóún** v.tr. *sew.*

**tsóúri** n. *peace.*

**tsourse** n. *dragon.*

**tsówar** v.in. *be dry*; **Áláái heyé'tsówarnakoł. Rál lépiin helámtsi.** *The pine must be getting dry. The needles are falling.*

W W W W W

**wá'** v.in. narrowly avoid messing up or having a problem.

**wa'á** n. corpse.

**wa'íwo'aa** n. ghoulish; a literal, corpse-consuming ghost or monster; the more figurative sense is (ou)wa'ípaa'aa.

**wa'mek** n. courtier; suck-up, brown-nose.

**wá'riiye** com.part. with nostalgia, saudade, longing for something absent or unattainable.

**waail** v.tr. mix, combine, N-te with; **mil so'owaailto páya kopite** and then mix the honey with water.

a. **laáwaaiki** v.in. to mix together (always with adverbial prefix -laá-).

**waaimapyé** 1. adv. downriver, downstream. 2. of time, in the future.

a. **li hó'owa waaimapyé** idiom, (and) that's how it'll be in the future.

**waakou** (ipfv. waakourá) v.in. stay, remain; the location is typically not marked in any way, **howaakou'mé mar'áá** he will remain at home.

-**waal** nominal derivation suffix for tools and man-made artifacts.

**wáal** (-wáalé as final element of compounds) n. insect, bug.

**waanóú** n. spring (season).

**waar** 1. n. arm. 2. of a tree or bush, branch.

a. **ná-waar** v.tr. embrace, hug, almost always with -s(i)- incorporation.

**wáarat** n. free room, space to act; choices, options.

**waarolotna** 1. n. armpit. 2. n. puberty; (**rante**) **waarolotna hesártsi** s/he entered puberty.

**wáas** 1. v.in. bloom, blossom. 2. of leaves and leaf buds, open.

**waatre** n. rose.

**wakei** (wak-) 1. n. mouth. 2. n. entrance.

**waklaká** v.in. keep a secret, -naai about, concerning; **ra'é onnaai sei teiwaklaká'mé** I will not keep that se-

cret, lit., "I will not keep secret about this" (cf. **wakei, laká**).

**wakle'** n. lip.

**waliil** ideo. in an overdone manner, beyond what is necessary, implying wasted effort or being near to ruining something; always of beings with high agency; can be repeated for long-lasting actions; **ramáálta hááikmonnáásnats waliil** they always talk about things, jabber jabber jabber.

**walpe** n. oil, fat, grease, lard.

**walpoyéi** n. festival, holiday.

**walou** 1. v.in. be "rich," of food. 2. of soil, be fertile, be fecund. 3. colloq., be "sweet," in the colloquial use to signal approval, **ra'é paáwaal hewalouts!** that computer is sweet!

**walká** v.tr. torment, torture;

a. **la-walká** v.tr. torture, specifically with the goal of gaining information, with -s(i) incorporation.

**walkárwa** v.in. depraved, immoral.

**wán** adv., n. earlier today.

**war** num. four.

-**waraan** postpos. resembling, like, similar to.

**waríit** n. remit, legitimate privileges as well as obligations that come with a job or social role.

**wasaa'te** n. spoon.

**wáspé** v.in. be old (of things).

**wé** adj., prn. the usual, non-focused form of **hó'é** this.

**we'aamá** n. steam, fog, mist.

**wé'ko** v.in. walk (with no particular destination), wander; cf. **tséi**.

**we'wá** n. sphere, ball, often incorporated as a classifier.

**weikli** n. nape of the neck.

**wéíla** (wéi-) n. person, human.

-**wéin** postpos., adv. willingly, by the will or permis-

sion of.

**wéin(e)** pron. you (pl.).

**weir** v.in. *be ill, have a sickness*; instrumental applicative to say what one is sick with; **moháái yoweirkoł** — **mewaas kiit teilám** *the cat must be sick — I just stepped in something.*

**weirwa** v.in. *be contagious, be infected.*

**weihte** adv. *in vain, to no purpose, without effect.* There is no independent root \***wei**.

**wéiya'wéi** 1. adv. *here and there, back and forth.*  
2. of people working on a task, *carelessly, distractedly.*

**wék** v.tr. *catch, capture; win.*

**wektéi** n. *priest(ess); monk.*

**wél** (< **wén** + -l) n. *desire, want.*

a. **nopwél** n. *velleity, a desire for something without any impulse to acquire it; somewhat implies triviality, whimsey or laziness.*

**welé** v.in. *be young.*

**wele** n. *birch.*

**welko** 1. v.in. *made of or relating to birch.* 2. of people, *be adult but young, between the age of 20 and the mid-thirties.*

**wén** (neg. stem **pits**) 1. v.tr. *want.* 2. modal with dep. clause, *want to; te'ewén teilól* *I want to go.*

-**wer** 1. postpos. *in, into, within; mar'áá onwer herákoł* *it must be in the house.* 2. of the body, *on; tá'éik onwer hekíísits* *it's raining on my head.* 3. of people, *up to, under one's control, in one's power; sei ra' táwer heráts* *that is not up to me.*

**weriiko** 1. v.in. *of or relating to willow.* 2. of flavor, *be bitter.*

**werina'alípit** n. *fall-out, consequences of poor decision-making; (see líp).*

**weríwerí** ideo. *when something known to be crap behaves, against expectation, non-crappily; wé káhwe on-nela weríwerí helámtsi* *hey, this coffee tastes good!*

**werya** n. *willow.*

**wes** v.tr. *intend, have a purpose (to).*

**wéska** v.tr. *lure, trap, bait.*

**wet** n. *spider.*

**wétil** n. *sauce.*

**wetíhema** n. *wasp (lit., “spider-hunter”).*

**wetki** v.in. *weak, unsteady; hokta heyé'wetkin, li he'olá — **pouhóm!** *the wall became weak and finally — crash!**

**wets** v.in. *to shake, to tremble.*

a. **wetsríi-se** v.in. *to have a fever.*

**wíiki** n. *sparrow.*

**wíiko** v.in. *be brown.*

**wíl'a** n. *skin, bark; wrapping.*

**wiló** v.in. *stand out, be noteworthy.*

**wilówaal** n. *example, exemplar.*

**wim** 1. n. the prop noun for using (almost) bare numbers as nouns (§6.4). Not used in reference to humans (cf. **sii**). 2. possessed, *prop noun for independent possessive pronouns, sei riwim mo wé* *that is not yours.*

**wim'otnó** see **otnó**.

**wime** n. *eye.*

**wimka'yaas** see **ka'yaas**.

**wimmááíł** see **mááíł**.

**wimsó'ei** see **só'ei**.

**wimsoptéi** see **soptéi**.

**wimyol** see **yoł**.

**wiráái** 1. v.tr. *to mark; to sign (as in signature).* 2. v.tr. *make an impresson on.*

**wo** v.tr. *eat.*

**wo'kohni** see **kohni**.

-**wohkéin** postpos., adv. *unwillingly, without the permission of.*

**wokyaai** v.tr. *wound, injure.*

**-wol** postpos. *near, beside.*

**womyó** n. *rosemary.*

**worki** n. *door, gate, portal.*

**worop** v.in. *be rough, be shaggy.*

**wósé** 1. v.in. *run;* 2. of inanimates, *be fast; fre-*

quently used in verb incorporation this way.

**a. wóséríi-se** v.in. *rush, hurry.*

**wot** n. *food, generally anything edible (see tsáapal).*

**wowaal** n. *eating implement, specifically a fork or chop-sticks, most of the time.*

## Y Y Y Y Y

**ya** 1. v.in. *do so, do thus, anaphoric verb.*

**-yá're-** see **tsire.**

**yáá** v.tr. *hear; when hearing people, takes classifier incorporation, with háke (hák-) voice to focus on attention to the sound heard, and mes- (§4.5.3) to focus on attending to the meaning or message. Someone with an important message expects their audience to mes-yáá; hák-yáá would seem careless.*

**-yááh** enclitic, *at least*, marking the lower limit of a scalar value only. See §10.5.3.

**yaaí** n. *rite, ritual, ceremony.*

**yáái'no** v.in. *to back the losing side in a dispute; ramáálta teitsóyáái'no I always back the wrong side.*

**yaaiyoteyahtí** n. *sexual fetish.*

**yaal** v.in. *tear, rip (note transitivity).*

**yáh** 1. v.in. *be narrow, be thin.* 2. v.in. *be tight.*

**yakar** v.tr. *make it a point to, attend to.*

**yal** adv. *still, yet.*

**yál** 1. v.in. *be spoiled, be rotten (see also réitwol).* 2. v.in. *be stinky, smell badly.*

**yapáá** n. *marsh, swamp; yapáátaak pétei íitse hááíráts there are many mosquitos in the swamp.*

**yárhák** n. *cell phone (< yárhákláátsa').*

**yártsá** see **tsá.**

**ye** v.in. *to be, copula only; doesn't take imperfec-*

tive. But see **mo (§9.3.3).** And see also **rá**

**ye'é** prn.inan., adj.inan *what?*

**ye'éi, ye'éit** n. *whatchamacallit, thingie.*

**ye'taas** v.in. *to do what? kiit souye'taasye what did you just do?*

**yéi** n. *day.*

**yéim** v.in. *turn, turn aside; things with which one uses "sit" or "lie" use sím instead of yéim.*

**a. amááyéim** v.in. *commit a crime; with instrumental applicative to name a crime, ráánit yon'amááyéimkohin he committed a theft (I hear).*

**b. pité-yéim** v.in. *be obsessed, preoccupied with, with either incorporation or the instrumental applicative for the focus of the proccupation, either pitéyotsaairyéimtsi or tsairó pitéyonyéimkotsi he is obsessed with purity.*

**c. sááli'yéim** 1. v.in. *divorce, end a marriage; usually with plural subject hááísááli'yéimméim I hear they will be getting divorced.* 2. with singular subject and X-Itik, *get divorced from aaltik tesááli'yéim I divorced him.*

**d. tei'yéim** v.tr. *abandon, lose interest in (things, not people).*

**e. -wer yéim** v.in *come under someone's control; táronloupe atswer heyéimtsi my mind came under his control.*

**yéiyokaarim** n. *diary, journal.*

**yeile** n. *daughter.*

**yéle** v.tr. *wash, clean.*

**yémá** n. guest in someone's home. Note carefully the meaning of the derivations with **kaai** and **par**.

a. **yémkaai** v.tr. to invite someone to your home.

b. **yémpar** v.tr. to be a guest in someone's home.

**yemó** v.tr. fill, with **-meh** for material, **kopi nimeh te'eyemó** I filled it with water.

a. **yemók** v.in. be full, again with **-meh** for material, **hemki nimeh heyemóktsi** it's full of beer.

**yen** prn.an., adj.an. who, which, animate.

**yeráái** v.tr. take revenge on; with instrumental applicative for the cause, **áá tei'áhyerááíkoh** I took revenge on them on account of the cow; with benefactive applicative for a person, **tá'haaru tei'áhyerááílpa** I took revenge on them for my brother.

**yetí** v.tr. err, make a mistake, mess something up; refers primarily to actions (cf. **mókak** under **móka**).

**yétóu** v.tr. flood, inundate; **kíkyétóuna hó'wei** it's flooding here; **támar'áá kinyétóu** my house got flooded.

**yéts** v.tr. raise, bring up, rear, nourish.

**yo'** (ipfv. **yo'rá**, **yo'réi**) v.in. to sit.

**yohkoł** v.tr. be ignorant of/about.

**yolleile** n. children; descendents, always plural.

**yoł** 1. v.tr. know (sth.). 2. of social obligations and some mental states, recognize, acknowledge, grant; **ye'é hourol souyołye?** which side are you on? which party do you follow?

a. **háníyoł** v.tr. meddle in, interfere with.

b. **iktíyoł** v.in. follow a fad, follow fashion, be up to date.

c. **ko'wiyolki** v.in. "know one's place," in a social hierarchy; used for anyone in such a hierarchy, not just those low on the ladder.

d. **kóh-yoł** v.tr. forgive, **wéíła ne sei áye'lin kóhkáá'áhyołmé** we will never forgive some people.

e. **ła-yołki** v.in. self-lionize, to talk up or praise one's own character or virtue; of keyboard comandos, **ła-yáryołki** is the best form.

f. **mesyoł** v.tr. to understand a person.

g. **paalıyoł** v.tr. accept someone's epistemology or

manner of argumentation; **sei taai teiripaalıyoł** I really don't accept your (manner of) argument.

h. **tei'íyoł** v.tr. to know a person (cf. **tei'**).

i. **weri-yoł** v.tr. understand, usually by direct effort (cf. **paaitá**).

j. **wimyoł** v.tr. be "sweet on" someone.

k. **makkiitsyołne** idiom in retrospect, in hindsight, in reconsideration (< **ma-k-kiits-yoł-hte**). The indefinite subject **ma** may be replaced with an appropriate subject pronoun for the utterance.

**yóp** v.tr. accept, go along with; this root and derived forms may not take an animate object, **sei hááinyóppe teisókwen** they did not go along with me (my idea).

a. **kóh-yóp** v.tr. approve of.

**yóra** n. star.

**yórokél** n. milky way.

**yóramol** n. astronomy.

**yóramol'aa** n. astronomer.

**yórolourá** n. outer space.

**yortá** v.in. be happy, be joyous.

a. **yortákoh** v.tr. enjoy, with non-human objects only.

b. **ná-yortá** v.tr. like (a person only); **sei náyo-táyortákoł** she must not like me.

**yos** 1. adv. already, **yos yosár e'áána** maybe she's already arrived. 2. when used with **sei** not yet.

**youlo** n. son.

**yóúmar** (yóúm-; in n. compounds, yóúmo-) 1. n. tip, point, furthest point, extremity. 2. in instrumental NI by the handle, by the tip; in this use the notion of extremity may be absent.

**yóúmla'se** n. border (of a territory, possibly metaphorical).

**yóúmmóri** v.tr. manipulate or motivate an entire group by focusing on a few key members.

**yoús** v.tr. inhale, suck (up).

a. **tsaltsíyoús** v.in. to suck up, be obsequious, with benefactive applicative for the person one is suck-

ing up to.  
**yout** v.in. *to lie, tell an untruth*; often adverbialized

complement to a verb of communication, **yoyout-naan ra'é yorilámtsi pá** *he was lying when he told you that.*

## B. Monlári'é: Principles of Kahtsaai Semantics

**B.1. Kaai, Par and Roul, and Noró.** The verbs **kaai** *give*, **par** *receive* and **roul** *experience, suffer* are very common elements in compounds, combining freely with both nouns and other verbs.

**Kaai** has a wide range of uses, most of them idiomatic and a bit difficult to predict. But a few patterns can be seen.

With a few intransitive verbs **kaai** serves to add an animate object, as in **reilikaai** *to serve someone or a cause*, from **reili** *to serve* (in general), and **haalkaai** *to surrender to someone* from **haal** *yield, give way*. With transitive verbs also, suffixing **kaai** serves to promote the animate recipient of an action to a core argument,

**Ii yonlaatsmél ra'é?** *Will he remember that?*

**Ii sotslaatskaai'mél ra'é?** *will you remind him of that?*

Note that the secondary argument remains when transitive verbs take **kaai**.

With nouns, suffixed **kaai** means either that the agent produces the noun or uses it. These verbs are always transitive, **kalkaai** *to greet someone* from **kal** *“hello!”*, **kamtikaai** *tell a story to* from **kamte** *story, narration*.

**Par** and **roul** cover much the same semantic ground, with **roul** preferred for low- or no-control situations, with a strong implication that the subject of the resulting verb suffered a notable or salient disadvantage.

**Teiyé'se'par.** *I got a cold (of a normal sort).*

**Teiyé'se'roul.** *I got a cold (a bad one).*

The agent noun of compounds in **par** is irregular, **-paak** instead of the expected **-paraa**, **se'paak** *someone with a cold*.

Verbs in both **kaai** and **par** can form idiomatic extensions of meaning with **noró**, which also provides the usual reciprocal derivation of such verbs.

**Káá'áhkalkaai.** *We greeted them.*

**Káákalnoró.** *We greeted each other.*

**Tetsmonkaai.** *I talked to him.*

**Káámonnoró.** *We chatted.*

**B.2. Mál.** Though it means *foot*, when incorporated as an instrument **mál** quite often conveys the notion of political and social control. Even violence may be so indicated, though that sense is fairly marginal.

**B.3. Nísa.** In Kahtsaai the flow of political and social power and authority is a mutual experience — superior and inferior both give and receive **nísa**. Other words are used to mark status.

The transitive verb **níspar** means for one to join with a group in a **nísa** relationship, **yokatnís-parmé** *she will join us*. The agent noun **níspaak** refers to someone in such a relationship. **Laánís-paak** is someone with whom one is in such a relationship.

The noun **málonísa**, by virtue of the **mál** incorporation, defines a one-sided relationship, *enforcing a dependent or subordinate social or political status on someone*, and **málonísake**, someone locked into such a subordinate position.

**B.4. Taraai and Líire.** When incorporated into stative verbs, **taraai** *state, condition* marks the state as transient, while incorporating **líire** *grain, character* marks a more fundamental state or disposition. These are especially common in describing the personalities of people.

**B.5. Tei’.** The word *face* is used for notions of priority, being first or in the vanguard, as in **lááisa’yotei’** *gust front*, lit., “storm’s face,” the cool, strong wind that arrives just before a thunderstorm hits. See also the conceptual metaphor “Honor is the Face,” §C.1.

### C. Conceptual Metaphors

Various conceptual metaphors guide Kahtsaai idiom and expression. Some metaphors chain, which can lead to a wide range of possible expressions.

**C.1. Honor is the Face.** The word **tei’** *face* covers a wide range of meanings relating to one’s personal status and respect, not unlike the sense used in the phrase “lose face,” though that particular expression does not exist in Kahtsaai. For example, **tei’ísóunka** from **sóunka** *sweet*, means to flatter someone. The verb **mal’áái** *hate* refers to things, but when incorporating **tei’** it can be used of people, **hááitátei’ímal’ááikoł** *they must hate me*. **Tei’íke’li**, with **ke’li** *botch, screw up*, refers to publicly doing something embarrassing.

**C.2. A Plan is a Path.** Words relating to paths, roads and travel can be used with plans, processes and methods. The verb **tsóp** *be straight, going directly* is used with plans to mean *be effective*. The adverb **wéíya’wéí** has the core sense of *back and forth, hear and there* but with tasks it means *distractedly, carelessly*.

**C.3. States are Travelers vs. States are Destinations.** States may **tíí** *approach*, **sár** *arrive* or **nimme** *leave, depart from us*, or, completely oppositely, we may approach and leave states. The difference is one of control, with low-controls states reaching us, and us reaching states over which we have some control. For example, **tsaairó ká’animme** *we became impure* (lit., “we left purity”), but (**rante**) **hesártsi waarolotna** *s/he entered puberty* (lit., “puberty reached (him/her)”).

**C.4. The Eye Houses the Attracting Force of Love.** Somewhat similar to the European notion that the eyes are the gateway to the soul, in Kahtsaai **wime**, the eyes, embody the attracting force of the beloved on the lover: **wimyol** *be “sweet on” someone*, **wimsó’ei** *to stare at one’s beloved* (“drink the eyes”), **wimka’yaas** *fall in love at first sight* (“be struck by lightening from the eyes”), etc.

More abstractly, **sei kí’outsák atsmohkos** literally, *his spirit doesn’t see people*, but means “he is lonely.”

**C.5. The Passage of Time is Water Travel.** Near time may be expressed with terms relating to travel by rivers, such as **lóm'í** *upriver* which can be used to refer to past time, such as **lóm'í heráts ra'é** *that's upriver* meaning *that's in the past*.

Deep time is travel by sea or ocean. Things long forgotten can be **tenyé** *lost at sea*.

## D. Examples

**D.1. Conversation.** Some very basic conversational phrases and turns. This needs a lot more work.

<b>Kal.</b>	<i>Hello. Hi.</i> (Neither very formal nor very informal.)
<b>Ii riptaraai?</b>	<i>How are you?</i>
<b>Hehiil</b>	<i>I'm good</i> (lit., "it is good.")
<b>Wéhiiltsi.</b>	<i>I'm well</i> (lit., "things are good.")
<b>Ye'é saal?</b>	<i>What's up?</i> (lit., "what matter/business?")
<b>Awaróhte hetaraaláhmets.</b>	<i>The weather is bad today.</i>

**D.2. Quotations.** Quotes from various sources, probably too many from the works of Frank Herbert.

<b>Ripenket</b>	<b>wénséipehte,</b>	<b>mosla'se</b>	<b>má</b>	<b>sei</b>	<b>werisoupósetto.</b>
ri-penket	wé-n-séipe-hte	mosla'se	má	sei	weri-sou-póse-tto
2SG-life	3INAN.INDEF-3INAN-endanger-ADV,	theory	only	not	DOWN-2SG-trust-IMP.

*Do not rely only on theory if your life is at stake.*

— Bene Gesserit Commentary, *Chapterhouse Dune*

<b>Patsis</b>	<b>tékaa</b>	<b>kí'áhnotsnin.</b> (MP3)
patsi-s	ték-aa	kí-'áh-nots-nin
chance-SUBJ	be.brave-NMNL	3INAN-3PL-help-EVID

*Fortune favors the bold.*

— Latin proverb

<b>Kaaíké'étní</b>	<b>sei</b>	<b>ye'lin</b>	<b>manlaatsnin.</b>
kaaíké-'é-tní	sei	ye'lin	ma-n-laats-nin
suffice-NMNL-FOC	not	when	3AN.INDEF-3IN-remember-EVID

*The sufficient is never remembered.*

— Wm being cranky