

Kahtsaai

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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.

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	ɾ
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, **teiló'mé** *I will go* [te:.lóʔ.m'É].
- Double **ɾ, ɾ**, is pronounced [ɾ:].

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] [ɔ]	ou [u:]
		a [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, aa**. 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. **asríye + ko > *asríyko > asríłko** *modest*
- coda **-w** becomes **-h**, e.g. **áskowe + ko > *áskowko > áskohko** *naive*
- **hh** and **”** > **'h**, e.g. **heweyé'hípi** *it got very strange* < **he-wei-yé'-'ípi**
- **ll** and **łł** > **łł** [ɭ:]
- **y + i > ii**; the entire long vowel inherits the tone of the following /i/, so that ***yí > íí**; 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].
- At morpheme boundaries, **h + s > -ss-**, **yo'ássaím** *he hurried them* < **yo-'áh-saaí-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 §7.5.0.1).
- 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

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 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** (§8.3) 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.
- 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.	tán(e)	tá-
2sg.	rin(e)	ri-
3an.	atsne	aa-, ats-
3inan.	o'né	on- (oni-, ni-)
1pl.	katne	kat- (katii-)
2pl.	wéin(e)	wéi-
3an.pl.	áhne	áh- (áhíi-)
refl.	len(e)	le-

- 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.

3.3. Deixis.

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

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

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 (§7.5).

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*.

3.3.2. **Other Determiners.** Several determiners, mostly but not exclusively quantifiers, are marked for animacy like demonstratives. These follow the noun, or may be used as pronouns.

	Animate	Inanimate
some, a certain	laahkin	laahki'é
other	málin	mál'é
the same	kop	kopé
such	oyo'in	oyo'é
all, every	tasin	tas'é
many	pétei	péte'yé
some, any (amount, partitive)		ne

The three quantity determiners, **tasin**, **pétei** and **ne**, may be used with the others (see §8.1 for usage).

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

	Place	Time	Reason	Manner
this	hó'wei	hó'lin	hó'pas	hó'owa
that	ra'wei	ra'lin	ra'pas	ra'owa
which?	ye'wei	ye'lin	ye'pas	ye'owa
all	taswei	taslin	taspas	taswa

As with the demonstratives, prefixing **á-** to the question forms creates indefinites.

3.3.3.1. The adverbs of place (and time?) may take the directional suffixes. The base sense is locative, but the suffix **-taak** may be used anyway for effect.

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.

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

	Subject	Object	(Relative Object)
1sg.	tei- (te-)	-tá-	
2sg.	sou- (so-)	-ri-	
3an.	yo-	-ts-	ats-
3an.indef	ma-	-’ou-	
3inan.	(intr. he-) kí-	-n-, -ni-, -V’V-	ni-
3inan.indef	wé-	-k¹	ki-C, h-V
1pl.	káá- (ká-)	-kat-	
2pl.	was(i)-	-wéi-	
3an.pl.	háái-	-’áh-	
refl.		-le-	

- 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 third person inanimate **-n-** takes an epenthetic **i** before verbs starting with **r**, as in **yonirel** *I carry it* < ***yonrel**
- The “relative object” forms are used when a transitive verb takes subject nominalization (see §7.5, §8.12).

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

teiritsák <i>I see you</i>	tei’áhtsák <i>I see them</i>
wastátsák <i>you all see me</i>	wasittsák <i>you all see him</i>
háááksák <i>they see things</i>	hááiletsák <i>they see themselves</i>
kááritsák <i>we see you</i>	ká’atsák <i>we see it</i>
káwéitsák <i>we see you all</i>	te’etsák <i>I see it</i>
souló <i>you go</i>	maló <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.

¹But see §7.5.0.2.

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

3.4.3.2. Slot Two: Modals and Degree.

- **-’ił-** used only with negative, “must not” (see §8.10)
- **-lóú-** “must, have to” (compulsory obligation)
- **-sakke-** “should” (non-compulsory)
- **-not-** “be able”
- **-pewár-** “too (much), excessively”
- **-riim-** “try”
- **-ta’tá-** “completely, fully, utterly”
- **-tsít-** “a little, a bit”
- **-wei-** “very, very much;” **yowelóúkti** *he is very large*

3.4.3.3. Slot Three: Aspect.

- **-kiits-** versitive, “re-, again”
- **-kís-** “a little bit; for a little while”
- **-weíri-** reversitive, “un-”
- **-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: **-léi** (intransitive)
- Benefactive (and malefactive) applicative: **-(a)kpa**
- Instrumental applicative: **-koh**

The causative ending **-(i)m** is not used on bare transitive stem, however once a stem combination has been detransitivized by noun incorporation it may take the ending, as in **meskokłam** *be confused*, from **mes-kokłam** *mind-muddle-CAUS*.

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.*

Tettsáapakpa tso'o atsne. *I cooked the duck for him.*

Tetso'tsáapakpa. *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.

Hááíláálnats. *They were complaining.*

Hááínláálnats wé. *They were complaining about this.*

Te'ewimtsaaikikoh	to'pose'á.
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,

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

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

3.4.6.1. The imperfective affix **-na** combines with the adverbial clause suffix **-ne** to produce **-naan**.

3.4.7. Evidentiality and Mirativity.

- Direct: C-**tsi**, V-**ts**
- Hear-say: 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. Evidentials are generally not used when a first person pronoun is a core case, except for ironic purposes, **łateséitin** *I hear I've died*. They are also dropped with certain modal adverbs, such as **e'áána** *perhaps*.

3.4.7.2. 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. **Hekatłesó'nin layos** *the grave is waiting (for us)*, a saying to motivate people to action.

3.4.7.3. 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** (§9.4.2) 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: **-waał**

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 temaał. *I want to sleep.*

Te'ewén temaawaał. *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).***Łakáálaáló.**

ła-káá-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

he-yé-'án-tsi

3INAN-INCEP-hot-EVID

*This got hot.***wé.**

wé

this

Te'eyé'paaitána.

tei-n-yé'-paaitá-na

1SG-3INAN-INCEP-understand-IPFV

*I'm starting to understand (it).***Ii so'okórye**

ii sou-n-kór-ye

Q 2SG-3INAN-read-DEP

*Can you read that book?***ra' kaarim?**

ra' kaarim

that book

So'okórto

Sou-n-kór-to

2SG-3INAN-read-IMP

*Read that book!***ra' kaarim!**

ra' kaarim

that book

Hááínotmaats.

hááí-not-maa-ts

3PL-can-sleep-EVID

They can sleep.

4. Noun Incorporation

Kahtsaai uses noun incorporation for both lexical and pragmatic functions. Some uses often change the transitivity of the verb complex.

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, except to be very rude, and most motile animals are rarely incorporated except when discussing them as food: **káátso’wo** *we ate the duck*.

4.2. With Unaccusatives (Intransitive). Low-control, intransitive verbs may incorporate grammatical subjects, as in **hehánínáána** *the stick is burning*. Note that the subject prefix is still used in this situation.

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.

Yonmálinopin	ráwas.
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 detransitized 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 **-yé'ra-**, which has no unincorporated stem.

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

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

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

5. Postpositions

Kaahtsaa*i* 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 prefixes², **táhta** *with me*, **akpor** *wanting something*. As with possessed noun forms that begin with multiple consonants, some postpositions begin with a consonant cluster, and the longer possessive forms are used, **katiihtha** *together with us*.

5.1.1. With Nouns. Nouns don't take 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*.

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

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?*

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

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

The plain suffixes are most often used in clauses. The attributives are used when a location or postpositional phrase is used attributively (§8.1.1).

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. **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).*

5.2.2. **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 §8.13).

5.3. **List of Postpositions.** 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 łateiló. *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 tsonmaai 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**.

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

5.3.5. **-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.

5.3.6. **-ta'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

5.3.7. **-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 wordy stylistic variant.

5.3.8. **-mo'ím**. This means “before, in front of.”

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

5.3.10. **-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.

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

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

5.3.13. **-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.”

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

5.3.15. **-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.

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

6. Numbers and Time

Kahtsaai has a simple base ten number system.

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

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 piilirós** *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, **óuri** *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**.

Ye’wei hááirál tá’heiri? *Where are my sisters?*

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

7. Word Building

7.1. 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).

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

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

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

7.1.3.1. 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*.

7.1.4. -(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*.

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

kopraral <i>cry-baby</i>	kopra <i>tears</i>
leitral <i>coward</i>	leit <i>to fear</i>
ipiral <i>wierdo</i>	ipi <i>strange</i>

7.1.6. -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 **sílamtát** *light jacket or sweater* from **sílam** *cloak*.

7.1.6.1. 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.

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

7.1.8. -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.

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

7.1.10. -yettsé. Pejorative.

7.2. Noun-building Affixes.

7.2.1. **-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*.

7.2.2. **-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*.

7.2.2.1. This is the normal agent noun formation from compounds ending in **par**, instead of **-(')aa** (§7.5).

7.2.3. **-(i)rén.** This suffix produces a noun describing a complex system of or relating to the derived

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

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

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

7.2.6.1. With transitive verbs this suffix covers some of the same ground as verbs in **-wen** (§7.5.1). The suffix **-(i)t** produces nouns of a generic character, while nominalizations in **-wen** are generally specific or concrete.

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

7.2.8. **-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*.

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

7.2.9.1. 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*.

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

7.2.9.3. 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*.

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

7.3.1. **-’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*.

7.3.1.1. May be used with agent nominalizer, **amáá’áálisaa** *a lawless person*, **sir’áálisaa** *a bald person*.

7.3.2. **-’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.

7.3.2.1. As with **-’áális**, verbs derived with **-’íil** readily take agent nominalization, **toulti’íilaa** *someone with a master*, **tsa’ní’íilaa** *someone having or suffering from a delusion*.

7.3.3. **-kaalke**. Attached to nouns or stative verbs this suffix creates a transitive verb meaning “consider X, consider to be X, treat as an X,” **hááitáróurkaalke** *they think I’m an idiot*.

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

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

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

7.3.6. **-(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:

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

7.3.7. **-sii**. This suffix is attached to nouns giving intransitive verbs meaning “like, resembling” the noun.

7.3.8. **-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*.

7.3.9. **Valency Marker**. A noun is promoted to a verb immediately when taking either the causative or detransitive suffix.

7.3.10. **Intensives**. Verbs that end in a consonant double that consonant and suffix **-éín**, as in **mattéin** *be malevolent* from **mat** *bad*. Verbs that end in a vowel suffix **-’séín**. Intensives tend to be highly lexicalized and idiomatic.

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

7.4.1. **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).

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

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

7.4.4. **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.

7.5. **Nominalization.** The most basic agent nominalizers are **-(')aa** for animates and **-'é** for inanimates. These form many lexical items from verbs or NI-verb complexes. For example, **hání-náá'é** *candle, torch, flashlight* (< **hán** *stick* and **náá** *to burn*). This mechanism is also used in relative clauses (§8.12).

7.5.0.1. 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**).

7.5.0.2. 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'li**.

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-tíino'aa** *our neighbor*, literally, “one who is a neighbor to us.”

7.5.1. **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*.

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

Teklámikyaanis

tei-k-lám-kyaan-s

1SG-3INAN.INDEF-speak-NMNL.way-INAN.NOM

The way I speak irritates them (I hear).

kí'áhkaalin.

kí-'áh-kaal-in

3INAN-3PL-annoy-EVID

7.6. **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*.

7.6.0.1. 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*.

7.6.1. **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*.

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

7.6.3. **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, **tsełyomar'áá** *mountain home, vacation home* when possessed is **áhirotssełyomar'áá** *their vacation home*.

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

Káákséítsapa'na

káá-k-tséi-tsapa'-na

1PL-3INAN.INDEF-walk-discuss-IPFV

We were talking while walking.

Unaccusative verbs are not used this way except to create new lexical entries. Unaccusatives are generally adverbial adjuncts in **-ne/-hte** (§8.16).

7.7.1. **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.

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

Yotáseklıiitaalłom

yo-tá-seklıi-taal-łom

3SG-1SG-sting-strike-throw

The snake struck at me.

tíkle.

tíkle

snake

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

Hekíisiłomtsi.

he-kíisi-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.

7.7.1.1. 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.

7.7.1.2. Irresultatives are not negated.

8. Syntax

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

Deixis Noun Determiner Quantifier, Number

Examples:

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

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

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

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

Yomaanats mar'áateim sour. *The man at home is sleeping.*

Hispaniyaliyom taaswe *the woman from Spain.*

The attributive phrase will always precede the noun.

8.1.1.1. Postpositions can be used the same way, but do require some directional suffix. Where no motion is involved, the default is **-teim**,

táte'éliteim moháái *the cat under the blankets with me*
támar'áá onmo'imteim tospa *the road in front of my house*

8.2. **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 ats-mar'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 ats-mar'áa
1SG-father 3SG-house
my father's house

8.3. **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, **yetsitsák mo taaswe maháái** *the woman saw the cat*.

8.3.1. **Subject Focus.** The particle **mo** is used in unambiguous phrases to focus the subject (but see §9.5.1).

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

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

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

Kirááni'aa	mo	kaahtsápi.
k-rááni-'aa	mo	kaahtsápi
things-steal-AGT	mo	rabbit

The rabbit is a thief.

The copular verb **ye** will reappear if mood or evidential marking is necessary.

8.3.4. 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.*

8.4. 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.

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

Ye'pas tán táltik hááitséil? *Why did they walk away from me?*

8.4.2. Pronouns with Directional Suffixes. In comparisons (§5.2.1.1) 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.*

8.5. 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. In most verbs, 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 it to him.*

8.5.0.1. 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).

8.6. 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.

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

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

8.7. Negation. Simple negation is marked with the adverb **sei**.

8.7.1. Negated Verb Mood. In a negated main clause, if the verb is not marked with an evidential then it will be marked dependent:

Sei yonyółtsi. *She doesn't know.*
Sei te'eyółye. *I don't know.*

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

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

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

8.8.1. 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?*

8.8.2. 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.

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

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

8.8.4. 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 tsoki'mékoł ra'é? *I wonder if that'll be easy.*

8.9. Verb Agreement and Valency.

8.9.1. 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.*

8.9.2. 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.*]

8.9.3. 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.

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

8.10. 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'ilłól. *You must not go.*
Sei łasou'ilłól pá. *You should not go.*

8.11. 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).*

8.11.1. 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,

Tei'ássitsák	hááímorlaainał.
tei-áh-si-tsák	hááí-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,

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

8.12. Attributive Nominalization and Relative Clauses. The lexical nominalization markers (§7.5) 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.*
Łasotsitsákke 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.

8.12.1. 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.

8.13. 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** (§8.16).

8.13.1. -taak. “While, during,” with imperfective.

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

8.13.2. -miits. This has the sense “as long as,”

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

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

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

Hó'wei	teiwaakou'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.

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

Hó'wei	teiwaakouwaal	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.

8.14.1.3. 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*.

8.15. 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.

8.15.1. 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.

8.16. 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.

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

8.16.2. 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: **Łayolól 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.

8.16.3. 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 -hte	Clause
<i>Future</i>	Clause in future -hte	Clause in future
<i>Hypothetical</i>	Clause in optative -hte	Clause in optative
<i>Contrafactual</i>	Clause in cf. -hte	Clause in cf.

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

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

Such clauses may also take the usitative in the apodosis,

Hekísihte, **tewaakouhar** **mar'áá.**
 he-kíisi-hte tei-waakou-har mar'áá
 3INAN-rain-ADV 1SG-remain-USIT home
When/if it rains I (usually) stay at home.

9. Discourse

9.1. 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.

9.2. Definiteness. The pre-verbal position holds new, indefinite information and known, definite discourse topics follow the verb. Note:

Sour tetssítsákna. *I see a man.*

Tetssítsákna sour. *I see the man.*

9.3. 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.

9.3.1. Topicality. The most topical or salient element in a discourse will get the proximal demonstrative (**hón, wé**), and all others³ will get the distal (**ran, ra'é**).

9.4. 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:

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

9.4.1. Li. Different from the conjunction **li** *and*, this particle 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.*

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

Prosodically, this **li** is pronounced with the word it follows, while the conjunction is pronounced with the word it comes before.

9.4.2. 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.

Yoróurkommér	lop!
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.

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

9.4.3.1. 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.*

³In Algonquian languages this is called the “obviative.”

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

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

9.4.6. **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 §8.10).

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

9.4.8. **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.*

9.4.9. **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.

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

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

9.4.9.3. With the evidential **-koł**, **taai** marks a supposition or an inference in which the speaker is quite confident.

9.4.9.4. 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.

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

9.5.1. **-(i)tní.** Focus particle for nouns or nominalized elements only. Verbs use **síín** (§9.4.8).

9.5.1.1. Verb subjects are more often focused with the particle **mo** (§8.3). A subject marked with **-(i)tní** carries the sense of asseveration or confirmation, “truly, really, indeed.”⁴ In this sense, **mo** and **-(i)tní** are often used together.

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

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

⁴This, 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.

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, mohááíhap** *oh, (it's the) cat.*

9.6. 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.

- **asaal** to the speaker's disadvantage
- **atóú** finesse, done with excellence
- **het** faddish, hyped, current likely transient
- **iyé** amorous interest or intent
- **kóhá** "so-called," purporting to be one thing but not really
- **kou'ára** interpersonal marker, indicating that the audience is a colleague or comrade with the speaker in some state of affairs or undertaking
- **láái** about which nothing can be done
- **liin** to the speaker's advantage
- **ner** -
- **rowi** cultivated nonsense, opportunistic skepticism, bullshit, theoretical delirium
- **satwí** baffling; completely outside one's usual worldview
- **síhour** touching on the speaker's pride, honor, dignity, sense of self-worth, etc.
- **tís** causing impatience
- **tsappi** dilbert-machiavellianism, that is, power politics, especially of an incompetent and amoral variety (in any context, not only the office)
- **tsepou** mercenary, done for gain without regard for consequences

9.6.0.1. Examples:

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

Yoklámnats	tís.
yo-k-lám-na-ts	tís
3SG-3INDEF-speak-IPFV-EVID	PRT.causing,impatience
<i>He's still talking!</i>	

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).

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 n. *bovine, cow, bull.*

áa'epé interj. *holy crap!*

aahpé n. *viscera, "guts."*

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

áál n.an. *seed.*

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

aamné v.tr. *weave.*

ááni adv. *lately, recently.*

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

-'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.*

ákwí v.tr. *sanction, punish.*

aló --.

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

amááyéim see **yéim**.

án v.in. *be hot* (of the weather).

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

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

áskohko v.in. *be naive.*

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

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

asríye n. *temperance, decorum.*

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

attá (-ttá) n. *father.*

awaró adv., n. *today.*

E E E E E

e'áána adv. *perhaps, maybe*; usually inhibits evidential marking.

éi n. *tree.*

eí part. post-sentence question particle. Collo-

quial, and in verbless questions.

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

éik n. *head.*

eiri (-'heiri) n. *sister*.
éiyomoutit n. *syrup; sugar*.
eľnaan adv. *yet, nonetheless*.
éľtsi n. *tisane*.
 a. **éľtsim** v.tr. *brew, steep*.
éméi n. *future*.
emmé (-mmé) n. *mother*.

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); **heľááisakoľ éspinlii** *the storm has turned*.
eyá' n. *acorn*.

H H H H H

-háá' postpos. *in exchange for, (in payment) for*.
haal v.in. *yield, give way, surrender*;
 a. **haalkaai** v.tr. *surrender to, give way to*.
 b. **haalló** see **ló**.
 c. **haalpekki** see **pek**.
háát v.in. *be intelligent, smart*.
háke n. *voice, of human or animal; of non-living things, sound, noisy in general*.
hakóú n. *chaos, confusion, disorder*.
haľte n. *baby, infant*.
haľtotsa' n. *woman, a rather rude word used when speaking of those groups who deny women full agency*.
háľtsi v.in. *be exhausted, be used up*.
hamsa n. *lake, pond*.
hán n. *stick; often classifier for long, thin things*.
 a. **hánim** v.tr. *to stake something, such as a plant*.
háníyoľ see **yoľ**.
hapka n. *substitute; man or woman someone has an affair with*.
hárkí n. *last day of the month*.
harwá n. *gay man*.
hási n. *city, town*.

hátyou v.in. *to fail by being overwhelmed* (cf. **siháán**).
he'olá adv. *finally*.
heí'á n. *vein, artery; sinew*.
heilo n. *trace of previous existence, footprint, impression, memory; history*.
hem v.tr. *pursue, hunt*.
hém v.in. *snow*.
hemki n. *beer*.
hemkitsrí n. *tavern, bar*.
hér v.tr. *ask (a question, about)*.
hesé n. *back (of a body)*.
het com.part. *faddish, hyped, current likely transient*.
hi'yél n. *glass*.
hiil v.in. *be good*.
hiiste v.in. *sulk*;
 a. **taraahiiste** v.in. *sullen, moody*.
hil n. *garlic*.
hiskou v.tr. *abandon*.
hó'owa adv. *thus*.
 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 prn.an., adj.an. *this*.

hóká n. *fire, flame*.

hókkiitssó'ei v.in. *be an (out)rage junkie, be in a snit* (cf. **hóká, só'ei**).

hokta n. *wall, barrier*.

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.

hókyowáal n. *firefly*.

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

hour 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, yokatlíismét** *I nominate Bob to lead us*. **3.** of a party, *hold or have a party*, **hááínhourimmé atslákiityolaáka** *they will have his birthday party*.

hóus v.in. *yell, shout*.

-hta postpos. *with, accompanying*.

-hte adverbial adjunct suffix after vowels (cf. **-ne**)

I I I I I

ii clause-initial question particle.

ítse n. *mosquito*.

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

iktíyoł see **yoł**.

im conj. *or*.

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

ípaaru n. *cousin (male)*.

ípeiri n. *cousin (female)*.

ípi v.in. *be strange*.

iriki n. *rat*.

isáá n. *bird*.

itkéi 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 v.in. *to lightening*.

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

kaahoméma n. *clay*.

kaahopér n. *coffin*.

kaahtsápi n. *rabbit*.

kaai v.tr. *give*.

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*.

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 minor 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.

káhkapi v.in. θλάω

kahtsá n. river.

kahtsowaal n. canal.

kahtsowaar n. tributary.

káhwe n. coffee.

kal n. greeting; may be used by itself as a greeting;
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.

kamáái v.tr. to fight, to battle.

kamlaai n. horse.

kamte n. story, narration

a. kamtíkaai v.tr. tell a story to.

kanón v.in. be ready, be prepared;

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

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.

kats n. object, thing.

ke'li v.tr. botch, screw up.

a. tei'ike'li v.in. do something embarrassing publicly.

ke'hirwa v.in. be incompetent.

kehiné n. blanket.

keil n. soldier, fighter.

keilo'éik n. poppy.

kéif v.tr. be equal to (a task), be a match for (in ability).

keityém --.

kel v.in. happen, occur.

kelwa v.in. be potential, be possible.

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

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

keltin (kelti-) 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.

képé n. shard, spike, blade; knife.

a. képyout v.tr. shave; (cf. **yout**).

képyonal n. obsidian; obsidian blade.

kér n. want, privation; poverty.

keráái n. witness, as a deliberate role, not an accidental witness to an incident.

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.

kíhi conj. but.

kii' n. regime, world(view), school (of thought, art, philosophy, etc.).

kii'fsekti v.tr. *poke or prod at matters someone cares about to elicit a response, a.k.a., trolling.*

kíisi v.in. *rain.*

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

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

kíltíirit n. *daddy longlegs (Opiliones).*

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

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'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'wiirén** n. *social or economic class.*

b. **málíko'wiim** v.tr. *impose or assert prerogatives over someone else.*

ko'wiyolki see **yol**.

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.*

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.*

kóhtsa n. *fear and anxiety in response to sudden and uncertain social or political developments.*

kóhtsílatoú'é n. *the sudden hush that comes over a conversation when an unexpected person approaches and one is uncertain of their loyalties.*

kókka n. *squash.*

kokla v.tr. *muddy, cloud, muddle.*

a. **meskokla** v.tr. *confuse (someone).*

b. **meskoklam** v.in. *be confused.*

c. **lakkokla'aa** n. *an agent of bullshit; propagandist.*

kóktéi v.in. *be poor; be in misery; máámkóktéi* for clarity about being poor physical wealth (v. **máámo**).

kól v.in. *be long, be tall.*

kolté v.tr. *plant.*

a. **koltémii** n. *garden.*

kónyaá! interj. *wow!, holy crap!, crap!, marking surprise, usually unwelcome.*

kop, kopé det. *the same.*

kopi n. *water; often used in classifier NI to indicate liquid direct objects, tor yonkoptsaapana* *he's preparing tea.*

kopkohni see **kohni**.

koppíkoppi ideo. *of provoking, button-pushing or provocative behavior; can only refer to people.*

kopra n. *tears.*

a. **kopríkaai** v.tr. *cry (about, for).*

kopyopér n. *boat.*

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 com-*

munity as exercising that force.

kosó v.in. *be (on the) left (side).*

kótar n. *a burly man.*

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

kótra v.in. *thunder.*

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

kotswe n. *shelf, cupboard, cabinet.*

kotswola'se n. *stairs.*

kóú n. *source, origin, wellspring.*

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.

kóú'wa (kó'-) n. *fish.*

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

kouté (-kyouté) n. *penis.*

kóuto v.in. *freeze; gel, congeal.*

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

kóutokíísi v.in. *sleet.*

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

koyoł n. *coyote.*

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lá'ei v.in. *open.*

lá'kí 1. v.in. *be stagnant, be foul(ed) (of water).* 2. *of people, intellectually stubborn or isolated.*

láá v.in. *be far, be distant.*

laahkin, laahki'é 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 for cause of complaint.*

laari n. *flower, bloom.*

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. *stop, cease.*

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

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

weather, bad.

laká v.tr. *bind, tie.*

a. níslaká v.tr. *be loyal to.*

lákii v.tr. *give birth to.*

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

lám 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. tetslám wé I said this to him.*

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

lamó' n. *news, report; fame.*

a. lamó'íkaai 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.*

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

lári v.tr. *mean, signify.*

las- classifier noun, marking long, thin and floppy

things.

lastóúfit see **tóúf**.

látne n. *necessity; compulsion.*

a. **ládne** v.tr. *compel (someone).*

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

a. **málfatouk** v.in. *self-censor.*

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

a. **hekatlesó'nin layos** 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, hó'heléts tsoukmou there is (imminent) danger.*

le'sóu v.tr. *wear away at, abraid.*

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

léilkáál n. *carrot.*

léikou v.in. *be insipid, have little flavor; be dull, boring.*

leis v.tr. *seek, search.*

lekté v.tr. *save (from harm).*

lél v.tr. *search for.*

lemya v.in. *function (properly), "work."*

lépe n. *war.*

lepyar n. *thyme.*

lére n. *apple.*

les v.in. *move.*

a. **lesit** 1. n. *movement.* 2. n. *movie.*

¹**li** conj. *and.*

²**li** postpositive discourse particle, *marks a general truth.*

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.*

ló 1. v.in. *go, come; except in certain idioms, this will always have a directional affix either on the noun or a preverb.* 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.*

lokkat v.in. *be pliant to power, susceptible to corruption or bribery.*

lokróú n. *feather.*

lómme n. *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.tr. *have the smell of; usually takes incorporated noun.*

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. **lóttyoŋ** v.tr. *thank, person thanked is core argument, the thing thanked for is secondary, yorilóttiyóŋtsi kaarim he thanked you for the book.*

lopto n. *finger.*

-lóú- 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.*

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

łosteí v.tr. *divide, portion.*
a. łosteít 1. n. *division, portion.* 2. n. *meal.*
łotóma n. *tomato, fruit and plant.*
łotómárei n. *pizza.*
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 wéíla 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, **kati-łta'áki hááíwósériiits** *they rushed to (the group of) us.*

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má adv. *only, just, merely.*
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.*
maa v.in. *sleep.*
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.*
maai'ó v.in. *fly.*
maaik v.in. *be firm, hard, rigid.*
mááił v.tr. *regret, repent.*
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.*
máámo n. *wealth, riches.*
maan v.in. *be humid;*
a. rikmaan v.in. *be humid and hazy.*
maapér n. *bedroom.*
maáse n. *amber.*
maatri n. *basil.*
maatsákki v.in. *dream.*
mahéi n. *bullshit, exalted nonsense.*

mahti v.tr. *cover.*
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).*
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.*
málin, má'é det. *other, another.*
małke n. *underwear.*
mám switch reference particle for different subject.
mar'áái n. *home, house; family.*
maráái v.tr. *be anxious about, worry about.*
márei n. *circle, cycle; year.*
márei'la n. *season.*

maro n. music.

marí v.in. *be probable, be likely; uses subject chaining (§8.11.1).*

masaa n. deer.

masaayo'úi 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 v.in. *be beautiful.*

mé v.in. *appear, become visible or otherwise apparent to one of the senses*

mei v.in. *be (on the) right (side).*

meí v.tr. *φιλέω, be a friend to, be friendly with.*

meir n. tongue.

mel particle marking situational or narrative integrity, *as expected, indeed, (and) so; tends to fall in Wackernagel position (cf. lak).*

méma n. mush, goo, powder.

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. képé).*

meskokła see **kokła**.

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**.

messár see **sár**.

messímim v.tr. *persuade.*

metssi n. liquor.

metyek (-hmetyek) n. *medectasia.*

meyá v.in. *be forbidden (access), be either holy or blessed, or cursed. 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.*

miits v.tr. *cultivate, grow;*

a. kóh-miits v.tr. *study, especially focused, long-term study of a single thing (cf. mos).*

miittséin v.tr. *collect resources intensively; colonize;*

a. miittséinyá n. *colony.*

mil conj. *and then.*

-mmaal postpos. *because of, on account of.*

mo 1. part. subject focus particle. 2. with negative, **mo sei** *no, it's not, he doesn't*, etc. Used instead of bare **sei** in an answer.

-mo'ím postpos. *before, in front of.*

moháái n. *(domestic) cat.*

mohko n. *vital spirit; emotional, instinctual mind, anima.*

móka v.tr. *deceive, trick.*

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 v.tr. *change.*

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.*

mos v.tr. *investigate, study.*

mós adv., n. *tomorrow.*

mossi n. *computer mouse.*

mots switch reference particle for same subject.

motsrou v.in. *be heavy; be difficult.*

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).*

móuro n. *incense; móuro 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.*

mout v.tr. *“juice,” extract liquid from something; 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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náá v.in. *burn, be on fire.*
a. náám v.tr. *burn (something); móuro 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.*

-naan combination of imperfective **-na** and adverbial adjunct **-ne**.

naar 1. v.tr. *touch; undertake, engage in.* 2. of musical instruments, *play.*

nááít v.in. *be highly-wrought, detailed, complex; of people, “high-maintenance.”*

náás v.tr. *gather, collect.*

náhke n. *wing.*

nakí v.in. *be pleasant, be agreeable; of people only*

(cf. **kapei**).

nal n. *stone, rock.*

nárta v.tr. *to shade;*
a. náarta'é n. *shadow, shade.*
b. náarta'étaak matóú'é proverb *beauty in the dark, descriptive of exalted nonsense.*

náséi v.tr. *to comfort; to make safe.*

nát v.in. *fall (free fall in gravity).*

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.*

nemyó v.in. *be out of season; occur at a bad time.*

ner com.part.

newe v.in. *labor, work.*

newe'márei n. *career.*

ni vocative particle, comes before the name, relationship or title noun.

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. **la-níí'** v.tr. *sell; late'eníí'mé rihta I will sell this to you.*

b. **kóh-níí'** v.tr. *buy; kóhte'eníí'mé rihta I will buy this from you.*

nim n. *container, vessel.*

níír v.tr. *kill.*

nik v.tr. *be of interest to, matter to.*

nimme v.tr. *leave; abandon.*

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.*

nísakit n. *tribal, in-group loyalty.*

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;*

a. **yé'sinokéí** v.in. *enter puberty.*

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.*

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'ínorók** v.in. *be "naval-gazing," become preoccupied with one's own activities in an abstract way.*

nots v.tr. *help; yotánotsmé ká'ayoutye he will help me fix it, lit. he will help me, we will fix it.*

nóum v.tr. *find, discover.*

nóúr v.in. *fine, subtle, delicate.*

-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.*

ó'ya *adv. now.*

oké *n. breast.*

ol *n. oak.*

oráá *v.tr. to excite desire in someone.*

a. loup'oráá *v.tr. to interest someone, to be interesting to someone.*

óran *conj. because.*

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 *n. fruit.*

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.*

óts *particle marking incredulous disparagement.*

ouhti *v.in. empty, vain, μάταιος.*

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.*

pa'ri *adv. soon.*

pá'uu *v.in. dig.*

paa' *v.tr. poke, jab; "bug" or pester someone, often with mon- word incorporated for this sense.*

a. oupaa'aa *n. jerk, asshole.*

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, so'opaaítákohtsi kaarim het you (merely) know this from a book.*

paák *n. web, net.*

paalípek *see pek.*

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. worm.*

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. paprám *v.tr. grind (up).*

papti *n. cave.*

par *v.tr. accept, receive.*

patsi *n. chance, luck.*

páwí **1.** *v.in. decrease, diminish, fade, wane.* **2.** *of the sun, moon and other celestial objects, to set.*

páya *n. honey.*

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).

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.

pél v.in. lie (in a place).

péléí v.in. be strong.

penke v.in. live, be alive.

penkit n. life.

pér n. room, small building; used in compounds for things constructed to contain a person.

pétei, péte’yé det. many.

petrik n. salt.

petssí v.in. fart.

piíl v.tr. forget, usually with translocative **late’epiíl** I forgot (it).

piif num. five.

piifíta n. banjo.

piirte num. six.

piis v.tr. cut.

pilóu n. paper.

pítpa v.in. be false, be untrue; be untrustworthy.

piske v.in. be black.

pitélou’aa see **lou’**.

pitétsákit see **tsák**.

po’á v.in. be blue, be green.

póhaa n. winter.

pok v.tr. watch; guard, protect.

pól n. bone.

póm v.ditr. blame, accuse, primary object is the person blamed, **teiripóm wé** I blame you for this.

-por postpos. wanting, after, in search of.

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.

póro n. beard.

póse v.tr. trust, believe;

a. monpóse v.tr. trust a person.

póserwa v.in. trustworthy, believable; refers to the ability to convince people, while **tei’ríík** (under **ríík**) refers to character.

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 katipríí** we were working alone.

-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, used only with adverbs and postpositional phrases, **mar’áá onwer yoráts** he’s in the house.

ra’é (often just **ra’**) prn.inan., adj.inan. that.

rá’ni (rán-) n. ear;

a. ránkaai v.tr. listen to.

raaha n. song.

raahákem v.tr. sing.

- ráámpa** num. *half*.
- rááni** v.tr. *steal*.
- ráás** v.in. *engage in dominance or sexual display behavior*.
- raaitsa** n. *slave*.
- ran** prn.an., adj.an. *that*.
- ras** v.in. *be wet*.
- ráwas** n. *table*.
- reik** v.tr. *associate with, hang out with*.
a. reikki 1. v.in. *gather together*. 2. of clouds, *blow up, threaten*; **mał heyé'reikkits** *the clouds are starting to threaten*.
b. reikléitsa' n. *meeting, gathering*.
- reili** v.in. *to serve*;
a. reilikaai v.tr. *to serve someone or something*.
- réisu** n. *highly androgenous person*; (etym. *Wraeththu*).
- réitwol** v.tr. *defile, taint, spoil* (see also **yál**).
- reł** v.tr. *carry, bear, 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*; **iste'erełmé teiyortál** *I will pretend to be happy*.
- renááhe** v.in. *be still, be quiet, be undisturbed*.
- renaa** v.in. *be yellow*.
- ri** conj. *that*; introduces many sorts of dependent clauses.
- 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*.
b. weri-riisim v.tr. *pour*.
- ríik** v.in. *be true; be real, be genuine*;
a. kóh-ríik v.in. *be reliable, trustworthy, of people and things*.
b. tei'íríik v.in. *be honorable, be of good character*; cf. **póserwa**.
- rik** v.in. *be white*.
- ríts** v.in. *hang*; the location where something is hanging takes the lative case, **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*.
- ról'o** n. *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*.
a. róú'ááiríi-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 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*.
- róupá** n. *broccoli*.
- róúre** n. *idiot, moron, fool*.
- rous** num. *eight*.
- rowi** com.part. *cultivated nonsense, opportunistic skepticism, bullshit, theoretical delirium*

S S S S S

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**).

saaiipá v.in. *be beefy*.

saal n. *matter, business, affair*.

a. **ye'é saal** idiom, *what's up? what's going on?*

sáál v.tr. *marry*.

sáárik v.in. *be auspicious, well-omened, be a good sign*; with **-naai** *be a good sign for*.

sahlo n.an. *zahhlu*.

sáhpa n. *lesbian*.

saká n. *thread, line, rope*.

saknó v.tr. *flee, run away*, usually **la-saknó**.

sákohá v.in. *be well-behaved*.

salo n. -.

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, **káásár mar'ááte** *we reached home*. 2. of celestial objects, *rise*. 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. **messár** v.tr. *decide on, select*; implies deliberation (cf. **híp**).

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*. 3. of flavors or aromas, *bland, insipid*.

se'á n. *wind*.

a. **se'par** v.in. *have a cold*.

se'kóuto'é n. *quartz*.

sei adv. *not*.

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**.

séít v.in. *die*, often **la-séít**;

a. **kóh-séít** v.in. *to give up* (in a fairly profound way).

seklíi v.tr. *bite, sting*.

sépaan (sépa-) n. *machine, engine*.

serwa 1. v.tr. *sharpen* (a tool). 2. v.tr. *tune* (a musical instrument or radio receiver). 3. v.tr. *shape up, bring back into a preferred state*.

siháán v.in. *to fail due to internal flaw or weakness* (cf. **hátyou**).

sihour com.part. *touching on the speaker's pride, honor, dignity, sense of self-worth, etc.*

sii n. the prop noun for using (almost) bare numbers as nouns (§6.4). Used only with humans (cf. **wim**).

-sii v. suffix *like, resembling*, attached to nouns to produce intransitive verbs.

siila n.an. *blood*;

a. **siilki** v.in. *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 **yéim** instead of **sím**.

a. símim 1. v.tr. rotate something. 2. v.tr. affect, drive or motivate someone, especially of mental states, **nísakitís kí’ássímimtsi pá** tribal loyalty moves them.

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).

síwe v.in. flow, run (of liquid).

só’ei v.tr. to drink.

sohkímwa v.in. be stubborn.

sóhte num. seven.

sók v.tr. opine, be of the opinion, think; with object nominalization, opinion, **teisókwen** my opinion(s).

son v.tr. promise, make an oath to; person promised to is the primary object, thing promised is sec-

ondary, **wáarat yotásontsi** she promised me freedom to act.

a. kóh-son v.tr. commit oneself to.

sonyéim v.in. forswear, break an oath;

a. sonyéimkaai v.tr. break an oath to, betray.

b. sonyéimwa v.in. be treacherous.

soptéi 1. v.in. be abandoned, be desolate. 2. of ideas or culture, intellectually impoverished.

soráán n. sarrane.

sóritori n. churn, upheaval.

sorlo n. bread.

sóú v.in. be free (in the political and social sense).

sour n. man.

sourí 1. v.in. be raw, uncooked. 2. of finance gross, before taxes and operating costs are factored in.

sourispo v.in. be sexually attracted to men.

T T T T T

tá’á --.

ta’ít v.tr. challenge or test a newcomer for position or status.

ta’óú v.in. urinate.

taai 1. pospos. particle of asseveration really, truly; 2. with the future, intent; 3. with the optative, a very sincere desire.

tááit v.tr. to go to someone for protection or help, seek sanctuary; with **-ltik** for the thing needing defense from.

tááitirwa v.in. messed up or dangerous beyond one’s ability to cope with alone.

tááityá n. (place of) sanctuary.

taakyo v.tr. order, arrange, lay out.

a. taakyot 1. n. arrangement. 2. n. list. 3. n. manifesto.

taal v.tr. strike, beat, hit.

táám n. vulva, vagina.

táapéhá --.

táár v.tr. plan, intend, scheme.

taaswe n. woman.

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 n. γέρας, (political) right.

tamse num. nine.

tanki v.tr. hold or consider first, give advantage to, privilege.

tápa n. mountain lion, cougar.

taraai (-ptaraai) n. state, status, condition, health, weather; frequently incorporated element in describing weather and sometimes health.

táré v.tr. to call (to), beckon.

tatki n. shit; prefixed to nouns (as **tatko-**) for vulgar disparagement.

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'ítsapli see **tsapli**.

tei'íyéim see **yéim**.

tei'íyoł see **yoł**.

tei'oyémá 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).

téik n. vegetable.

teim num. one.

teipto v.in. to succeed; with instrumental applicative for the thing at which one succeeds.

téir 1. v.in. full, round; ripe. 2. of leaves, be in autumn colors.

ték v.in. be bold, be unafraid; be forthright.

tém v.in. goof off, play around.

temmi n. mint.

térka 1. v.tr. let fly, let loose, let go; dismiss. 2. of trees, drop leaves, esp. in the autumn.

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).

tíkġe n. snake.

tíkġikitra v.in. adjust oneself;
a. **weri-tíkġikitra** v.in. .

tíí v.tr. approach, come near.

tíino v.tr. live near, be a neighbor to.

tímse 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. **málitó'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.

toké v.tr. rule, command.

tol v.in. smile

tólał n. hummingbird.

topaa n. goat.

topaayoláarou n. bagpipes.

tor 1. n. leaf; 2. of books, page or a sheet of paper in general. 3. computing, file.

tori'la n. bud of leaf or flower.

tórii v.in. be meretricious, seem good but lack sub-

stance.

torolapri n. *file system* (computing).

tospa n. *road, path*.

a. **tospíyetí** v.in. *get lost, lose one's way*.

touk v.in. *to breathe*.

a. **touk'íméí** v.tr. *kiss* (cf. **méí**).

toulta (-stoulta) n. *lord, tyrant, master*.

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*.

tówaar conj. *meanwhile, and in other news*; topic discontinuity marker, both interruptions and the start of a new topic;

a. **tówaar li** conj. marker of incredulity, especially common as a question, **ii tówaar li**.

b. **tówaar 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*.

tsa'tsa'í *ideo. pins and needles*.

tsa'né n. *delusion, blindness, bewilderment, ἄτη*.

tsaa n. *hand*.

tsaaiki v.in. *itch, be itchy*; usually takes incorporated noun of the part affected, animate subject of the agent experiencer, **teimálítsaaiki** *my hand itches*.

tsáál v.tr. *misuse; fail to appreciate*.

a. **ła-tsáál** v.tr. *waste, fail to put to good use*.

tsáapa v.tr. *cook, prepare (food)*.

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 **łekké**.

tsál v.in. *be different*.

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**).

tsapa' v.tr. *talk about, discuss*.

tsapli v.in. *to smart, to sting*; usually incorporating the body part affected.

a. **tei'ítsaplim** 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*.

tséí v.in. *walk (with a destination)*; cf. **wé'ko**.

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*.

tséír v.in. *die*.

tsíıla n. *breba (the season's first crop of figs which grow on the previous year's growth)*; idiomatically for any result of deliberate waiting or cultivation.

tseim v.tr. *destroy, ruin*.

tsekó v.in. *be absurd, be preposterous*.

tsékró v.tr. *wipe*.

tseł (-rotsseł) n. mountain;

tsełínáá'é n. volcano.

tseméí n. garbage, refuse.

tsepou com.part. mercenary, done for gain without regard for consequences

tserí n. car, truck, van, any motorized vehicle except trains.

tséya n. tendon, sinew.

tsí n. air.

tsii v.in. begin, start; **káátsii kóhká'amiitsye** we started to study it.

-tsiir postpos. across, crossing.

tsiktsi v.in. yammer, babble, jabber.

tsili v.in. small, little.

tsire n. body.

tsista v.in. to laugh;

a. **tsistakaai** v.tr. to laugh at.

tsittsikáái n. chipmunk.

tsiwaaspí n. cicada.

tsiyasla n. drug, poison.

tso'o n.an. duck.

tsóhka n. buttocks; incorporated into verbs of motion to humorously refer to careless movement or travel.

tsoki v.in. be light; 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, un hoped-for, unanticipated.

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.

tsóp 1. v.in. be straight, going directly to where one is heading. 2. idiom, **sei hááítsópin** they are out of favor, i.e., people hold them in poor opinion.

a. **tsópkaalke** v.tr., idiom in the negative hold someone in low esteem or low opinion, **sei yokattsópkaalken** he has a bad opinion of us (I hear).

tsór'ei n. pig.

tsótaak v.tr. program a computer (to).

tsouk v.in. be dangerous, be a risk.

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.

W W W W W

wá' v.in. narrowly avoid messing up or having a problem.

wa'mek n. courtier; suck-up, brown-nose.

waail v.tr. mix, combine N-te with; **mil so'owaaailto páya kopite** and then mix the honey with water.

a. **laáwaaailki** v.in. to mix together (always with adverbial prefix **-laá-**).

waakou v.in. stay, remain; the location is typically not marked in any way, **howaakou'mé mar'áá** he will remain at home.

wáal n. insect, bug.

waar 1. n. arm. 2. of a tree or bush, branch.

wáarat n. free room, space to act; choices, options.

wáas 1. v.in. bloom, blossom. 2. of leaves and leaf buds, open.

waatre n. rose.

wakei (wak-) n. mouth;

waklaká v.in. keep a secret, -**naai** about, concerning; **sei teiwaklaká'méł ra'é onnaai** I will not keep that secret, lit., "I will not keep secret about this" (cf. **wakei, laká**).

wakle' n. lip.

walpe n. fat, lard, grease.

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.

war num. four.

waríit n. remit, legitimate privileges as well as obligations that come with a job or social role.

wáspé v.in. be old (of things).

wé adj., prn. the usual, non-focused form of **hó'é** this.

wé'ko v.in. walk (with no particular destination), wander; cf. **tséí**.

we'wá n. sphere, ball, often incorporated as a classifier.

wei interj. yes.

weikłi n. nape of the neck.

wéíłá (wéí-) n. person, human.

-**wéín** postpos., adv. willingly, by the will or permission of.

weir v.in. be ill, have a sickness; use instrumental applicative to say what one is sick with.

weirwa v.in. be contagious, be infected.

weihte adv. in vain, to no purpose, without effect. There is no independent root ***wei**.

wéíya'wéí adv. here and there, back and forth.

wék v.tr. catch, capture; win.

wektéi n. priest(ess); monk.

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 v.tr. want.

-**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 **łíp**).

werya n. willow.

wes v.tr. intend, have a purpose (to).

wéska v.tr. lure, trap, bait.

wet n. spider.

wétil n. sauce.

wetki v.in. weak, unsteady.

wets v.in. to shake, to tremble.

a. **wetsríi-se** v.in. to have a fever.

wíl'a n. skin, bark; wrapping.

wiló v.in. stand out, be noteworthy.

wilówaal n. example, exemplar.

wim n. the prop noun for using (almost) bare numbers as nouns (§6.4). Not used in reference to humans (cf. **sii**).

wime n. eye.

wimyol see **yol**.

wiráái 1. v.tr. to mark; to sign (as in signature). 2. v.tr. make an impression on.

wo v.tr. eat.

wo'kohni see **kohni**.

-wohkéin postpos., adv. *unwillingly, without the permission of.*

wokyaai v.tr. wound, injure.

worki n. door, gate, portal.

worop v.in. *be rough, be shaggy.*

wósé 1. v.in. run; 2. of inanimates, *be fast; frequently used in verb incorporation this way.*

a. **wóséríi-se** v.in. rush, hurry.

Y Y Y Y Y

ya 1. v.in. *do so, do thus*, anaphoric verb. 2. with ideophones *go, do*, used to situate ideophones in discourse or aspect.

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 care-less.

yaai n. rite, ritual, ceremony.

yáái'no v.in. *to back the losing side in a dispute.*

yaaiyoteyahtí n. sexual fetish.

yaal v.in. *tear, rip* (note transitivity).

yakar v.tr. *make it a point to, attend to.*

yal adv. *still, yet.*

yál v.in. *be spoiled, be rotten* (see also **réitwol**).

yapáá n. marsh, swamp.

ye v.in. *to be*, copula only; doesn't take imperfective. But see **mo** (§8.3.3).

ye'é prn.inan., adj.inan *what?*

ye'éi n. *whatchamacallit, thingie.*

ye'taas v.in. *to do what? souye'taasye kiit 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. **tei'yéim** v.tr. *abandon, lose interest in* (things, not people).

c. **-wer yéim** v.in. *come under someone's control*; **atswer heyéimtsi táronloupe** *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.*

yen prn.an., adj.an. *who, which, animate.*

yeráái v.tr. *take revenge on.*

yetí v.tr. *err, make a mistake, mess something up*; refers primarily to actions (cf. **mókak** under **móka**).

yéts v.tr. *raise, bring up, rear, nourish.*

yo' v.in. *to sit.*

yohkoł v.tr. *be ignorant of/about.*

yolleile n. children; descendants.

yoł 1. v.tr. *know (sth.).* 2. of social obligations and some mental states, *recognize, acknowledge, grant.*

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. mesyoł v.tr. to understand a person.

e. tei'iyol v.tr. to know a person (cf. **tei'**).

f. weri-yol v.tr. understand, usually by direct effort (cf. **paaitá**).

g. wimyoł v.tr. be “sweet on” someone.

h. makkiitsyołne idiom in retrospect, in hindsight, in reconsideration (< **ma-k-kiits-yol-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 hááínyópye teisókwen** they did not go along with me (my idea).

a. kóh-yóp v.tr. approve of.

yóra n. star.

yórolourá n. outer space.

yortá v.in. be happy, be joyous.

yos 1. adv. already. 2. when used with **sei** not yet.

youlo n. son.

yóumar (yóúm-) 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.

yóumla'se n. border (of a territory, possibly metaphorical).

yóummóri v.tr. manipulate or motivate an entire group by focusing on a few key members.

yóús v.tr. inhale, suck (up).

a. tsaltsíyóús v.in. to suck up, be obsequious, with benefactive applicative for the person one is sucking up to.

yout v.in. to lie.

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.

C. Examples

C.1. Instrumental Noun Incorporation.

Tor yonkoptsáapa'mékoł.

tor yo-n-kop-tsáapa-'mé-koł

leaf 3SG.AN-3INAN-water-cook-FUT-EVID

I suppose he'll make tea.

Toulta matssisekhiłomne

toulta ma-ts-s-sekhił-łom-ne

lord 3INDEF-3SG-body-strike-IRRES-ADV

If you strike at the king you must kill him.

matsłóúńír.

ma-ts-łóú-ńír.

3INDEF-3SG-must-kill

C.2. Conversation. Some very basic conversational phrases and turns. This needs a lot more work.

Kal.

Hello. Hi. (Neither very formal nor very informal.)

Ii riptaraai?

How are you?

Awaróhte hetaraaláhmets.

The weather is bad today.